

CVRA and Districting City of Davis



Overview

This presentation will cover a range of topics to facilitate a process of public education and involvement in a transparent and fair districting process.

- The California Voting Rights Act
- Districting vs. Redistricting vs. Gerrymandering
- Traditional Districting/Redistricting Principles
- Population and Composition
- Mapping of the City of Davis

What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act is a state law that prohibits the use of At-Large election systems in local government if there is racially polarized voting.

“At Large” is defined as anything other than a system in which an elected official lives in a district, and is only elected by members of that district.

“Racially Polarized Voting” is determined through an analysis which quantifies the amount of voting which can be shown to be correlated to race.

What is the CVRA?

The California Voting Rights Act takes the principles of the Federal Voting Rights Act and expands it regarding districted elections in two key ways:

While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge.

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While Federal law uses “majority minority” districts as a standard for vulnerability, the CVRA only requires “ability to influence.”

The CVRA requires that plaintiffs get full reimbursement for legal fees associated with any successful challenge. *These can be lessened or eliminated if the district follows a strict and prompt process for districting.*

What is Districting

definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries determine:

- Eligibility to run for office - must live within boundaries to qualify for election.
- Who votes in the election – only voters within the district vote for their councilmember.

What is Districting

definition

Districting is the initial process of creating election district boundaries.

These boundaries do not determine:

- How the city decides to govern. The city can still work to achieve goals that benefit the city as a whole rather than the interests of any single district.
- How services or relationships between the city and the public are managed.

What is Redistricting

definition

Redistricting is the process of adjusting district lines every 10 years after the release of the US Census. The well known examples are Congress and the legislature.

Within the US, redistricting has become an extremely politicized process and been the subject of more high-profile Supreme Court decisions than any other part of our elections system.

What is Gerrymandering

The Gerrymander

The term Gerrymander came from a cartoon depicting a rather serpentine looking district created by Governor Elbridge Gerry in Massachusetts.



What is Gerrymandering

the Gerrymander

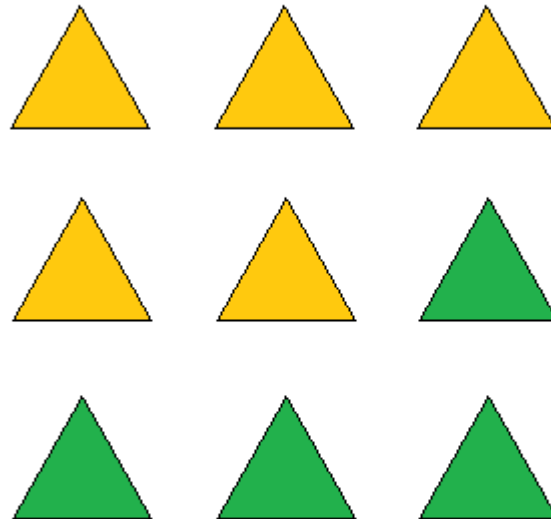
There are more recent examples of gerrymandering, even in California.

This 2001 Senate District is a great example.



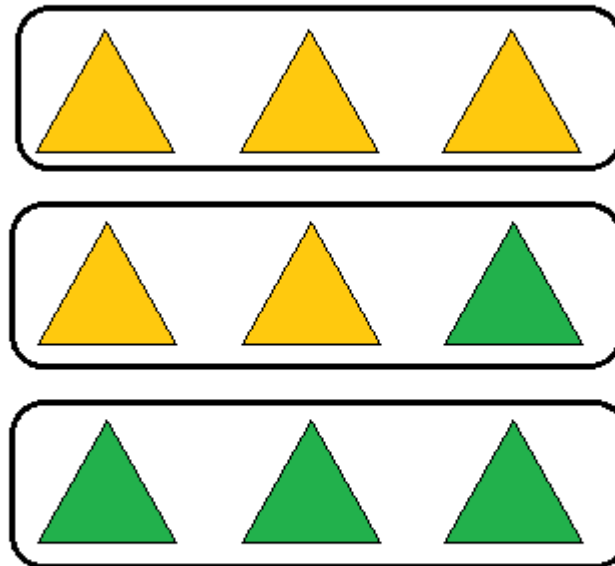
What is Gerrymandering

How does gerrymandering work?



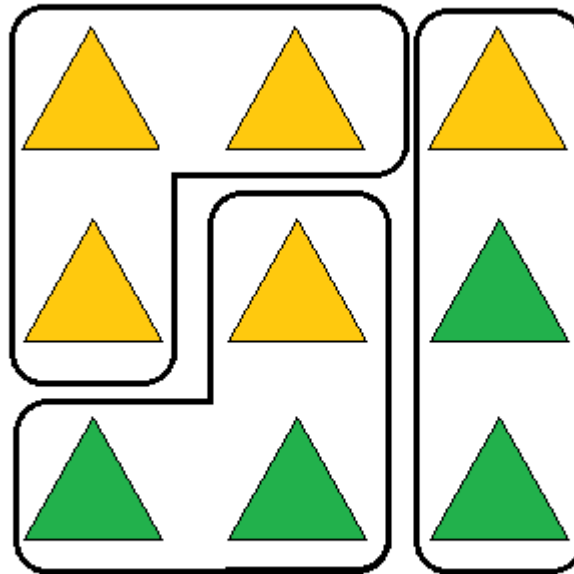
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What is Gerrymandering

How does gerrymandering work?



Traditional Redistricting Principles

Preventing a Districting from becoming a Gerrymander

There are a number of criteria that have been used nationally and upheld by courts.

- Relatively equal size - people, not citizens
- Contiguous – districts should not hop/jump
- Maintain “*communities of interest*”
- Follow city/county/local government lines
- Keep districts compact – appearance/function

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Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Communities covered by the Voting Rights Act
 - Latinos
 - Asians
 - African Americans

While race is a community of interest, it cannot be the *predominant factor* in drawing districts.

Communities of Interest

Bringing like people together for representation

What is a community of interest includes ethnic and language minorities and other groups.

- Other Communities, example are:
 - People living near an industry (farming, higher education, manufacturing)
 - Senior Citizens or Students
 - Downtown / Urban
 - Rural or Agricultural
 - Homeowners or Renters

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City of Davis

Preliminary Findings

Census population is 65,622 based on the 2010 Census.

This population is used for the determination of the target size of a district, and the “equal population” calculations that cannot exceed 10% from the largest to smallest District.

Median Population: 13,124

City of Davis

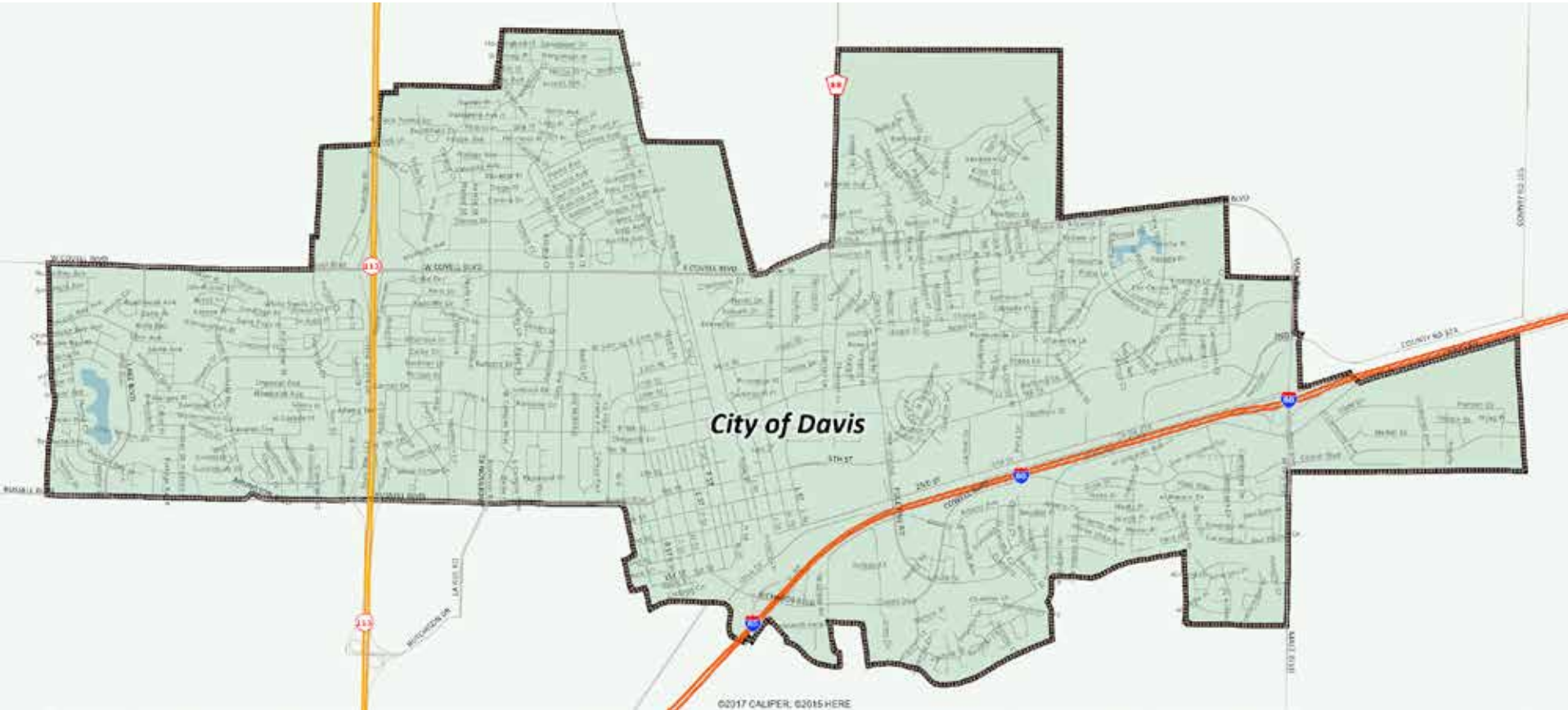
Preliminary Findings

For determining ethnicity of a district we use the American Community Survey calculations of Citizen Voting Age Population or “CVAP” which is also sometimes called “eligible voters population”

- CVAP: 49,459
- Asian CVAP: 9,702
- Latino CVAP: 5,800
- Black CVAP: 980
- White CVAP: 30,726

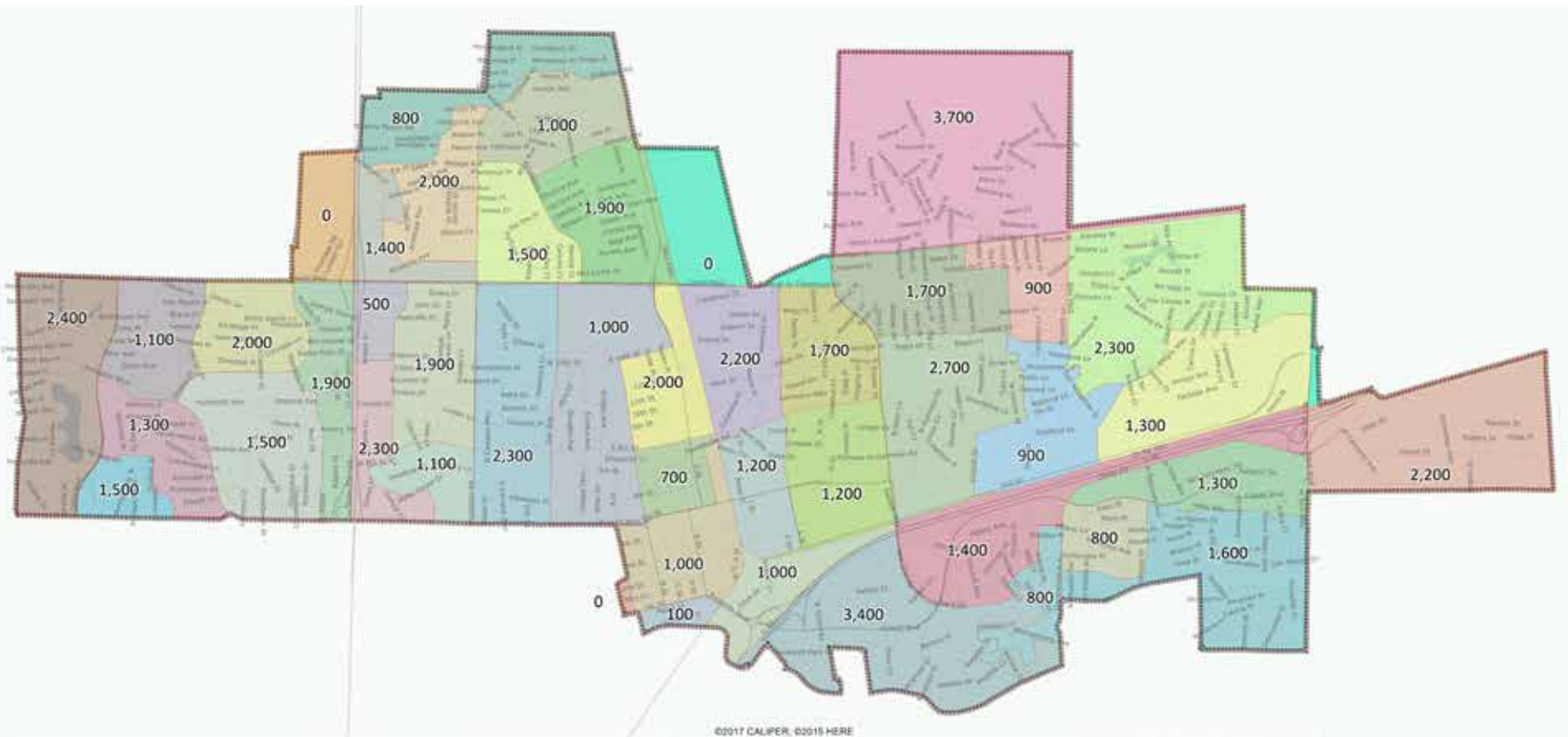


City Boundaries and Streets



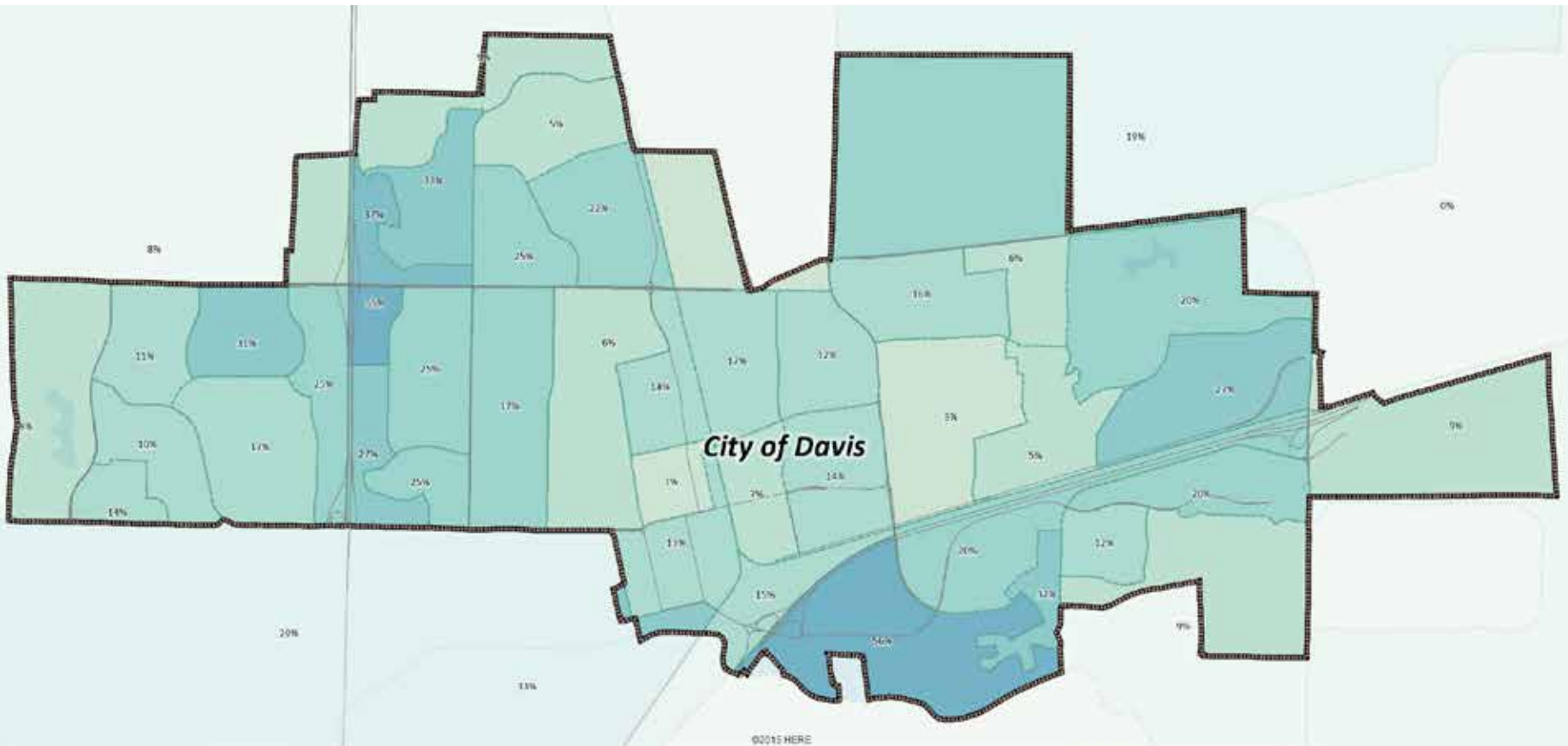


Census Block Groups with Population (rounded)



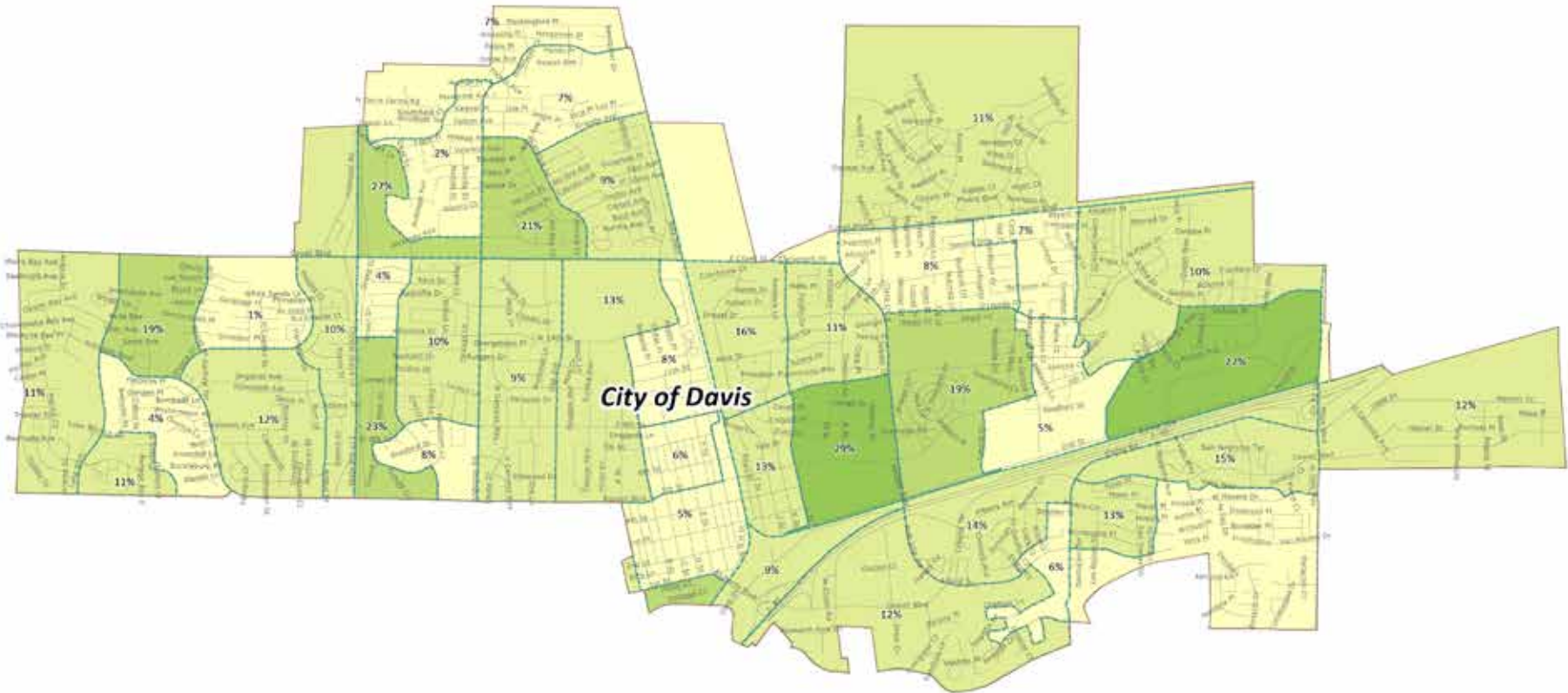


Asian Citizen Voting Age Population



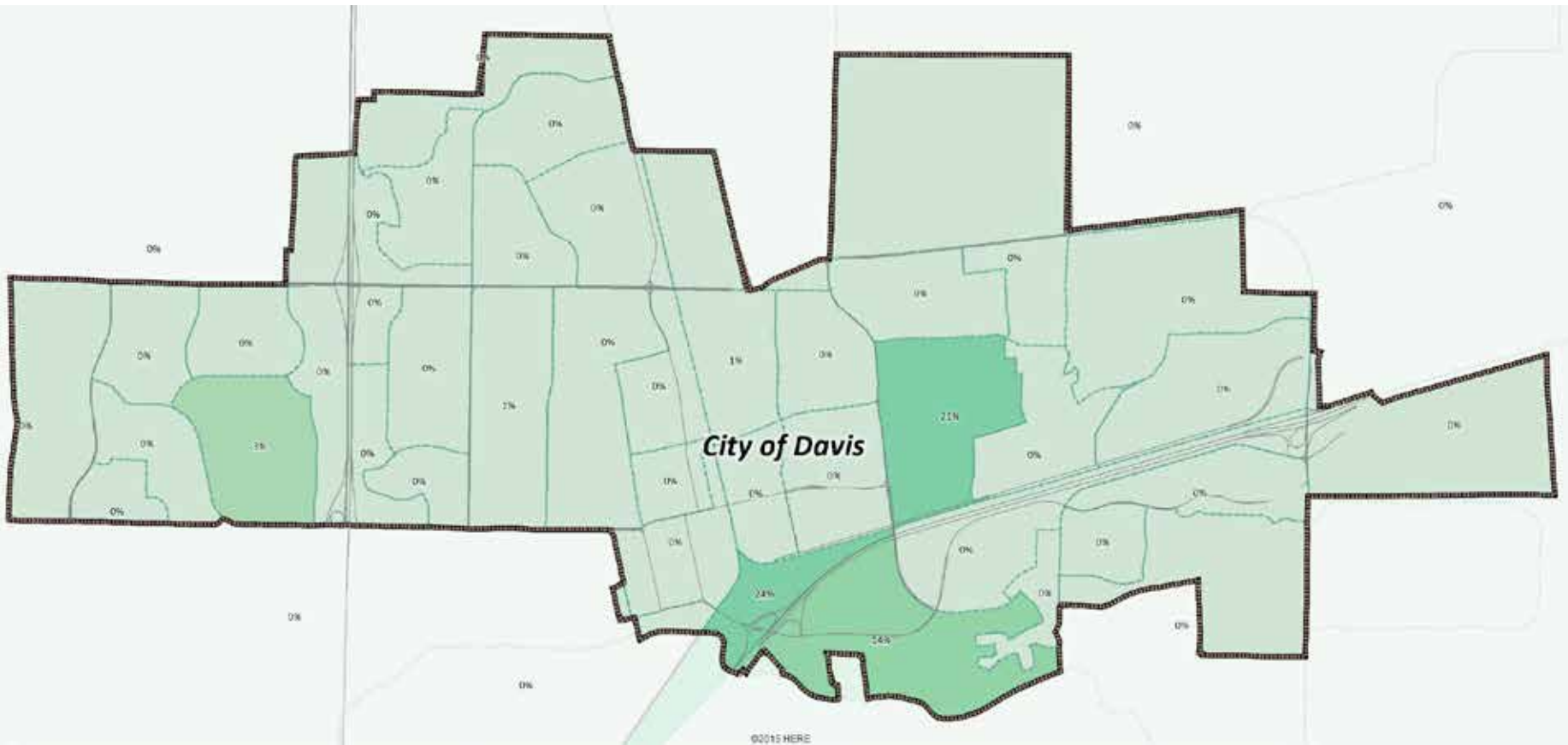


Latino Citizen Voting Age Population





Mobile Home Park Population

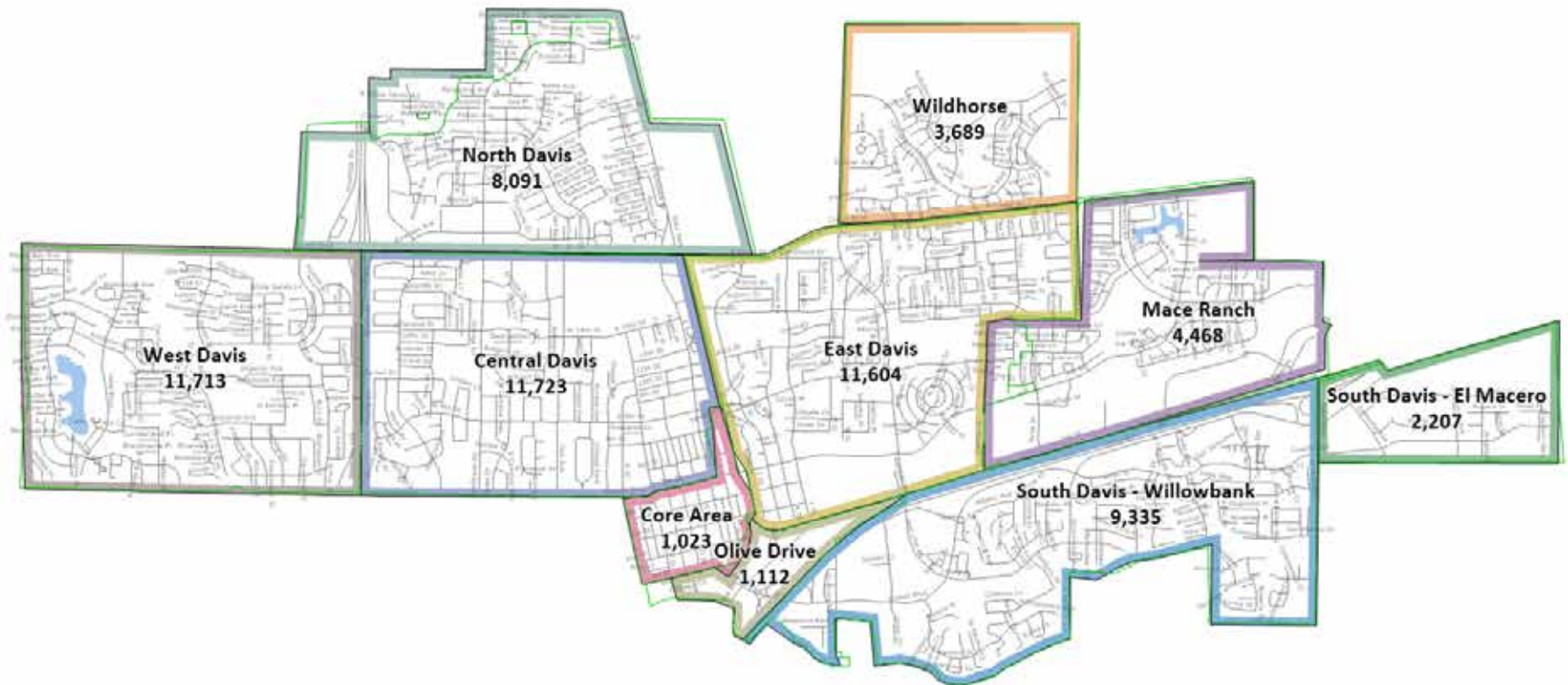


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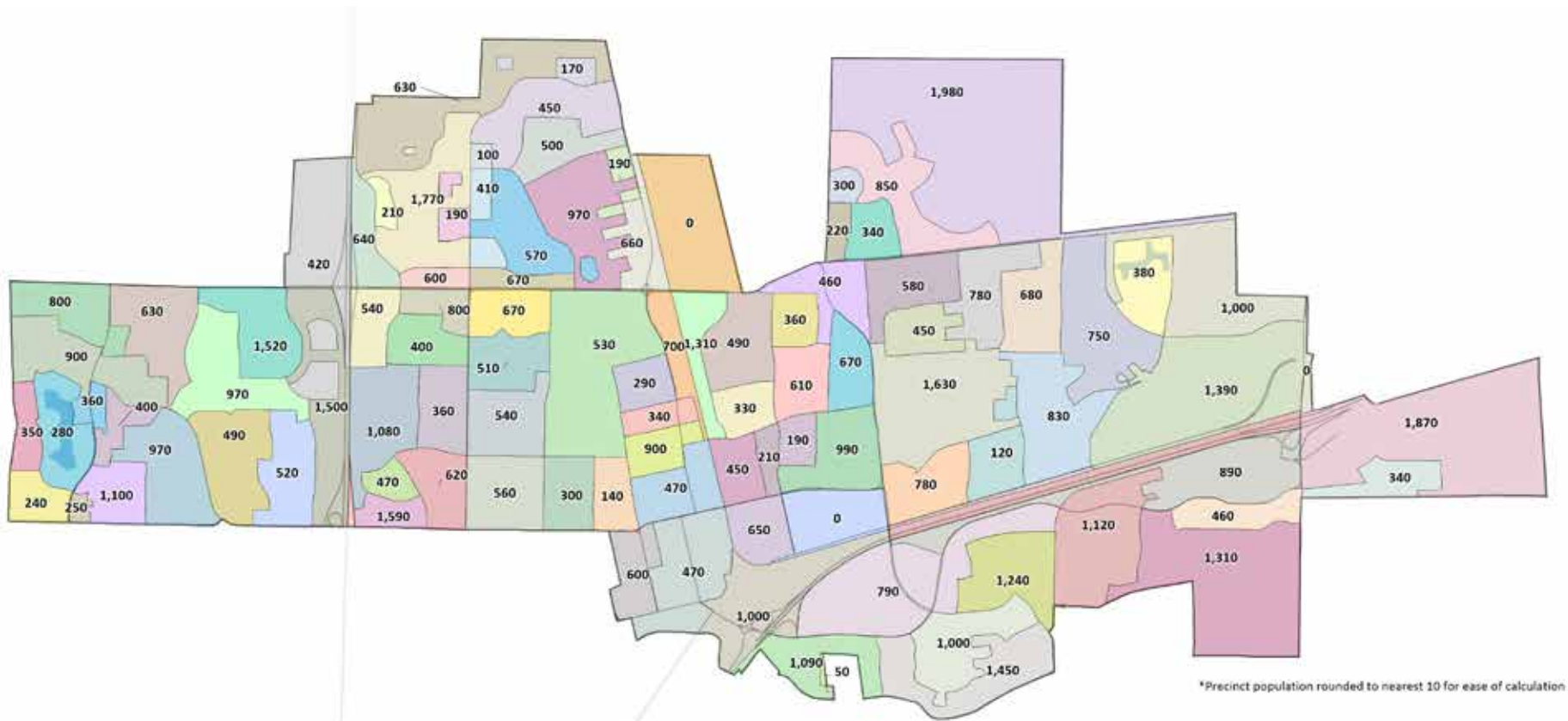
Neighborhoods

Neighborhood	Population
Central Davis	11,723
Core Area	1,023
East Davis	11,604
Mace Ranch	4,468
North Davis	8,091
Olive Drive	1,112
South Davis - El Macero	2,207
South Davis - Willowbank	9,335
West Davis	11,713
Wildhorse	3,689

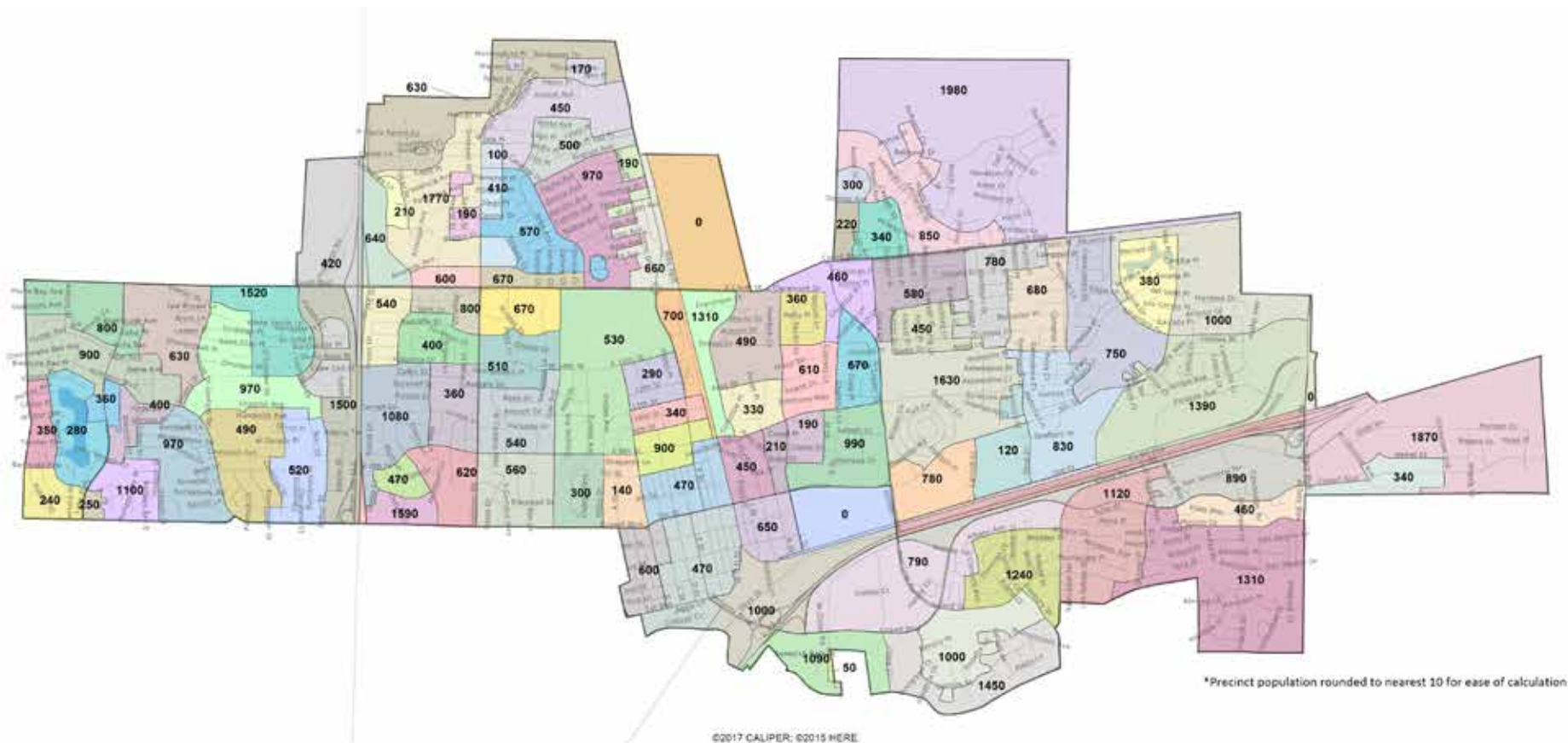
Neighborhoods and Streets



Precincts with Population (rounded)



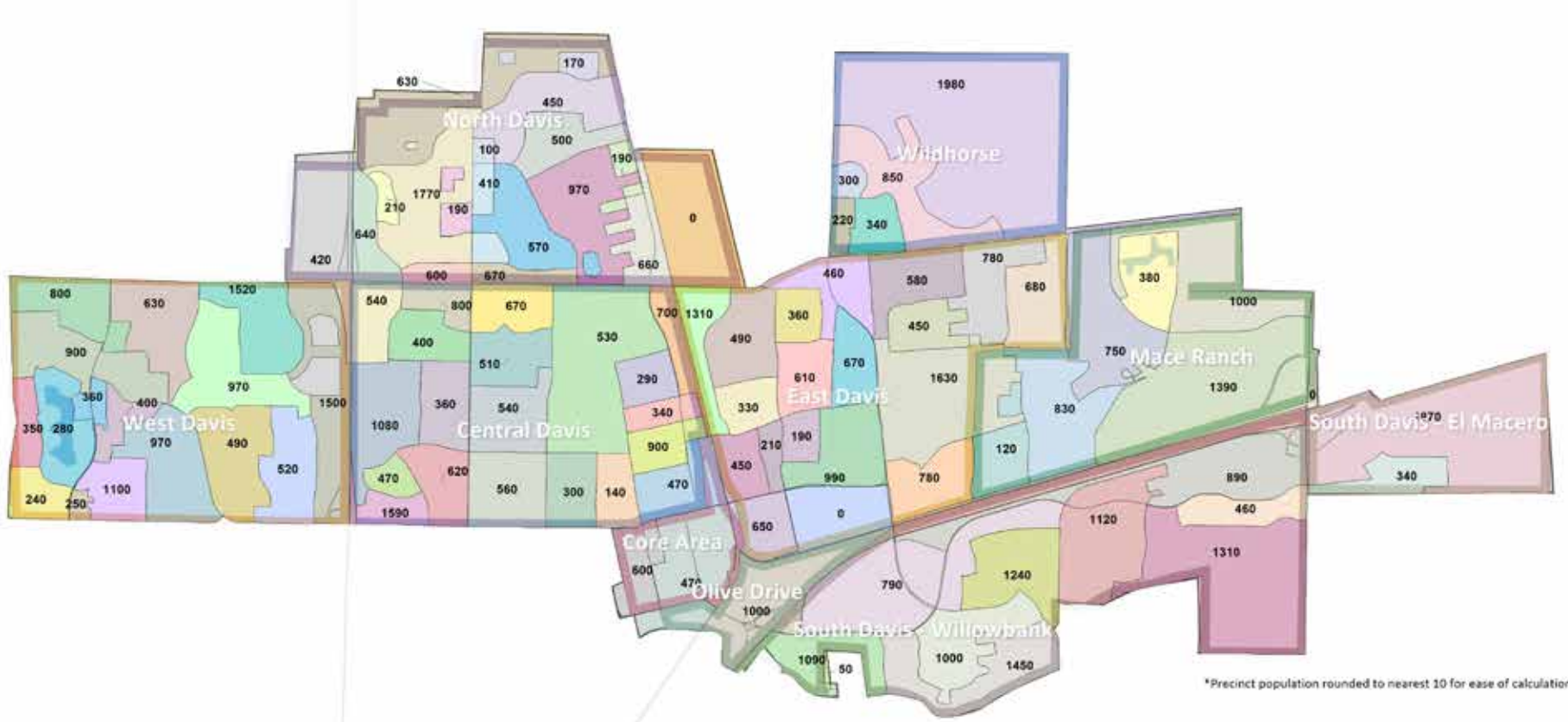
Precincts and Streets



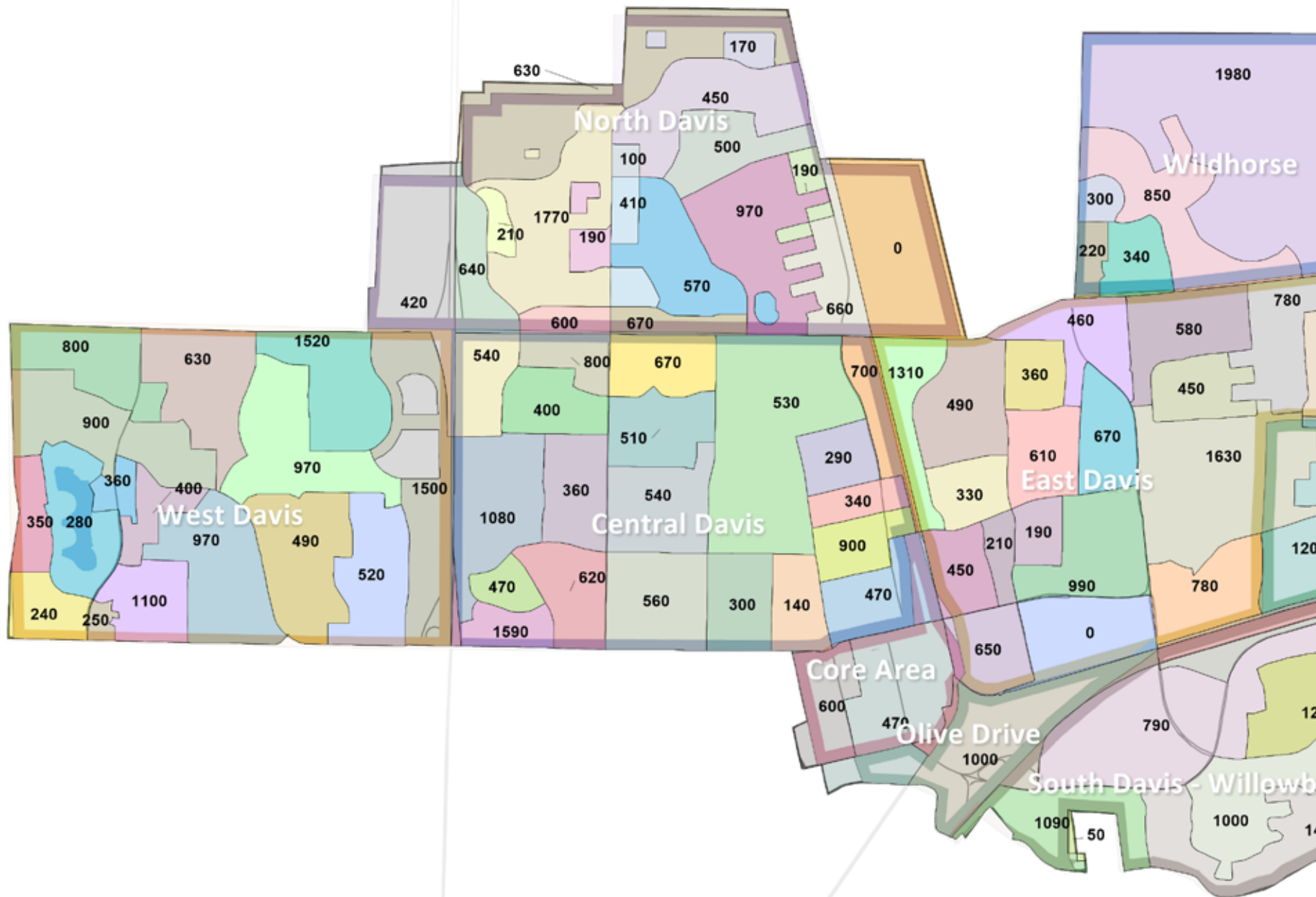
*Precinct population rounded to nearest 10 for ease of calculation

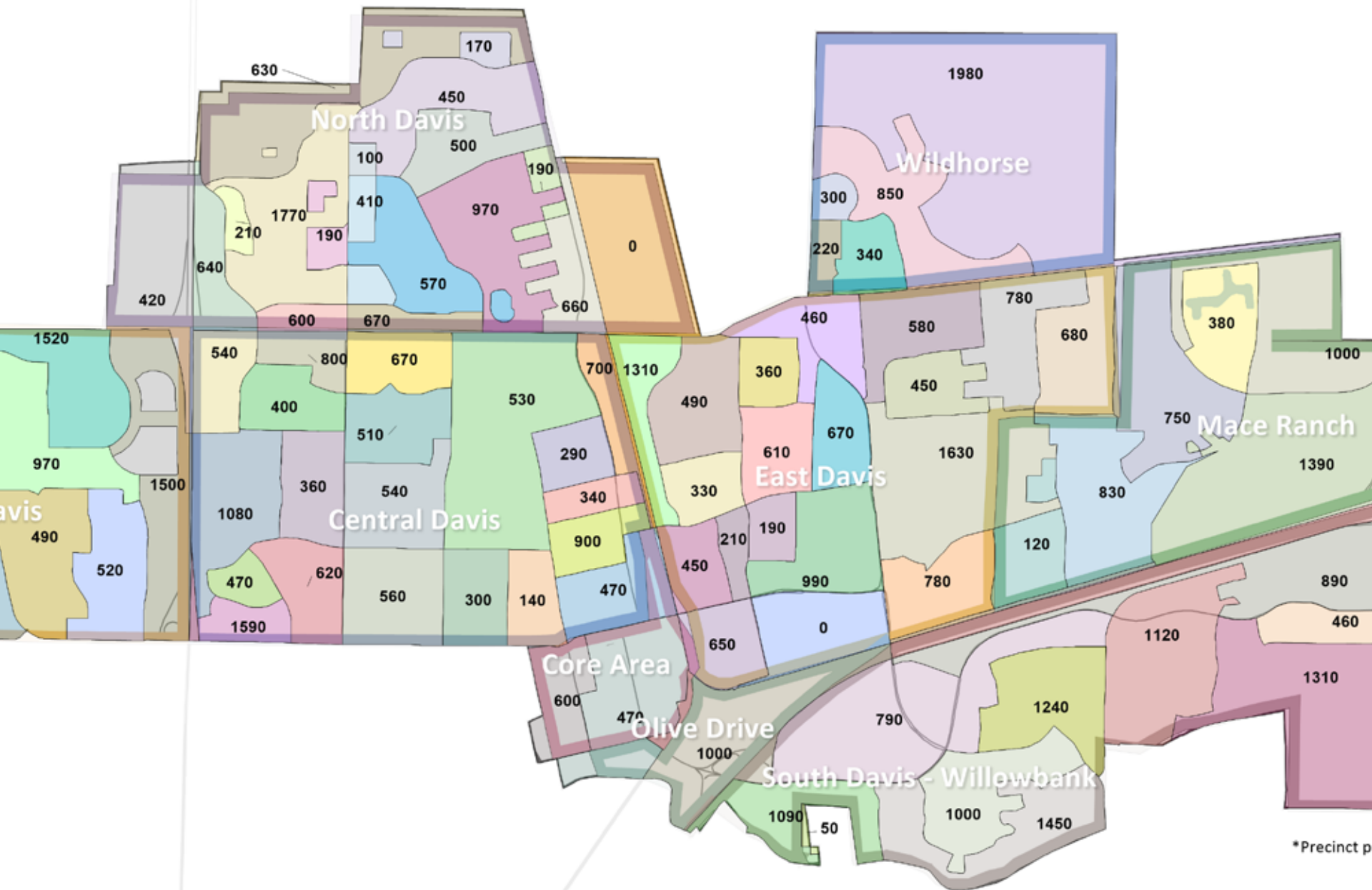


Neighborhoods and Precincts (rounded population)

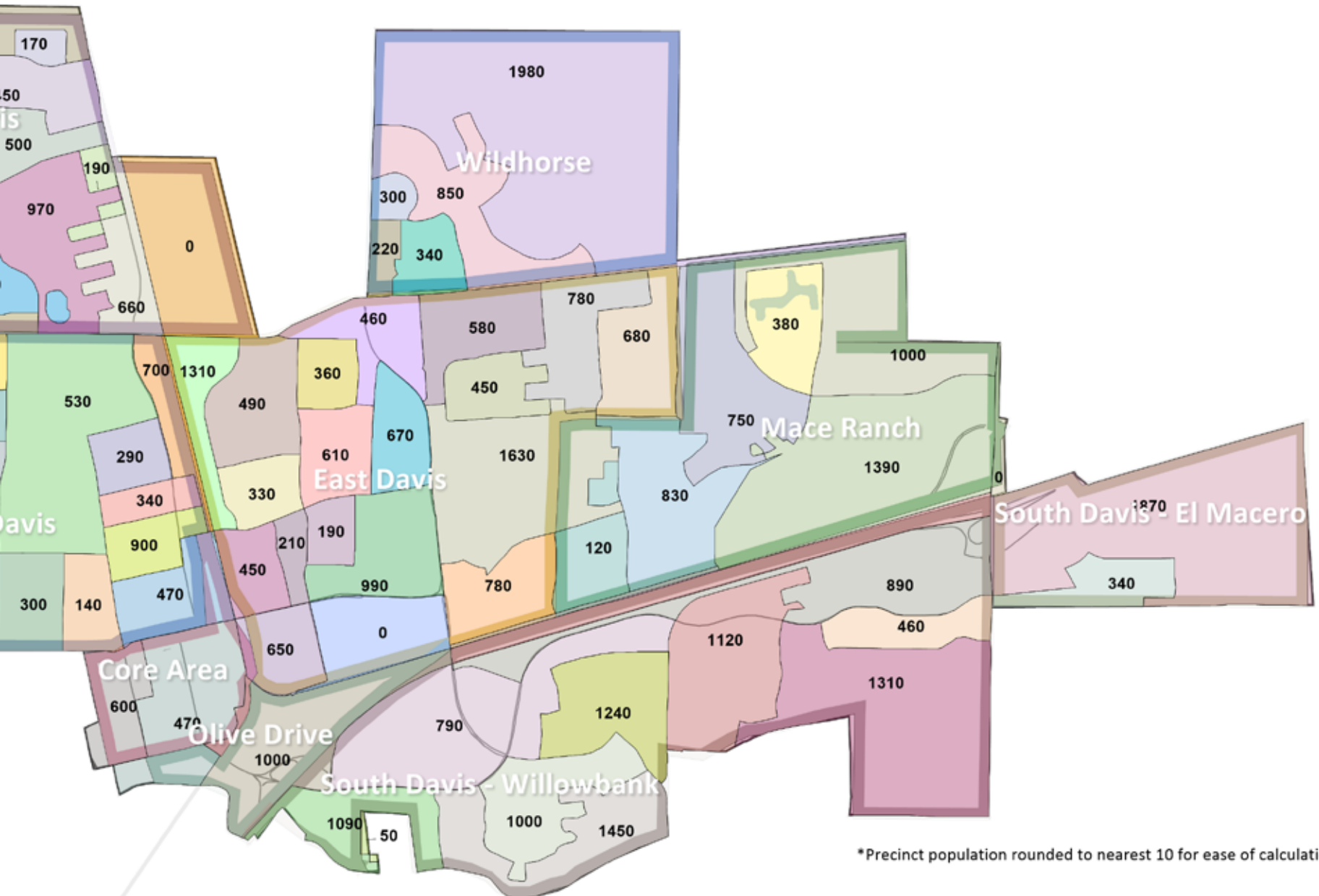


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*Precinct p



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City of Davis

What's Next

Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest and receive feedback on potential districting plans prior to board adoption

Input can be provided in public hearings or using our "Community of Interest Worksheet."



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Public hearings will be held to obtain input on communities of interest and receive feedback on potential districting plans prior to board adoption

Sept 3	1 st Public Hearing
Sept 10	2 nd Public Hearing
Sept 21	Community Event <i>(preliminary draft maps)</i>
<i>Sept 30</i>	<i>Initial draft maps published</i>
Oct 8	3 rd Public Hearing. Draft Map Review
<i>Oct 15</i>	<i>Publish amended draft maps (if any)</i>
Oct 22	4 th Public Hearing
<i>Oct 30</i>	<i>Publish final map</i>
Nov 5	Adoption



**REDISTRICTING
PARTNERS**