

November 8, 2011

To: Urbana City Council

From: Laurel Prussing

Re: New Ward Map, Second Draft

Dear Charlie, Eric, Robert, Brandon, Dennis, Heather and Diane,

Here is a revised draft of the ward map for your consideration. **This revision is necessary because we learned that the “10 % rule” does not actually mean a 10% variation in either direction from the ideal population per ward, but instead a variation of plus or minus 5% (or 10% between the highest and lowest wards).**

Since six wards already met this tighter standard in the first draft the only one that needed revision was Ward 3. To make Ward 3 meet the standard I would suggest shifting two census tracts (with 121 and 26 persons respectively) from Ward 3 to Ward 2. Since the precinct is already split between those two wards, this does not add to the number of precinct splits. Also, since two adjacent tracts have zero population—they are businesses—we might as well shift them as well. You can see how this looks on your printed maps and we will get a revision up on the web site shortly.

So far I have received only one other suggested map. William Brown has a somewhat different set of priorities and puts at least two existing council members in the same ward. I have asked Mr. Brown to forward his suggestions to you (if he has not already) and to attend the meeting on Monday to present his proposal and take questions.

Here is a revised summary of the problem we were faced with and the proposed solution based on conversations and recommendations from council members:

The Census population in 2010 was 41,250. Since then we have annexed property. Our population is now 41,385. Dividing that by seven gives us a goal of 5,912 people per ward.

The initial problem: under existing ward lines Ward 6 was 1,768 over the standard of 5,912 people, Ward 4 was 1,063 under, Ward 7 was 479 under and Ward 5 was 303 under.

Legal standards:

1. Equal population: This draft brings all wards closer to 5,912.
2. **Up to 5% deviation** plus or minus from the 5,912 (295 person variance either up or down) is allowable. This draft brings all wards well within this standard.
3. Compact and contiguous. The proposal makes wards 4, 5, 6 and 7 more compact. Wards 1, 2 and 3 remain compact. All remain contiguous.
4. No under-representation of minorities. All continue to meet this standard.

Other considerations:

1. No council members are put together in the same ward.
2. The number of precinct splits is reduced from 11 to 8.
3. The wards on the outer borders of the city are slightly smaller to allow for their greater growth potential during the next ten years.

The following chart summarizes the ward-to-ward population shifts and details the specific census tracts shifted from one ward to another. If you look at your map the biggest changes are taking the triangle-shaped precinct adjoining Ward 4 from Ward 6 and putting it in Ward 4 along with three census tracts in the precinct just west of it. Next biggest change is shifting the rectangle adjoining Ward 7 from Ward 6 to give a new southeast corner to Ward 7. In order to bring Ward 3 within the acceptable population deviation, two populated census tracts are shifted to Ward 2 totaling 147 people. The other adjustments consist of single census tracts shifted from Ward 6 to Ward 5, from Ward 5 to Ward 2, and from Ward 4 to Ward 1.

Apparent Census Error in Ward 3:

Robert Myers noticed a census tract listing 1,481 people, which he thought looked too high. He went to the area and checked it out and now believes there is an overstatement of about 600 people. We cannot correct the official census. However, we are compensating for this error by having the population in Ward 3 appear to be 268 people over the average.

Ward	2010 pop.	Dev. from 5,912	Ward 6 to 5	Ward 6 to 4	Ward 6 to 7	Ward 4 to 1	Ward 5 to 2	Ward 3 to 2	Revised	Revised Dev.
1	5657	-255				60			5717	-195
2	5821	-91					2	147	5970	58
3	6327	415						-147	6180	268
4	4858	-1063		1282		-60			6080	168
5	5609	-303	84				-2		5691	-221
6	7680	1768	-84	-1282	-577				5737	-175
7	5433	-479			577				6010	98
Total	41385								41385	
Detail of revisions by Census tract:										
From Ward 6 to Ward 4: 50+60+55+50+58+42+42+29+81+36+109+99+31+34+52+6+32+115+34+23+28+21+153+42 totals 1282										
From Ward 6 to Ward 7: 31+79+48+40+72+66+54+33+33+28+93 totals 577										
From Ward 6 to Ward 5: 84										
From Ward 4 to Ward 1: 60										
From Ward 5 to Ward 2: 2										
From Ward 3 to Ward 2: 0+0+121+26 totals 147										

**ORDINANCE NO. 2011-10-116**

**AN ORDINANCE REDISTRICTING THE WARDS OF THE CITY OF URBANA,  
ILLINOIS**

(2011)

**WHEREAS**, Section 3.1-20-25 of the Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/3.1-20-25) provides that the city council of a city, by ordinance, shall redistrict the city into wards as nearly equal in population and as compact and contiguous territory as practicable based upon the results of an official census; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2010 Census conducted by the United States Census Bureau reveals that numerical inequalities exist in the population among City of Urbana, Illinois, wards as currently drawn; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, desires to establish new ward boundaries that are of as compact and contiguous territory as practicable, with each ward having nearly equal population.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, as follows:

**Section 1.**

Ordinance No. 2004-04-043, passed on April 19, 2004, which established the ward boundaries for each of the seven wards of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same is hereby repealed upon the taking effect of this ordinance.

**Section 2.**

The ward boundaries for each of the seven wards of the City of Urbana, Illinois, as designated and set forth in the document entitled "Official Ward Map of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, (2011)," together with a description of the ward boundaries of each in words in the document entitled "Official Ward Descriptions of the City of Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, (2011)," a copy of which said map and description in words are attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference, be and the same are hereby adopted as the ward boundaries for each of the seven wards of the City of Urbana, Illinois, in accordance with this Ordinance. If there is a discrepancy between the ward boundary description by words and the map herein referred to, the word description shall prevail.

**Section 3.**

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after its passage and approval as required by law and shall apply to any and all matters pertaining to the next and all succeeding general elections for city officers after the effective date hereof. This Ordinance shall not apply, however, to the composition of the present City Council of the City of Urbana and representation by each of its individual members until after the next general election of city officers, and all acts, resolutions, and ordinances of the City Council, which in other respects are in compliance with law, shall be deemed valid during this interim period until such newly elected city officers have been duly qualified in accordance with law.

**Section 4.**

The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to send a certified copy of

this Ordinance, including the map and written description adopted herein by reference, to the County Clerk of Champaign County, Illinois.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY THE MAYOR** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurel Lunt Prussing, Mayor