

**Municipality of the District of Barrington
Boundary Review Application
Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
December 22, 2022**

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NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: an application pursuant to Section 369 of the *Municipal Government Act*

The Council of the Municipality of the District of Barrington makes application to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to:

- ☒ confirm the number of councillors
 - ☒ alter the number and boundaries of polling districts
1. There are at present 5 polling districts in the Municipality of the District of Barrington (MODB) and 5 councillors.
 2. The following is a brief outline of each polling district in the Municipality, including the names of the larger communities, the geographic size, any relevant geographic features, and any factors which establish a particular community of interest in the polling district:

Table 1: Brief Outline of Existing Polling Districts

Polling District No.	Name of Larger Communities	Geographic Size and Features	Communities of Interest
1	Charlesville, Forbes Point, Upper Woods Harbour, Central Woods Harbour, Lower Woods Harbour, Shag Harbour and Lower Shag Harbour	92 square kilometres Primarily coastal communities	Fishery/Coastal Communities Rural Residential Communities
2	Bear Point, Atwood's Brook, Doctor's Cove, Barrington Passage, Brass Hill, Sherose Island, Barrington West and Oak Park	51 square kilometres Coastal communities, business district	Rural Residential Communities Retail Centre with Central Sewer
3	of North East Point, Centreville, Newellton and West Head. The communities are located on the western side of Cape Sable Island	24 square kilometres Primarily coastal communities	Fishery/Coastal Communities Rural Residential Communities
4	Clam Point, Stoney Island, South Side, Lower Clark's Harbour and the Hawk. The communities are located on the eastern side of Cape Sable Island	46 square kilometres Primarily coastal communities	Fishery/Coastal Communities Rural Residential Communities
5	Riverhead, Barrington, Goose Lake, Coffinscroft, Villagedale, Clyde River, Lower Clyde River, Middle Clyde River, Port Clyde, Port LaTour, Baccaro, West Baccaro, East Baccaro, Smithsville, Upper Port LaTour,	227 square kilometres Coastal communities, some inland communities	Seasonal Residential Rural Residential Communities

	Reynoldscroft, Cape Negro, Thomasville and Blanche		
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3. The latest population statistics for the Municipality are as follows:

- Total population (2021 Census): 6,523
- Census data by polling district is not available from Statistics Canada. An estimated population was calculated for each polling district as follows:
 - The 2021 census population by dissemination area was divided by the Nova Scotia Civic Address File (NSCAF) Residential dwellings by dissemination area to obtain the average population per NSCAF residential dwelling point.
 - Each building point in the dissemination area was assigned an average population per dwelling value.
 - The average population field was added together, for each residential dwelling point in the existing district, to generate an estimated population for the existing polling district.

Table 2: Population of Existing Polling Districts

Existing Polling District	Population (Derived from 2021 Census)
1	1334
2	1559
3	1138
4	1026
5	1466

4. The following table shows the results from the last municipal election which was held on October 17, 2020.

Table 3: Voter Statistics, Existing Polling Districts, 2020

Polling District	Number of Electors	% of Total Electors	Variation from the Average Number of Voters	
			#	%
1	1078	19.8	-12	-1.1
2	1326	24.3	236	21.7
3	955	17.5	-135	-12.4
4	860	15.8	-230	-21.1
5	1231	22.6	141	12.9

Total number of electors: 5450

Total number of councillors: 5

Average number of electors per councillor: 1090

5. a) The following changes to the boundaries of the polling districts are proposed:
- Both sides of the road between the intersection of Highway 3 and Oak Park Road and the intersection of River Road and Oak Park Road, be relocated from District 5 to District 2.
5. b) The reasons for these proposed changes are as follows:
- The current boundary currently has one side of that section of Oak Park Road in District 2 and the other side in District 5. This has caused confusion among the electors on that section of Oak Park Road as this area has historically been entirely a part of District 2.
5. c) The following table shows an estimate of the voter statistics which will result if the changes are approved by the Board:

Table 4: Voter Statistics, Proposed Polling Districts

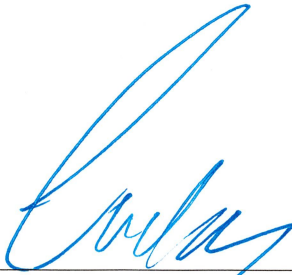
Polling District	Number of Electors	% of Total Electors	Variation from the Average Number of Voters	
			#	%
1	1078	19.8	-12	-1.1
2	1364	25	274	25
3	955	17.5	-135	-12.4
4	860	15.8	-230	-21.1
5	1193	21.9	103	9.4

Total number of electors: 5450

Total number of councillors: 5

Average number of electors per councillor: 1090

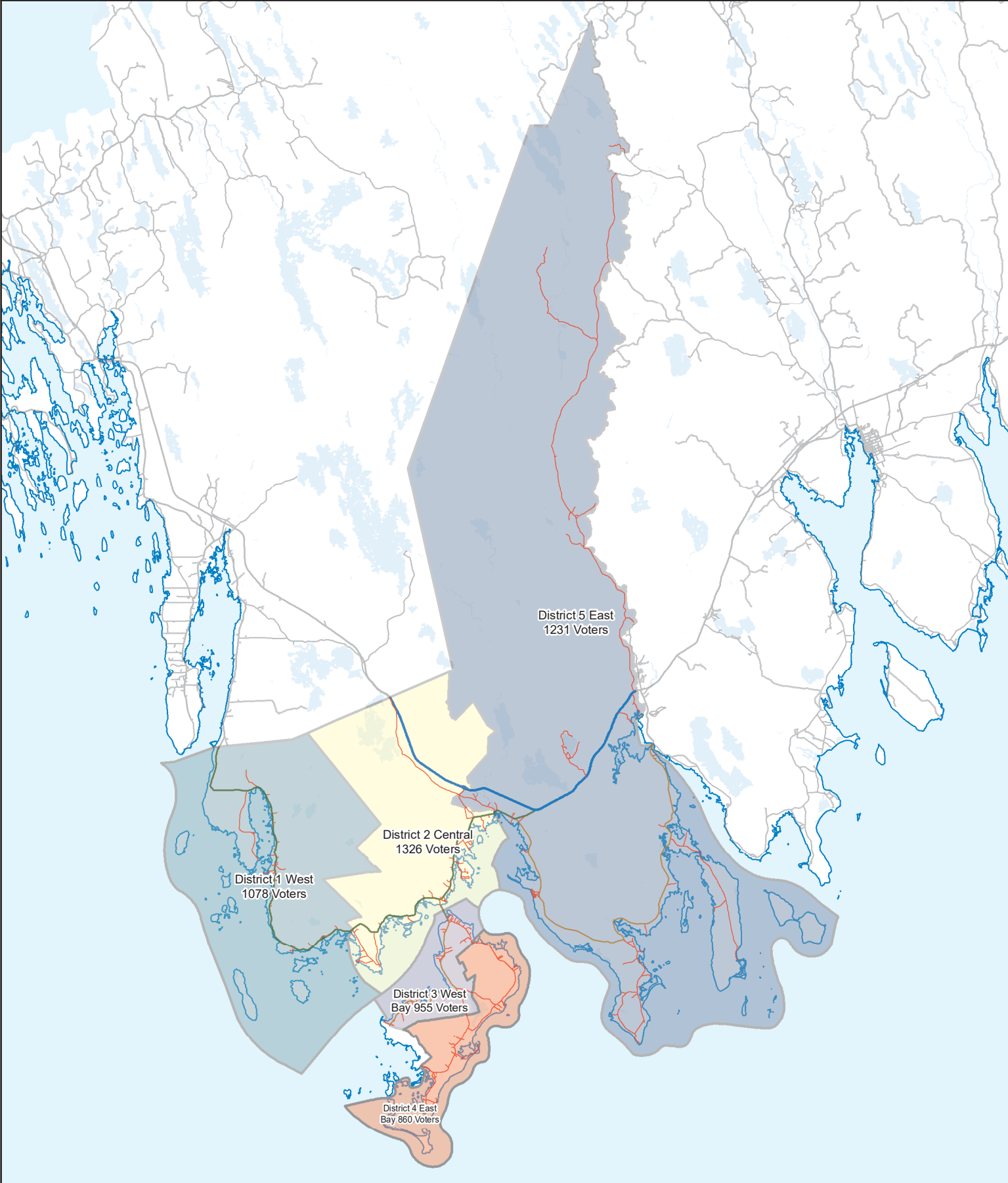
DATED at Barrington
County of Shelburne
this 22 day of December,
2022



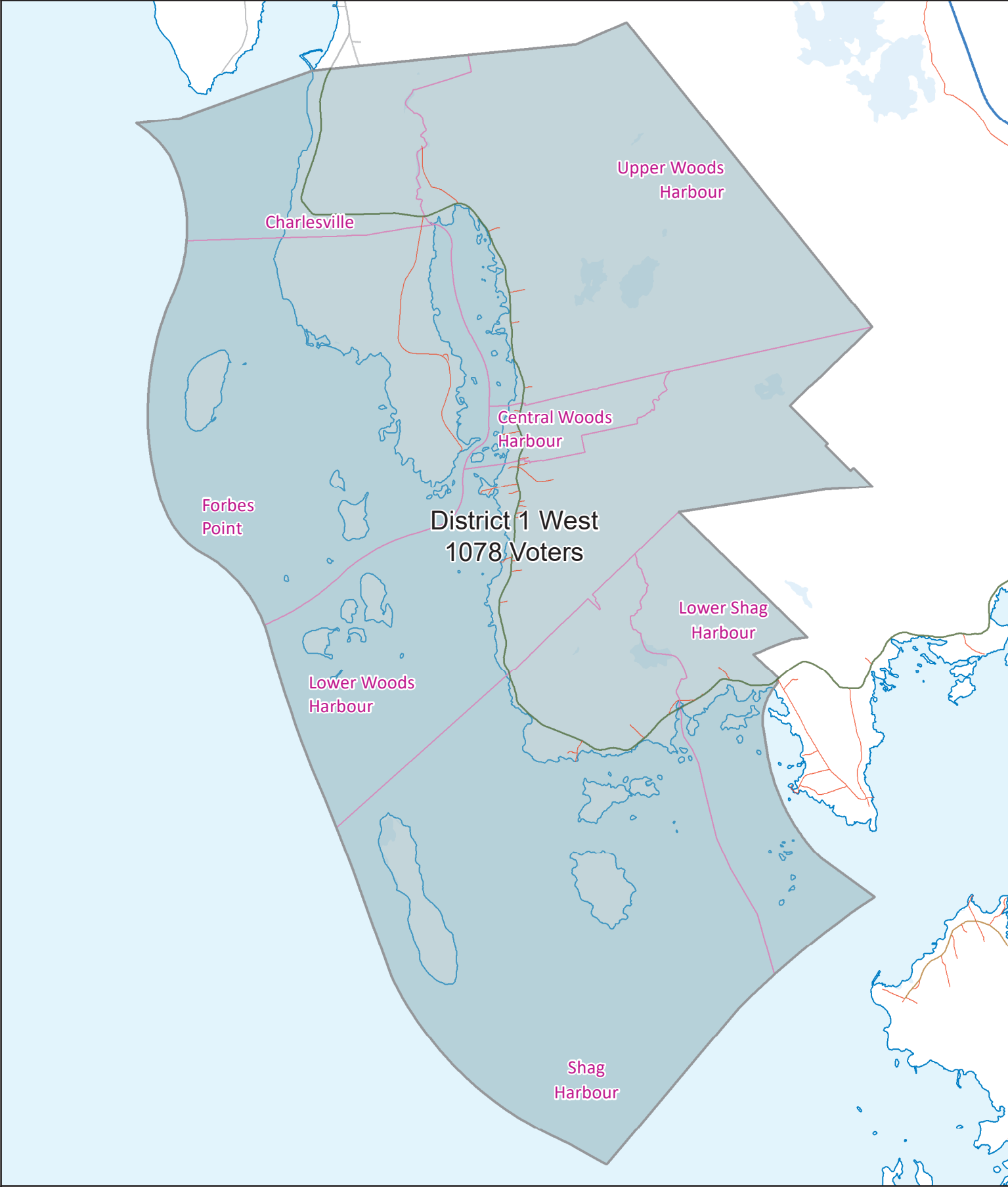
Warden

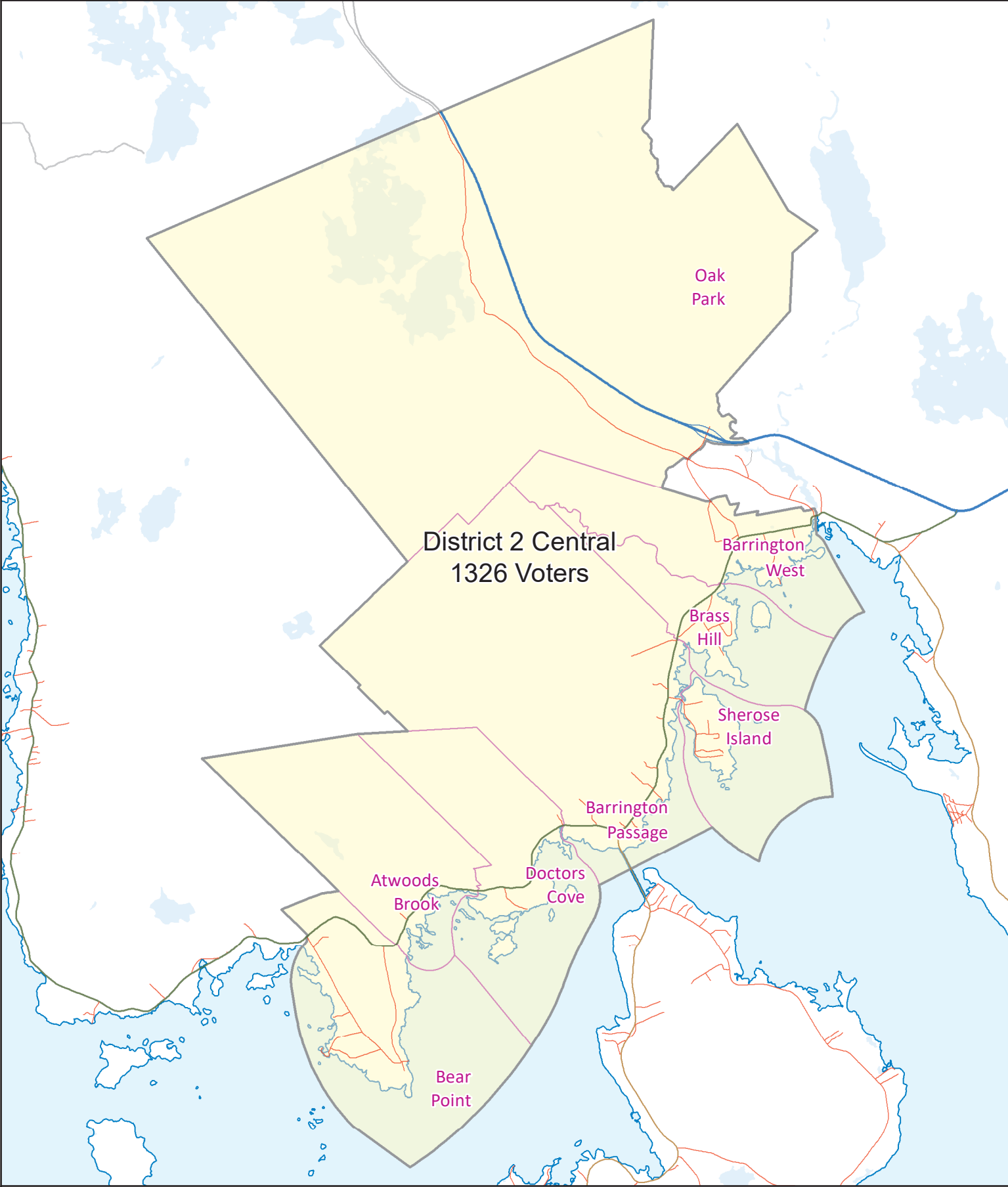


Chief Administrative Officer

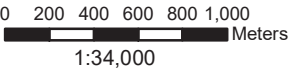
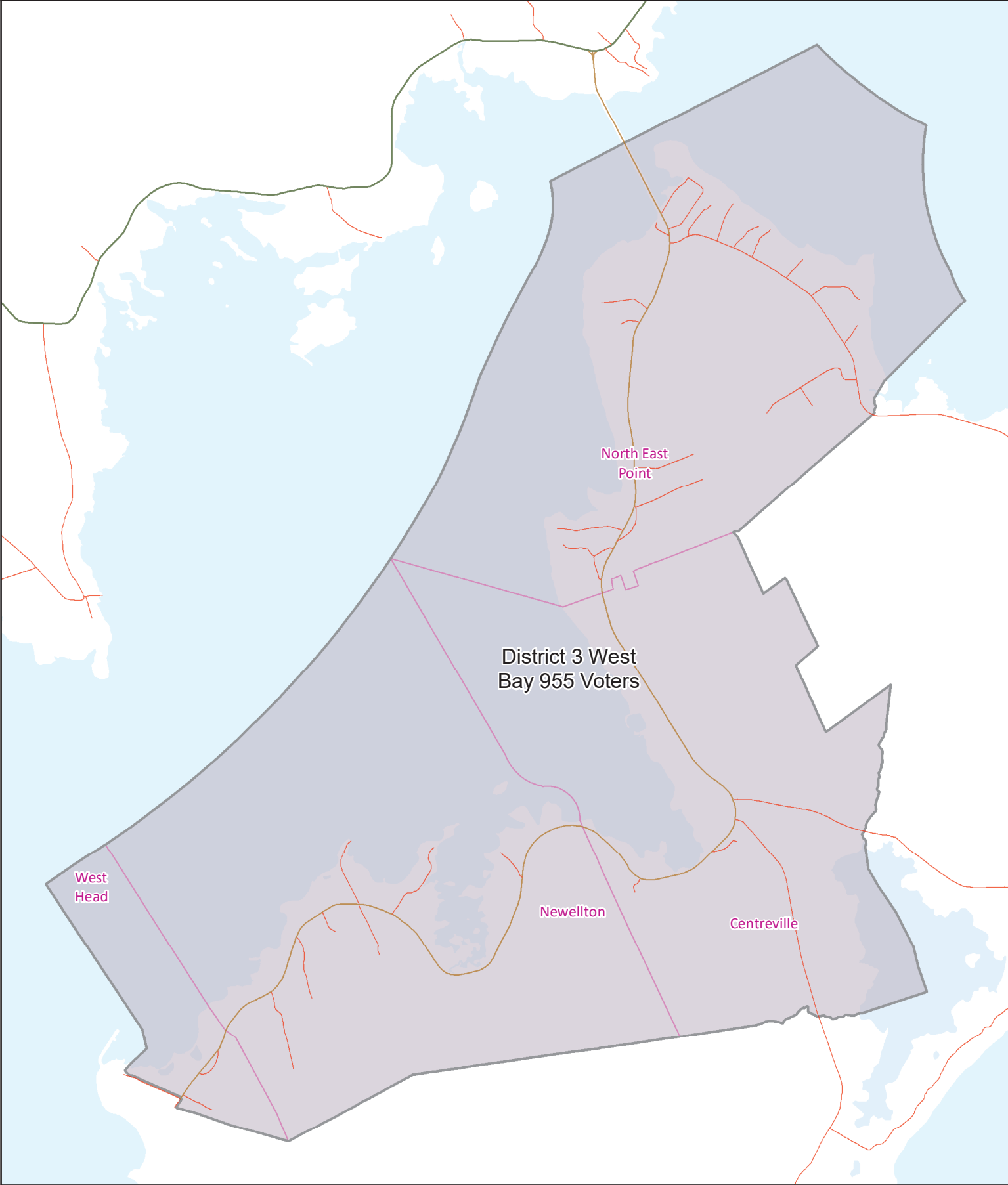


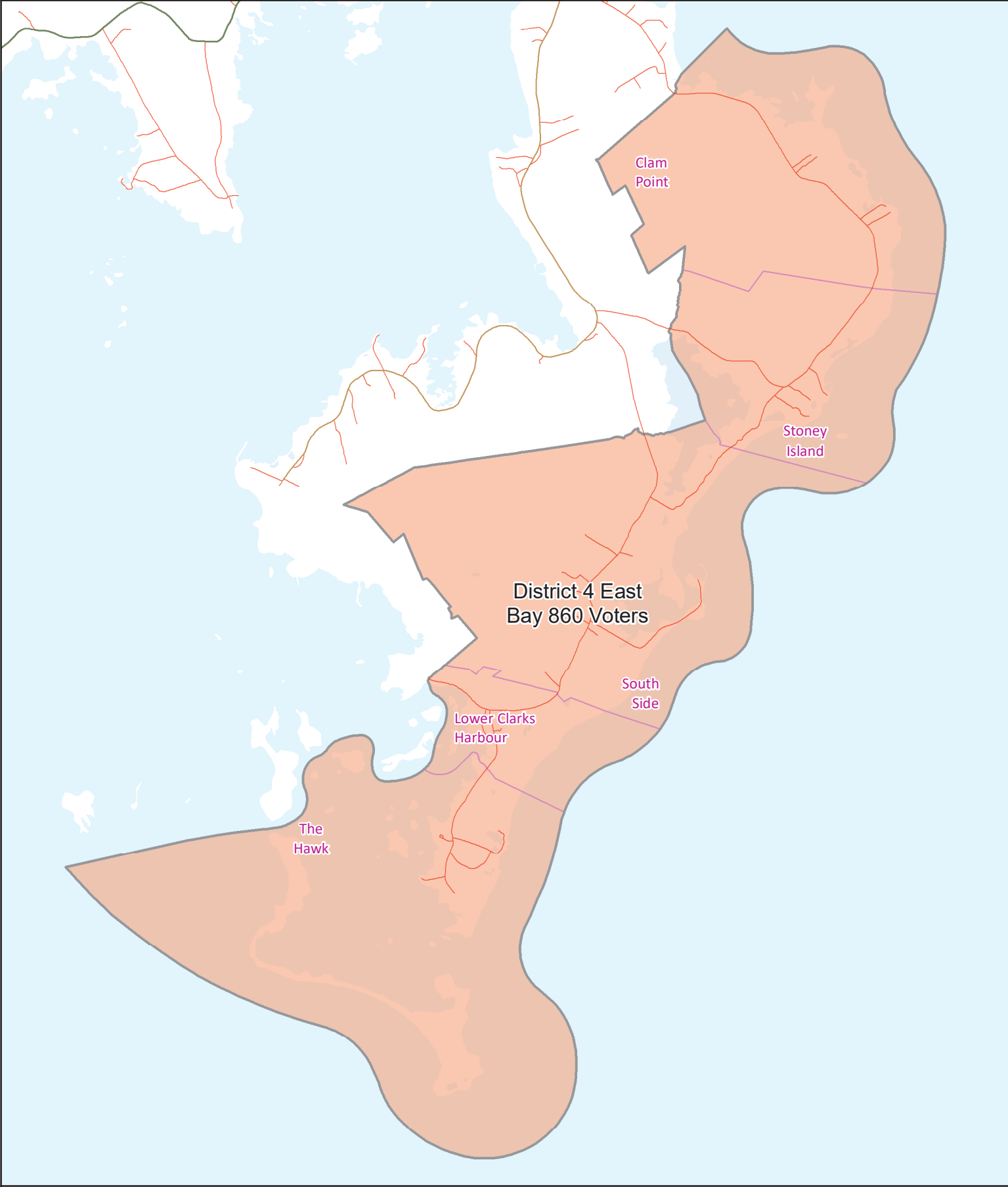
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Kilometers
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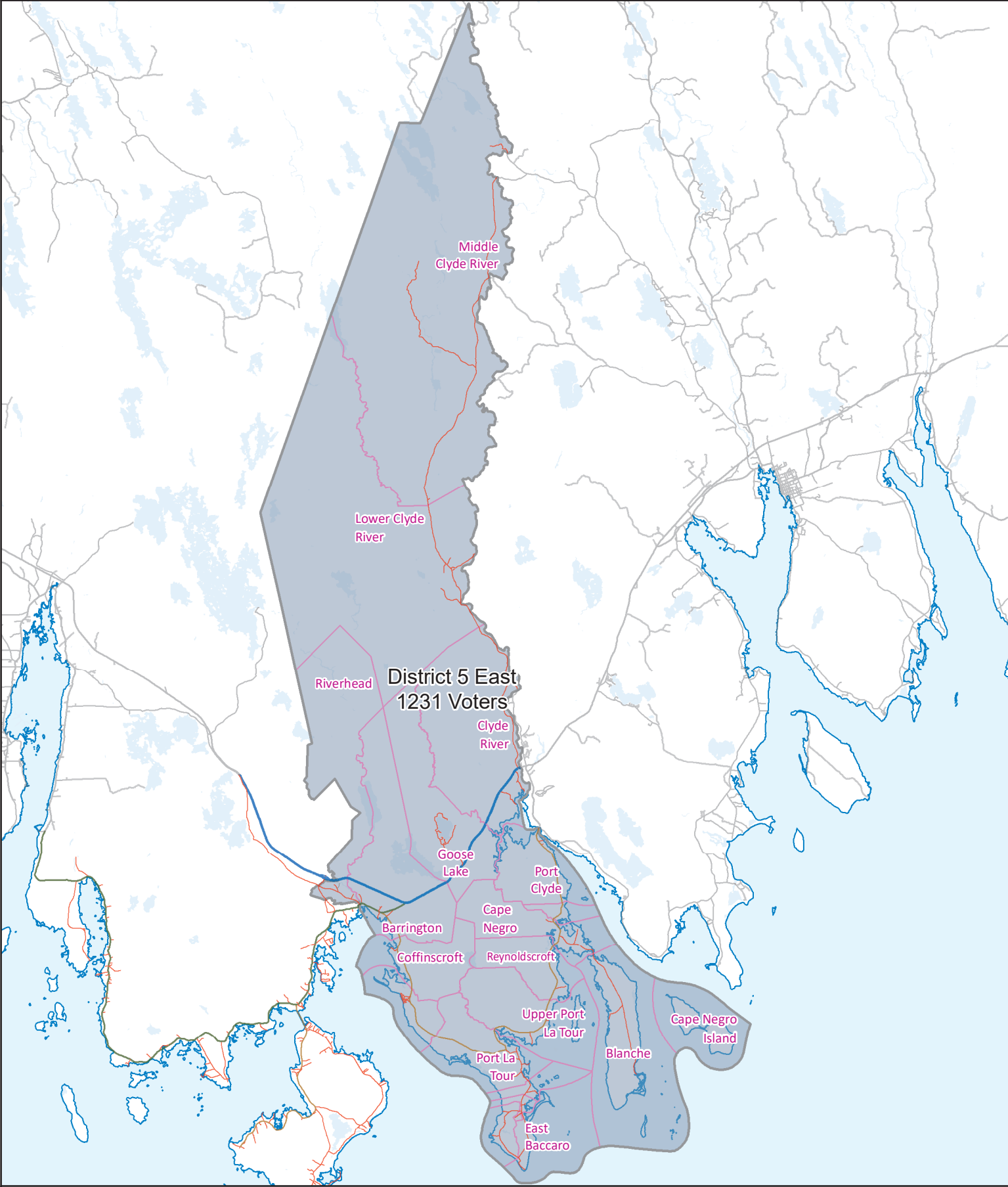


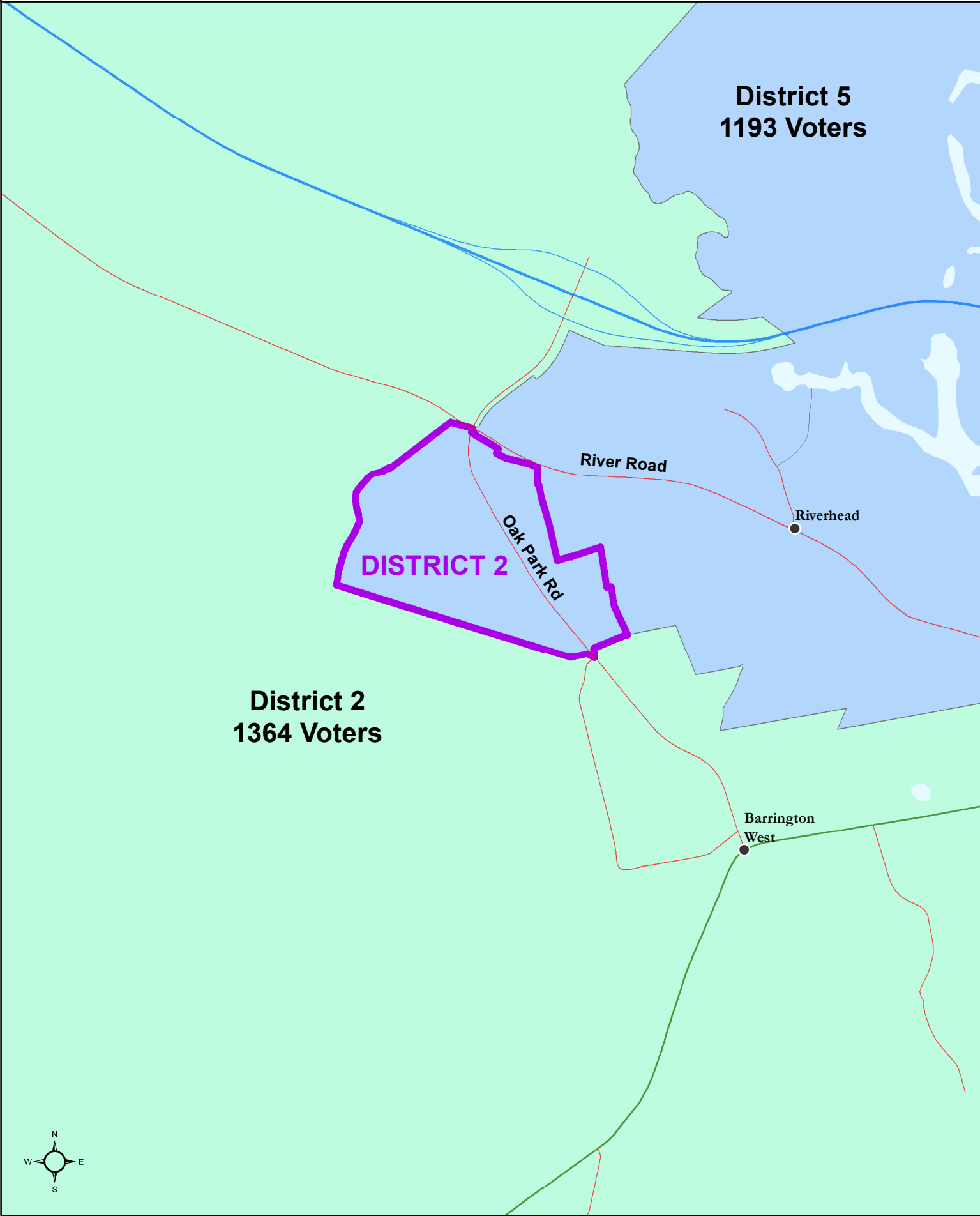
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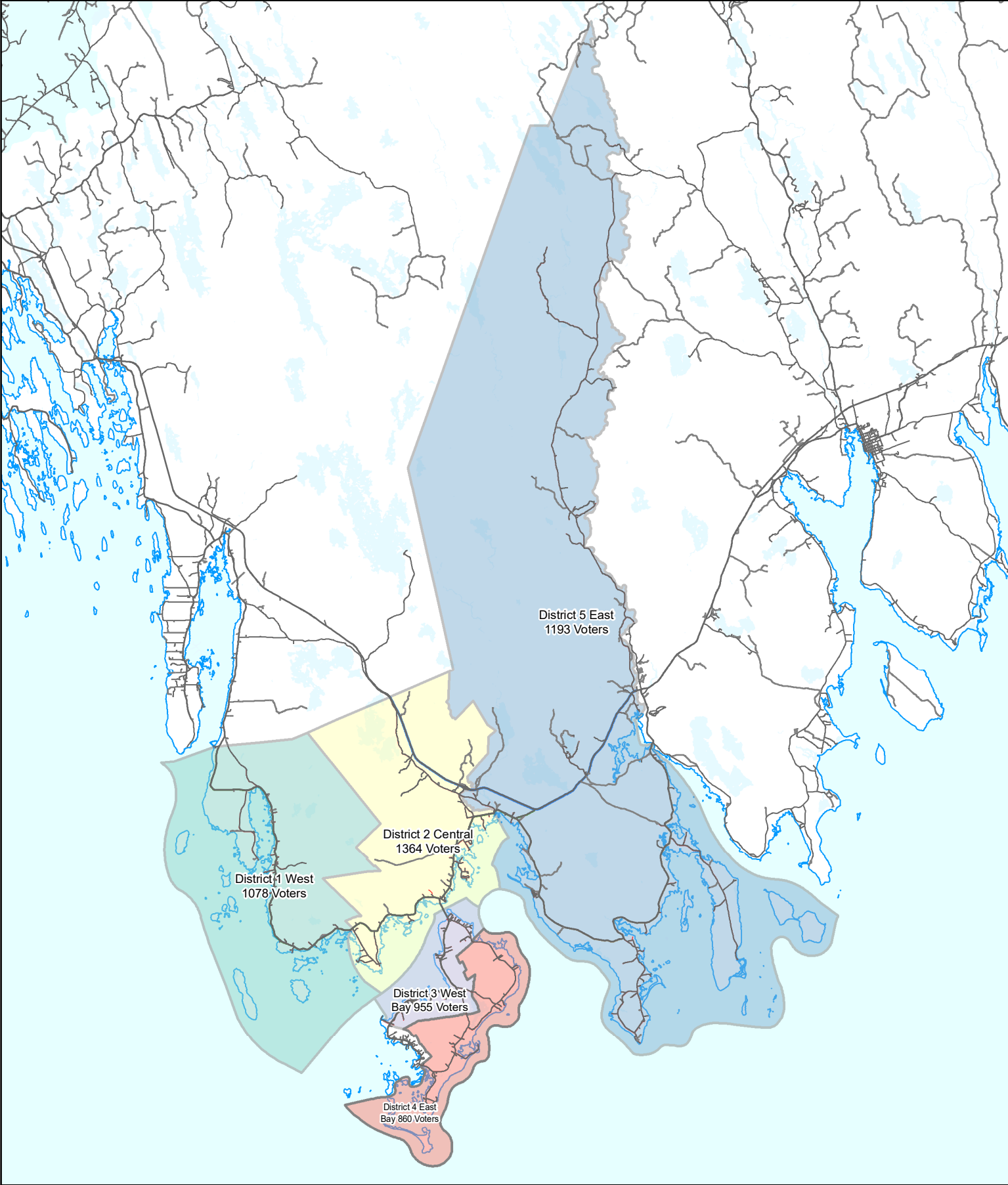




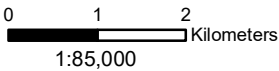
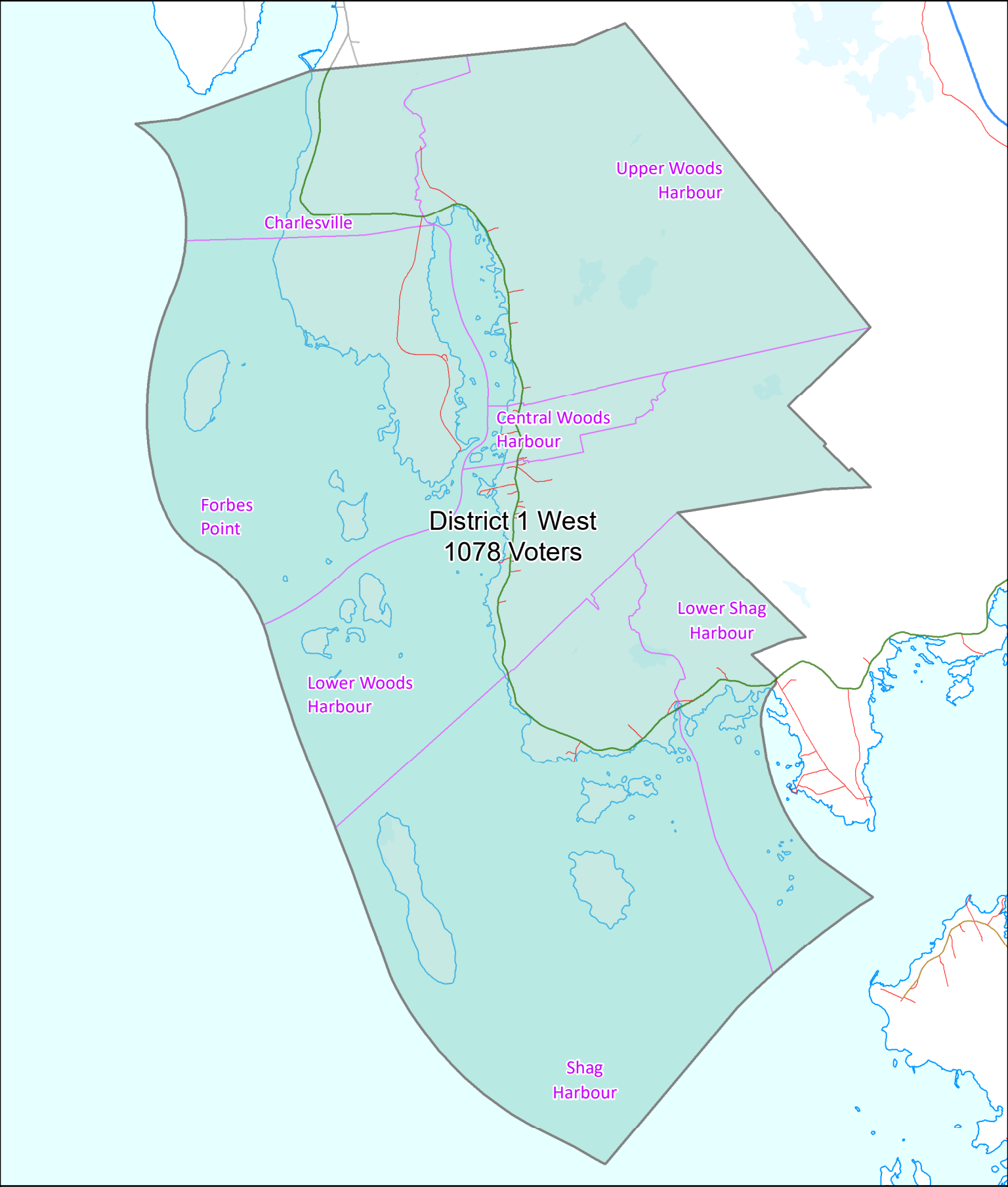
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Meters
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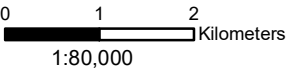
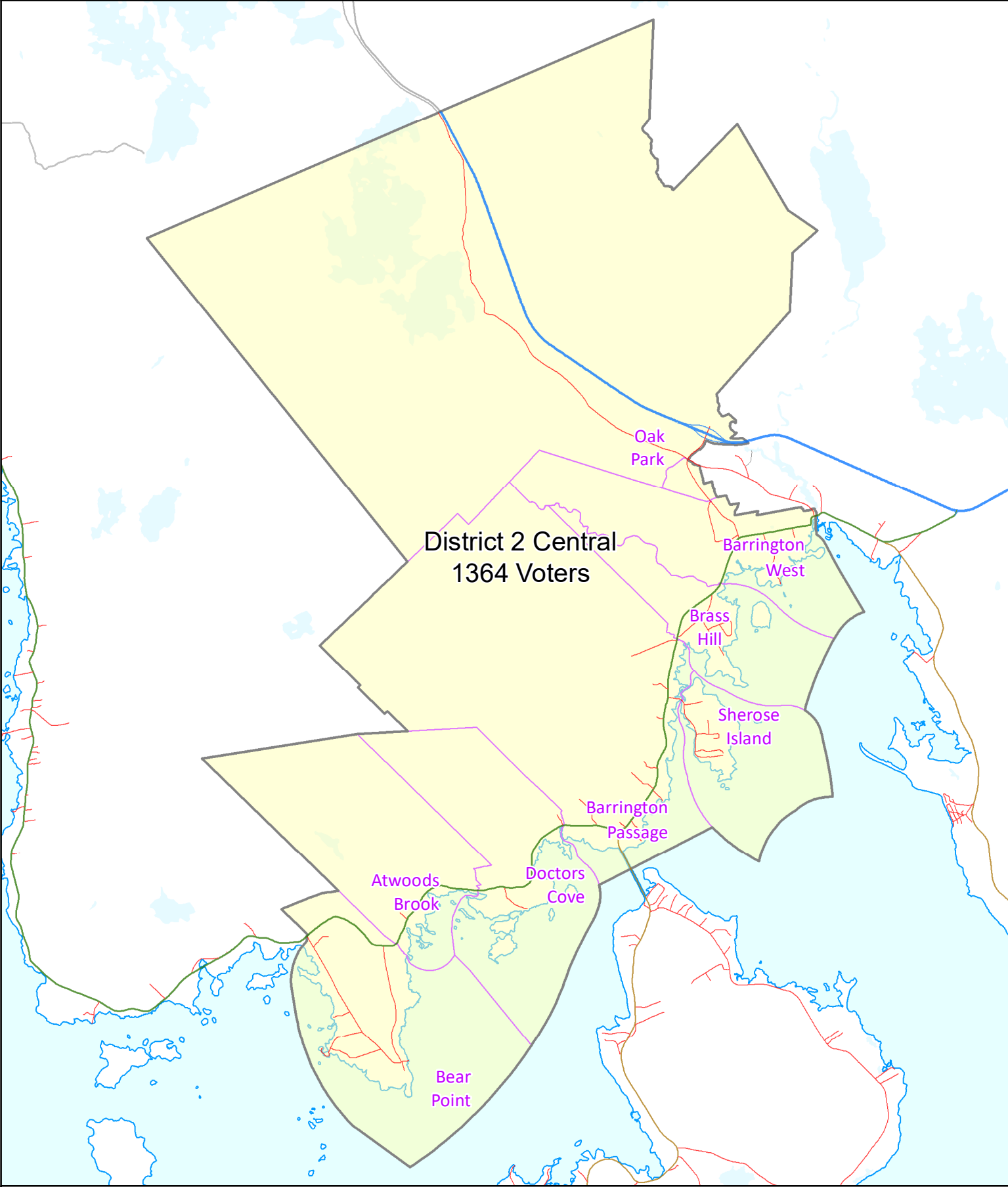


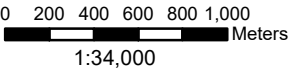
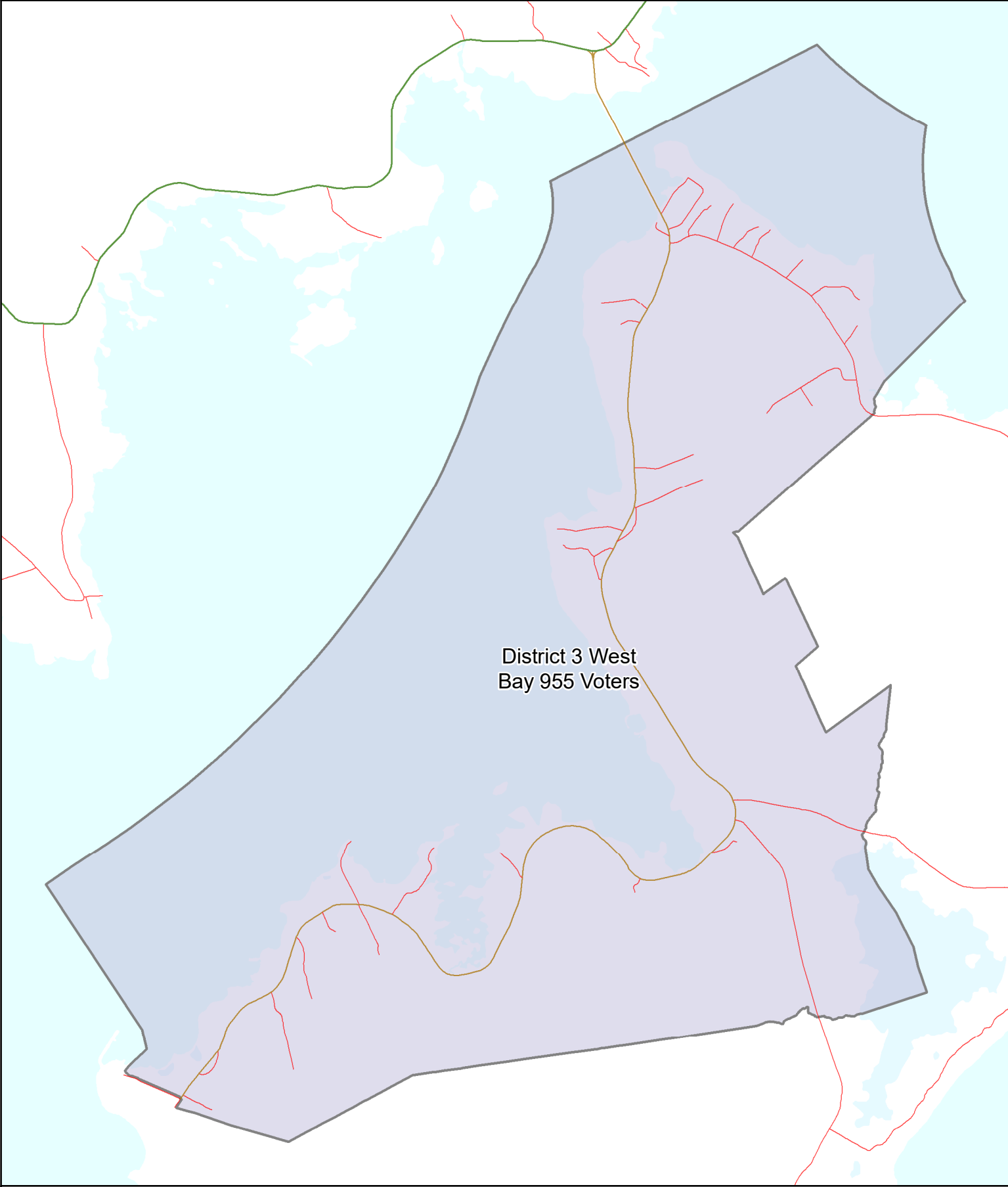


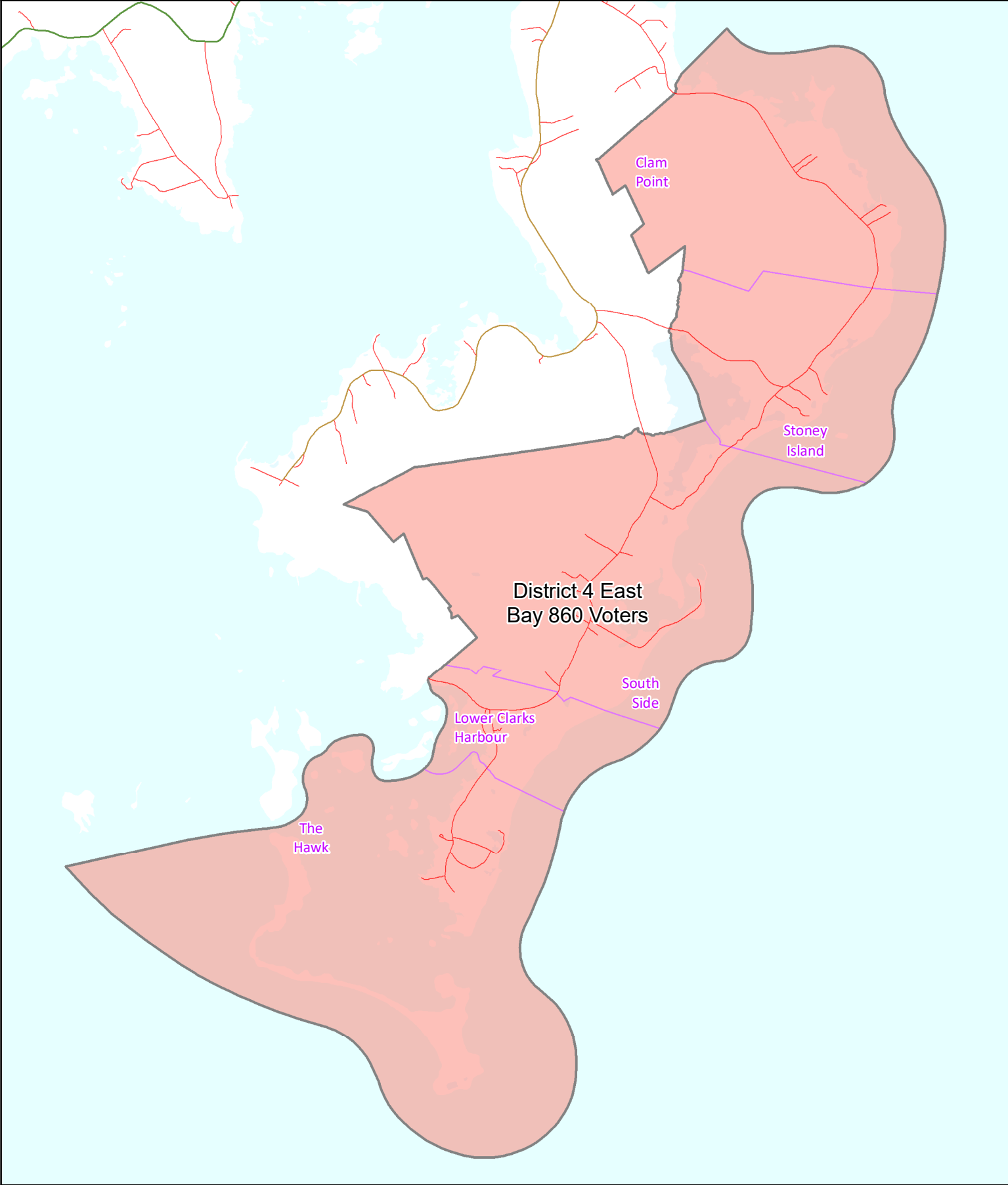


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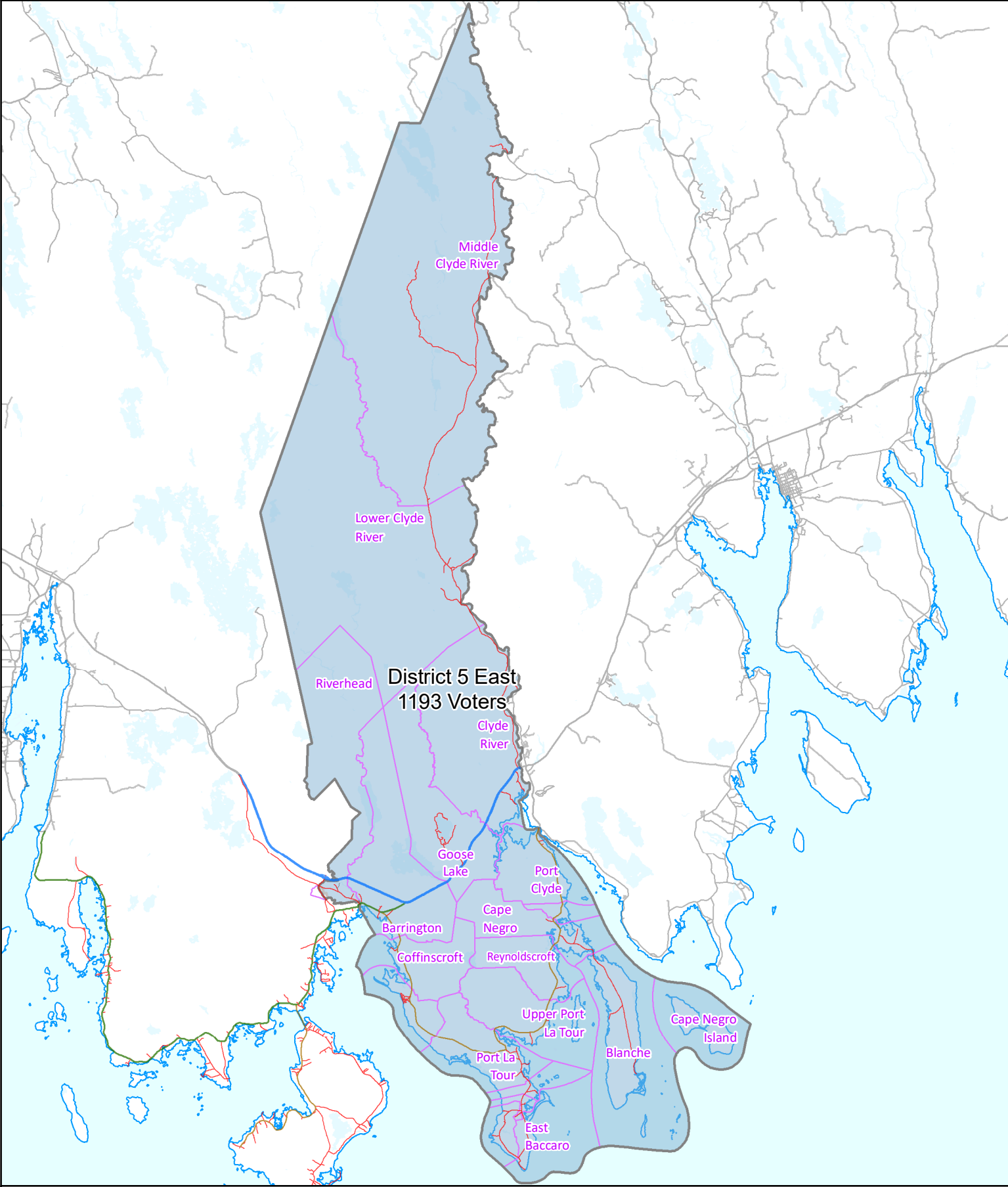








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Meters
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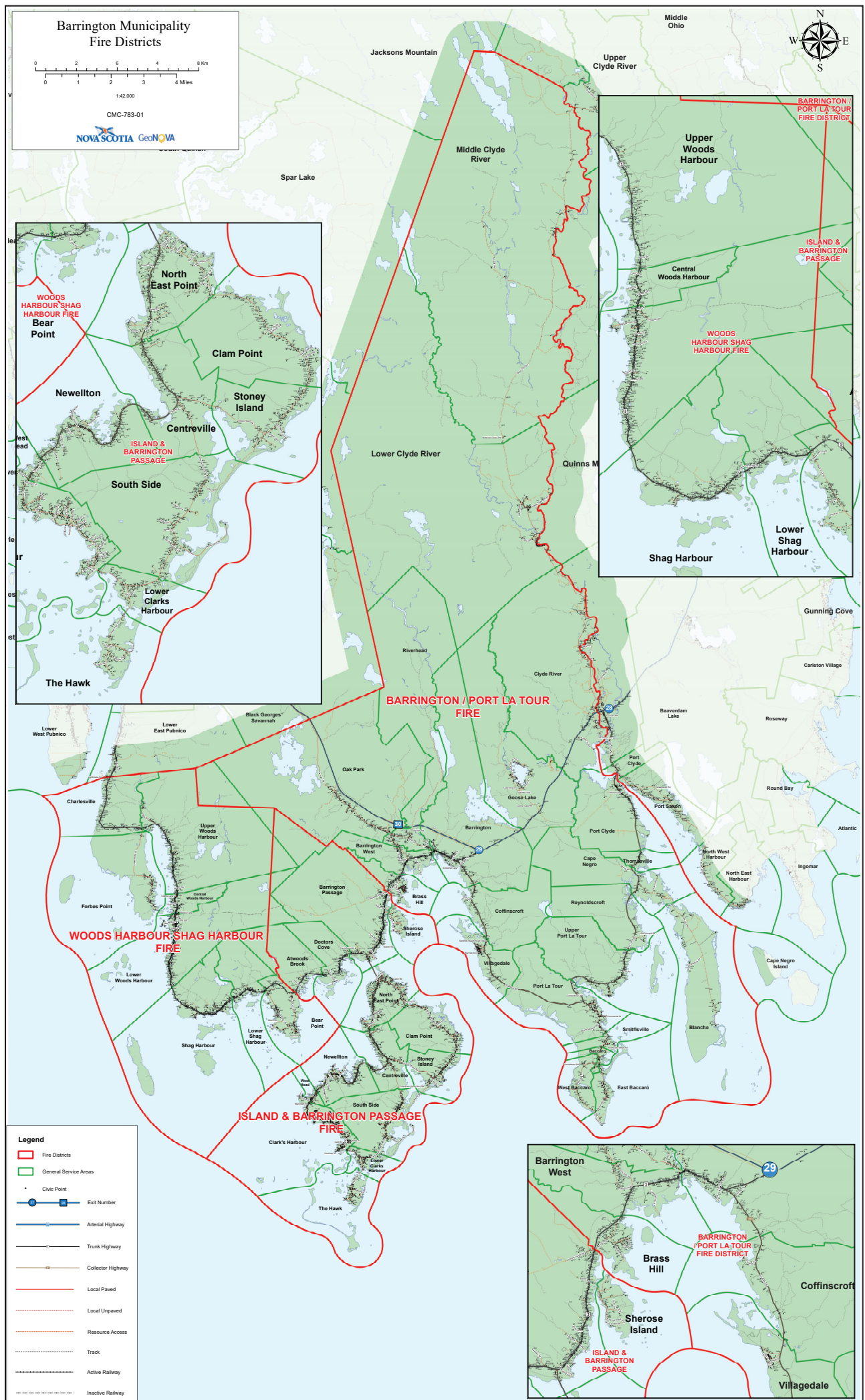
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Kilometers
1:250,000

Census Profile, 2021 Census of Population - Barrington, Municipal district (MD) [Census subdivision], Nova Scotia

Topic	Characteristic	Counts		
		Total	Men+	Women+
Population and dwellings	Population, 2021	6523		
Population and dwellings	Population, 2016	6646		
Population and dwellings	Population percentage change, 2016 to 2021	-1.9		
Population and dwellings	Total private dwellings	3546		
Population and dwellings	Private dwellings occupied by usual residents	3024		
Population and dwellings	Population density per square kilometre	10.3		
Population and dwellings	Land area in square kilometres	631.98		
Age characteristics	Total - Age groups of the population - 100% data	6525	3225	3295
Age characteristics	0 to 14 years	855	435	420
Age characteristics	0 to 4 years	270	140	130
Age characteristics	5 to 9 years	310	160	155
Age characteristics	10 to 14 years	280	140	135
Age characteristics	15 to 64 years	4035	2005	2025
Age characteristics	15 to 19 years	305	160	150
Age characteristics	20 to 24 years	290	155	140
Age characteristics	25 to 29 years	345	165	180
Age characteristics	30 to 34 years	330	165	170
Age characteristics	35 to 39 years	305	145	160
Age characteristics	40 to 44 years	355	180	180
Age characteristics	45 to 49 years	450	220	235
Age characteristics	50 to 54 years	470	235	240
Age characteristics	55 to 59 years	585	285	300
Age characteristics	60 to 64 years	585	295	290
Age characteristics	65 years and over	1640	785	850
Age characteristics	65 to 69 years	525	255	275
Age characteristics	70 to 74 years	480	245	240
Age characteristics	75 to 79 years	260	135	120
Age characteristics	80 to 84 years	195	90	100
Age characteristics	85 years and over	175	65	110
Age characteristics	85 to 89 years	110	40	65
Age characteristics	90 to 94 years	50	20	30
Age characteristics	95 to 99 years	15	5	10
Age characteristics	100 years and over	0	0	0
Age characteristics	Total - Distribution (%) of the population by broad age groups - 100% data	100	100	100
Age characteristics	0 to 14 years	13.1	13.5	12.7
Age characteristics	15 to 64 years	61.8	62.2	61.5
Age characteristics	65 years and over	25.1	24.3	25.8
Age characteristics	85 years and over	2.7	2	3.3
Age characteristics	Average age of the population	46.6	46.1	47.1
Age characteristics	Median age of the population	50	49.6	50.4

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population.

How to cite: Statistics Canada. 2022. Census Profile. 2021 Census.
 Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released December 15 2022.
<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>





2022 BOUNDARY REVIEW

Municipality of Barrington Public Engagement Process

Dedicated Webpage

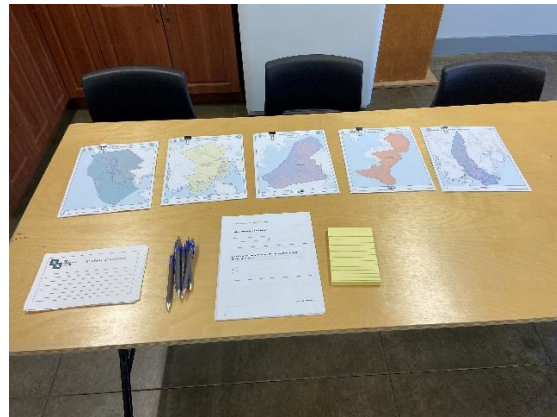
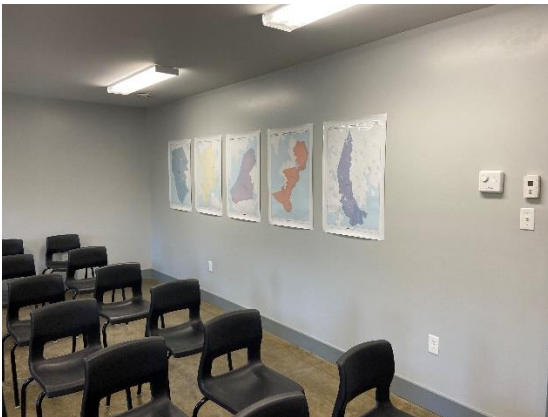
A dedicated webpage was launched towards the middle of June which housed all of the information relating to our boundary review, including details of the public consultation.

The website can be accessed here: <https://barringtonmunicipality.com/council/2022-boundary-review>.

Online Survey

An online survey was launched from July 1 – July 31.

Open Houses



Three open houses were organized:

1. Wednesday, July 13, 6-8 p.m. – Island and Barrington Passage Fire Hall, 1081 Highway 330, Centerville
2. Wednesday, July 20, 6-8 p.m. – Barrington/Port la Tour Fire Hall, 165 Villagedale Road, Barrington
3. Wednesday, July 27, 6-8 p.m. – Woods Harbour Community Centre, 6881 Highway 3, Central Woods Harbour

At these open houses, staff provided background information on the review and provide the opportunity for questions and feedback on the size of council. The format will be very informal, with information such as our legislative requirements, district maps and historical data and a system for us to record questions and feedback (i.e. comment cards, flip chart, etc.).

Public Advertising

The entire process, including the public consultation, was promoted through our municipal website, social media channels and through radio/print ads. Here is an example of a graphic used for advertising:

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

2022 BOUNDARY REVIEW

Wednesday July 13, 20 and 27, 2022

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Various locations within the Municipality.

barringtonmunicipality.com/boundaryreview | 902-637-2015



Which community do you live in?	Barrington currently has 5 councillors, do you think this is an appropriate number?	Why?	The current district boundaries are as follows (click here for a map of each district). Are there any of these that you feel should change? If so, why?
Barrington	No	Too many. 2 Councillors and a Mayor.	No.
Woods Harbour	Yes	George can handle it.	No.
Woods Harbour	No	We should have 2 Councillors and a Mayor.	No.
Woods Harbour	No	1 East, 1 West and a Mayor. Should have less.	No.
Woods Harbour	No	Too many. One mayor, one east councillor and one west councillor.	No.
Barrington	No	Because the job of a councillor consists of regurgitating the wants and or needs of those in our community	No more cape island east or west. One councillor for cape island, one for Barrington east, west. Charles ville to barrington passage, cape island to barrington passage, Clyde to barrington passage.
Barrington	No	Can run the place on 3	1 for the east, 1 for the west, 1 for Cape Island. We are a small place. Donâ€™t need that many. Should save money and this is the best place to save.
Clarks harbour	Yes	Nice to have different opinions	No
South Sidd	No	There should be one from each community.	They're too complicated and split communities. Districts should comprise entire communities, whether 1, 2, or 3.
Blanche	Yes	I don't know if too few or too many; no idk button	nope--they look pretty good to me
Barrington Passage	Yes	Having more would just create more disagreements and controversy. Five is plenty if they work together for the betterment of the entire Municipality.	Look OK at present.
Barrington	Yes	Each councillor can focus on their district without being overwhelmed.	No
oak park	Yes	its not that big a place	nope
Bear Point	No	I believe we can function with fewer members of council.	Districts could be combined although I wouldnâ€™t know which, or how.
Port La Tour	Yes		No
Barrington passage	Yes	Their area is right size	3 & 4 could be combined
Barrington	No		Seems like #5 is rather large compared to the rest
barrington passage	Yes	small area	no change needed
Wood's Harbour	Yes	Small municipality	No
Barrington West	Yes	Sufficient for population, meetings likely long enough already	No
Barrington	No	There should be fewer councillors	Unsure
Clyde River	No	I think more councilors would better serve the people and more decisions makers are better representing the community.	Yes more councilors thus more districts. Separate accordingly.
Barrington	Yes	I just do , not even sure they need that many. Sorry to seem harsh but I think the municipality needs to look into helping the elderly . I have heard from a very good person that some are eating cat and dog food . They canâ€™t afford to pay bills, rent , and eat. So eating comes last with whatâ€™s left.lâ€™m sorry again but breaks my heart.	No
Stoney Island	Yes		No

Clam Point , N.S.	Yes	seems adequate .	no
Bear point	Yes		No
North East Point	Yes		No
Woods Harbour	Yes	We need appropriate representation for the municipality	No change
Clyde River	Yes		No
woods harbour	Yes		no
Villagedale	Yes	I feel our area does not warrant any more based on population size	I feel they are fine
Clam Point	Yes	It's not a very big area.	No.
South side	Yes		I feel as though East Bay should be a smaller area and the remainder be added to West Bay
Clam Point	Yes	It seemed the logical answer since we have only been in the area since April 14th of this year	Cannot answer as new to the area since April 14, 2022.
Shag Harbour	No	I don't feel that Shag Harbour/Bear Point do not have adequate representation when added to woods Harbour/Barrington respectively. The priority in these districts is the existing/larger area.	I am more aware of the impact that it is having on Shag Harbour and Bear Point because that is the area that I live in but I do feel that council better represented the whole municipality when there were more councillors. I feel that less councillors silence the areas that were eliminated.
Barrington Passage	Yes		No
Barrington	No	Done	District 4
Centerville	No	Councillor to Resident ratio is too low	Cape Island should have 1 more councillor as should woods harbour
Clark's Harbour	Yes	for voting reasons.	i imagine each district has a councillor??
Clyde River	Yes	Representative: populous ratio seems fair	No
Barrington	Yes	More are unnecessary in a relatively small area, but fewer would require each councilor to have to contact too many people to keep well enough informed.	As long as the number of constituents is reasonably the same these areas are satisfactory. If the population shifts significantly then the boundaries may need to be shifted accordingly.
Shag harbour	Yes	They are sufficient.	No.
Barrington	Yes	About all we can afford	no
Cape Negro	Yes		no
Barrington	Yes	The district 5 councillor is getting a lot done	District 5 is larger population, I would think, has more of a business core , which are additional responsibilities. The other areas seems less populated and smaller regions to manage â€¦ doesn't seem like fair distribution
Port LaTour	Yes	I believe this is a good number of counsellors. Any more would be overload, any less would not be able to represent the people as well, given the sprawling population!	No
Stoney Island	No	Need more councillors. There appears to be a 2/3 split on council. For the most part the present councillors have been there a long time (with the exception of Andrea Nickerson) this would allow more diversity and new ideas as council is not referring to age but length of time there and it would diversify the 2/3 situation and lessen the large geographic areas they now represent.	Similar divisions as we had at the time of a 7 member council

Barrington West	Yes		Barrington West and Barrington East should be within the same boundary.
Clam Point	Yes	5 is plenty	No
Barrington Passage	Yes	That's about 1000 voters per councillor. I think that's not too much for one to handle.	No
Port Clyde	Yes		No
Upper Port LaTour	Yes	It is a small population municipal unit with less than 1500 voters per district.	Not that I can see. You may have some minor adjustments based on population shifts.
Stoney Island	No		not sure
Woods harbour	Yes		No
Charlesville	No	Too large of an area	Areas are too large
South Side	Yes		No
Shag Harbour	No		No
Stoney Island	Yes	Barrington is a small municipality. 5 districts accounts for each councillor representing approximately 1500 residents, if district boundaries are drawn appropriately.	Minor changes could be made to right-size district 2 by adding some communities to district 1 or 5. Why is the island divided east-west into two districts rather than north-south? Northeast Point, Centreville, Stoney Island and Clam Point being a district. Newellton, West Head, Hawk, Lower Clark's Harbour and South Side being the other.
Brass Hill	Yes	Good representation	No
Wood's Harbour	No	The people voted for a mayor twice. The people should be heard.	All
Barrington	Yes	They have to deal with their communities of interest as well as respond to the public while often working a full time job.	No
Woods Harbour	Yes		no
Bear Point	Yes	Gives a better chance of more points of view and no coercion.	no
District 2	No	Three are oversized (distance) for proper representation.	2, 5, and 1 why? See answer in question 3
Clam Point	Yes		No
Lower Clark's Harbour	Yes	It's a big municipality	Clarks Harbour should be added.
Barrington	No	Because the MOB is a very diverse and widely spread geographical area. We need more representation for more areas/localities	No
Port la Tour	Yes	It is too much of an area for less people	No
Port Clyde	No	The population and geographical spread of the community needs more attention	No opinion
Shag Harbour	No	I think we need 2 more,	Yes, Wood Harbour- Charlesville should have own, Shag Harbour to Doctors Cove should have one. Barrington / Oak Park one, Cape Island 2. Clyde/Baccaro/ Villagedale 2
Centreville	No	We think that the money spent in more than needed councillors could be put to use for recreation, heated pools, sidewalks extended, etc.	Cape Sable I think is 3 and 4 could be united as 1.
South Side	No		Yes
North East Point	Yes	Allows for different opinions/viewpoint	No

		The more people we have to make decisions on our behalf the better. If you only have a few they will have more chance to just do what they want with no one to challenge them.	
Woods harbour	Yes		No
Port LaTour	Yes	Five seems representative of the area population.	No.
			NEP to West Head is a lot smaller than Charlesville to Lower Shag Harbour. The latter encompasses a lot of people where the former is a quite small area. It's a large area that has areas that get overlooked for projects
Shag Harbour	Yes		
District 2	Yes		No
Port LaTour	Yes		no change
		I feel there's enough councilors to manage but there may be certain areas of their commitments that could benefit from having some help managing/planning/etc...	I feel district 1 and 5 is bigger than the others but those areas are more rural and doesn't have as much stuff to be managed and such.
Barrington Passage	Yes		
Barrington	No	To many	Have less
Newellton	Yes	Seven was too many, and I think three is too few.	No.
newellton	Yes		no
		I don't believe 5 people should represent 7000+	No
Barrington Passage	No		No
Coffinscroft	Yes		No
		5 people can't accurately represent almost 7000 people	We need more counselors so it should be less condensed
Clyde river	No		
Barrington Passage	Yes		No
Baccaro	Yes	Cost effective, equal representation	No
		Because in comparison to adjacent municipalities who have have the population of MOB and have seven councillors, MOB has too many residents under each district. I feel like having over 1000 residents per councillor is too high.	I know from personal experience and family/friends' comments that Shag Harbour/Bear Point prefer their own district.
Clam Point	No		
Newellton	Yes		No
Bear Point	Yes		No
Barrington	Yes	For best representation	No change
Barrington	Yes	Right number for our population	No
Shag harbour	Yes		No
Oak Park	Yes	It covers everyone	No
		Area is widespread, we have good coverage for amount of people	Leave it alone
Barrington	Yes		
mcgray	Yes	small town small government	no
		We need a wider point of view with more people	No change
Centreville	No		
smithsville	Yes	Too many people just creates confusion	No
		We are small and do not need more coverage by councillors.	No
Upper Port la Tour	Yes		No
Clyde river	Yes		No
Shag Harbour	Yes		Looks good
Newellton	Yes		No
		Pretty equal representation across the Municipality.	No
South Side	Yes		
Barrington	No	Too many	All of them

Councillors reported on concerns of constituents relating to snow clearing. It was agreed that this matter be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Deputy Warden Crook reported on recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Council.

Municipal Boundaries Review

Section 369 of the Municipal Government Act requires councils to apply to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board in 2022 to confirm or to alter the number and boundaries of polling districts and the number of councillors.

Resolution C220101

Being duly moved and seconded that direction be given to staff to commence the boundary review with the intention of retaining the status quo with minor changes being made where necessary and with particular attention being given to the boundary between District 2 and District 5 in the Oak Park – Riverhead area, as that boundary has caused some confusion to residents in the past.

Motion carried unanimously.

Bay Vista Crosswalk – Barrington Passage

Resolution C220102

Being duly moved and seconded that a letter be sent to the Department of Public Works requesting that they reassess the installation of a crosswalk in the vicinity of Bay Vista Apartments, in light of our perpetual requests, the recent fatality and the number of housing developments and businesses, in that area.

Motion carried unanimously.

During discussion of this matter it was noted that information has been obtained from the Department of Public Works on the rationale for the requirement for 15 people to cross the roadway, per hour, in order to meet the guidelines for the installation of crosswalks. All requirements quoted in 2014 by the District Traffic Supervisor are still relevant today. The Traffic Association of Canada states minimum thresholds are required as a tool to ensure crosswalks are not over applied. The guidelines do not distinguish between urban and rural areas.

Request for Streetlights in Barrington Passage

Resolution C220103

Being duly moved and seconded that streetlights be installed on available poles in the Barrington Passage Business District from where Barrington Bay Trail crosses Highway 3 to T.L. Swaine's Garage.

Motion carried unanimously.

Page 3, Barrington Municipal Council Meeting, September 27, 2022.

Municipal Boundary Review

Every 8 years, municipalities in the province are required under Section 369 of the Municipal Government Act to conduct a review of its polling districts. In January, Council passed a motion directing the CAO “to commence the boundary review with the intention of retaining the status quo with minor changes being made where necessary and with particular attention being given to the boundary between District 2 and District 5 in the Oak Park – Riverhead area, as that boundary has caused some confusion to residents in the past.”

It has been suggested that the easiest way to address the confusion between the boundaries of Districts 2 and 5 would be to move the boundary line to allow District 2 to take in all of the Oak Park Road. The boundary for District 5 would be adjusted to stop at the intersection of Oak Park Road and River Road, near the Esso Gas Station.

Resolution C220905

Being duly moved and seconded that the CAO draft an application to the UARB to confirm the present number of councillors at 5 and further to confirm the boundaries of the polling districts with the amendment to the boundary between Districts 2 and 5, as noted above.

Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Centre Parking Lot Resurfacing and Curbing Project

Resolution C220906

Being duly moved and seconded that due to the increased estimate for the Administrative Centre Parking Lot Resurfacing and Curbing Project, that \$15,000.00 of the \$100,000.00 budgeted amount be used for design work for the Administrative Centre parking lot and the balance remain in the Operating Reserve Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided his report to members in advance to the meeting for the period ending September 27, 2022 of which a copy is attached and forms part of the minutes.

Topics highlighted were as follows:

- New Recreation Centre
- Development of Asset Management Plan
- Renewal or Expansion of Sewer System.
- Continued Work Towards Additional Medical Services (Medical Clinic, Dialysis)
- Improve Active Transportation (sidewalks, trails, boardwalks)
- World Double Bit Axe Throwing Championships
- Sandy Wickens Memorial Arena
- Recreation Programming
- Building Permits & By-law Enforcement
- Fire Services & Emergency Management
- Capital Project Update

STAFF REPORT
SUBMITTED BY: Chris Frotten
DATE: August 10, 2022
SUBJECT: Municipal Boundary Review Public Consultation Report

ORIGIN

During the month of July, we conducted a public consultation program to gather input on our current municipal polling districts and the number of voters in each district. This report outlines what we heard during our consultation and the next steps in the boundary review process.

BACKGROUND

Every 8 years, municipalities in the province are required by s. 369 of the Municipal Government Act to conduct a review of its polling districts. The current review is taking place this year in preparation for the next Municipal Election in 2024.

The first phase of the review is to determine if the current 5 municipal polling districts are still the appropriate number. The second part of the review will look at the districts to make sure that there are about the same number of voters in each district. The target is for districts to be within +/-10%, only allowing variances up to +/-25% in extraordinary circumstances where the Municipality can provide a detailed written explanation confirming that factors such as community of interest or geography clearly justify the necessity of an increased variance in a polling district.

In January, Council passed a motion directing the CAO “to commence the boundary review with the intention of retaining the status quo with minor changes being made where necessary and with particular attention being given to the boundary between District 2 and District 5 in the Oak Park – Riverhead area, as that boundary has caused some confusion to residents in the past.” (C220101)

Although status quo is the intended outcome, public consultation is an inherent part of the review. The type and amount of consultation is within council’s discretion, but it should give members of the public an opportunity to express their views on the size of their council or upon the location of boundaries municipal polling districts.

Our public consultation program included the following:

Dedicated Webpage

A dedicated webpage was launched towards the middle June which houses all the information relating to the boundary review, including details of the public consultation.

Online Survey

An online survey with three questions was open from July 1 – July 31. The questions were:

1. Which community do you live in?
2. Barrington currently has 5 councillors, do you think this is an appropriate number? Why?
3. The current district boundaries are as follows. Are there any of these that you feel should change? If so, why?

Open Houses

We hosted three in-person open houses:

1. Wednesday, July 13, 6-8 p.m. – Island and Barrington Passage Fire Hall, 1081 Highway 330, Centerville
2. Wednesday, July 20, 6-8 p.m. – Barrington/Port la Tour Fire Hall, 165 Villagedale Road, Barrington
3. Wednesday, July 27, 6-8 p.m. – Woods Harbour Community Centre, 6881 Highway 3, Central Woods Harbour

At these open houses, we provided background information on the review and provide the opportunity for questions and feedback on the size of council. The format will be very informal, with information such as our legislative requirements, district maps and historical data and a system for us to record questions and feedback (i.e. comment cards, flip chart, etc.).

The entire process, including the public consultations, were promoted through our municipal website, social media channels and through radio/print ads.

In addition to understanding what we heard during the consultation program, it's important to understand the current statistics related to the number of voters per District as voter parity must be within +/-10%, only allowing variances up to +/-25% in extraordinary circumstances. Here they are:

Polling District	Number of Electors	Variation from Avg. Number of Electors	
		#	%
1	1,078	(12)	(1.1)
2	1,326	236	21.7
3	955	(135)	(12.4)
4	860	(230)	(21.1)
5	1,231	141	12.9

Total number of electors: 5,450

Total number of Councillors: 5

Average number of electors per Councillor: 1,090

DISCUSSION

Open Houses

In total, 7 people attended our three open houses. Most viewed our maps and provided their input by completing a paper copy of our survey. These responses were then inputted into the online survey, therefore their feedback is captured in that data.

Survey

We received 104 total responses to our survey. In summary, 70.19 % of respondents believe that 5 districts/councillors is an appropriate number and 72.12% believe the districts should remain the same. All of the responses to each question are attached to this report.

District 1/2 and 2/5 Boundary Change Option

Although it was only mentioned on a couple of occasions during our public consultation, Council asked that attention be given to the boundary between District 2 and District 5 in the Oak Park – Riverhead area, as that boundary has caused some confusion to residents in the past. We only heard this on a couple of occasions during our public consultation, but we did develop an option that would see the remainder of Riverhead Road move into District 2. Due maintain voter parity, some electors from District 2 would have to be moved to another District. Based on history and discussions with residents and Councillors, the most logical district seems to be District 1. The two last maps attached to this report show visually the boundary changes and their related impact on electors. In summary, this is what the number of eligible electors contained in each polling district would be:

Polling District	Number of Electors	Variation from Avg. Number of Electors	
		#	%
1	1,293	203	(18.6)
2	1,245	155	14.2
3	955	(135)	(12.4)
4	860	(230)	(21.1)
5	1,097	7	0.6

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

PUBLIC CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

All in all, the voter parity variances with the boundaries as they are would be within the +/- 10%-25% threshold and I believe we would not have any issues with justifying those that are above the targeted +/- 10% due to community of interest and geography.

That said, if Council were interested in addressing the supposed confusion of the Riverhead Road, I believe the option presented would be the most logical and simple based on history and discussions with residents and Councillors.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to direct the CAO to draft an application to the UARB to confirm the present number of councillors at 5, and further, to confirm the boundaries of the polling districts as they current are.

Move to direct the CAO to draft an application to the UARB to confirm the present number of councillors at 5, and further, to confirm the boundaries of the polling districts with the amendment to the boundary between Districts 2 and 5 and Districts 1 and 2, as presented.

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

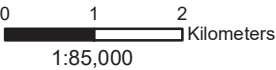
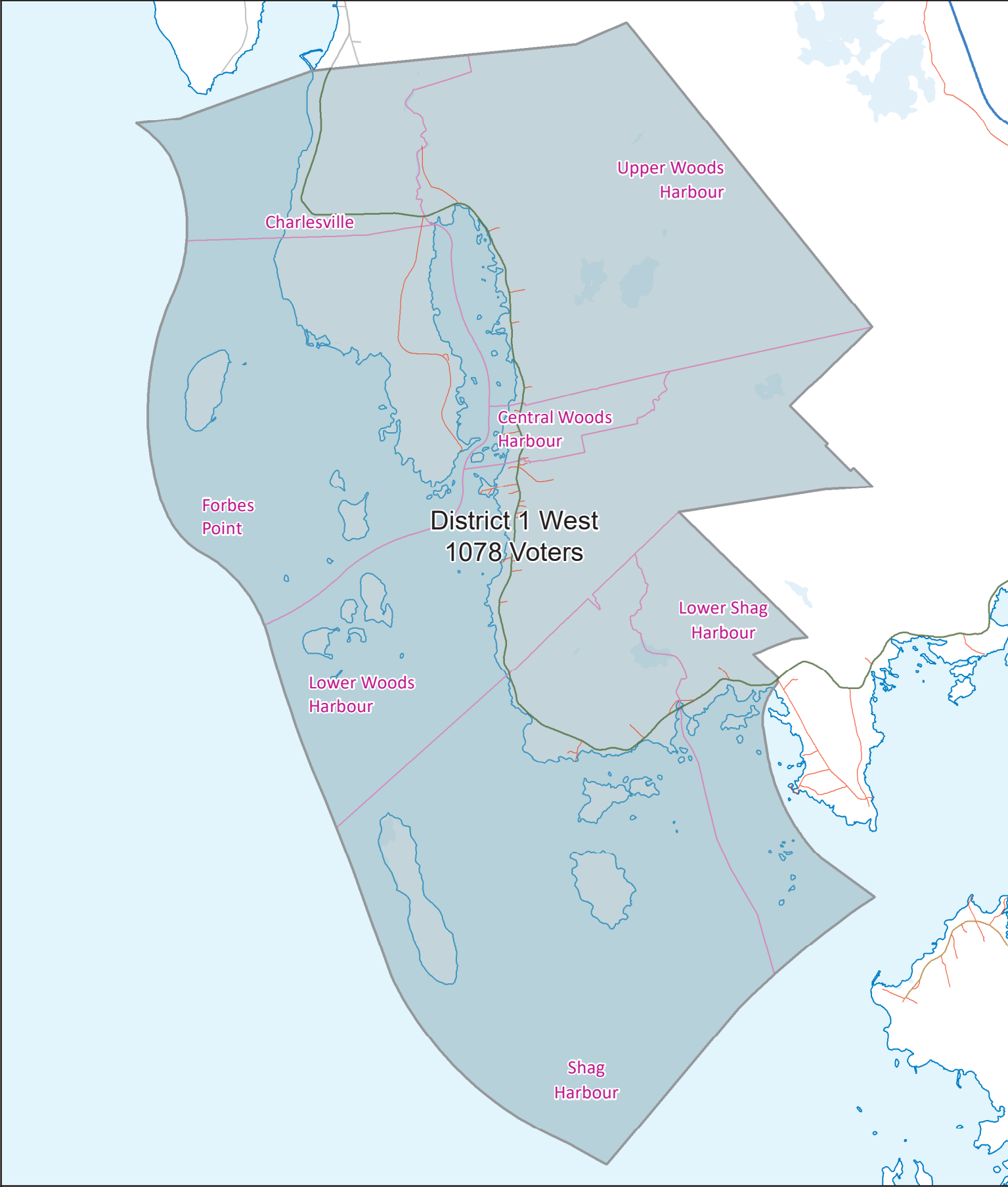
- Boundary Review Public Consultation Survey Results
- Current District 1 Map
- Current District 2 Map
- Current District 3 Map
- Current District 4 Map
- Current District 5 Map
- District 1 and 2 Boundary Change Option Map
- District 2 and 5 Boundary Change Option Map

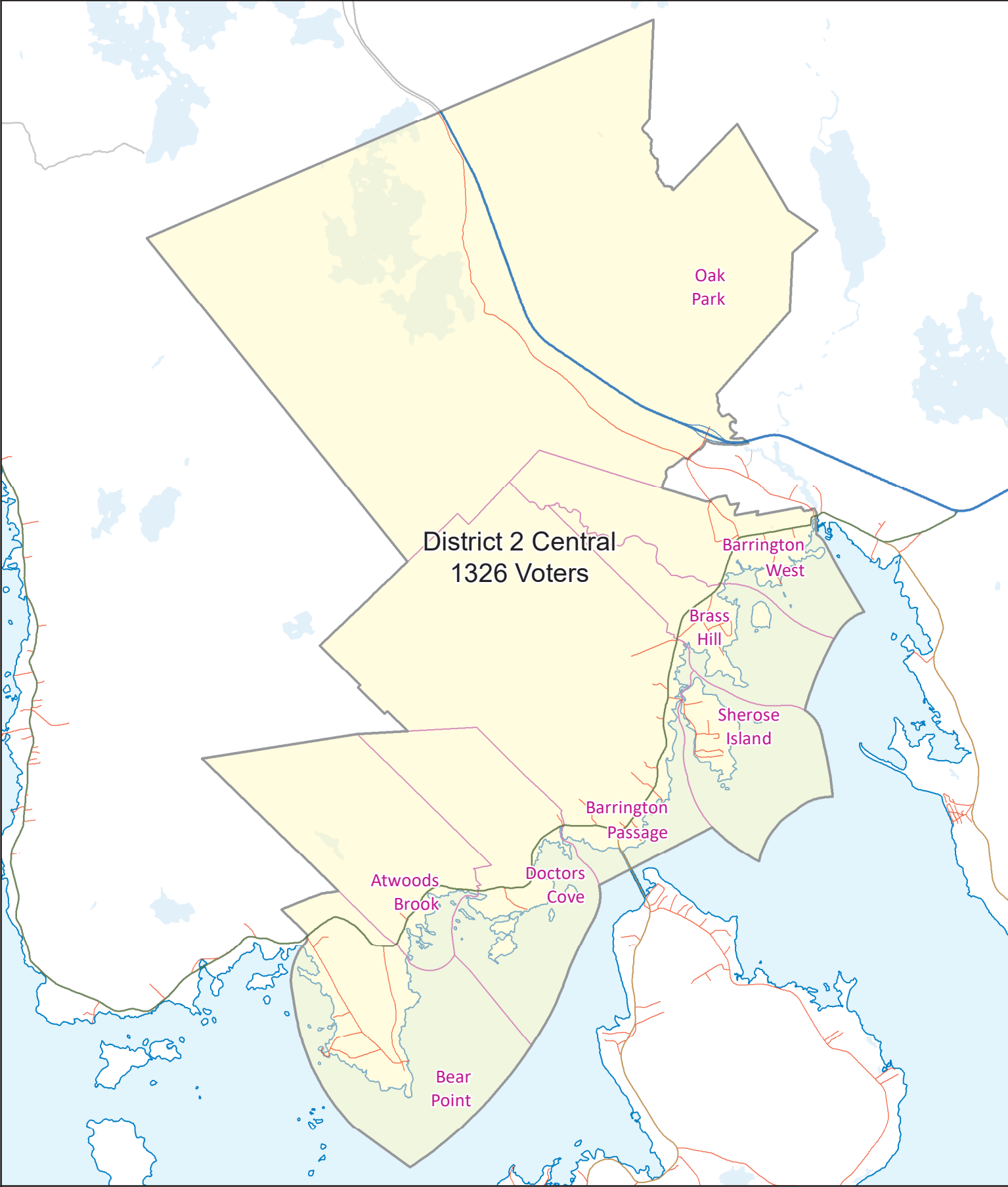
Which community do you live in?	Barrington currently has 5 councillors, do you think this is an appropriate number?	Why?	The current district boundaries are as follows (click here for a map of each district). Are there any of these that you feel should change? If so, why?
Barrington	No	Too many. 2 Councillors and a Mayor.	No.
Woods Harbour	Yes	George can handle it.	No.
Woods Harbour	No	We should have 2 Councillors and a Mayor.	No.
Woods Harbour	No	1 East, 1 West and a Mayor. Should have less.	No.
Woods Harbour	No	Too many. One mayor, one east councillor and one west councillor.	No.
Barrington	No	Because the job of a councillor consists of regurgitating the wants and or needs of those in our community	No more cape island east or west. One councillor for cape island, one for Barrington east, west. Charles ville to barrington passage, cape island to barrington passage, Clyde to barrington passage.
Barrington	No	Can run the place on 3	1 for the east, 1 for the west, 1 for Cape Island. We are a small place. Donâ€™t need that many. Should save money and this is the best place to save.
Clarks harbour	Yes	Nice to have different opinions	No
South Sidd	No	There should be one from each community.	They're too complicated and split communities. Districts should comprise entire communities, whether 1, 2, or 3.
Blanche	Yes	I don't know if too few or too many; no idk button	nope--they look pretty good to me
Barrington Passage	Yes	Having more would just create more disagreements and controversy. Five is plenty if they work together for the betterment of the entire Municipality.	Look OK at present.
Barrington	Yes	Each councillor can focus on their district without being overwhelmed.	No
oak park	Yes	its not that big a place	nope
Bear Point	No	I believe we can function with fewer members of council.	Districts could be combined although I wouldnâ€™t know which, or how.
Port La Tour	Yes		No
Barrington passage	Yes	Their area is right size	3 & 4 could be combined
Barrington	No		Seems like #5 is rather large compared to the rest
barrington passage	Yes	small area	no change needed
Wood's Harbour	Yes	Small municipality	No
Barrington West	Yes	Sufficient for population, meetings likely long enough already	No
Barrington	No	There should be fewer councillors	Unsure
Clyde River	No	I think more councilors would better serve the people and more decisions makers are better representing the community.	Yes more councilors thus more districts. Separate accordingly.
Barrington	Yes	I just do , not even sure they need that many. Sorry to seem harsh but I think the municipality needs to look into helping the elderly . I have heard from a very good person that some are eating cat and dog food . They canâ€™t afford to pay bills, rent , and eat. So eating comes last with whatâ€™s left.lâ€™m sorry again but breaks my heart.	No
Stoney Island	Yes		No

Clam Point , N.S.	Yes	seems adequate .	no
Bear point	Yes		No
North East Point	Yes		No
Woods Harbour	Yes	We need appropriate representation for the municipality	No change
Clyde River	Yes		No
woods harbour	Yes		no
Villagedale	Yes	I feel our area does not warrant any more based on population size	I feel they are fine
Clam Point	Yes	It's not a very big area.	No.
South side	Yes		I feel as though East Bay should be a smaller area and the remainder be added to West Bay
Clam Point	Yes	It seemed the logical answer since we have only been in the area since April 14th of this year	Cannot answer as new to the area since April 14, 2022.
Shag Harbour	No	I don't feel that Shag Harbour/Bear Point do not have adequate representation when added to woods Harbour/Barrington respectively. The priority in these districts is the existing/larger area.	I am more aware of the impact that it is having on Shag Harbour and Bear Point because that is the area that I live in but I do feel that council better represented the whole municipality when there were more councillors. I feel that less councillors silence the areas that were eliminated.
Barrington Passage	Yes		No
Barrington	No	Done	District 4
Centerville	No	Councillor to Resident ratio is too low	Cape Island should have 1 more councillor as should woods harbour
Clark's Harbour	Yes	for voting reasons.	i imagine each district has a councillor??
Clyde River	Yes	Representative: populous ratio seems fair	No
Barrington	Yes	More are unnecessary in a relatively small area, but fewer would require each councilor to have to contact too many people to keep well enough informed.	As long as the number of constituents is reasonably the same these areas are satisfactory. If the population shifts significantly then the boundaries may need to be shifted accordingly.
Shag harbour	Yes	They are sufficient.	No.
Barrington	Yes	About all we can afford	no
Cape Negro	Yes		no
Barrington	Yes	The district 5 councillor is getting a lot done	District 5 is larger population, I would think, has more of a business core , which are additional responsibilities. The other areas seems less populated and smaller regions to manage â€¦ doesn't seem like fair distribution
Port LaTour	Yes	I believe this is a good number of counsellors. Any more would be overload, any less would not be able to represent the people as well, given the sprawling population!	No
Stoney Island	No	Need more councillors. There appears to be a 2/3 split on council. For the most part the present councillors have been there a long time (with the exception of Andrea Nickerson) this would allow more diversity and new ideas as council is not referring to age but length of time there and it would diversify the 2/3 situation and lessen the large geographic areas they now represent.	Similar divisions as we had at the time of a 7 member council

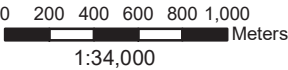
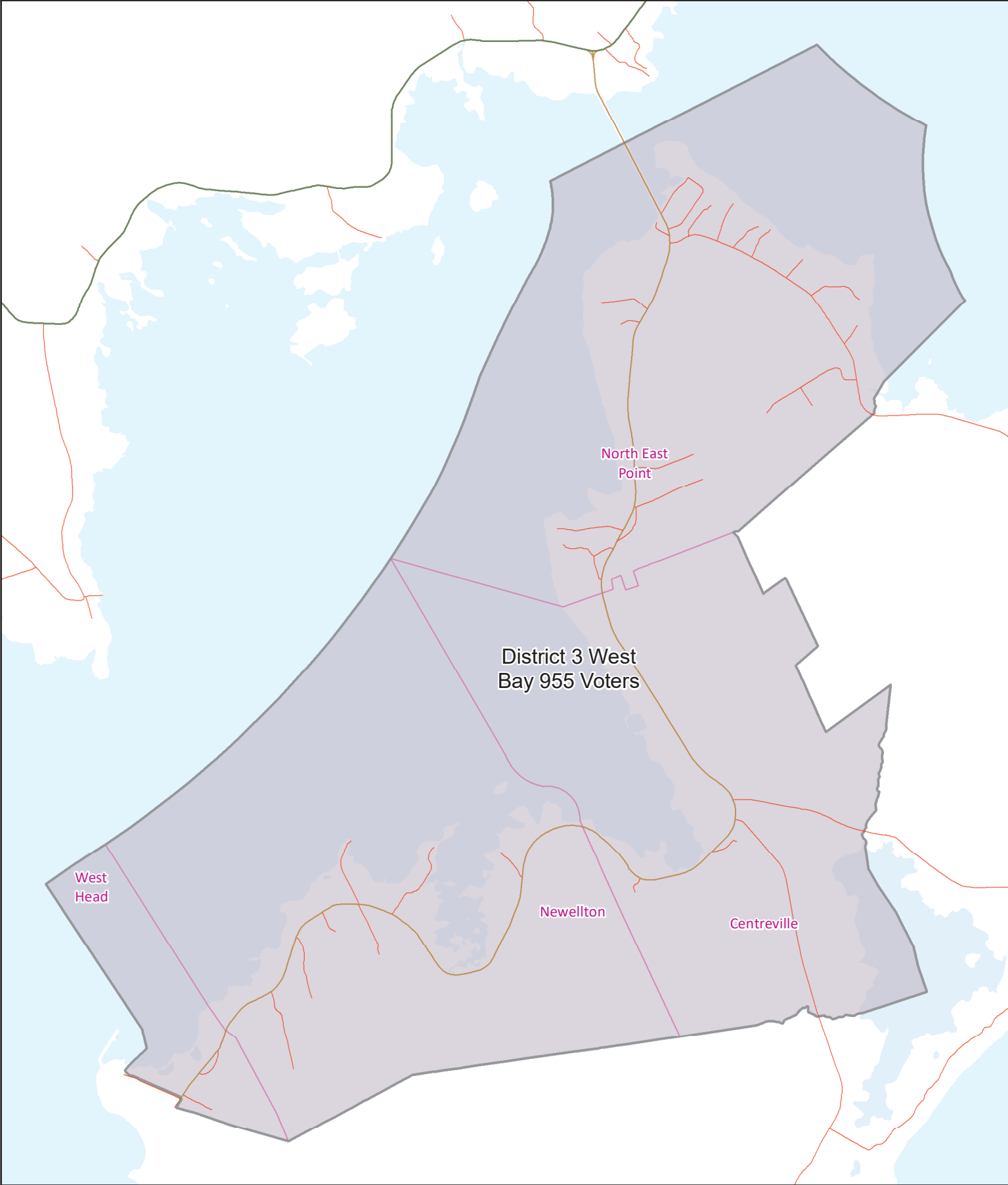
Barrington West	Yes		Barrington West and Barrington East should be within the same boundary.
Clam Point	Yes	5 is plenty	No
Barrington Passage	Yes	That's about 1000 voters per councillor. I think that's not too much for one to handle.	No
Port Clyde	Yes		No
Upper Port LaTour	Yes	It is a small population municipal unit with less than 1500 voters per district.	Not that I can see. You may have some minor adjustments based on population shifts.
Stoney Island	No		not sure
Woods harbour	Yes		No
Charlesville	No	Too large of an area	Areas are too large
South Side	Yes		No
Shag Harbour	No		No
Stoney Island	Yes	Barrington is a small municipality. 5 districts accounts for each councillor representing approximately 1500 residents, if district boundaries are drawn appropriately.	Minor changes could be made to right-size district 2 by adding some communities to district 1 or 5. Why is the island divided east-west into two districts rather than north-south? Northeast Point, Centreville, Stoney Island and Clam Point being a district. Newellton, West Head, Hawk, Lower Clark's Harbour and South Side being the other.
Brass Hill	Yes	Good representation	No
Wood's Harbour	No	The people voted for a mayor twice. The people should be heard.	All
Barrington	Yes	They have to deal with their communities of interest as well as respond to the public while often working a full time job.	No
Woods Harbour	Yes		no
Bear Point	Yes	Gives a better chance of more points of view and no coercion.	no
District 2	No	Three are oversized (distance) for proper representation.	2, 5, and 1 why? See answer in question 3
Clam Point	Yes		No
Lower Clark's Harbour	Yes	It's a big municipality	Clarks Harbour should be added.
Barrington	No	Because the MOB is a very diverse and widely spread geographical area. We need more representation for more areas/localities	No
Port la Tour	Yes	It is too much of an area for less people	No
Port Clyde	No	The population and geographical spread of the community needs more attention	No opinion
Shag Harbour	No	I think we need 2 more,	Yes, Wood Harbour- Charlesville should have own, Shag Harbour to Doctors Cove should have one. Barrington / Oak Park one, Cape Island 2. Clyde/Baccaro/ Villagedale 2
Centreville	No	We think that the money spent in more than needed councillors could be put to use for recreation, heated pools, sidewalks extended, etc.	Cape Sable I think is 3 and 4 could be united as 1.
South Side	No		Yes
North East Point	Yes	Allows for different opinions/viewpoint	No

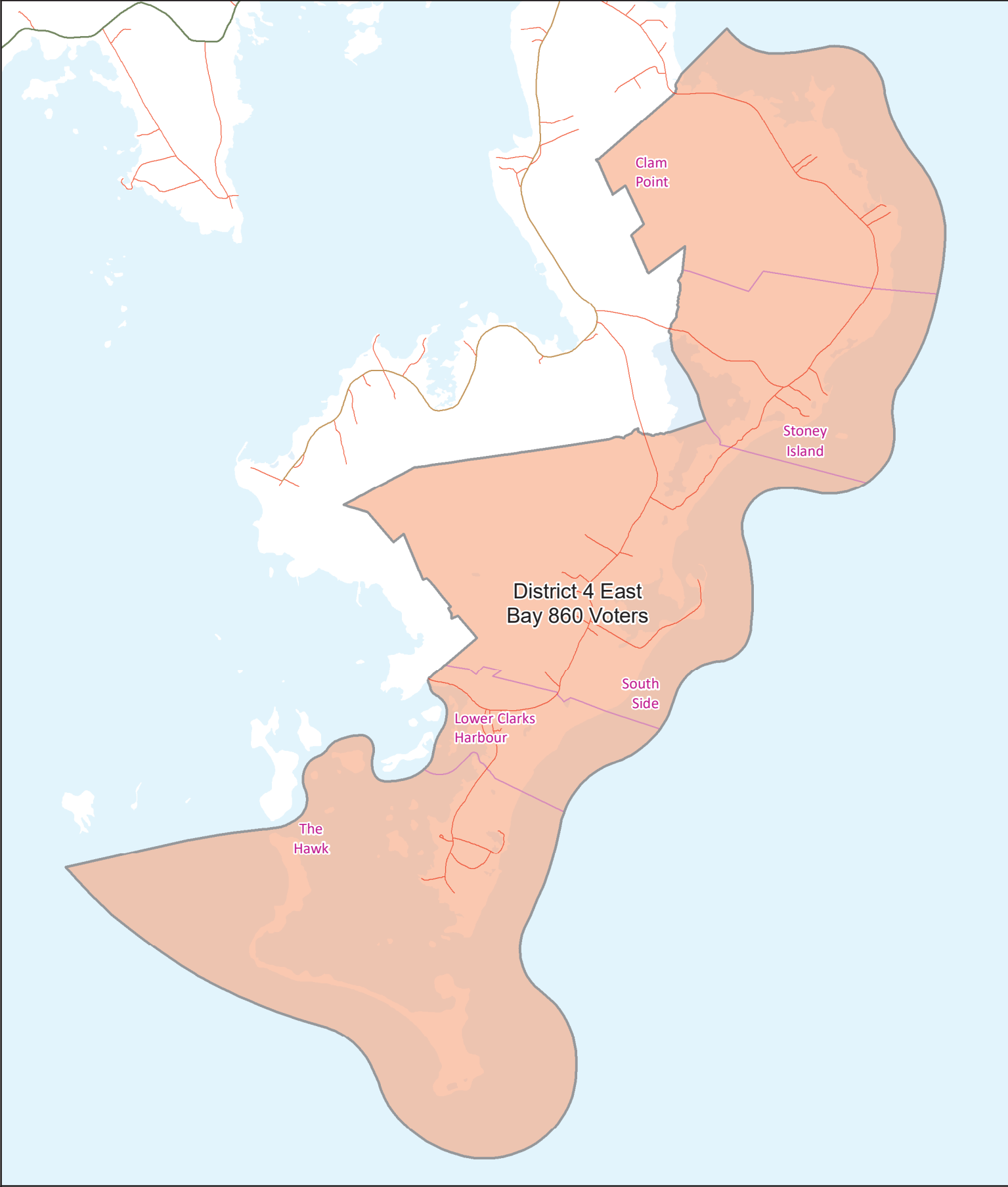
		The more people we have to make decisions on our behalf the better. If you only have a few they will have more chance to just do what they want with no one to challenge them.	
Woods harbour	Yes		No
Port LaTour	Yes	Five seems representative of the area population.	No.
			NEP to West Head is a lot smaller than Charlesville to Lower Shag Harbour. The latter encompasses a lot of people where the former is a quite small area. It's a large area that has areas that get overlooked for projects
Shag Harbour	Yes		
District 2	Yes		No
Port LaTour	Yes		no change
		I feel there's enough councilors to manage but there may be certain areas of their commitments that could benefit from having some help managing/planning/etc...	I feel district 1 and 5 is bigger than the others but those areas are more rural and doesn't have as much stuff to be managed and such.
Barrington Passage	Yes		
Barrington	No	To many	Have less
Newellton	Yes	Seven was too many, and I think three is too few.	No.
newellton	Yes		no
		I don't believe 5 people should represent 7000+	No
Barrington Passage	No		No
Coffinscroft	Yes		No
Clyde river	No	5 people can't accurately represent almost 7000 people	We need more counselors so it should be less condensed
Barrington Passage	Yes		No
Baccaro	Yes	Cost effective, equal representation	No
		Because in comparison to adjacent municipalities who have have the population of MOB and have seven councillors, MOB has too many residents under each district. I feel like having over 1000 residents per councillor is too high.	I know from personal experience and family/friends' comments that Shag Harbour/Bear Point prefer their own district.
Clam Point	No		No
Newellton	Yes		No
Bear Point	Yes		No
Barrington	Yes	For best representation	No change
Barrington	Yes	Right number for our population	No
Shag harbour	Yes		No
Oak Park	Yes	It covers everyone	No
		Area is widespread, we have good coverage for amount of people	Leave it alone
Barrington	Yes		
mcgray	Yes	small town small government	no
Centreville	No	We need a wider point of view with more people	No change
smithsville	Yes	Too many people just creates confusion	No
		We are small and do not need more coverage by councillors.	No
Upper Port la Tour	Yes		No
Clyde river	Yes		No
Shag Harbour	Yes		Looks good
Newellton	Yes		No
		Pretty equal representation across the Municipality.	No
South Side	Yes		No
Barrington	No	Too many	All of them





0 1 2
Kilometers
1:80,000





0 500 1,000
Meters
1:60,000

