

MEMORANDUM

TO: Outagamie County Redistricting Oversight Committee
FROM: Kara Homan, AICP, Director
DATE: August 31, 2021
RE: Staff Review of Public Input and Plan A & B Alternatives

Background and Analysis

At the last Redistricting Oversight Committee meeting, the Committee advanced Plan Alternatives A & B for input from municipalities and the public at large. Plan A is a plan that more effectively preserves compactness and contiguity in Supervisory Districts; while Plan B is a plan that more effectively preserves political subdivisions and “communities of interest” (e.g. does not split “Dale” and “Stephensville” are not split like they are in Plan A).

Copies of all input received as of 4pm on Monday, August 30th, 2021, as well as a summary matrix has been included in your drop box.

Among this feedback, there was one item that staff felt was worthy of plan modifications – namely the request from the Town of Vandebroek to move a small section of Vandebroek along CTH J (south of I41) from District 10 into District 13, in both Plan A & B.

In addition, I followed up by phone call with officials from the Towns of Hortonville, Dale, Ellington and Village of Hortonville this morning, as the deviations between Plans A & B rest within their communities. Only the Town of Hortonville expressed a preference between maps – indicating their Board preferred Plan A, primarily because it was most similar to the existing Supervisory Map. Their Clerk conveyed it was not a strong preference, but still a preference nonetheless. While Hortonville’s Clerk initially expressed a preference for Plan A (as conveyed in her written response), once county staff explained that both plan alternatives kept the Village entirely in one District, she indicated there was no longer a preference. Both Ellington (Chair) and Dale (Clerk) indicated they had no strong preference for either map, even if it meant “Dale” and “Stephensville” needed to be split up. Dale’s clerk had sent all maps to the Town Board for their feedback and receive no comments back.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the following to the Redistricting Oversight Committee in terms of which Tentative Supervisory District Plan they recommend for approval to the Legislative/Audit/HR Committee:

1. The portion of the Town of Vandebroek along CTH J be moved from Sup. District 10 to District 13, regardless of whether Plan A or B is advanced for consideration to the Leg/Audit/HR Committee. Making this change still preserves compactness and contiguity, while enhancing unity of political subdivisions. Alt. Plan A & B, illustrating this change, are in your drop box.
2. That the Committee’s recommendation on their preferred plan, item #1 aside, ultimately comes down to a policy decision, of which staff defers to the Committee to discuss and decide. Below are the two primary alternatives, with an overview of policy considerations:
 - a. If the Committee values the principals of Compactness & Contiguity over Preservation of Political Subdivisions and Communities of Interest, the Committee

should recommend advancing Alt Plan A (with item #1 addressed) to the Leg/Audit/HR Committee.

- b. If the Committee values the principals of Preservation of Political Subdivisions and Communities of Interest over Compactness & Contiguity, the committee should advance Alt Plan B (with item #1 addressed) to the Leg/Audit/HR Committee.