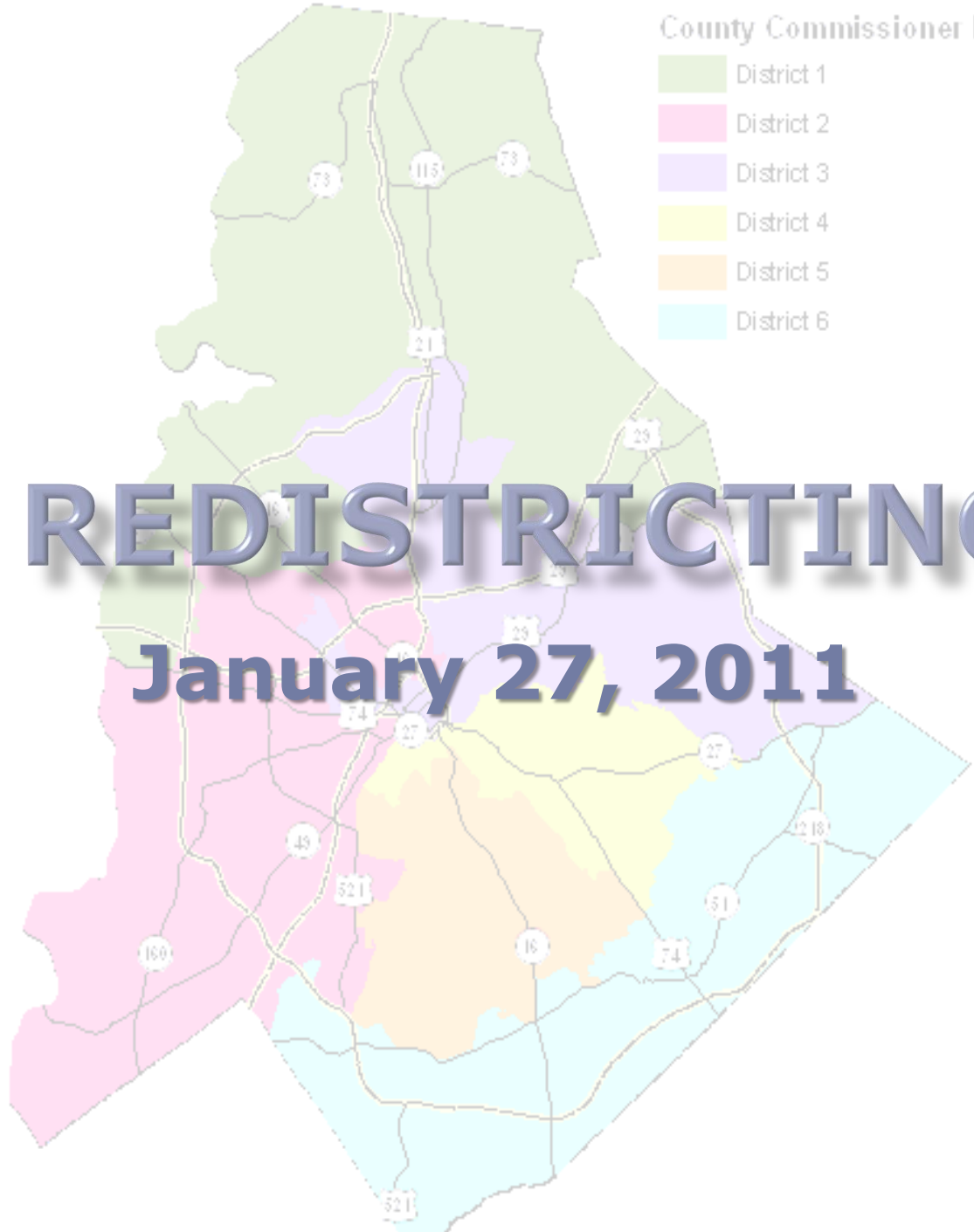


County Commissioner Districts

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

REDISTRICTING

January 27, 2011



Timeline

- ▣ January 11, 2011- General outline of legal parameters
- ▣ April 1, 2011- Receipt of detailed Census Data
- ▣ August 2, 2011- Presentation of Plans
- ▣ September 6, 2011- Adoption of New Districts

Today's Agenda

- ▣ Review General Statutes for Board Composition
- ▣ Review Federal Legislation and Court Rulings
- ▣ Discussion and Direction

Board Composition Options

- ▣ Number of Commissioners
- ▣ Length of Term/Concurrence of Terms
- ▣ Area Represented
- ▣ Election of Chair

Number of Commissioners



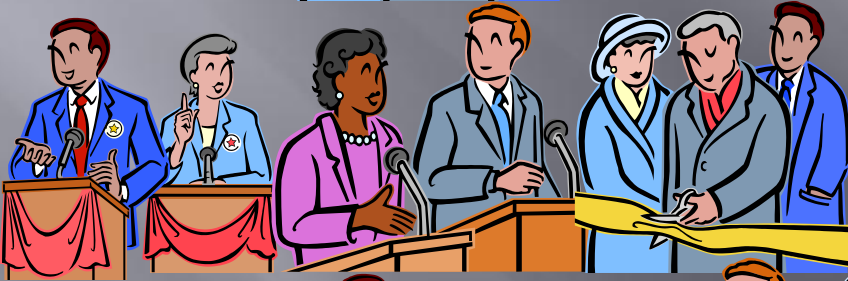
3

Cherokee, Clay, Yancy



60

Durham, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Iredell,
Lincoln, Union



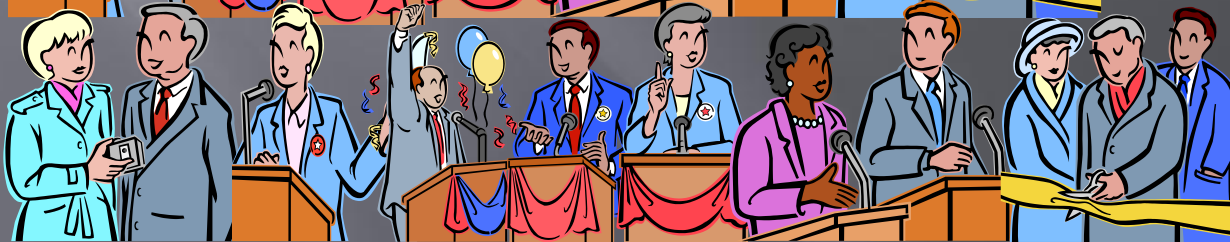
29

Forsyth, Wake, Anson, Davidson,
Gaston



3

Bladen, Pitt,
Mecklenburg



1

Guilford

Length of Term



2

Mecklenburg, Yancy

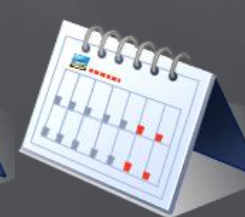


12

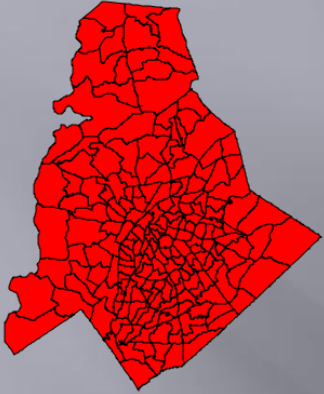
Buncombe,
Durham



79

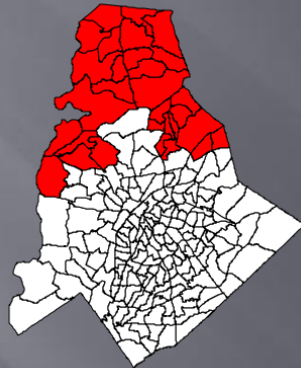
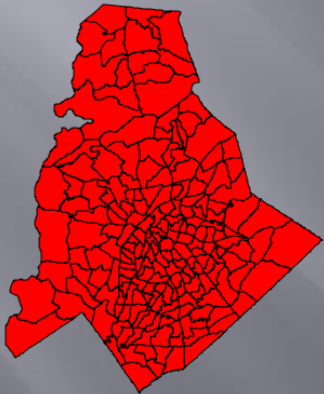


At-large/Districts



43

Buncombe, Cabarrus, Durham, Union



18

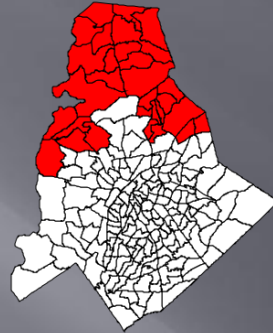
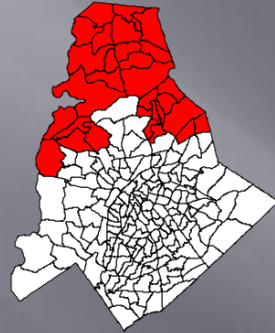
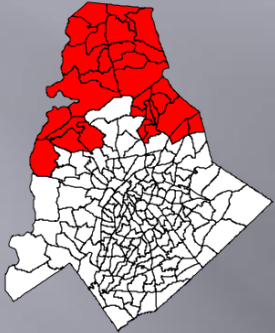
Mecklenburg, Guilford,
Forsyth

District Options

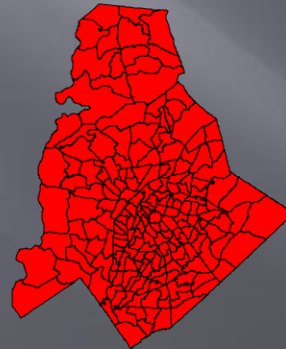
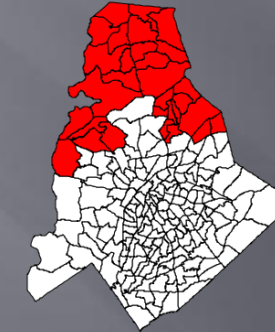
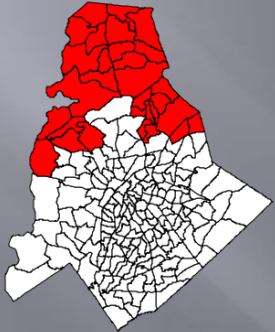
Residence

Primary

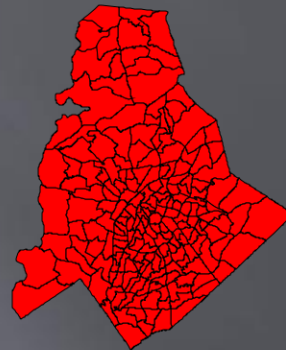
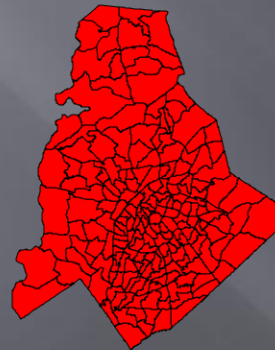
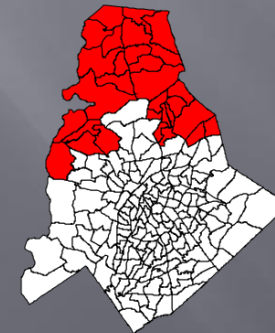
General



14 Pure District
Anson, Pitt



21 District- At
Large
Gaston, Wake

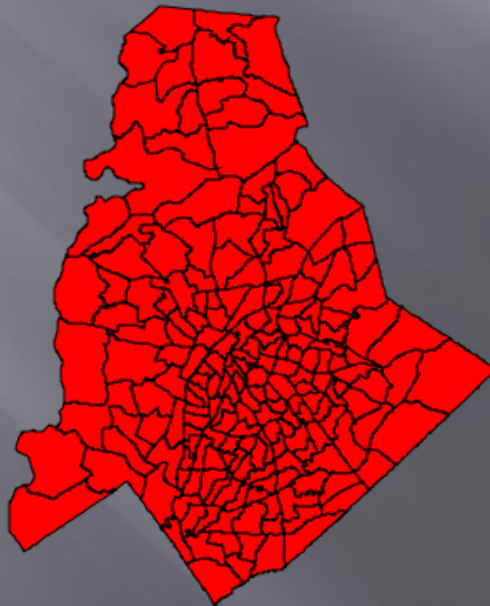


2 Combined
District At-Large
Currituck, Orange

Election of Chairman



Elected to a one-year term by members of the Board



Elected to a two-year or four-year term by the voters as a separate office.

Process for Altering Board



BOCC passes a resolution, voters consider proposal in referendum



General Assembly passes legislation setting board size, term and structure

Process for Redrawing Districts



BOCC passes a resolution



General Assembly passes legislation setting district boundaries

Federal Redistricting Requirements

- ▣ Is Redistricting Required?
 - Equal Protection Clause interpreted to require that districts be “substantially equal.”
 - 10% rule established by Courts to determine “substantially equal.”

Pretend County Population 600,000

Pretend Districts	Pretend Population	Deviation From Mean
District 1	100,000	0%
District 2	107,000	+7%
District 3	98,000	-2%
District 4	98,000	-2%
District 5	99,000	-1%
District 6	98,000	-2%
Total	600,000	9%

Mean Population: 100,000

Voting Rights Act

- ▣ Section V requiring pre-clearance by the US Department of Justice **does not apply**
- ▣ Section II requiring race be taken into account **does apply** (Thornburg v. Gingles, 1986)
- ▣ Equal Protection Clause of US Constitution cited by Courts as preventing race from being the predominant factor unless use of race narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling interest. (Shaw v. Reno, 1993; Shaw v. Hunt, 1996; Miller v. Johnson 1995).

Counties must consider race, but not too much

Too Much



OK



DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION

Direction: Board Composition

- ▣ Option 1: Seek change to composition via referendum
- ▣ Option 2: Seek change to composition via legislation
- ▣ Option 3: Rule out change to composition; proceed with redrawing districts based on 6 district and 3 at-large.

NOTE: If Board seeks to change composition of Board, staff recommends that details be discussed at a future meeting.

Direction: Board Involvement

- ▣ Option 1: Independent Commission
 - ▣ Board appoints Commission
 - ▣ Commission has complete autonomy
 - ▣ Board considers Commission recommendation for up or down vote.
- ▣ Option 2: Advisory Committee
 - ▣ Board appoints Advisory Committee
 - ▣ Board provides policy guidance to committee
 - ▣ Board considers several alternatives recommended by the committee
- ▣ Option 3: Committee of the Whole
 - ▣ Board in its entirety handles redistricting itself

Staff Recommends: Option 1 or 2

Direction: Whole Precincts

- ▣ Option 1: Do not divide precincts in drawing districts
- ▣ Option 2: Divide precincts to achieve other goals.

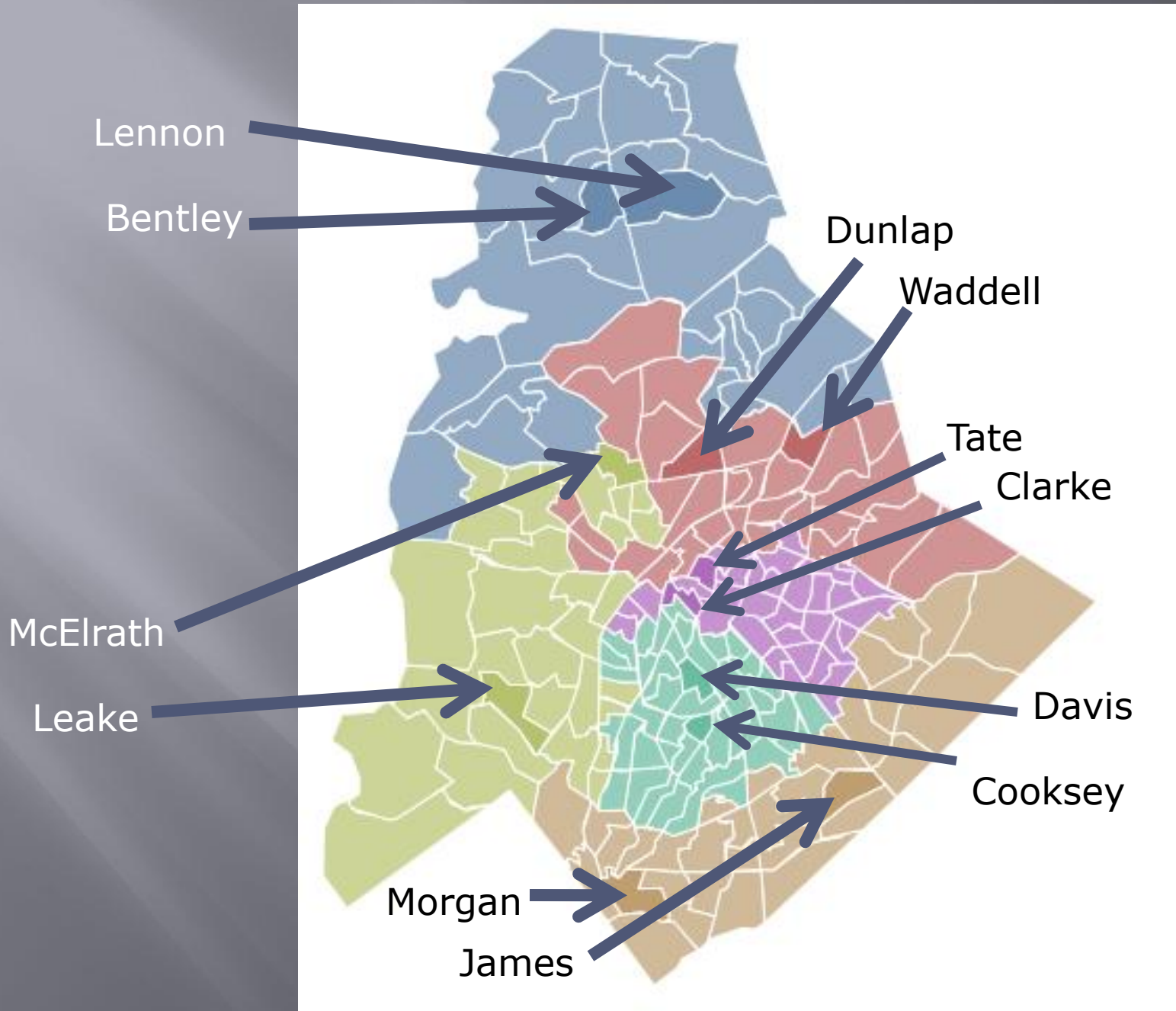
Staff Recommends: Option 1

Board of Education

- ▣ Option 1: Work with Board of Education to draw the same districts for both bodies.
- ▣ Option 2: Draw districts independent of Board of Education.

Incumbent Consideration

- ▣ Option 1: Do not put multiple incumbents in the same district
- ▣ Option 2: Specifically put multiple incumbents in the same district and specify those incumbents
- ▣ Option 3: Ignore incumbency when drawing districts



Direction: Partisan Make-up

- ▣ Option 1: To the extent possible, draw districts that will likely elect a member from a certain party. Specify how many districts for each party.
- ▣ Option 2: To the extent possible, draw districts that will likely be competitive. Specify how many should be “competitive” and how many should be “safe.”
- ▣ Option 3: Ignore partisan considerations.

Towns

- ▣ Option 1: Except for Charlotte, no municipality will be split between multiple districts.
- ▣ Option 2: When possible, municipalities should be split between multiple districts.
- ▣ Option 3: Do not consider municipal boundaries.

Race

- ▣ Option 1: Draw two districts that would be “minority-majority.”
- ▣ Option 2: Draw two districts that while not “minority-majority” would likely give minority voters the opportunity to elect a commissioner of their choosing.
- ▣ Option 3: Ignore race when drawing districts.

Prioritization

Next Steps

- ▣ Next steps will be determined by the Board's decisions.