



Keith Benner
Hilary Conley
Les Davies
Heather Graham
Doug Joseph

Ward Boundary Commission

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Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council
614-322-6836

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Ward Boundary Commission Meeting Minutes from June 15, 2022

D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Election of Commission Chair
2. Election of Commission Vice Chair

E. WARD BOUNDARY MAP DISCUSSION

1. Explanation of the Purpose and Function of the Ward Boundary Commission - Attorney Shook
2. Presentation by GIS Administrator Chris Surber

F. OTHER MATTERS

1. Future Schedule

G. ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT



**MINUTES MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG WARD BOUNDARY COMMISSION
June 15, 2022**

Les Davies called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

PRESENT: Benner, Castro, Davies

ABSENT: Boggs, Missick

Additional attendees: Attorney Chris Shook and Clerk Mollie Prasher

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Benner moved to approve the agenda. Second by Vice Chair Castro. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

1. Ward Boundary Commission – Meeting – May 18, 2022

Vice Chair Castro moved to approve the May 18, 2022 minutes. Second by Mr. Benner. Motion carried.

RESULT: ACCEPTED

Ward Boundary Process

Approval of Ward Boundary Map and Report

A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE REPEAL AND REPLACEMENT OF CHAPTER 105 WARDS AND BOUNDARIES AS OUTLINED IN THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 105 WARDS AND BOUNDARIES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO AND AS OUTLINED ON EXHIBIT A THE WARD BOUNDARY MAP

Attorney Shook advised that two new annexation requests were just filed with Franklin County. One property would likely be in Ward 1 and the other property in Ward 2. The actual annexation of these properties would not be finalized until September or October. They would need to be included into the map.

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MINUTES MEETING REYNOLDSBURG WARD BOUNDARY COMMISSION June 15, 2022

The Committee discussed whether to postpone making a recommendation or move forward. The Committee decided to go ahead and move forward with their recommendation and possibly reconvene at the end of the year to assign Wards to these two properties.

Vice Chair Castro asked what happened during the ten-year period as to how Wards are assigned to annexed properties. Attorney Shook and Clerk Prasher were not sure. Clerk Prasher would call the Boards of Election to request information about how Ward were assigned mid-census periods.

Chair Davies moved to approve a motion to recommend Council repeal and replace Chapter 105 Wards and Boundaries as outline in the proposed ordinance to repeal and replace Chapter105 Wards and Boundaries of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Reynoldsburg, Ohio and as outlined on Exhibit A the Ward Boundary map. Second by Mr. Benner.

Vice Chair Castro asked if the motion was correct. Did the entire Chapter need to be replaced or must Section 511.02? Attorney Shook made a copy of the current Chapter and advised that indeed that entire Chapter needed replaced.

Motion carried.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Les Davies
SECONDER:	Keith Benner
AYES:	Benner, Castro, Davies
ABSENT:	Boggs, Missick

Other Matters

Chair Davies indicated that he would not be available to attend the June 27th Council meeting and present the Commission's recommendation. Vice Chair Castro indicated that he would likely be able to attend and represent the Commission.

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**MINUTES MEETING
REYNOLDSBURG WARD BOUNDARY COMMISSION
June 15, 2022**

Adjourn

Mr. Benner moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Vice Chair Castro. Motion carried.

Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council

There were very minimal changes to the data that EMH&T created. The population only increased by a total of 66, due to annexations in the city. Essentially, there are only two reasonable options which are explained in the attached proposal summaries.

1. **Map - Ward Districts (Current):** This map includes our current Ward District boundaries, with updated Census Block numbers including all current annexations. The deviation is 7.15%, which is within the accepted substantially equal range of 5%-10%. No changes are needed to the current districts.
2. **Map - Ward Districts (Changes):** This maps shows the most logical area to make the population numbers more equal. It would move a small area from Ward 4 and move it in to Ward 2. The change only impacts a population of 286, but reduces our deviation to 2.2%. That would be considered exceptional as far as redistricting is concerned. The downside is that this change will certainly need to be undone after the next census.
3. **Map - Ward Districts (Changes 2):** The map is zoomed in to the potential change area. The area is composed of 9 Census Blocks, but three of those have a population of 0. The other 6 Blocks have a total population of 286. Geographically it makes sense, because the boundaries are major roads and Blacklick Creek.
4. **Map - Ward Districts (Proposed):** This map shows the final Ward District boundaries if the committee decides to make the proposed changes. It also shows the updated population data and improved populations data.
5. **2026 Ward Redistricting Summary (No Change):** The current Ward Districts deviation of 7.15% is within the substantially equal limit, so we do not need to do anything. I cannot confirm, but I assume EMH&T may have adjusted the districts slightly to account for future developments in districts 2 & 3. You can not speculate on future population changes, but minor justifiable adjustments like this are deemed OK. I vote for this option. In my opinion making minor changes based off of older 2020 Census data will only create new issues.
6. **2026 Ward Redistricting Summary (Adjusted):** This minor adjustment makes the data much better. The new deviation of 2.24% would be considered exceptional. However, we know that current/future development is heavily impacting Districts 2 & 3. Making this change looks good according to 2020 Census data, but the change will certainly need to be reversed after the next census. That would be a lot of changes to make based off of outdated data in my opinion. I still wanted to propose this change option, so it shows we put a lot of thought into this project!

2026 Ward Redistricting Summary

The City of Reynoldsburg conducted a review and adjustment of ward boundaries using 2020 U.S. Census block-level population data. This was done to ensure each ward contains a substantially equal population, in accordance with standard redistricting practices.

Population totals were derived from 2020 Census data and applied to the City's current municipal boundaries, including areas annexed since 2020. Census blocks were assigned to wards and combines to calculate total population by district.

The total population of Reynoldsburg used in this analysis is 41,136, resulting in an ideal ward population of 10,284 across four wards. The proposed ward populations are as follows:

- **Ward 1: 10,176 (-1.05%)**
- **Ward 2: 10,243 (-0.40%)**
- **Ward 3: 10,311 (+0.26%)**
- **Ward 4: 10,406 (+1.19%)**

The overall population deviation between the largest and smallest wards is 2.24%, which is well within commonly accepted redistricting standards (generally under 10%).

The proposed adjustments make only minimal changes to existing ward boundaries while improving population balance. Boundaries were aligned with existing geographic features to maintain continuity.

Based on this analysis, the proposed ward configuration is considered balanced, compliant, and appropriate for adoption.

2026 Ward Redistricting Summary

The City of Reynoldsburg conducted a review of existing ward boundaries using 2020 U.S. Census block-level population data. This was done to evaluate whether each ward contains a substantially equal population, in accordance with standard redistricting practices.

Population totals were derived from 2020 Census data and applied to the City's current municipal boundaries, including areas annexed since 2020. Census blocks were assigned to existing wards and combined to calculate total population by district.

The total population of Reynoldsburg used in this analysis is 41,136, resulting in an ideal ward population of 10,284 across four wards. The current ward populations are as follows:

- **Ward 1: 10,176 (-1.05%)**
- **Ward 2: 9,957 (-3.18%)**
- **Ward 3: 10,311 (+0.26%)**
- **Ward 4: 10,692 (+3.97%)**

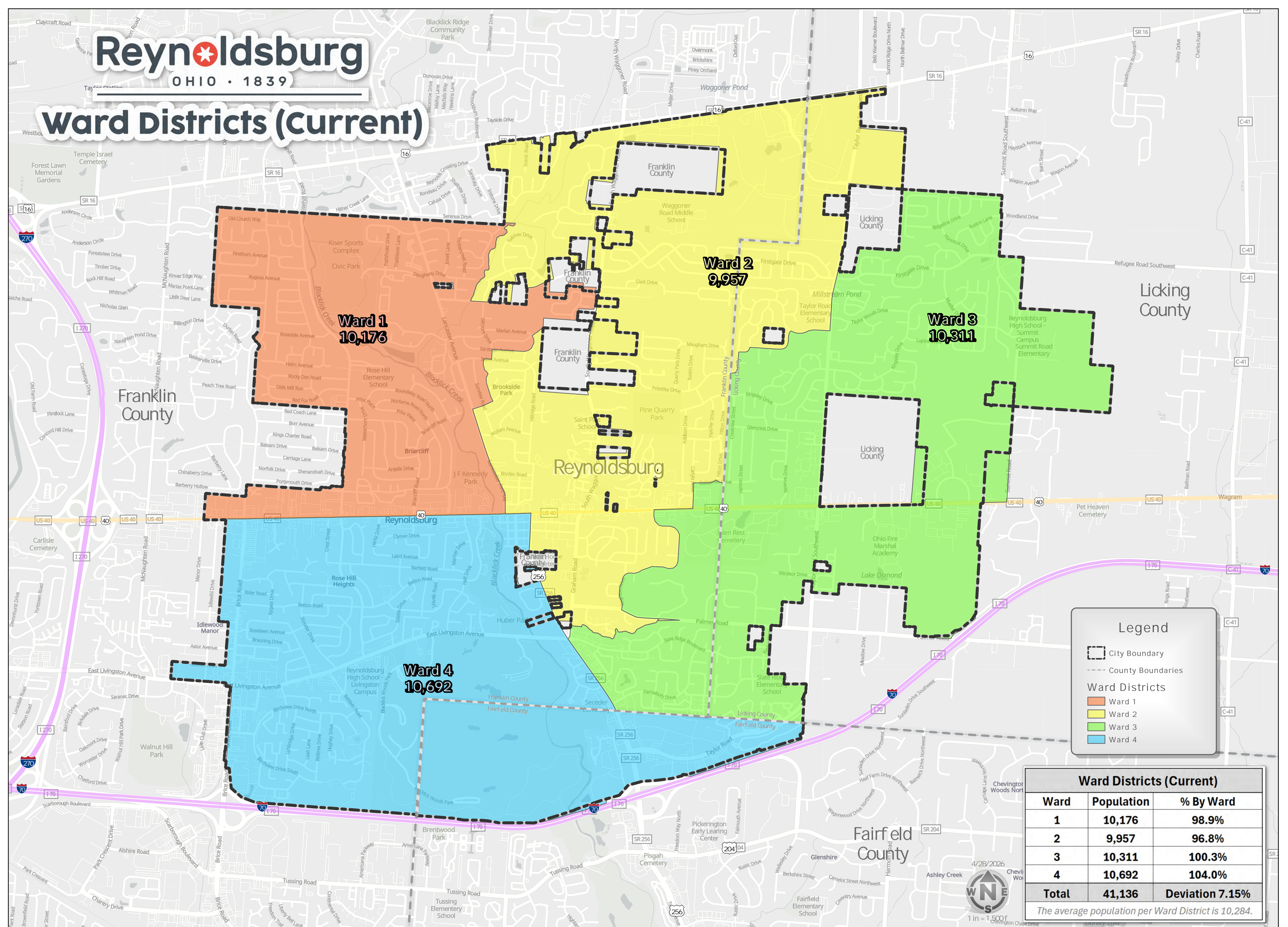
The overall population deviation between the largest and smallest wards is 7.15%, which is within commonly accepted redistricting standards (generally under 10%).

While this deviation is higher than the proposed adjustment scenario, it remains compliant. The existing ward configuration may reflect prior planning considerations, including anticipated residential growth in Wards 2 and 3.

Maintaining the current ward boundaries would avoid any changes and potential disruption. This approach may also better accommodate expected growth patterns, potentially reducing the need for additional adjustments in the near future.

Based on this analysis, the existing ward configuration is considered compliant and may be retained without modification.

Ward Districts (Current)



Legend

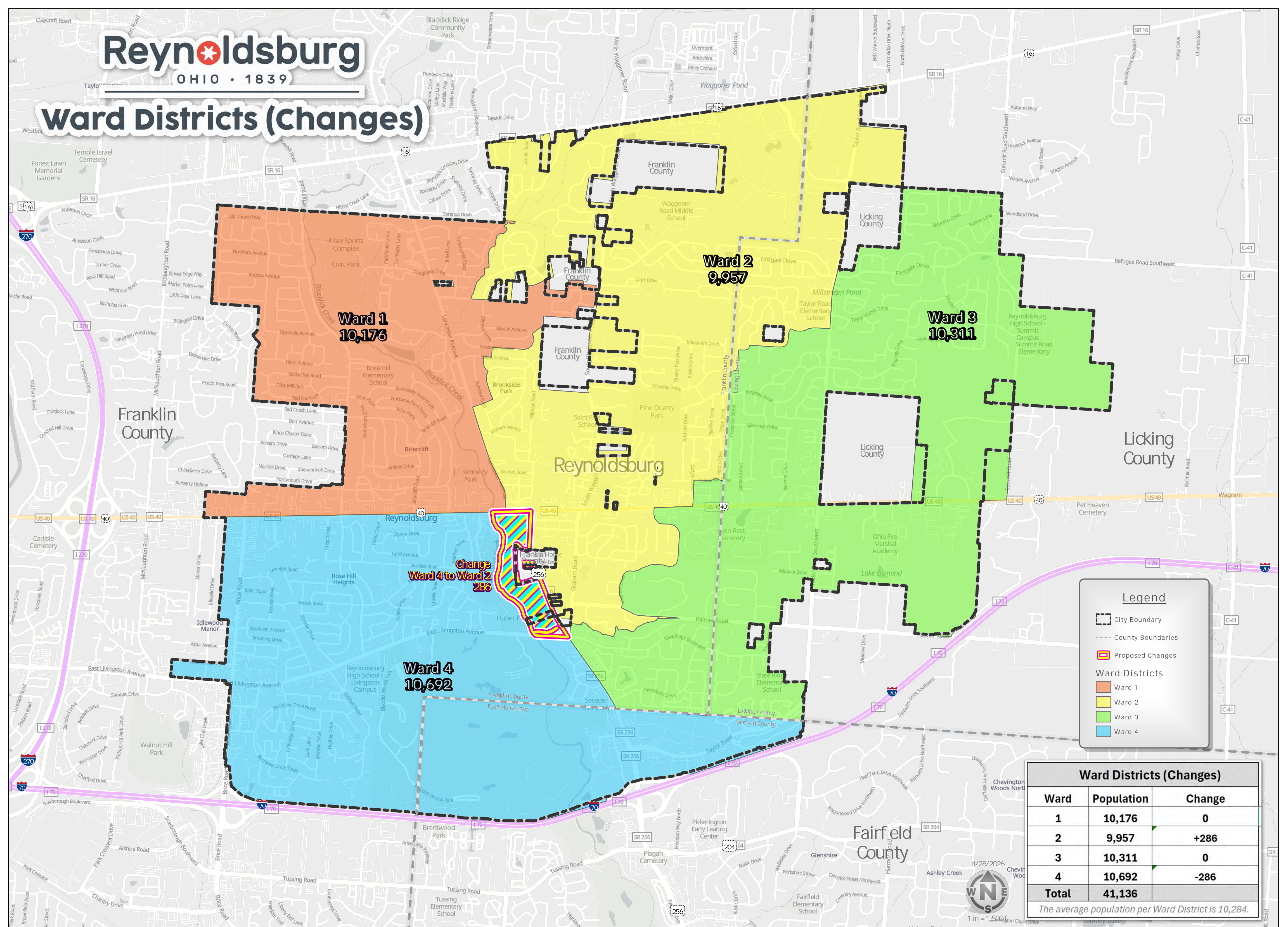
- City Boundary
- County Boundaries
- Ward Districts
 - Ward 1
 - Ward 2
 - Ward 3
 - Ward 4

Ward Districts (Current)		
Ward	Population	% By Ward
1	10,176	98.9%
2	9,957	96.8%
3	10,311	100.3%
4	10,692	104.0%
Total	41,136	Deviation 7.15%

The average population per Ward District is 10,284.



Ward Districts (Changes)



Legend

- City Boundary
- County Boundaries
- Proposed Changes

Ward Districts

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4

Ward Districts (Changes)		
Ward	Population	Change
1	10,176	0
2	9,957	+286
3	10,311	0
4	10,692	-286
Total	41,136	

The average population per Ward District is 10,284.



Ward Districts (Changes)

Change Area:
From Ward 4 to Ward 2
Population: 286

Legend

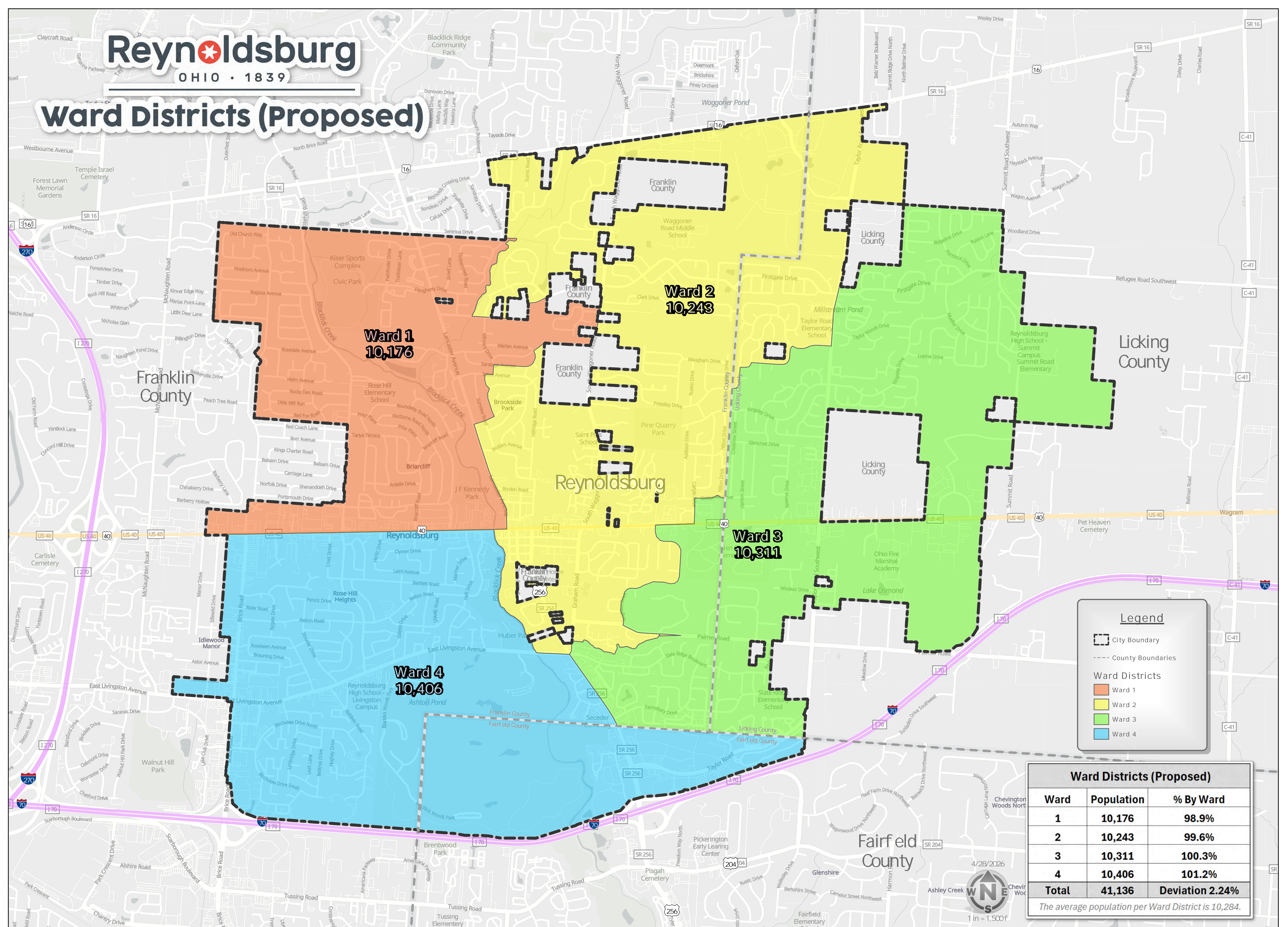
- City Boundary
- Proposed Changes
- Parcel Lines
- Blacklick Creek

Ward Districts (Changes)		
Ward	Population	Change
1	10,176	0
2	9,957	+286
3	10,311	0
4	10,692	-286
Total	41,136	

The average population per Ward District is 10,284.



Ward Districts (Proposed)



Legend

- City Boundary
- County Boundaries
- Ward Districts
 - Ward 1
 - Ward 2
 - Ward 3
 - Ward 4

Ward Districts (Proposed)		
Ward	Population	% By Ward
1	10,176	98.9%
2	10,243	99.6%
3	10,311	100.3%
4	10,406	101.2%
Total	41,136	Deviation 2.24%

The average population per Ward District is 10,284.



4/28/2026

1 in = 1,500'