

Public Submission to the West Virginia Legislature Joint Committee on Redistricting

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From: Nyoka B
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 1:21 PM
To: Charles Trump IV; Gary Howell; Joint Redistricting; Julie Archer
Cc: Effie Kallas; Kenneth Martis; Jing Zhang; Jonathan Rosenbaum
Subject: LWVWV Invitation and Submission of WV Monongalia County House of Delegates Redistricting Recommendation
Attachments: Monongalia_County_House_of_Delegate_Redistricting_Recommendation (1).pdf

Greetings to the Honored Members of the WV Joint Committee on Redistricting,

First of all, Thank You for the intensive work that you are doing to create fair maps for the State of West Virginia.

Adherence to county lines, contiguous perimeters and keeping communities whole within compact districts is an achievable goal.

The Board of Directors of the LWVWV has approved that we request a meeting with available members of the WV Joint Committee on Redistricting to discuss the attached **WV Monongalia County House of Delegates Redistricting Recommendation**.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1lvBlBavGESeDH1slsrpTT32pEcFhYLsb&usp=sharing>

We are extremely grateful to Dr. Kenneth Martis, professor emeritus of geography, West Virginia University, who is a leading expert in the field of redistricting, and professional transportation planner Jing Zhang (AIPC, PTP, LEED, AP, ND) who have given the responsibility of making this information available to the WV Joint Committee on Redistricting from our non-partisan organization.

A tentative date and time of **Wednesday September 8th at 6pm** is penciled in. Please acknowledge if this is a good date and time and a zoom link will be sent. If another date and time is a better fit into your schedule then we would be happy to accomodate. A great deal can be accomplished in the communication that can be shared in this discussion. We hope that you are able to take this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nyoka Baker Chapman
LWVWV Fair Maps Committee
LWVWV Board of Directors
LWV of the Huntington Area Board of Directors
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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan volunteer organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government.

The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate, but is engaged in local, state, and national issues of importance to our communities.

The League works to influence public policy through advocacy and education. League membership is open to all men and women age 16 or older.

More at: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) (National) and [www.lwvwwv.org](http://www.lwvwwv.org) (WV).

# WV Monongalia County House of Delegates Redistricting Recommendation

*Prepared by*

Jing Zhang, AICP, PTP, Morgantown Monongalia MPO

Kenneth C. Martis Ph.D.

*Prepared for*

LWV of West Virginia

Updated August 24, 2021

## **Attachment**

- Monongalia County House of Delegate District Concept Map (County View)
- Monongalia County House of Delegate District Concept Map (Urban Area View)
- Monongalia County House of Delegate District Concept Map (Census Block View)

## **Background**

### *West Virginia State Senate Districts*

The 2020 Census reports the West Virginia population at 1,793,716. The target population for each of the 17 state senate districts is 105,513. The 2020 Census reports Monongalia County population at 105,822. Based on the state constitution Monongalia County should be one self-contained state senate district.

### *West Virginia House of Delegates Districts*

The 2020 Census reports the West Virginia population at 1,793,716. The target population for each of the 100 House of Delegates is 17,937. The 2020 Census reports Monongalia County population at 105,822. If Monongalia County is divided into 6 districts each would contain approximately 17,637, comparable to the state target population number. Based on the state constitution Monongalia County should be allocated 6 House of Delegates seats.

The attached map divides Monongalia County into 6 delegate districts. The criteria for drawing each district follows state and judicial guidelines. These guidelines include; approximate equal population, compactness, contiguous territory, respect of communities of interest and neighborhoods, consideration of city boundaries, and attention to natural geographic boundaries.

#### **Data Source**

District boundaries were drawn based on the Shapefile lines of the 2020 Census Block and the population information received from the Census 2020 PL 94-171 Legacy Format Data. The mapping used the Monongalia County GIS database for the following data: aerial images, county voting precincts, the Monongalia County boundary, and the municipal boundary for the City of Morgantown.

#### *2020 Census Data*

The Census 2020 PL 94-171 Legacy Format Data was retrieved from the US Census FTP site [https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/01-Redistricting\\_File--PL\\_94-171/](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/01-Redistricting_File--PL_94-171/). The data was retrieved from the Redistricting Data Hub (RDH) Retrieval Date on 08/12/21. For more information about this data set, visit the PL 94-171 article included in <https://redistrictingdatahub.org/data/about-our-data/>.

Please note that the data was NOT validated against the official data used by the WV redistricting body or bodies.

#### **Redistricting Process and Outcome for Monongalia County**

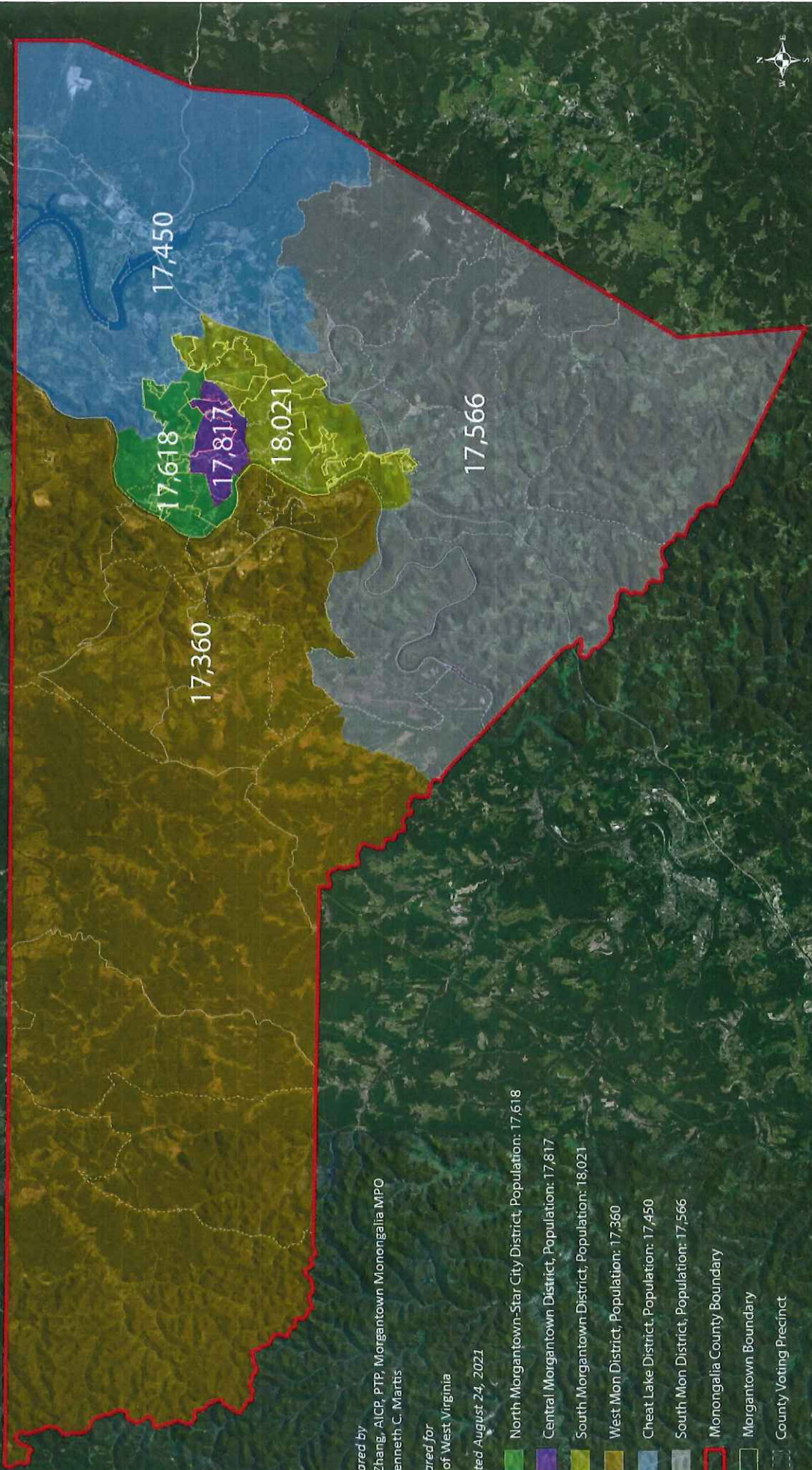
The criteria used in the initial creating of the boundaries were compactness, contiguity, and population equality. To the extent practicable, major roads/highways and natural geographic boundaries were used to delineate district boundaries. The number 17,637, the target population for each district in Monongalia County, was the objective to keep each district as close to equal population as possible. The initial boundaries were then refined to preserve the existing municipal boundaries and to recognize the community of interest.

Six districts were created: West Mon, South Mon, Cheat Lake, North Morgantown-Star City, Central Morgantown, and South Morgantown.

| District                   | Population | Major Boundaries                                                                                                       | Major Communities/Areas                                                                                           |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| West Mon                   | 17,360     | Monongalia County Boundary, Monongahela River, Fairmont Rd (US19), Lower Hildebrant Rd (CR45/1)                        | Granville, Westover, Blacksville, Harmony Grove, Wadestown, New Hill, Cassville, Osage, Maidsville, Worley        |
| South Mon                  | 17,566     | Monongalia County Boundary. Monongahela River, Fairmont Rd (US19), Lower Hildebrant Rd (CR45/1), Tibbs Run, I-68, I-79 | Brookhaven, Ringgold, Everettville, Little Falls                                                                  |
| Cheat Lake                 | 17,450     | Monongalia County Boundary. Monongahela River, I-68, Tibbs Run                                                         | Cheat Lake, Coopers Rock, Northern Point Marion Rd Area, McMellin                                                 |
| North Morgantown-Star City | 17,618     | Monongahela River, WV 705, Mon Blvd, Stewartstown Rd (CR67), Point Marion Rd (US119)                                   | Star City, Suncrest, North Hill, Van Voorhis Area                                                                 |
| Central Morgantown         | 17,817     | WV 705, Mon Blvd, Stewartstown Rd (CR67), Mileground Rd (US119), College Ave, Campus Dr.                               | Sunnyside, Willes Hill, Northpoint, WVU Evansdale Campus, WVU Health Science Campus, Suncrest Towne Centre Area   |
| South Morgantown           | 18,021     | Monongahela River, Mileground Rd (US119), College Ave, Campus Dr. I-68, I-79                                           | Woodburn, Greenmont, South Park, Hopecrest, First Ward, Sabraton, West Sabraton, Greenbag Rd Area, Scott Ave Area |

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# WV Monongalia County House of Delegate Districts Concept Map (County View)



Prepared by  
Jing Zhang, AICP, PTP, Morgantown Monongalia MPO  
Dr. Kenneth C. Martis

Prepared for  
LWV of West Virginia  
Updated August 24, 2021

- North Morgantown-Star City District, Population: 17,618
- Central Morgantown District, Population: 17,817
- South Morgantown District, Population: 18,021
- West Mon District, Population: 17,360
- Cheat Lake District, Population: 17,450
- South Mon District, Population: 17,566

- Monongalia County Boundary
- Morgantown Boundary
- County Voting Precinct



Data Source: 2020 PL 94-171 Legacy Format data was retrieved from the US Census FTP site [https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/01-Redistricting\\_File-PL\\_94-171/](https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/data/01-Redistricting_File-PL_94-171/). The data was retrieved from the Redistricting Data Hub (RDH) Retrieval Date on 08/12/21. For more information about this data set, visit our PL 94-171 article included in <https://redistrictingdatahub.org/data/about-our-data/>. Please note that the data was NOT validated against the official data used by the WV Legislature body or bodies.

# WV Monongalia County House of Delegate Districts Concept Map (Urban Area View)

Prepared by  
Jing Zhang, AICP, PTP, Morgantown Monongalia MPO  
Dr. Kenneth C. Martis

Prepared for  
LWV of West Virginia

Updated August 24, 2021

- North Morgantown-Star City District, Population: 17,618
- Central Morgantown District, Population: 17,817
- South Morgantown District, Population: 18,021
- West Mon District, Population: 17,360
- Cheat Lake District, Population: 17,450
- South Mon District, Population: 17,566
- Monongalia County Boundary
- Morgantown Boundary
- County Voting Precinct



17,450

17,618

17,817

17,360

18,021

17,566

Data Source: 2020 PL 94-171 Legacy Format Data was retrieved from the US Census FTP site: [https://www2.census.gov/programs/surveys/decennial/2020/data/01-redistricting\\_file-pl\\_94-171/](https://www2.census.gov/programs/surveys/decennial/2020/data/01-redistricting_file-pl_94-171/). The data was retrieved from the Redistricting Data File (RD1) Retrieval Date on 08/12/21. For more information about this data set, visit our PL 94-171 article included in <https://redistrictingdatahub.org/> data/about-our-data/. Please note that the data was NOT validated against the official data used by the WV redistricting body or bodies.



# WV Monongalia County House of Delegate Districts Concept Map (Census Block View)

Prepared by  
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Dr. Kenneth C. Martis

Prepared for  
LWV of West Virginia

Updated August 25, 2021

-  District Boundary
-  Census 2020 Block Line
-  City of Morgantown Boundary



17,450

17,618

17,817

17,860

18,021

17,566

Data Source: 2020 PL 94-171 Legacy Format Data was retrieved from the US Census FTP site [https://www2.census.gov/programs/surveys/deserial/2020/data/01-redistricting\\_File-PL\\_94-171/](https://www2.census.gov/programs/surveys/deserial/2020/data/01-redistricting_File-PL_94-171/). The data was retrieved from the Redistricting Data Hub (RDH) Retrieval Date on 08/12/21. For more information about this data set, visit our PL 94-171 article included in <https://www.lwv.org/press-releases/2021/08/12/2020-census-data>. Please note that the data was NOT validated against the official data used by the WV Legislature to form both of bodies.