



# REPRECINCTING 101

**CITY OF REVERE, MA**

**MAY 17, 2021**



# AGENDA

- **What is Reprecicting.**

Reuben Kantor, Chief Innovation Officer  
Diane Colella, Election Commissioner  
Kate Cook, Esq

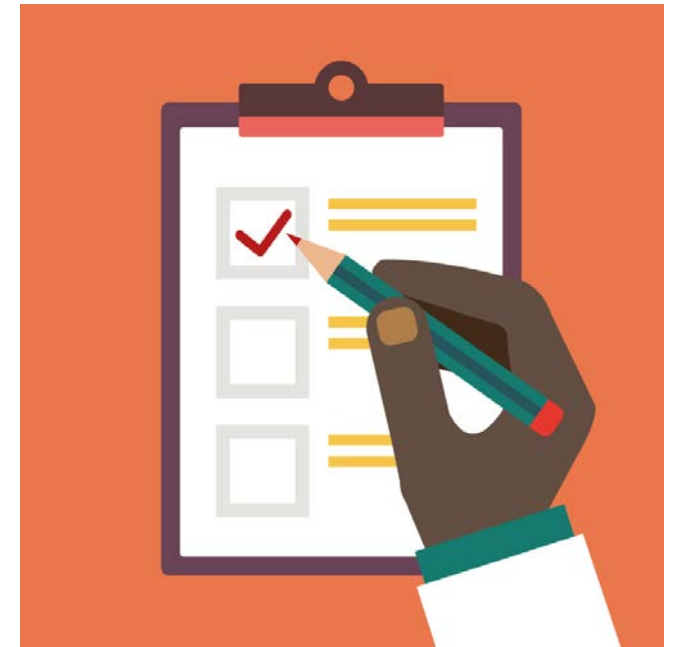
- **Presentation by Lawyers for Civil Rights**

Janelle Dempsey

- **Presentation by Women League of Voters**

Judy Zaunbrecher

- **Questions, Thoughts, Feedback**



# WHAT IS REPRECINCTING?

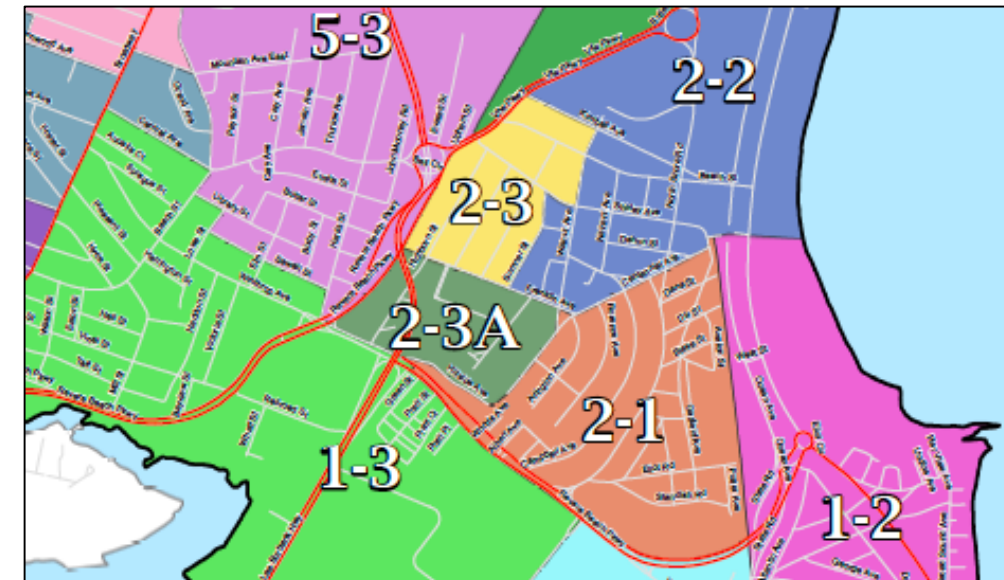
- **Redrawing** of new local precinct and district boundaries.
- **Wards** and **Precincts** are relevant for voting location and Ward Councilors.
- They are used by the State Legislature to **redraw legislative districts**.
- Must be drawn to contain roughly **equal numbers of residents** (residents, not voters)
- Redrawing happens **every decade** after census results.
- Redrawing starts with Cities and Towns.



## • WHY DO WE REPRECINCT?

- State and Federal Law require redrawing boundaries every 10 years to ensure that population shifts do not unfairly advantage or disadvantage certain voters.
- As **populations and demographics change**, Wards and Precincts must account for that.
- Designed for **fair representation**.
- **City redraws Wards/Precincts**, State Legislature then redraws House, Senate, Congressional lines

Modified from Secretary of State Presentation, April 14, 2021



# WHY THIS MATTERS

## ■ Where We Vote

- Ensures that every voter has easy access to vote.

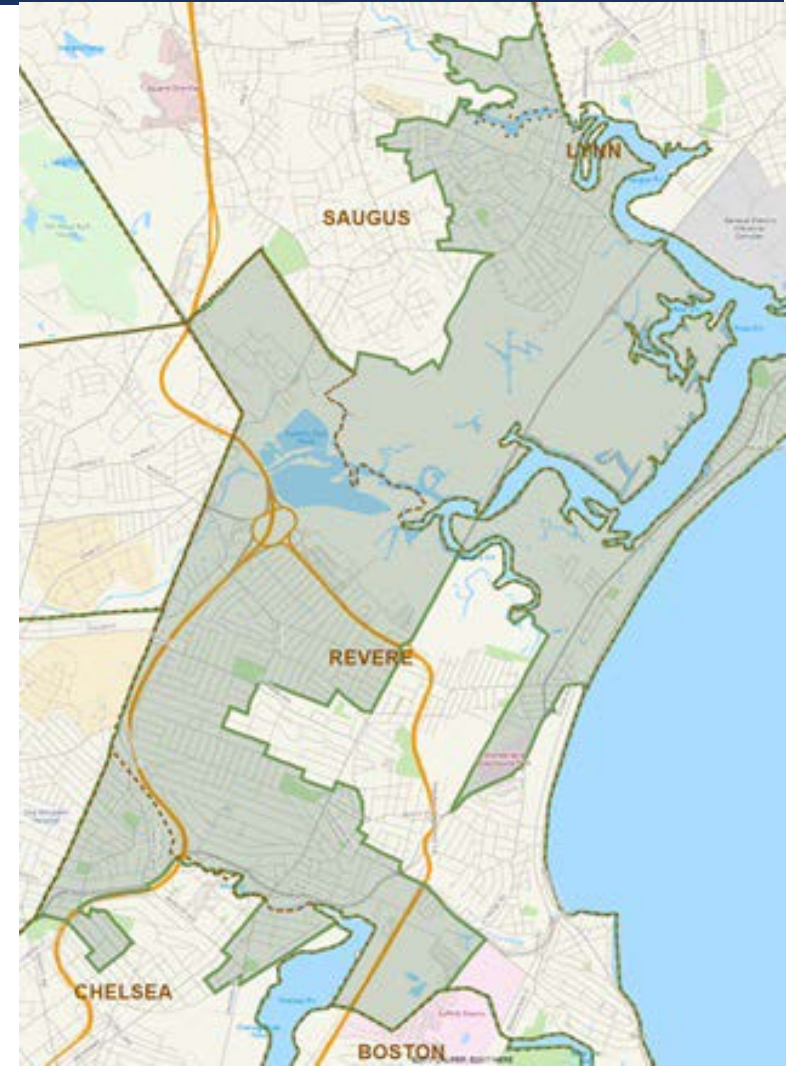
## ■ Voting Blocks

- Ensures that voters with similar interests or backgrounds are not diluted.
- Open and transparent allowing for community input.

## ■ Voting Equity

- Ensures that voters are not in disproportionately sized boundaries that may impact voting power.

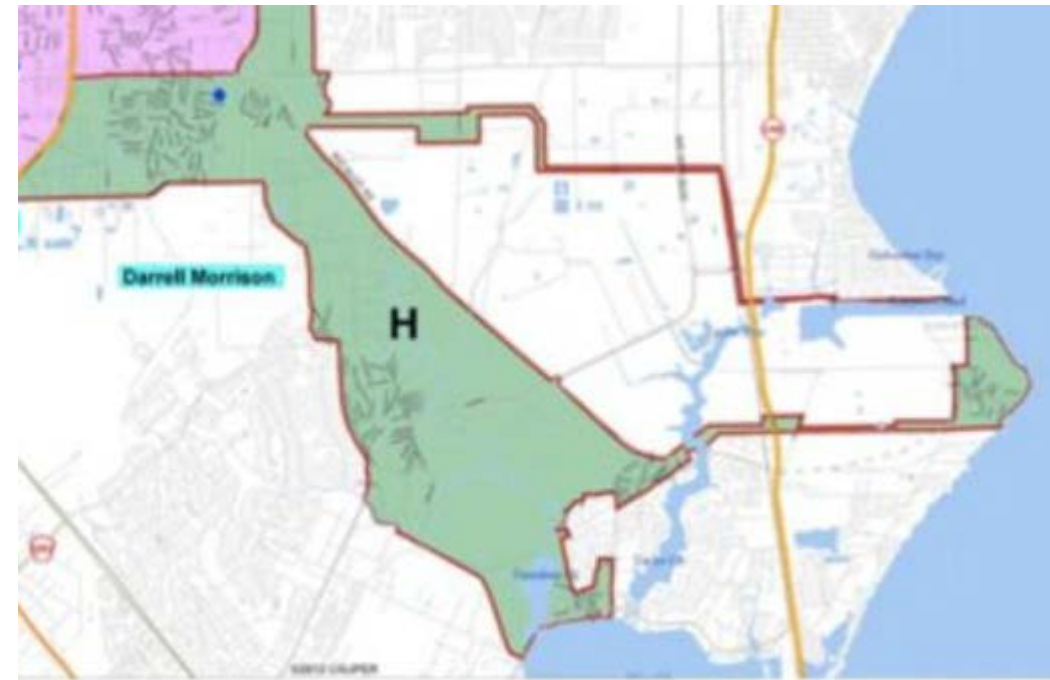
## ■ Law Requires It





# WARD AND PRECINCT REQUIREMENTS

- A precinct may not contain more than **4,000 residents**
- Precincts and Wards must contain approximately equal numbers of residents.
  - Must be no more or less than **5 percent of the average**.
- Each new precinct must be **compact and contiguous**. (No gerrymandering)
- **Bounded by the center-line of streets** or other well defined boundaries such as bodies of water, tracks, or clearly visible geographies.



# POTENTIAL VOTER DILUTION

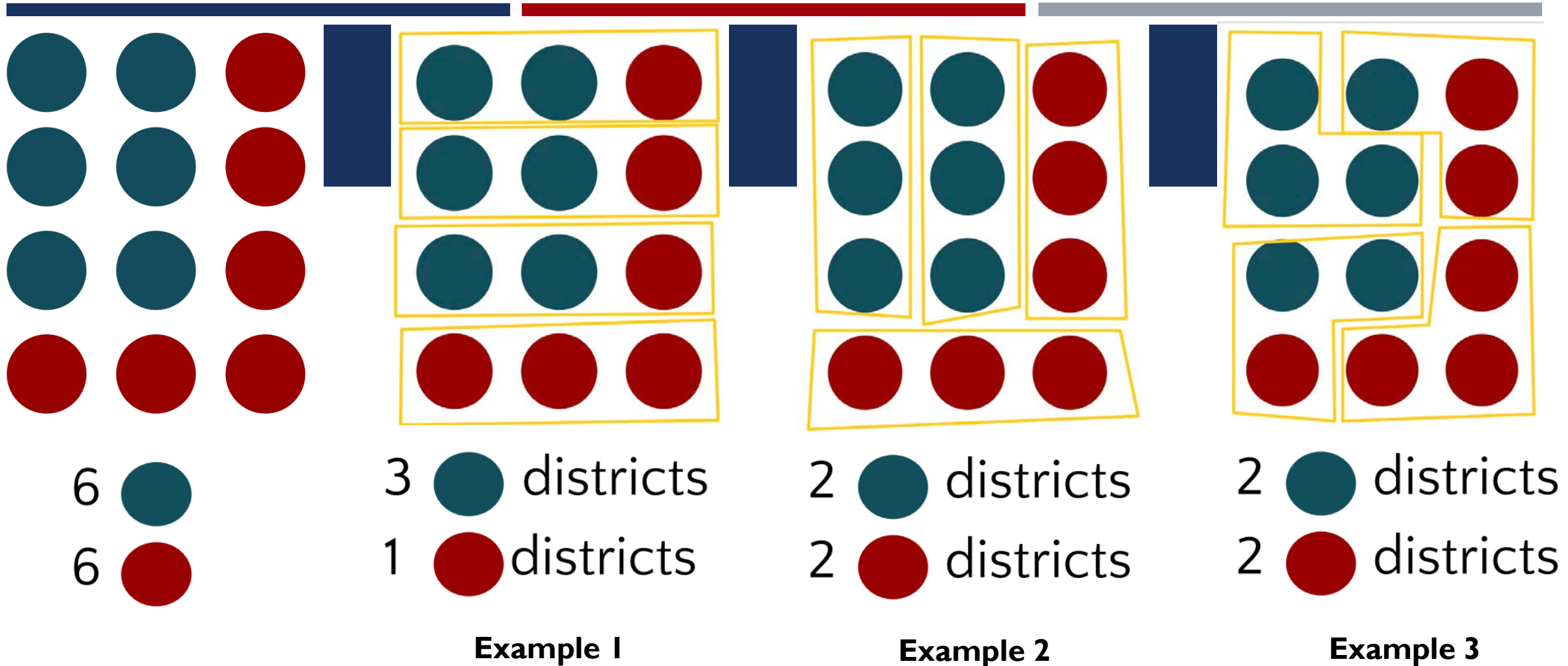
- Redrawn **boundaries must not result in the dilution** of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) voters.
- The Voting Rights Act prohibits any voting practice which **results in a denial or abridgement of the right... to vote** on account of race or color or membership in a language minority group.
- When determining legislative districts, the government **may not unfairly dilute** BIPOC voting strength
- The government also **may not make race the predominant factor** in redistricting absent a compelling state interest.

# FORMS OF VOTER DILUTION

## TWO EXAMPLES OF POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS:

- **PACKING**: Concentrating a demographic in one or a few districts so that their votes cannot elect as many of that group representatives.
- **FRAGMENTING**: Spreading demographic group members among many districts or submerging them in a district dominated by another group, resulting fewer of that group being elected.





# VOTER DILUTION

Intent Doesn't Matter. Impact Does

# COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

- **Communities of Interest Defined:**

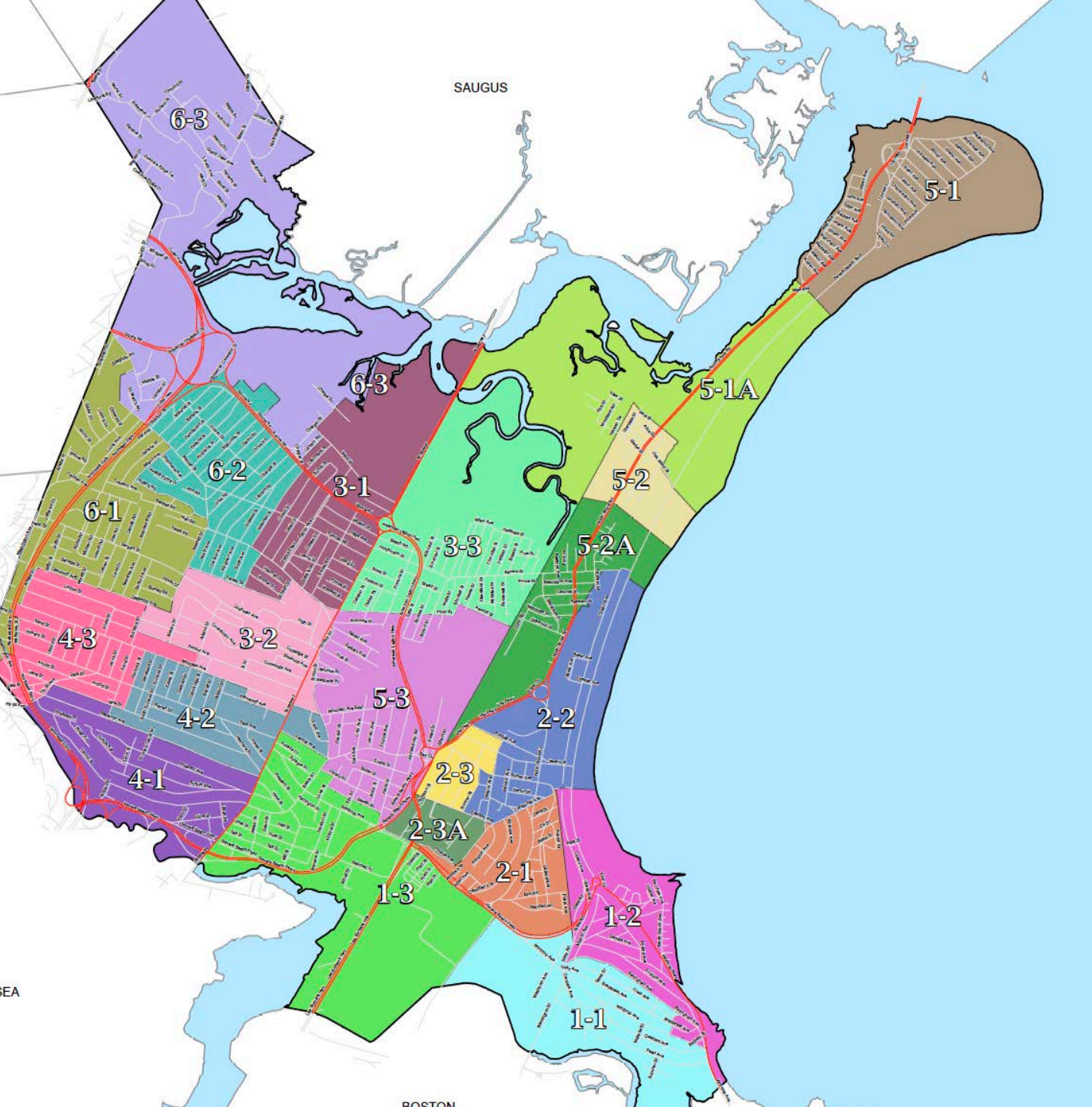
- Groups who have **shared characteristics** and are likely to have **comparable community concerns** based on similarities and who would therefore **benefit from cohesive representation**.

- **What Connects People?**

Examples: economic status, education, ethnicity, language, religion, occupations/industry, transportation and commuting patterns, housing patterns, shopping patterns, population age, family structures, and geography.

# COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST MEANING

- Groups defined by COI characteristics that can also be defined by geography should gather information about locations and boundaries that impact them. For instance:
  - Is there a central meeting place?
  - Is there a boundary that defines the place in question?
  - Who lives in your community? What kinds of things do they do for a living?
  - Are there important places where people gather?
  - Is there a place that is the largest employer?
  - What is the history of how your community came together?
  - Are there any streets or landmarks that define your community?



## 2010 MAP AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Ward	Prec	2010 Population	2010 Precinct Divergence
1	1	2926	1.55%
1	2	2869	-0.43%
1	3	2875	-0.22%
Ward 1 Total		8670	0.30%
2	1	2757	-4.32%
2	2	2939	2.00%
2	3+3A	2869	-0.43%
Ward 2 Total		8565	-0.91%
3	1	2953	2.49%
3	2	2832	-1.71%
3	3	2933	1.79%
Ward 3 Total		8718	0.86%
4	1	2932	1.76%
4	2	2822	-2.06%
4	3	2939	2.00%
Ward 4 Total		8693	0.57%
5	1+1A	2749	-4.59%
5	2+2A	2754	-4.42%
5	3	2932	1.76%
Ward 5 Total		8435	-2.42%
6	1	3016	4.67%
6	2	2986	3.63%
6	3	2781	-3.48%
Ward 6 Total		8783	1.61%

2010 PRECINCT DATA

FROM 2010 FEDERAL CENSUS

TOTAL POPULATION: 51,755

Ward	Prec	2021 Population (est)	2021 Avg Precinct
1	1	2315	-5.99%
1	2	2227	-9.56%
1	3	2277	-7.53%
Ward 1 Total		6819	-7.70%
2	1	2277	-7.53%
2	2	2674	8.59%
2	3+3A	1829	-25.73%
Ward 2 Total		6780	-8.22%
3	1	2978	20.93%
3	2	2661	8.06%
3	3	2563	4.08%
Ward 3 Total		8202	11.03%
4	1	2545	3.35%
4	2	2297	-6.72%
4	3	2477	0.59%
Ward 4 Total		7319	-0.93%
5	1+1A	2773	12.61%
5	2+2A	2378	-3.43%
5	3	2312	-6.11%
Ward 5 Total		7463	1.02%
6	1	2603	5.71%
6	2	2644	7.37%
6	3	2495	1.32%
Ward 6 Total		7742	4.80%

# 2021 PRECINCT DATA

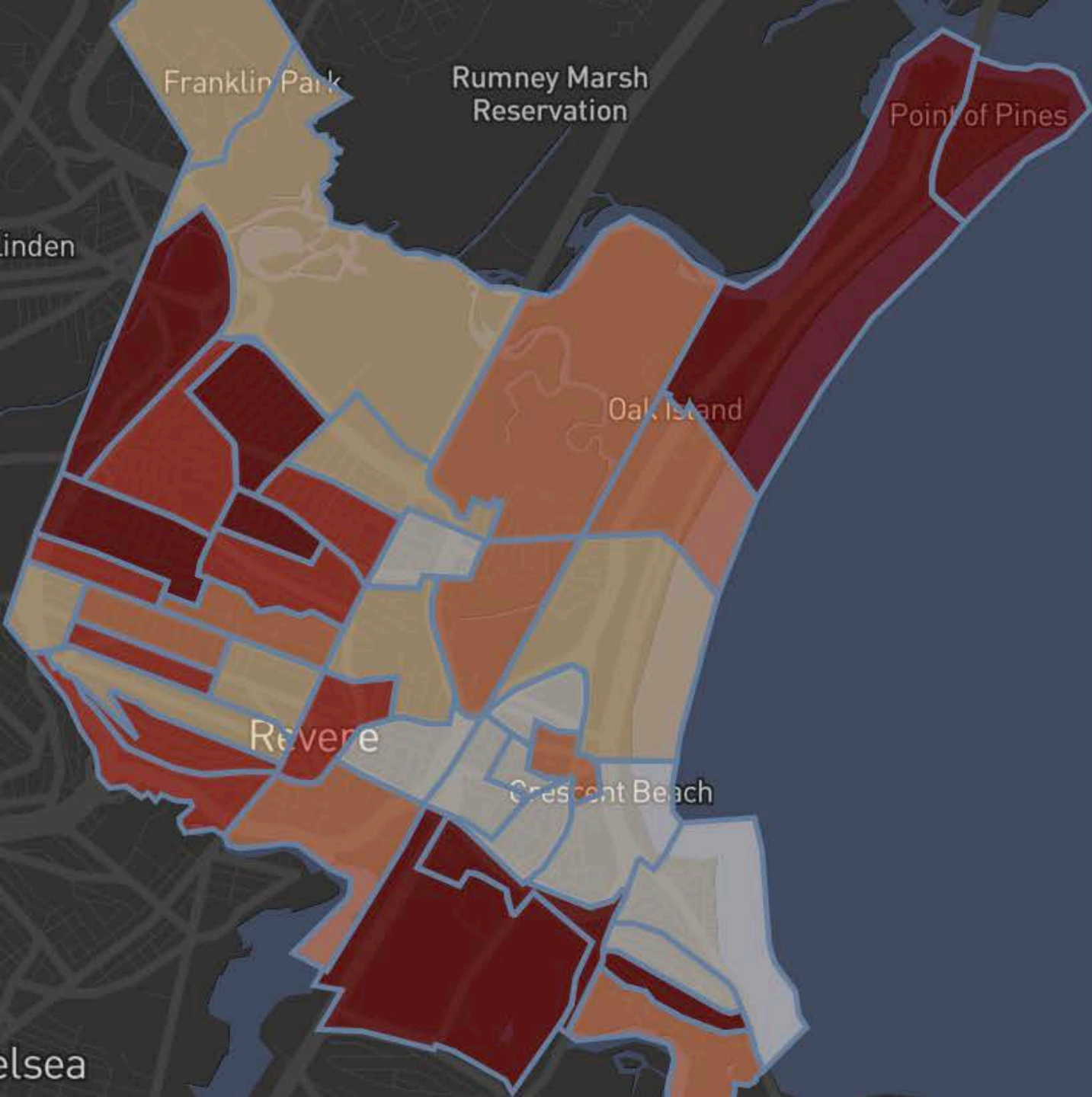
FROM 2020 CITY CENSUS AND VOTER  
REGISTRATION

TOTAL EST. CITY CENSUS COUNT:  
44,325\*

\*ACTUAL ESTIMATE: 57,000-61,000

DRAFT precinct data from Election Department:  
Figures are expected to change significantly.





Census Block Group

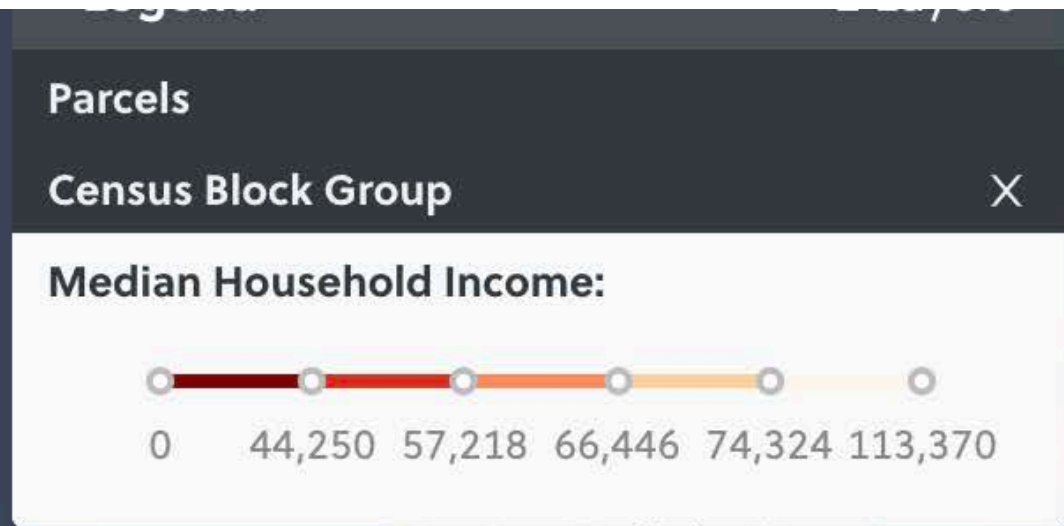
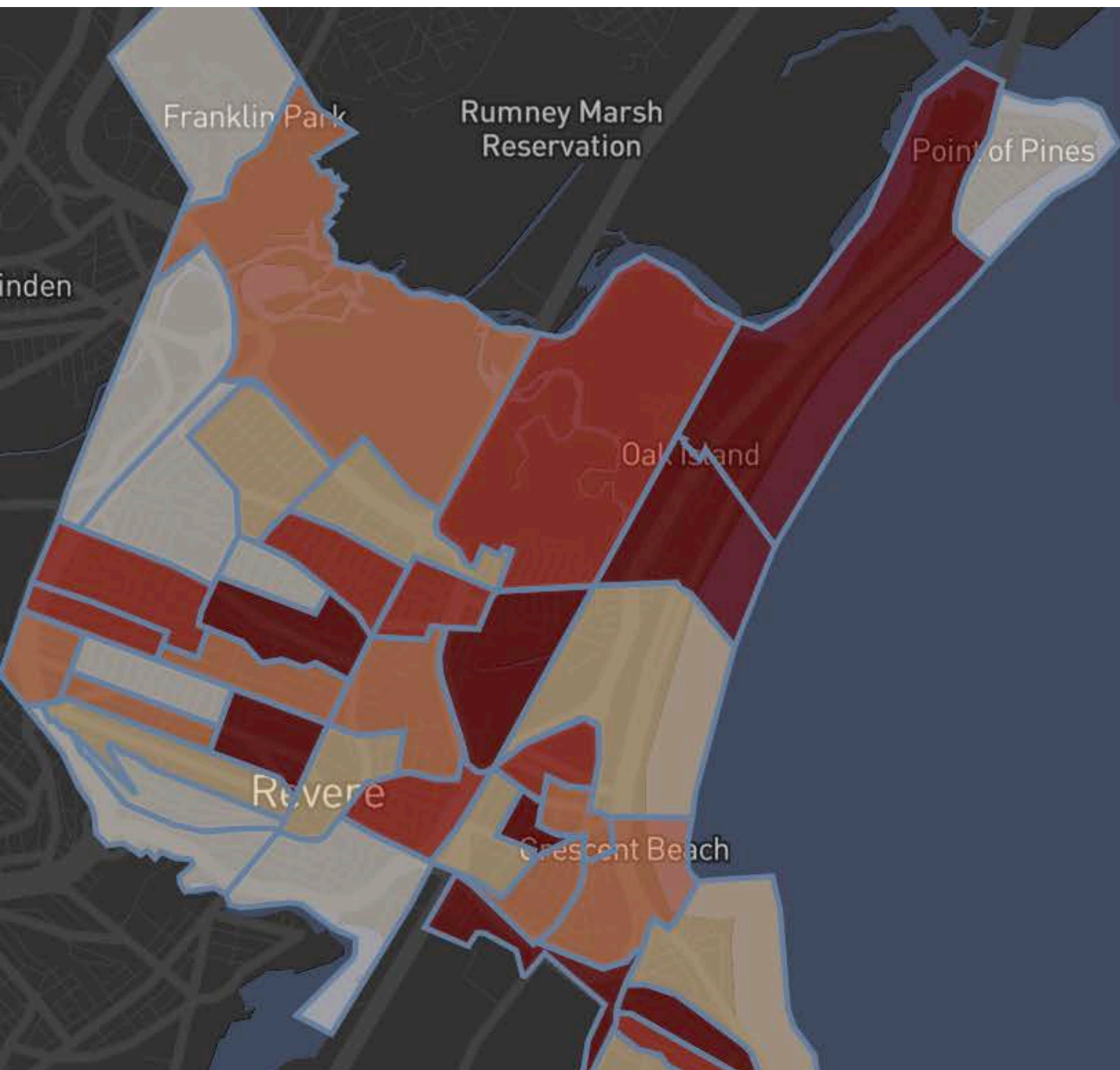


Non-White or Hispanic Population:

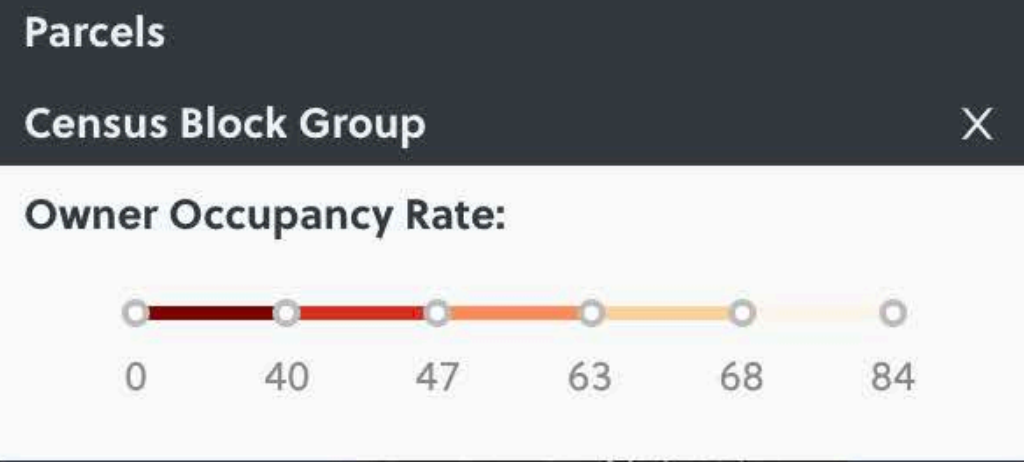
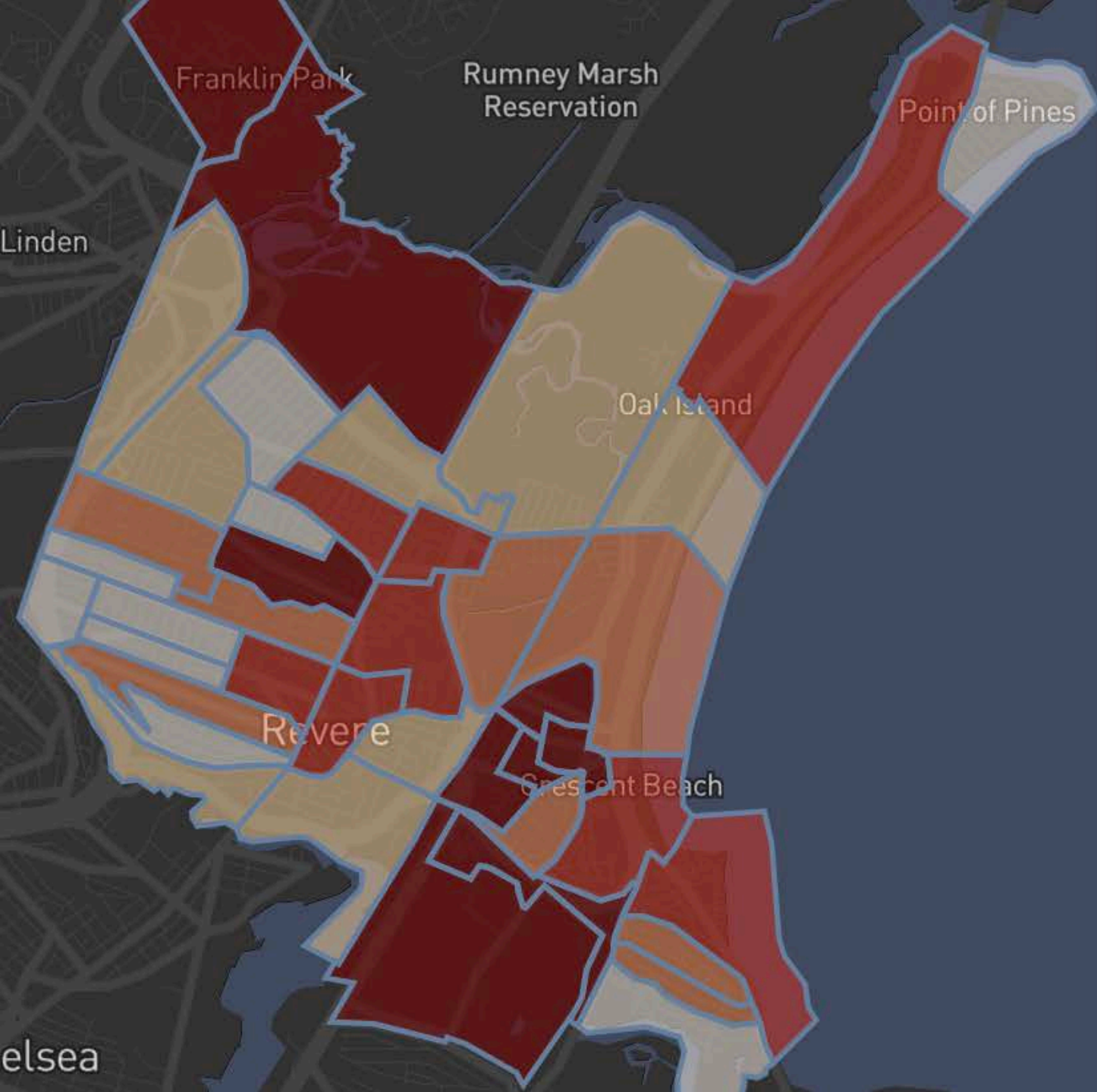


**BIPOC Population:  
% Non-White**





# Median Household Income



# Owner Occupancy Rate



# City of Revere

Total 2010 Population: 51,755

Total 2020 Population Estimate: 52,874

Precinct	2010 Population	2020 Estimated Population	2020 Variance
1-1	2,926	2,888	-1.67
1-2	2,869	3,081	4.90
1-3	2,875	2,895	-1.43
2-1	2,757	3,056	4.05
2-2	2,939	3,032	3.23
2-3	2,860	3,004	2.28
3-1	2,953	2,959	0.75
3-2	2,832	2,892	-1.53
3-3	2,939	2,852	-2.89
4-1	2,932	2,827	-3.75
4-2	2,822	2,896	-1.40
4-3	2,939	2,947	0.34
5-1	2,749	3,057	4.09
5-2	2,754	2,878	-2.01
5-3	2,832	3,044	3.64
6-1	3,016	2,867	-2.38
6-2	2,986	2,854	-2.83
6-3	2,781	2,845	-3.13

DRAFT

**Legend**

- Current Polling Location
- Municipal Boundary
- 2011 Precinct Boundary
- Coastal Water, Lakes, Ponds, Major Rivers

**Geographical Features**

- Streams, Rivers
- Roads



Map produced by the Office of William F. Galvin, Census Liaison  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

Population figures based on the U.S.Census Bureau

2010 Decennial Census and

UMass Donahue Institute 2020 population estimates



# CALENDAR

- **May through July, 2021. Public Comment Period based on Population Estimates.**
  - Community conversations; priorities to be set; preliminary maps drafted with demographic data; ongoing conversations between city officials, elected officials, and community members
- **August 15, 2021. DRAFT US Census data published.**
  - Additional community conversations.
- **September 30, 2021. Official US Census data published.**
  - Draw maps with equity at top of priority agenda, discuss with all interested parties, finalize maps.
- **October 30, 2021. Deadline for City Council approval of new maps.**
- **November, 2021. State's Local Election Districts Review Commission Approves Local Maps.**
  - LEDRC reserves the right to send maps back to city for adjustments if deficiencies found (7 day deadline).

## NEXT STEPS

- Communities of Interest conversations.
- City Officials meet with smaller groups about COIs, other boundary considerations.
- One summer public forum.

# CONCLUSION

Questions

Comments

Suggestions

[reprecincting@revere.org](mailto:reprecincting@revere.org)

Slides at: <https://www.revere.org/Elections>

## ADDITIONAL LINKS AND RESOURCES

- **Drawing Democracy Coalition:**

<https://www.madrawingdemocracy.org/>

Learn about redistricting and find tools to provide community input to reprecincting and redistricting. This website focuses on redistricting at the state level, but provides tools on how to organize your community and **how to provide testimony** to the commission redrawing precincts in Revere

- **The Citizen Lobbyist Handbook** for tips on influencing government and making your voice heard.  
<https://lwmvma.org/advocacy/the-citizen-lobbyist/>

- **LWV of Massachusetts People Powered Fair Maps Toolkit** to learn more about redistricting and guidance on what a fair and transparent redistricting process should include. This information could apply to redrawing precincts at a local level.

<https://lwmvma.org/toolkits-for-members/people-powered-fair-maps-toolkit/>

- **Dave's Redistricting App:** Free and easy to use mapping app you can use to draw redistricting and precinct maps for you community.

<https://davesredistricting.org/maps#home>