

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

AGENDA DATE: April 25, 2022

CONTACT(S): Karina Brasgalla, BrasgallaKX@elpasotexas.gov, (915) 212-1570;
Philip Etiwe, EtiwePF@elpasotexas.gov, (915) 212-1553

DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: ALL

STRATEGIC GOAL: 6 Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management

SUBGOAL: 6.8 Support transparent and inclusive government

SUBJECT:

A Resolution adopting a districting plan which establishes new Council representative district boundaries based on the 2020 U.S. Census data, to become effective immediately, and dissolving the Districting Commission, as they have completed their duties in the redistricting process per City Charter.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

The Districting Commission held its first meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2021. Regular meetings were moved to Wednesdays in order to avoid conflict with the El Paso County Redistricting Commission. A total of 15 meetings were held using a hybrid format, allowing in-person participation from City Council chambers in addition to virtual attendance via Microsoft Teams or by phone. At these meetings, the Commission received informational presentations, reviewed and debated on proposed districting plans, took public comment, and live-edited plan options. As part of the redistricting process, the Commission worked with City Staff to schedule and host a total of ten community meetings in multiple locations throughout the City, with two meetings conducted completely virtually. Staff was invited to and attended three city representative community meetings to speak on this subject. Staff also presented to various local associations and organizations by request. These community meetings provided a venue for residents to have direct access and communication with Commissioners, facilitated the public comment process, and allowed City Staff to gain insight from a variety of audiences city-wide.

A dedicated website was created and a direct link placed on the main City of El Paso website at www.elpasotexas.gov/shapeep. This website was used to notify the general public throughout the redistricting process. The website featured a variety of resources and on-line tools including the entire schedule for all public and community meetings, electronic files of the agendas and minutes for all meetings, video recordings of all meetings, a GIS viewer that allowed users of the site to navigate and view in detail each proposed redistricting plan, as well as a portal for submitting comments to the Commission.

A total of 18 districting plans were submitted and reviewed, with several plan options edited live at meetings on March 16th and 23rd. On March 23, 2022, the Districting Commission used ranked choice voting to establish their top three proposed districting plans to submit to Council for consideration: 1) CD7 Revised, 2) CD6 Revised, and 3) CD8 Revised.

District Plans were reviewed and edited by Council on April 11th and 14th. Three maps are under consideration by City Council: Commissioner Draft 8 Revised, CD8 - Council Revision B, CD7 - Council Revision B

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

On April 27, 2021, City Council reestablished the Districting Commission in accordance with the requirements of Article II, Section 2.4(B) of City Charter. On October 26, 2021, Council approved a Resolution establishing the redistricting criteria for new proposed district boundaries. As part of the previous redistricting effort following the 2010 Census, City Council adopted new representative district boundaries effective July 23, 2012.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Revised 04/09/2021

N/A

HAVE ALL AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS BEEN NOTIFIED? ☐ YES ☐ NO

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Planning and Inspections
SECONDARY DEPARTMENT: City Attorney's Office

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Philip Fiore
(If Department Head Summary Form is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, after the completion of the 2020 U.S. Census, realignment of representative district boundaries of the City of El Paso is required when the difference in population between the largest and smallest district exceeds ten percent; and

WHEREAS, upon review of the 2020 census data for the City of El Paso there exists an apparent population imbalance requiring adjustment of the representative district boundaries; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2021, pursuant to Article II, Section 2.4(B) of the City Charter, the City Council established the Districting Commission (the “Commission”); and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2021, the City Council adopted redistricting criteria to guide the Council and the Commission in the consideration of districting plans; and

WHEREAS, during the course of the redistricting process the Commission conducted numerous regular Commission meetings and community meetings to develop alternative districting plans and to solicit comment and participation from members of the general public and other interested groups; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has now made its recommendations to the Council concerning adjustments of the boundaries of the representative districts to insure substantial equality of the populations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered various proposed alternative districting plans regarding the adjustment of representative district boundaries of the City and now finds that the attached districting plan is in the best interest of the citizens of the City, complies with the adopted redistricting criteria, and is believed to comply with all constitutional principles and laws governing voting rights of the United States and Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That the City Council hereby adopts as the City’s districting plan the attached map, to become effective immediately;
2. That the Districting Commission, having completed their duties as identified in the City Charter, is hereby dissolved.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2022.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leeser, Mayor

[Signatures Continue on Following Page]

ATTEST:

Laura Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Russell Abeln

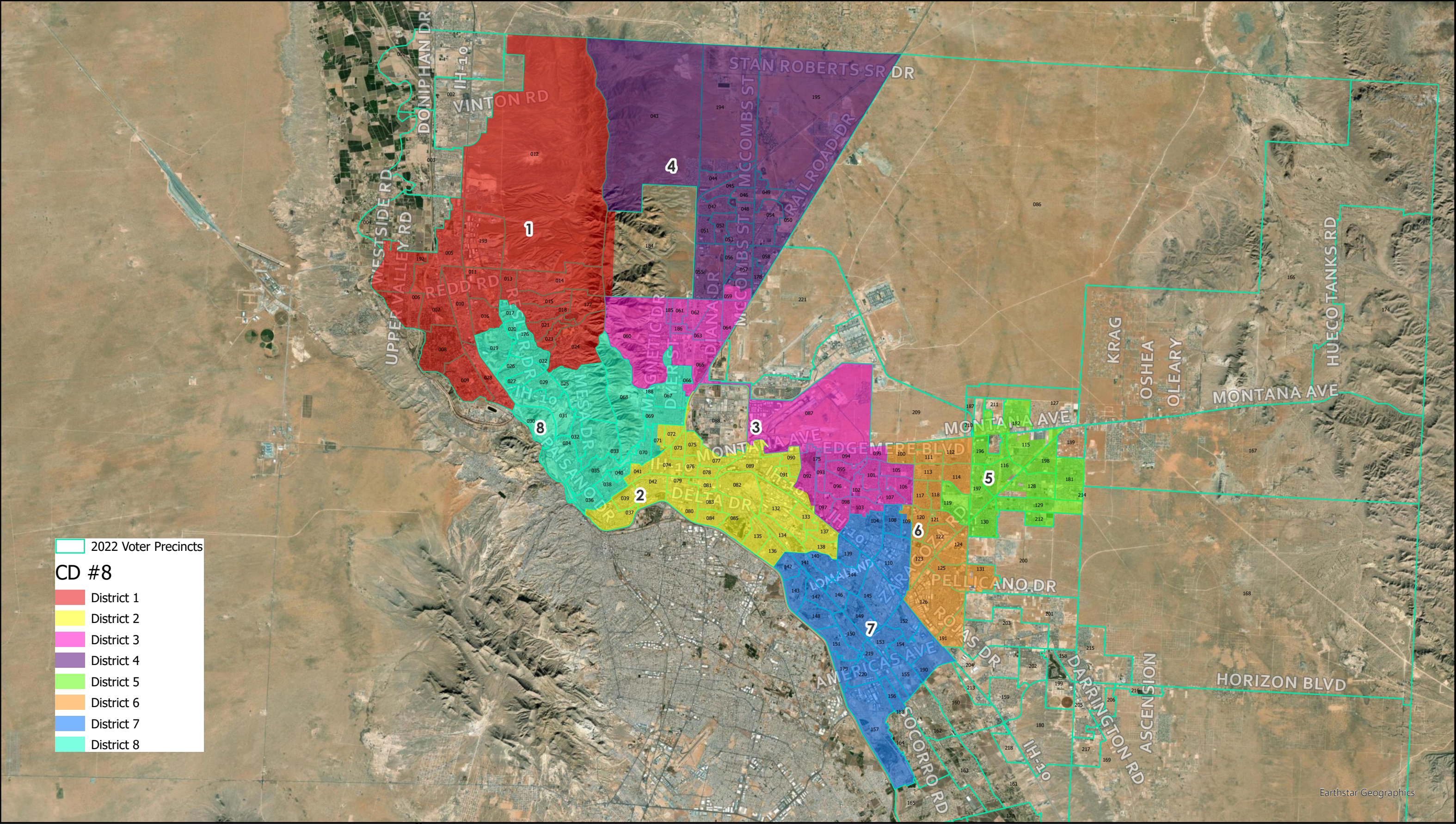
Russell T. Abeln
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Philip Etiwe

Philip Etiwe, Director
Planning and Inspections Department

Commissioner Draft #8 Revised 3/23/2022

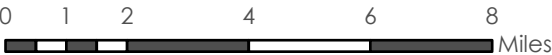


2022 Voter Precincts

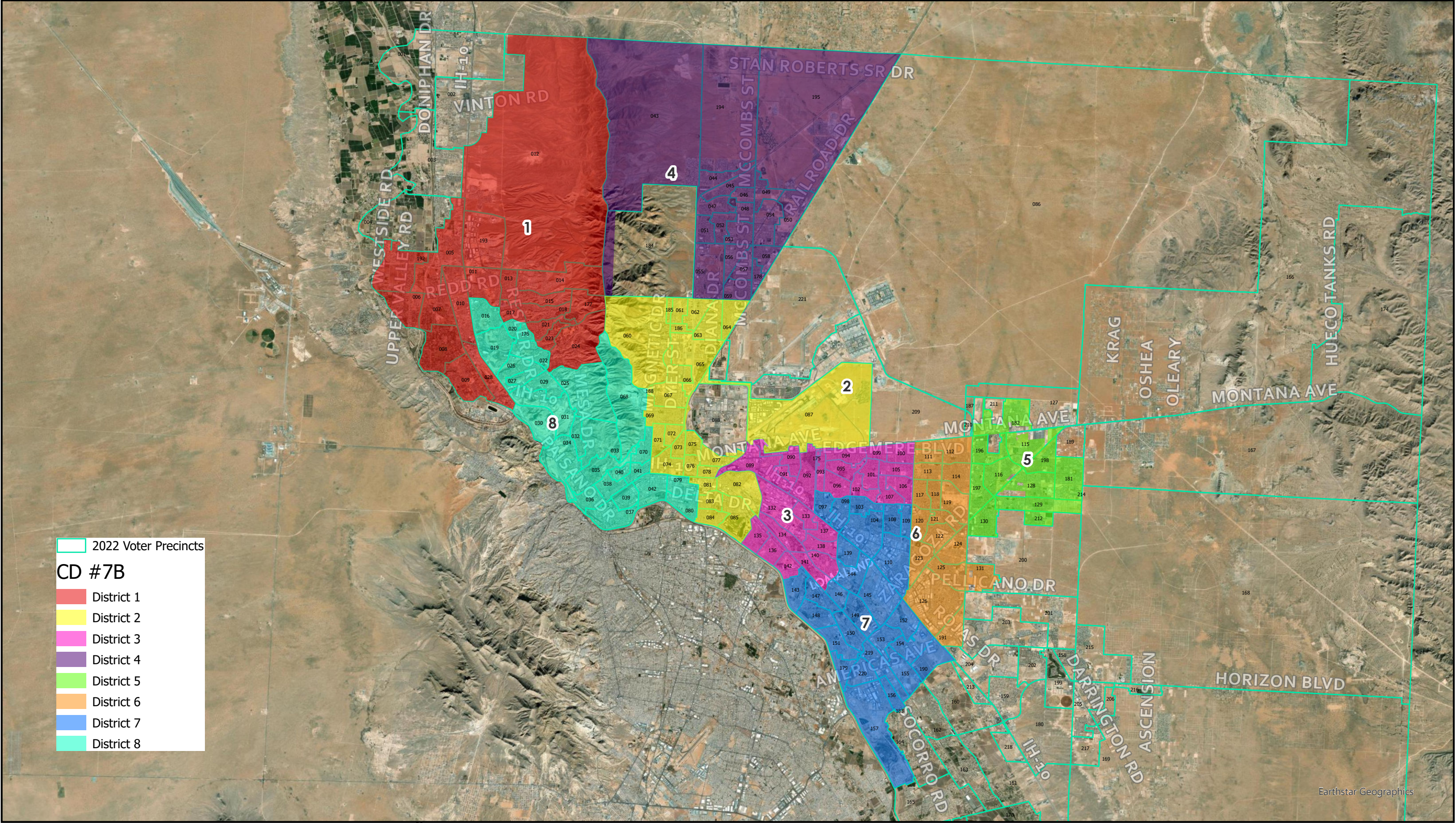
CD #8

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7
- District 8

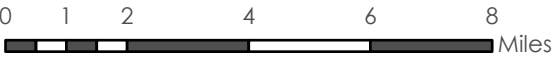
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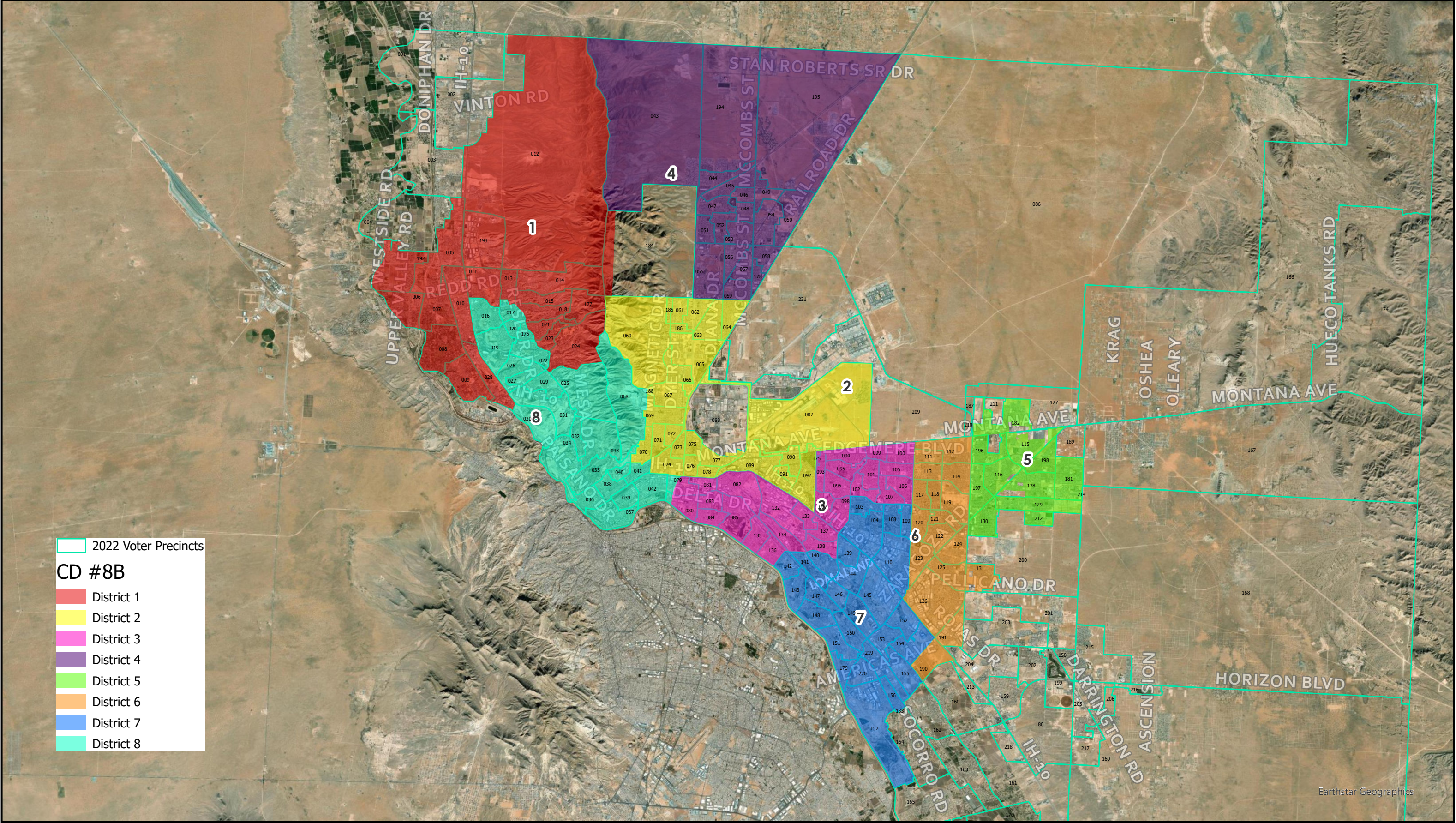
Commissioner Draft #7B Revised 4/11/2022



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Commissioner Draft #8B Revised 4/14/2022



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