

# City of Ft. Pierce Redistricting Process

# What and How

Redistricting is the process by which the legislative body equalizes differences in the population of districts by making adjustments to district boundaries.

Redistricting  $\neq$  Reapportionment

# Why?

- ✓ Required by City Charter
- ✓ Furthers the principal of “one person, one vote”
  - 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1868)
  - 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1870)
  - Voting Rights Act (1965)

# General Guidelines for Redistricting

# General Guidelines

- **Equal (almost) in population**
- Don't dilute minority voting strength
- Follow census blocks
- Follow significant boundaries
- Must be contiguous
- Should be compact
- Should preserve communities of interest
- May follow existing boundaries

\* As equal in population as “possible” or “practicable”

Absolute population equality is impossible

- ✓ Minimize the deviation from the mean - less than 3% over/under ideal is good

Population  $\neq$  Registered Voters

Two districts with population differences over 10 percentage points raises red flag

\* As equal in population as “possible” or “practicable”

Two districts with population differences  $\geq 10$  percentage points may raise red flag

District #	Average Population	Actual Population	Actual Deviation	Percent Deviation
1	2,952	3,108	156	5.28%
2	2,952	2,741	(211)	-7.15%
3	2,952	3,066	114	3.85%
4	2,952	3,113	161	<b>5.45%</b>
5	2,952	2,733	(219)	<b>-7.42%</b>



Deviation =  
12.87 points

# Don't Dilute Minority Voting Strength

Packing – locating most of minority population into one district so as to dilute influence in other districts

Cracking – splitting minority population into two or more districts so as to dilute influence in all districts

# Use Census Blocks

Readily available

Smallest unit of “building blocks”

Data is presumed to be correct

May be altered or supplemented with other sources of data but must document valid reasons why/how

# Follow Significant Boundaries

When possible, use existing district boundaries and follow major natural or man-made boundaries (waterbodies, arterial roads, etc.)

- ✓ Easier to understand for voters
- ✓ Less disruptive to precincts
- ✓ Usually coterminous with census block boundaries

# Other Criteria...

Individual districts must be contiguous

- ✓ Contiguity may be maintained via waterbody

Attempt to keep communities of interest together

- ✓ Neighborhoods, HOAs

Avoid districts with “bizarre” shapes

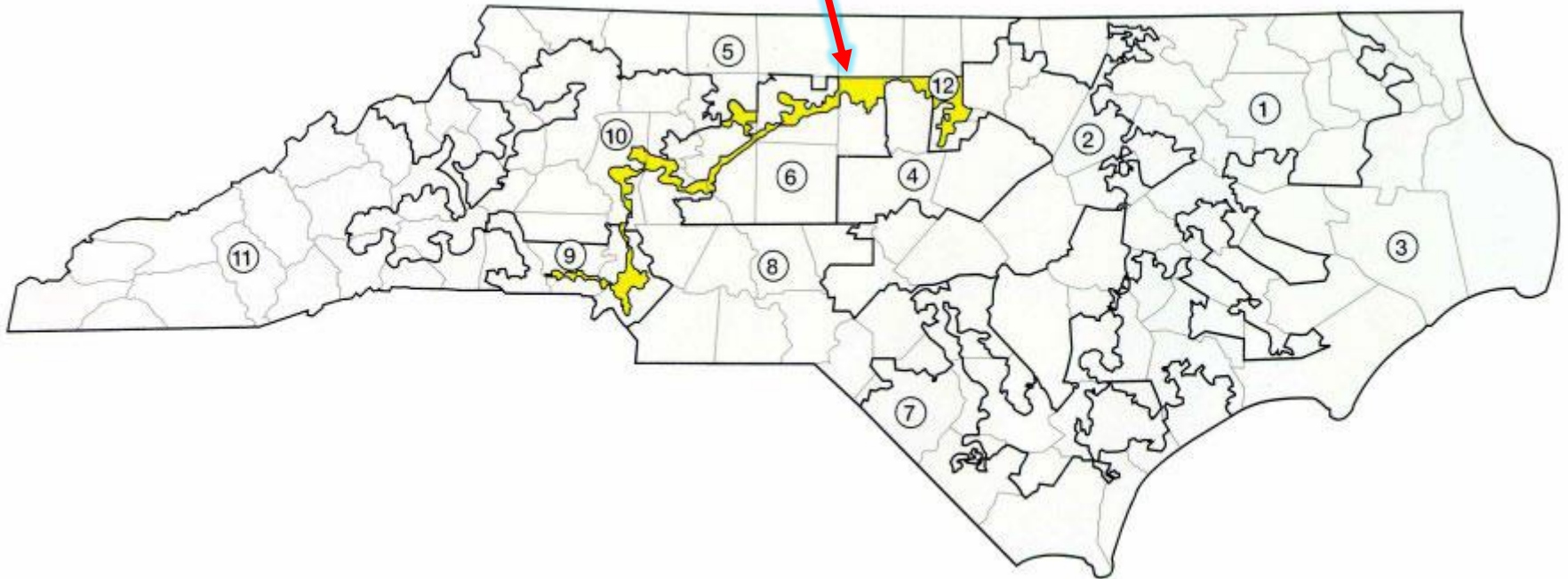
# Gerrymandering



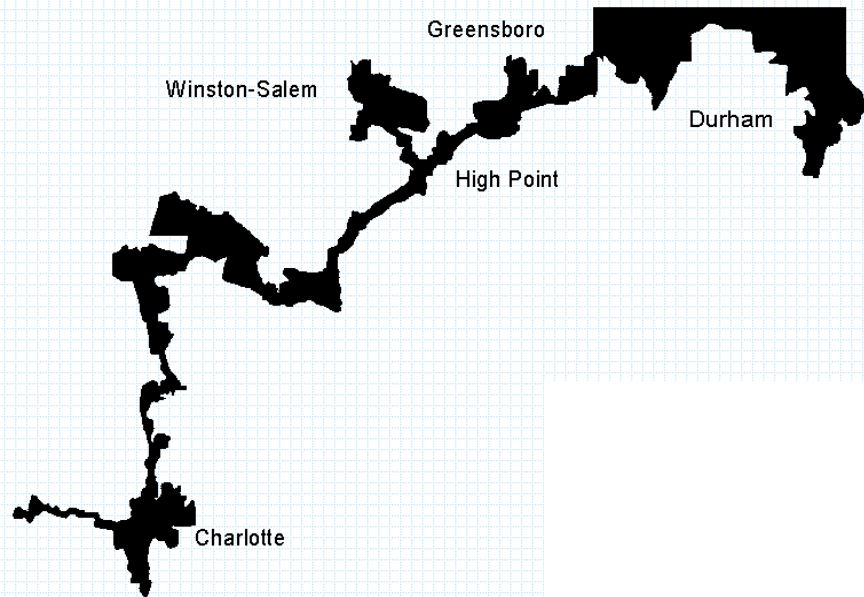
Gov. Elbridge Gerry

- ✓ 9<sup>th</sup> Governor of Massachusetts
- ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> Vice President of US

# North Carolina Congressional District 12



# North Carolina Congressional District 12



# Other Criteria - City Charter

## Section 58. - Election districts.

The City of Fort Pierce shall have two (2) election districts to be known as District 1 and District 2. The boundary between said districts shall be determined by ordinance of the city commission on a periodic basis. The district boundaries shall be adjusted in accordance with population changes as reported by the official U.S. census, so that the population of the two (2) districts remains approximately equal.

# General Guidelines

- **Equal (almost) in population**
- Don't dilute minority voting strength
- Follow census blocks
- Follow significant boundaries
- Must be contiguous
- Should be compact
- Should preserve communities of interest
- May follow existing boundaries

# General Guidelines

- It is impossible for any redistricting plan to attain 100% compliance with all criteria
- Individual criteria are *balanced in concert with each other* with population being the dominant criteria

# Recommended Alternative Districting Plans

# Current Districts Population Using 2020 Census Data

Current Districts												
DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23,704	22,221	(1,483)	-6.26%	4,232	19.05%	13,447	60.51%	4,542	20.44%	4,786	21.54%
District 2	23,704	25,187	1,483	6.26%	13,837	54.94%	4,820	19.14%	6,530	25.93%	6,837	27.14%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47,408</b>	<b>47,408</b>			<b>18,069</b>		<b>18,267</b>		<b>11,072</b>		<b>11,623</b>	

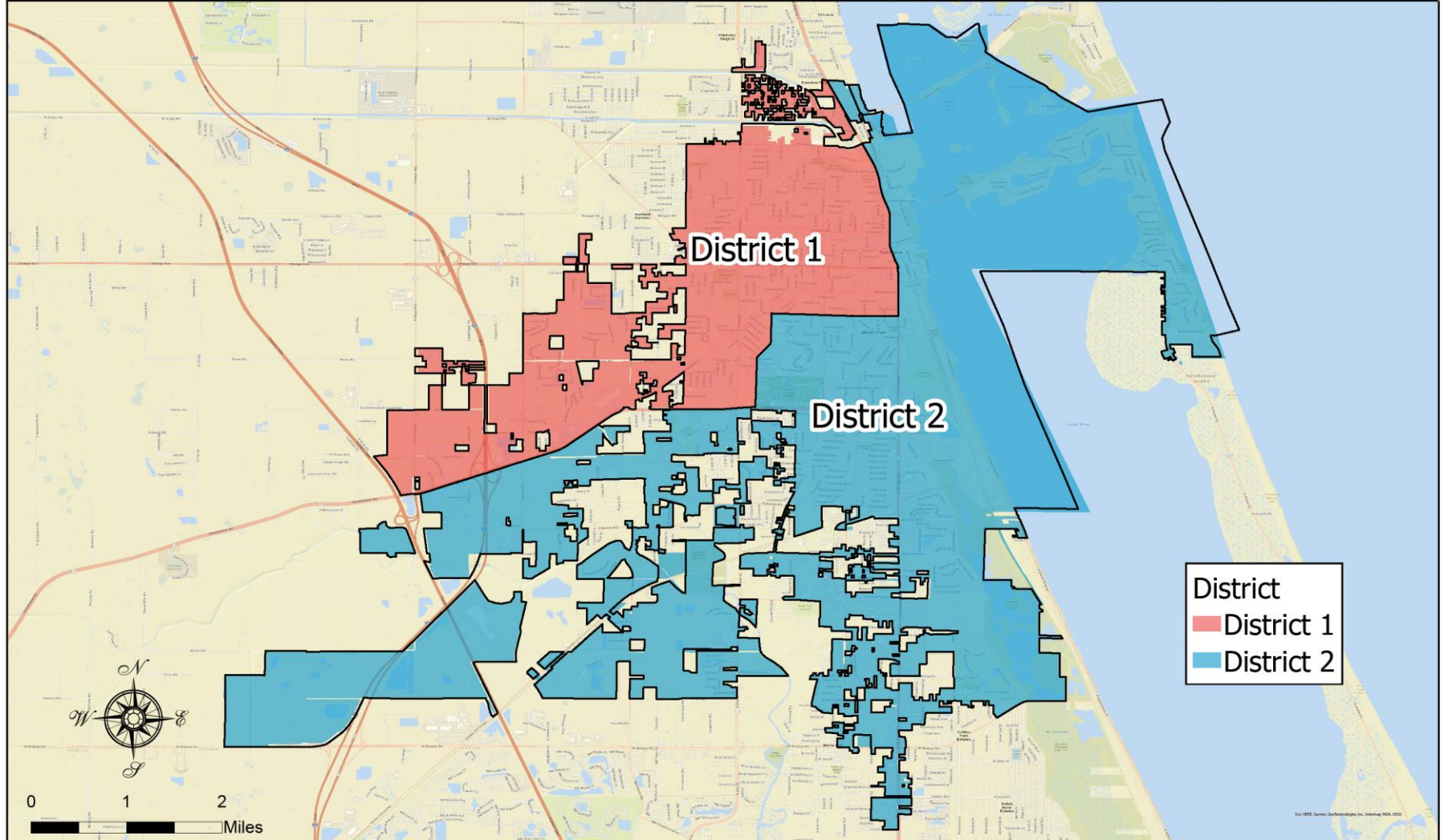
12.52 pts.



# Fort Pierce Current Districts



DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Precent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23704	22221	-1483	-6.3%	4232	19%	13447	61%	4542	20%	4786	22%
District 2	23704	25187	1483	6.3%	13837	55%	4820	19%	6530	26%	6837	27%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47408</b>	<b>47408</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18069</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18267</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11623</b>	<b>-</b>



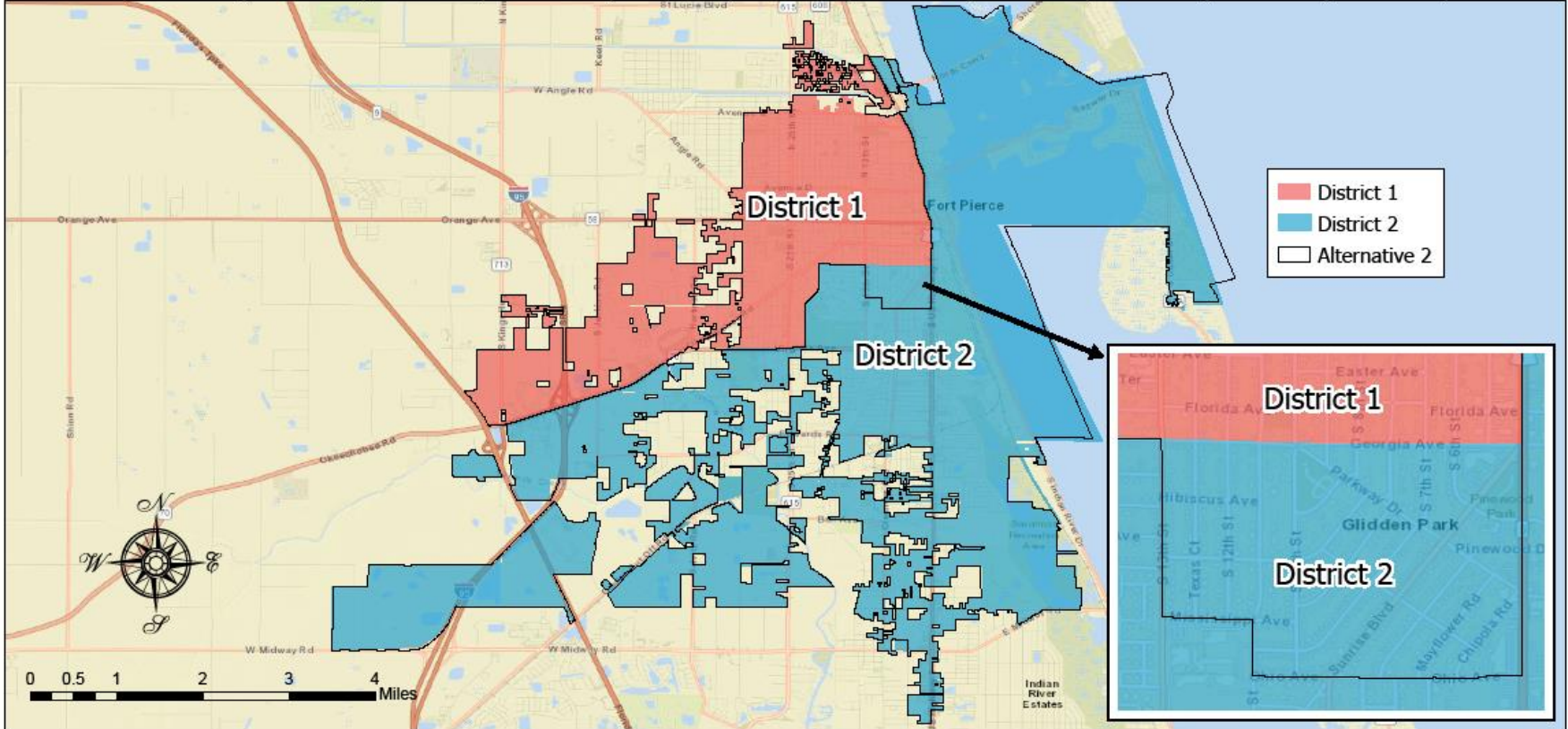




# Fort Pierce Districts Alternative 2



DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23704	23776	72	0.3%	4754	20%	13953	59%	5069	21%	5297	22%
District 2	23704	23632	-72	-0.3%	13315	56%	4314	18%	6003	25%	6326	27%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>47408</b>	<b>47408</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18069</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18267</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11623</b>	<b>-</b>



City of Ft. Pierce

Redistricting Options

Current Districts												
DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23,704	22,221	(1,483)	-6.26%	4,232	19.05%	13,447	60.51%	4,542	20.44%	4,786	21.54%
District 2	23,704	25,187	1,483	6.26%	13,837	54.94%	4,820	19.14%	6,530	25.93%	6,837	27.14%
Totals	47,408	47,408			18,069		18,267		11,072		11,623	

Alternative 1												
DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23,704	23,808	104	0.44%	5,048	21.20%	13,911	58.43%	4,849	20.37%	5,154	21.65%
District 2	23,704	23,600	-104	-0.44%	13,021	55.17%	4,356	18.46%	6,223	26.37%	6,469	27.41%
Totals	47,408	47,408			18,069		18,267		11,072		11,623	

Alternative 2												
DISTRICT	2020 Population IDEAL	2020 Population ACTUAL	Population Deviation	Percent Deviation	Population White	Percent White	Population Black	Percent Black	Population Other	Percent Other	Population Hispanic	Percent Hispanic
District 1	23,704	23,776	72	0.30%	4,754	19.99%	13,953	58.69%	5,069	21.32%	5,297	22.28%
District 2	23,704	23,632	-72	-0.30%	13,315	56.34%	4,314	18.25%	6,003	25.40%	6,326	26.77%
Totals	47,408	47,408			18,069		18,267		11,072		11,623	

*Questions?*  
*Comments?*  
*Suggestions?*



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