



# Montgomery County Board of Elections

## July 29, 2019



# Early Voting Site Selection

2020 Election Cycle



# Early Voting – 2020 Elections

## **Primary Election**

- Thursday, April 16 – Thursday, April 23
- 10:00 am – 8:00 pm daily

## **General Election**

- Thursday, October 22 – Thursday, October 29
- 8:00 am – 8:00 pm daily



# Maryland State Criteria for Early Voting Site Selection

- Montgomery County Board of Elections held Early Voting at 11 centers in 2018.
- Funding not yet determined for 12<sup>th</sup> location.
- All sites require approval of the Maryland State Board of Elections.



# Timeline & Deadlines

Board Discussion: July 29

LBEs submit to state: September 30

State designates sites: October 28



# Selection Criteria



# Maryland State Criteria for Early Voting Site Selection

- ✓ **Access**
- ✓ **Transportation**
- ✓ **Infrastructure**
- ✓ **Accommodation**


# Site Requirements – Access

- ✓ Facility open to general public
- ✓ Meets population density requirements — 80% of the registered voters live within five miles of one of the Early Voting Centers



# Site Requirements – Transportation

- ✓ Adequate parking
- ✓ Access to public transportation
- ✓ Near major roads free from restrictions that make access difficult



# Site Requirements – Infrastructure

- ✓ Adequate wireless connectivity
- ✓ Telephone service
- ✓ Heating and Air Conditioning



# Site Requirements – Accommodation

- ✓ Adequate space to accommodate equipment and voter flow
- ✓ Accommodates requirements for voters with disabilities (meets ADA requirements)
- ✓ Adequate space to accommodate voters in line—shelter from inclement weather
- ✓ Accommodates the “No Electioneering” boundary



# Consistency Preference

Early Voting Centers are not required to be the same from election-to-election, but consistency better meets public expectations.

It takes time to build voter awareness and to habituate voters to using Early Voting Centers.



# 2018 Early Voting Centers

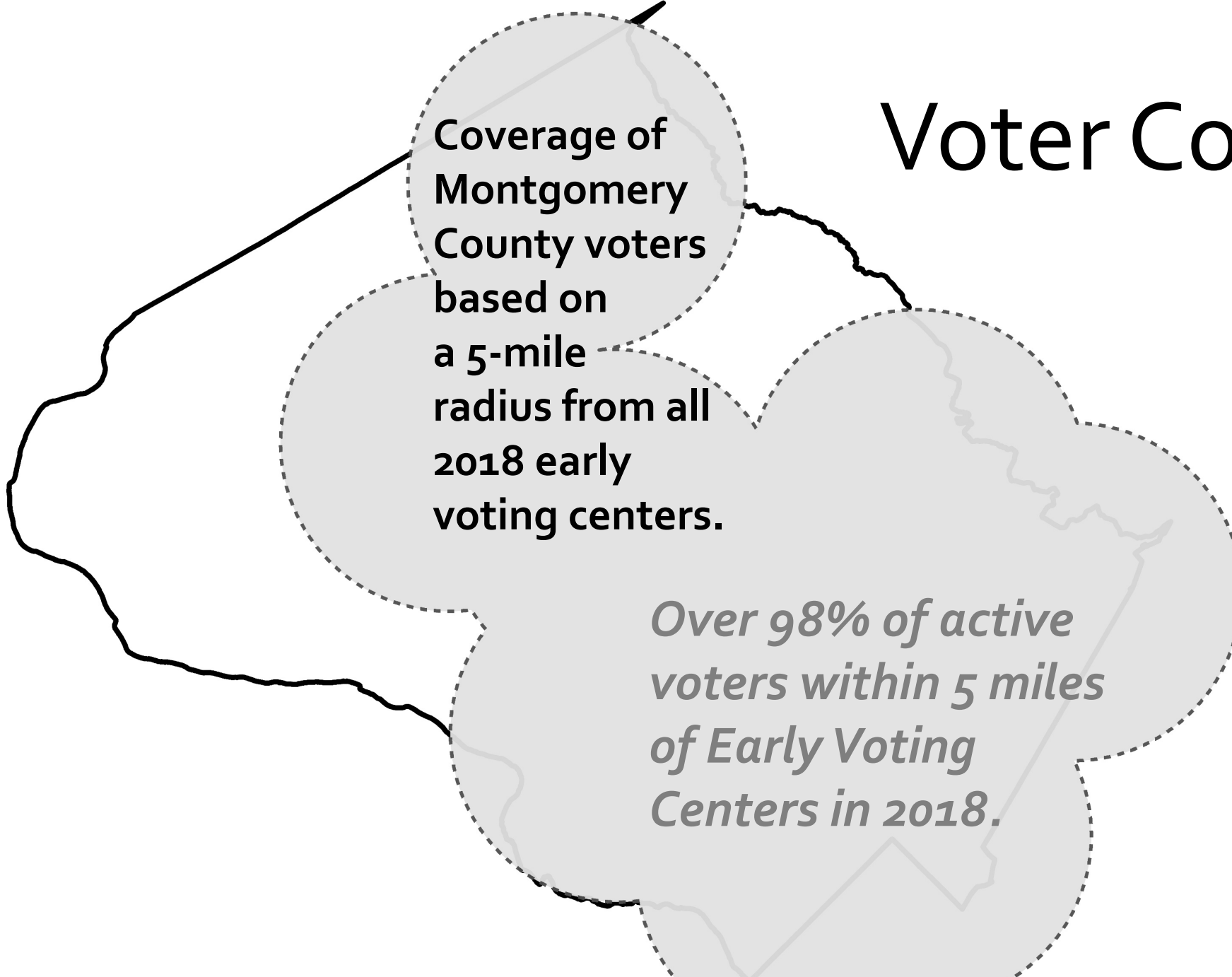
# Early Voting Growth

Early Voting Location	2014 General	2018 General	Percent Change
Silver Spring	5,740	16,864	193%
Potomac	-	14,186	-
Bohrer Park	4,455	13,230	197%
Lawton	3,356	12,265	265%
Germantown	4,549	11,899	162%
Praisner	4,987	10,286	106%
Executive Office Building	4,406	9,190	109%
Mid-County	2,485	7,934	219%
Wheaton (2014) / St. Catherine's (2018)	3,994	7,808	95%
Sandy Spring	-	6,154	-
Damascus	1,468	4,793	226%
<b>TOTAL EARLY VOTERS</b>	<b>35,440</b>	<b>114,609</b>	<b>+223%</b>
<b>ALL VOTES CAST</b>	<b>284,645</b>	<b>412,571</b>	<b>+45%</b>

# Early Voting Center Size & Number of Voters

Early Voting Location	2018 General Square Footage	2018 General Total Voters
Silver Spring	5,056	16,864
Potomac	6,840	14,186
Bohrer Park	3,094	13,230
Lawton	6,525	12,265
Germantown	3,738	11,899
Praisner	3,192	10,286
Executive Office Building	2,480	9,190
Mid-County	4,400	7,934
Wheaton Recreation Center (new)	11,778	7,808
Sandy Spring	4,100	6,154
Damascus	3,431	4,793

# Voter Coverage



Coverage of  
Montgomery  
County voters  
based on  
a 5-mile  
radius from all  
2018 early  
voting centers.

*Over 98% of active  
voters within 5 miles  
of Early Voting  
Centers in 2018.*

# Early Voting Wait Times - 2018 General Election

- Wait times were typically nonexistent to short on most days.
- Longer lines on first and last two days of early voting in the evening usually ranging from 20-60 minutes.
- Research shows voters do not mind waiting as much during early voting.



# Early Voting Turnout Maps



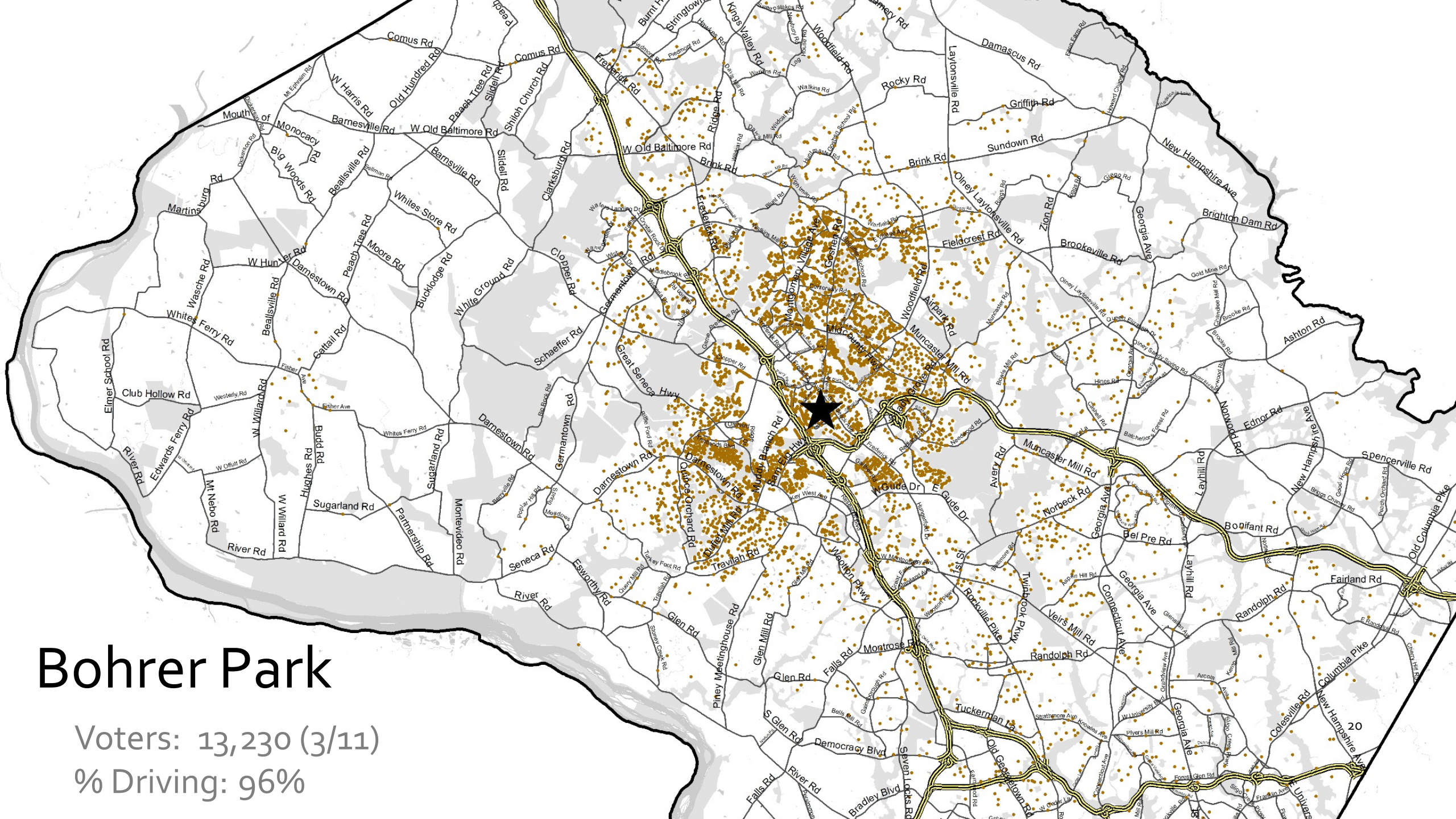
# Maps of Early Voting Turnout by Location – 2018 General Election



Early Voting Center



Voter



# Bohrer Park

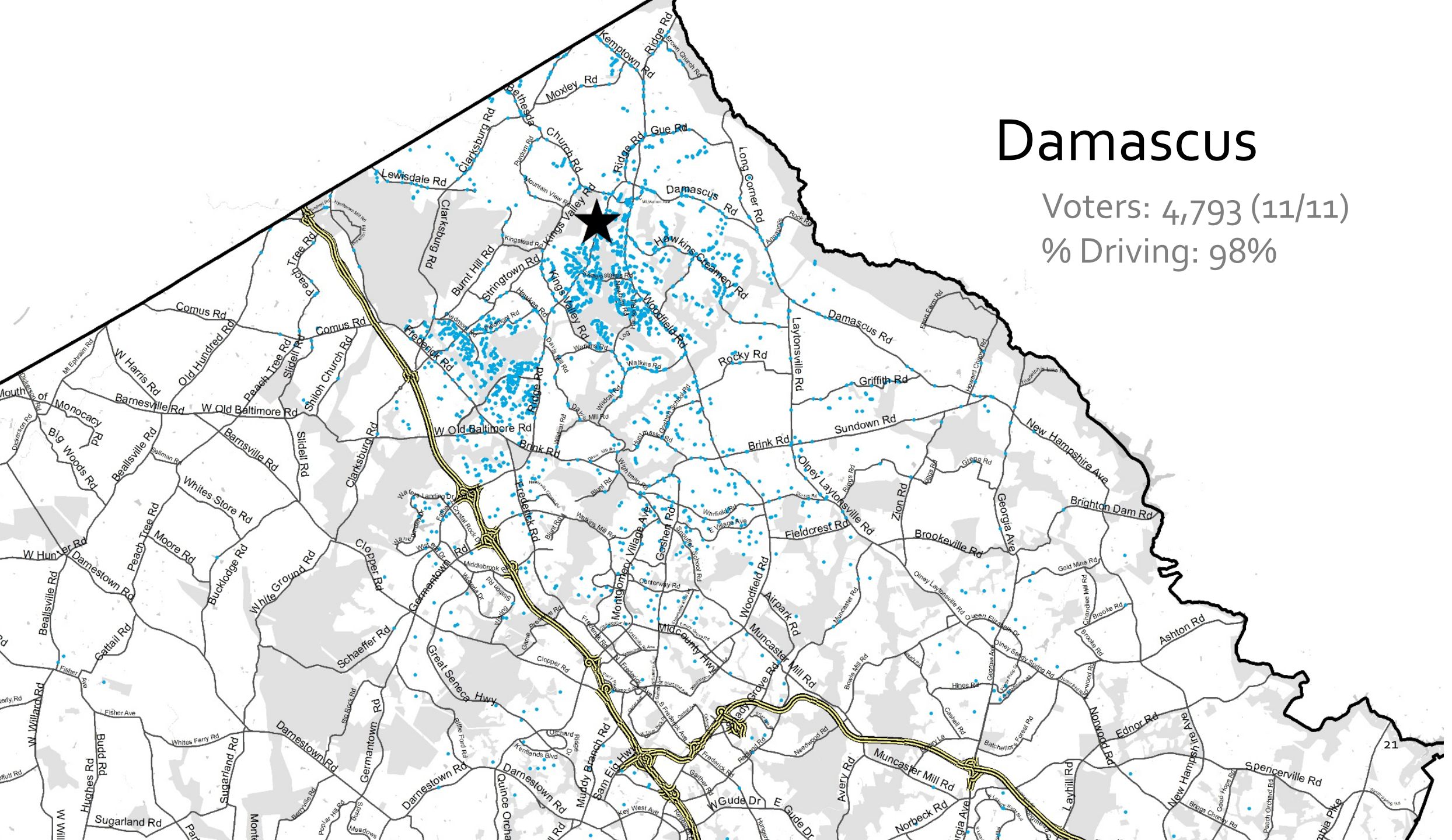
Voters: 13,230 (3/11)  
% Driving: 96%



# Damascus

Voters: 4,793 (11/11)

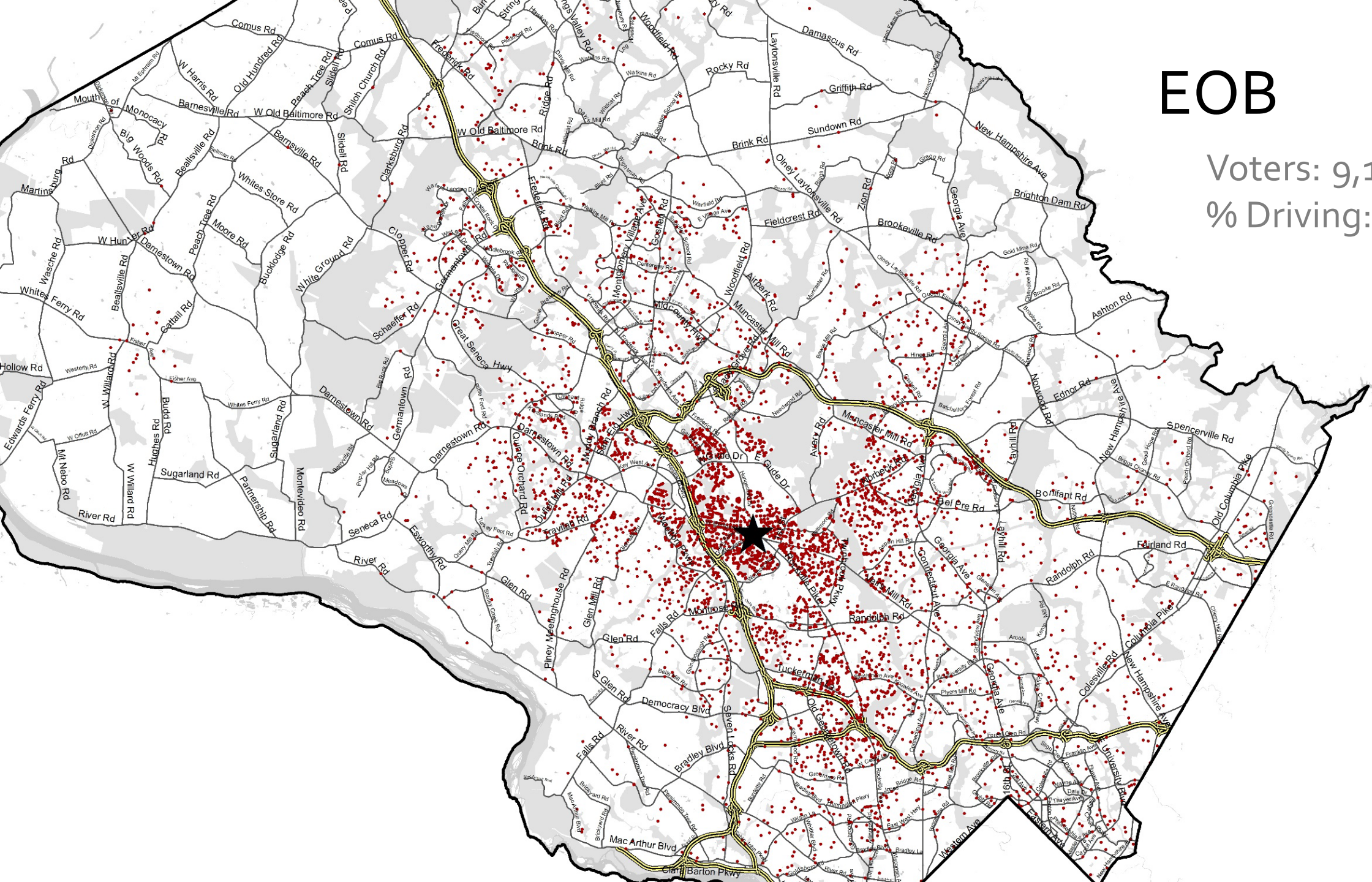
% Driving: 98%





# EOB

Voters: 9,190 (7/11)  
% Driving: 73%





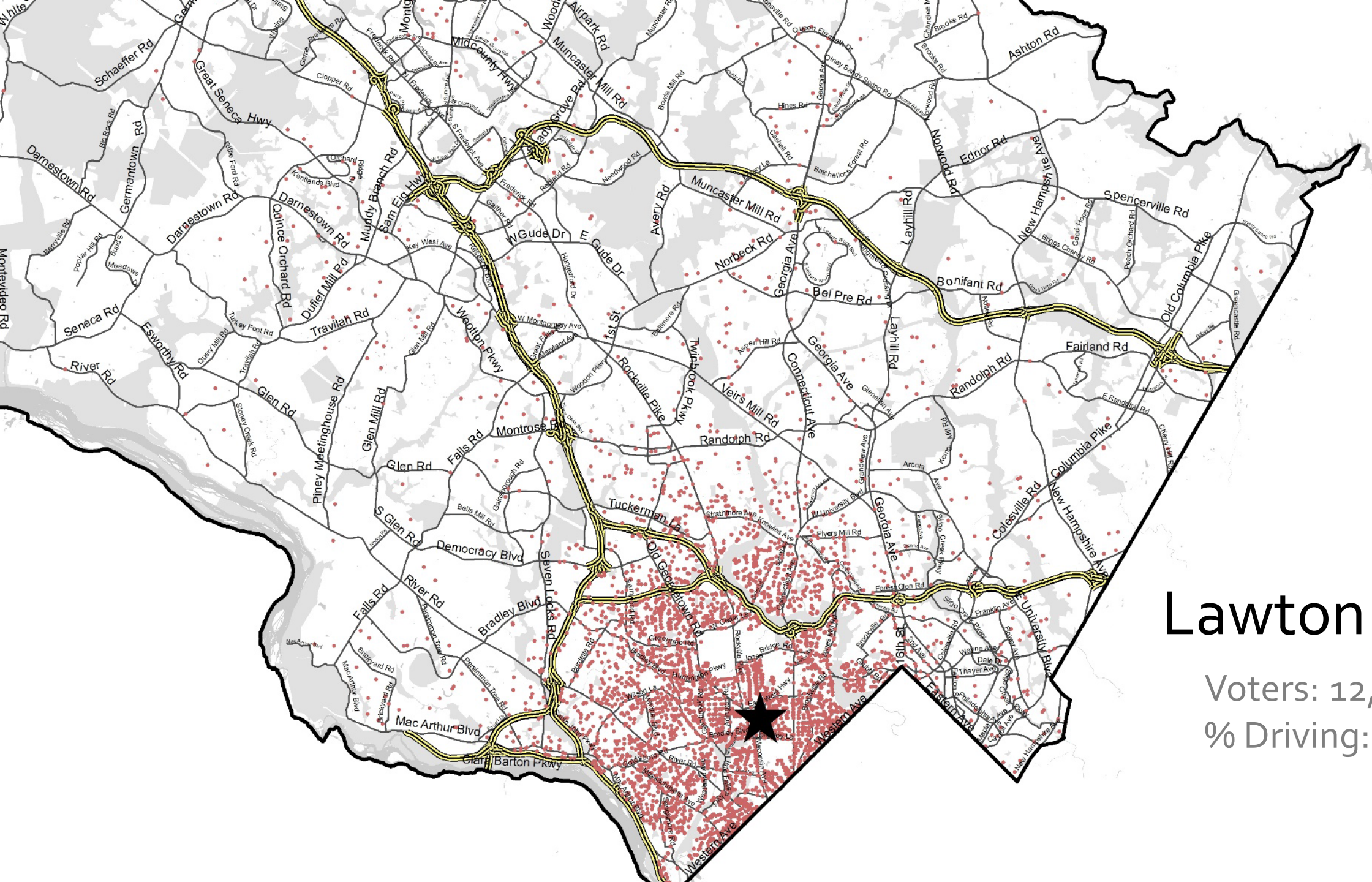


# Germantown

Voters: 11,899 (5/11)

% Driving: 96%

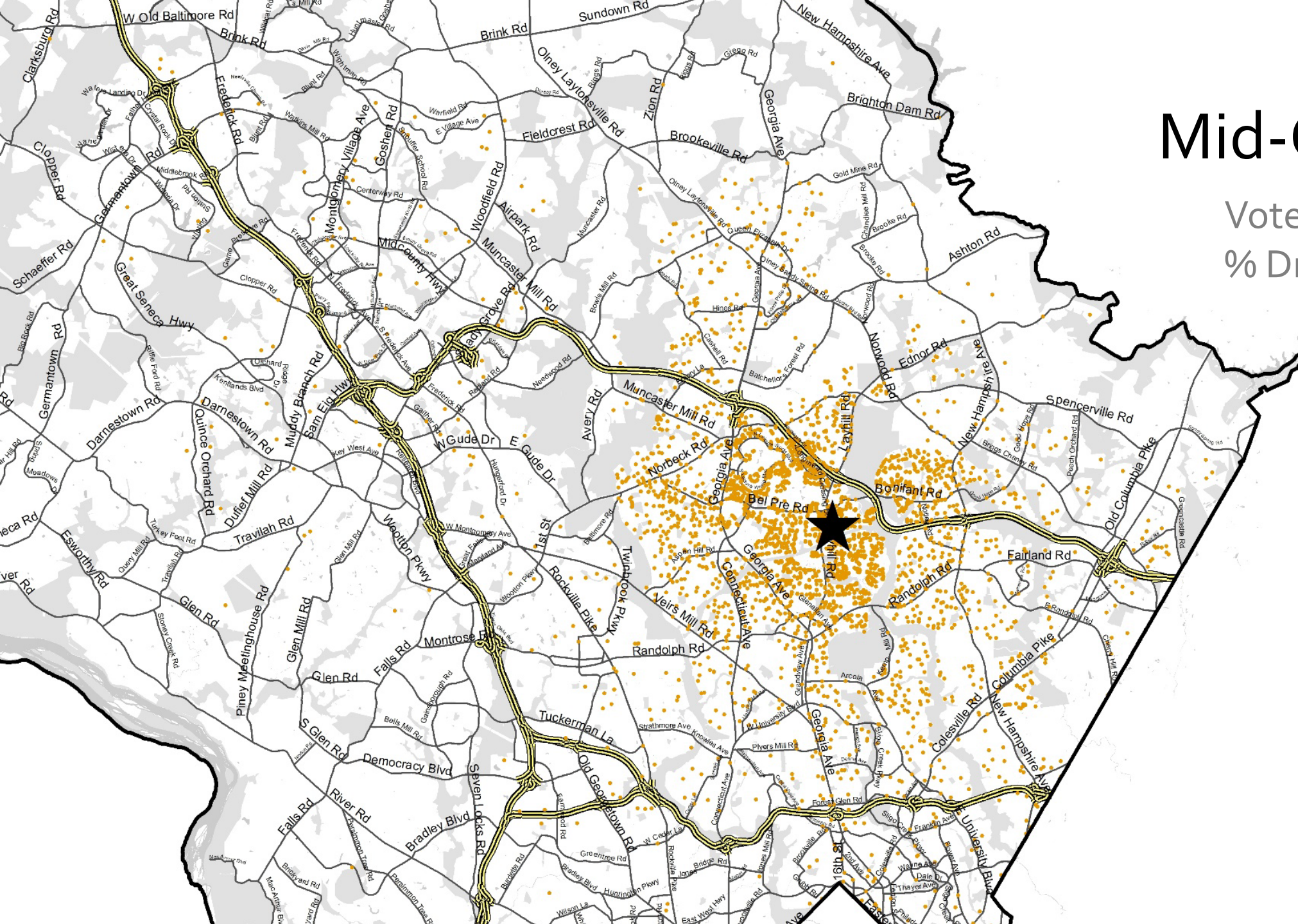




# Lawton

Voters: 12,265 (4/11)  
% Driving: 83%





# Mid-County

Voters: 7,934 (8/11)

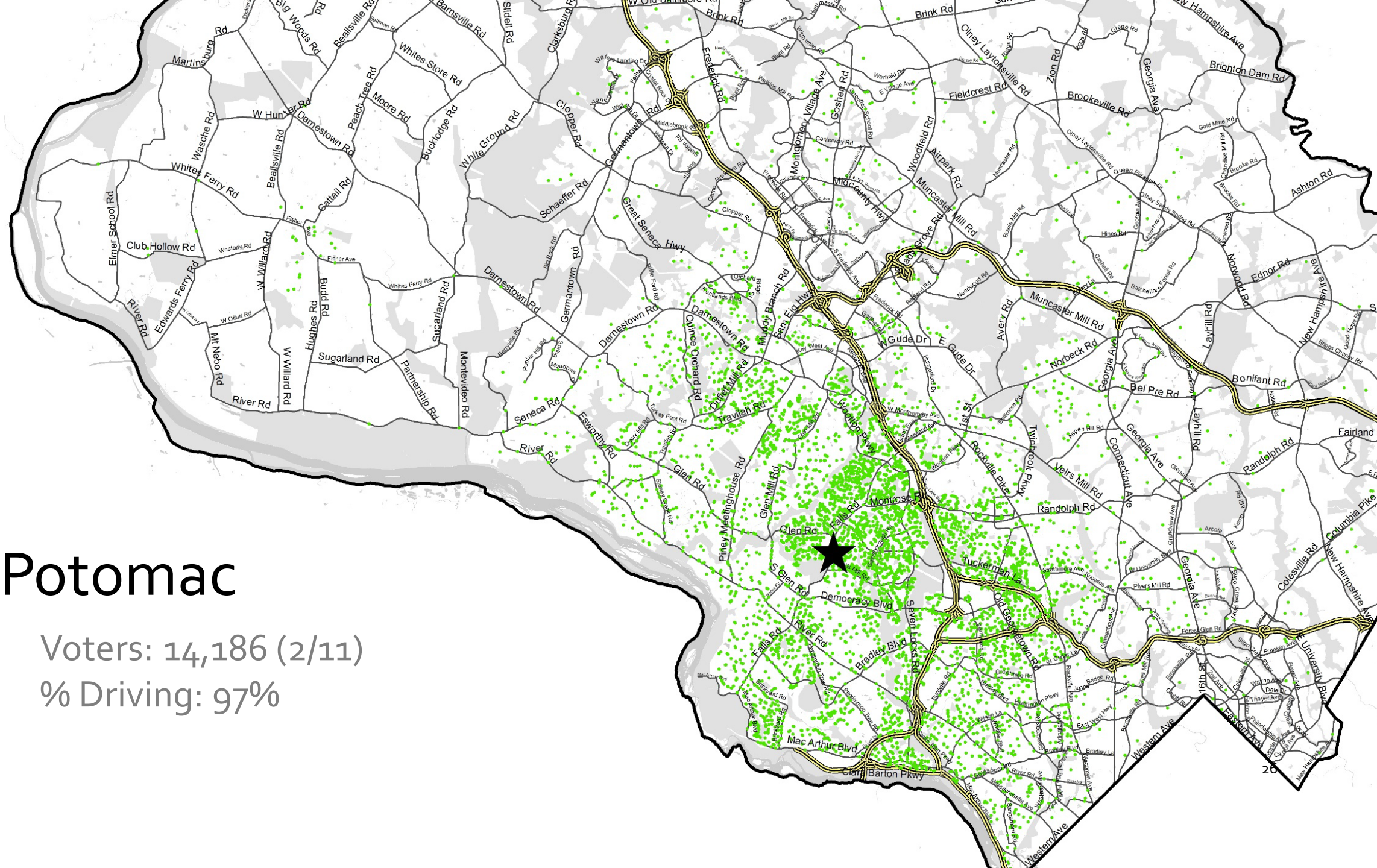
% Driving: 95%



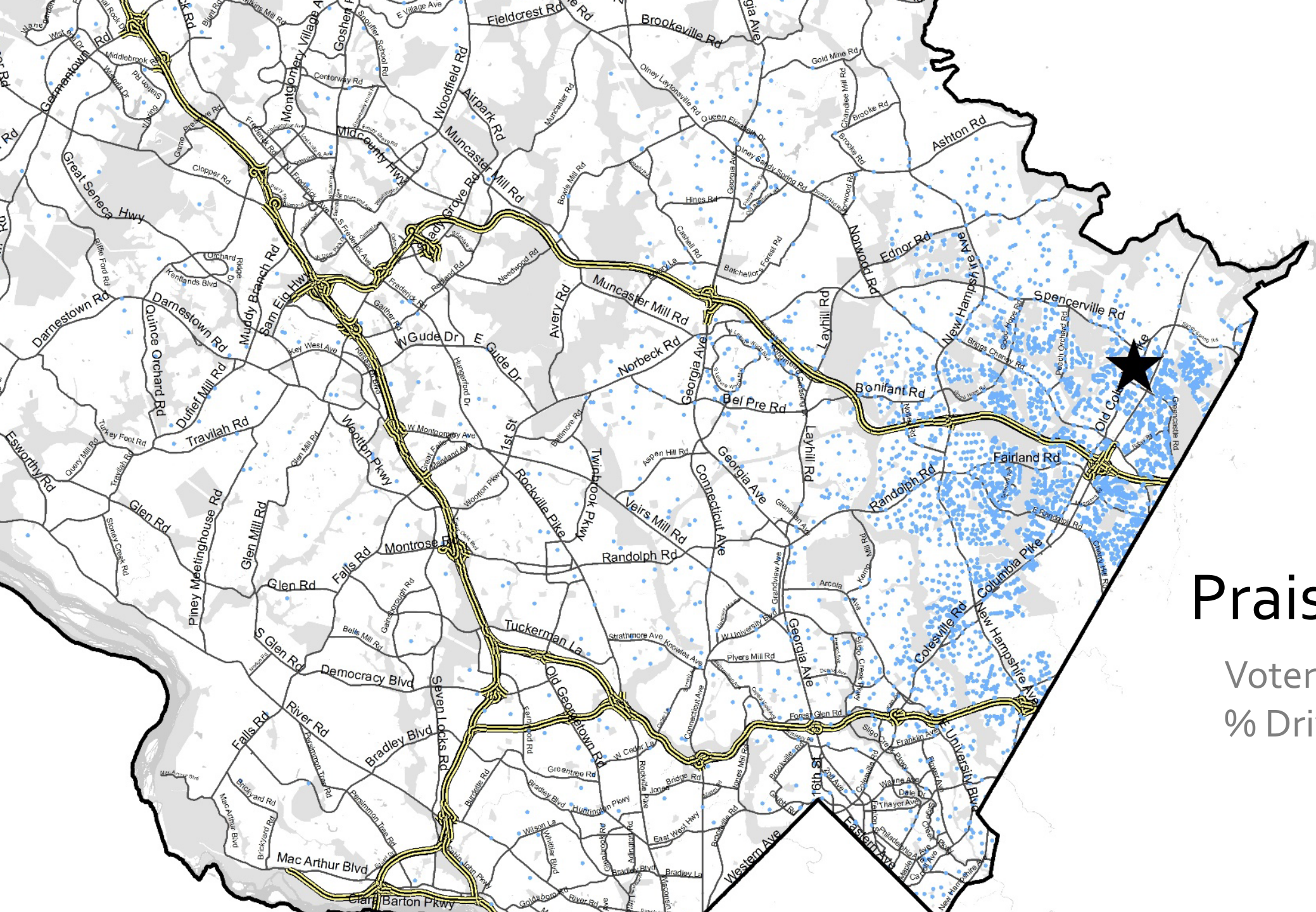
# Potomac

Voters: 14,186 (2/11)

% Driving: 97%







# Praisner

Voters: 10,286 (6/11)

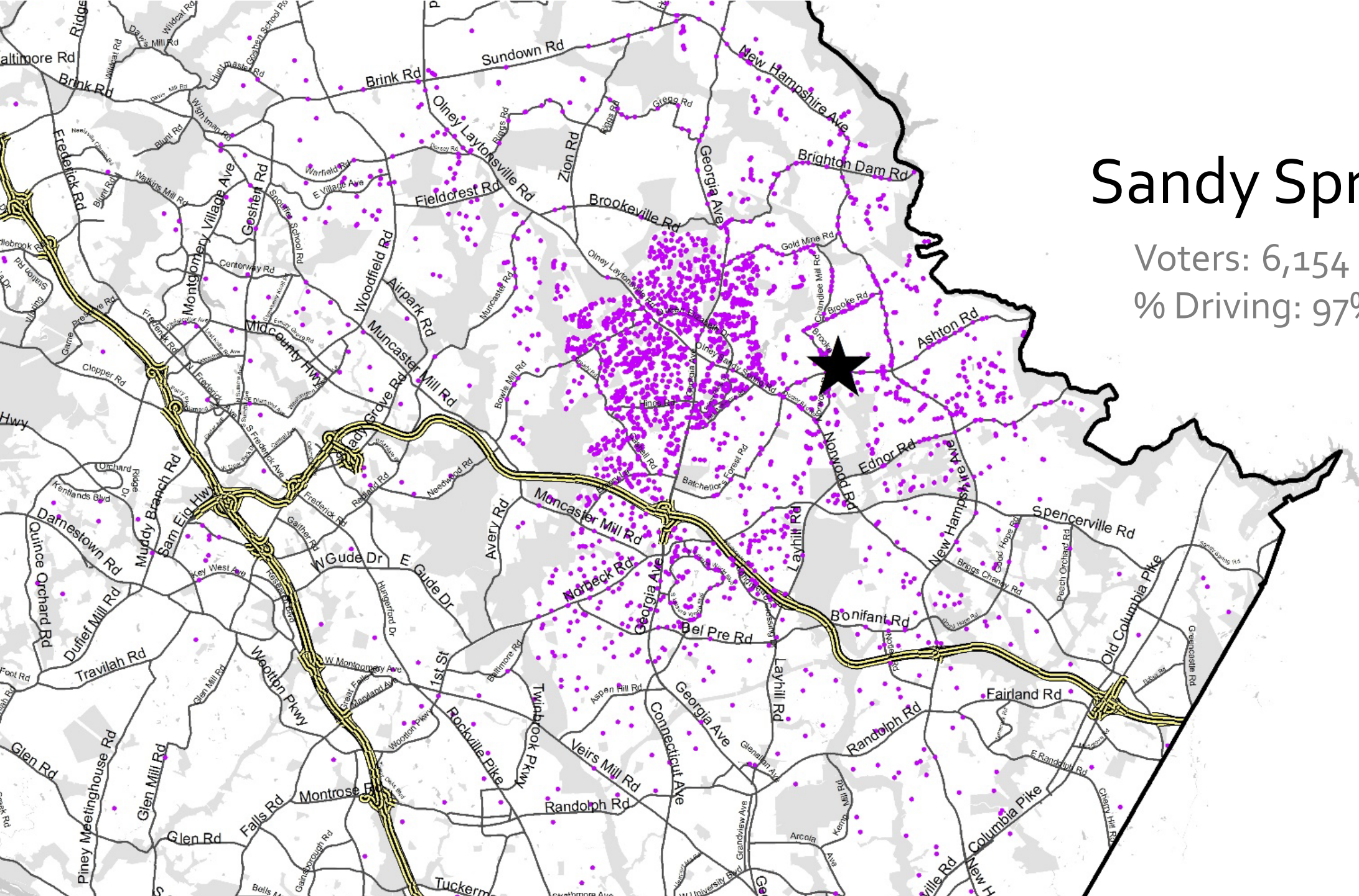
% Driving: 96%



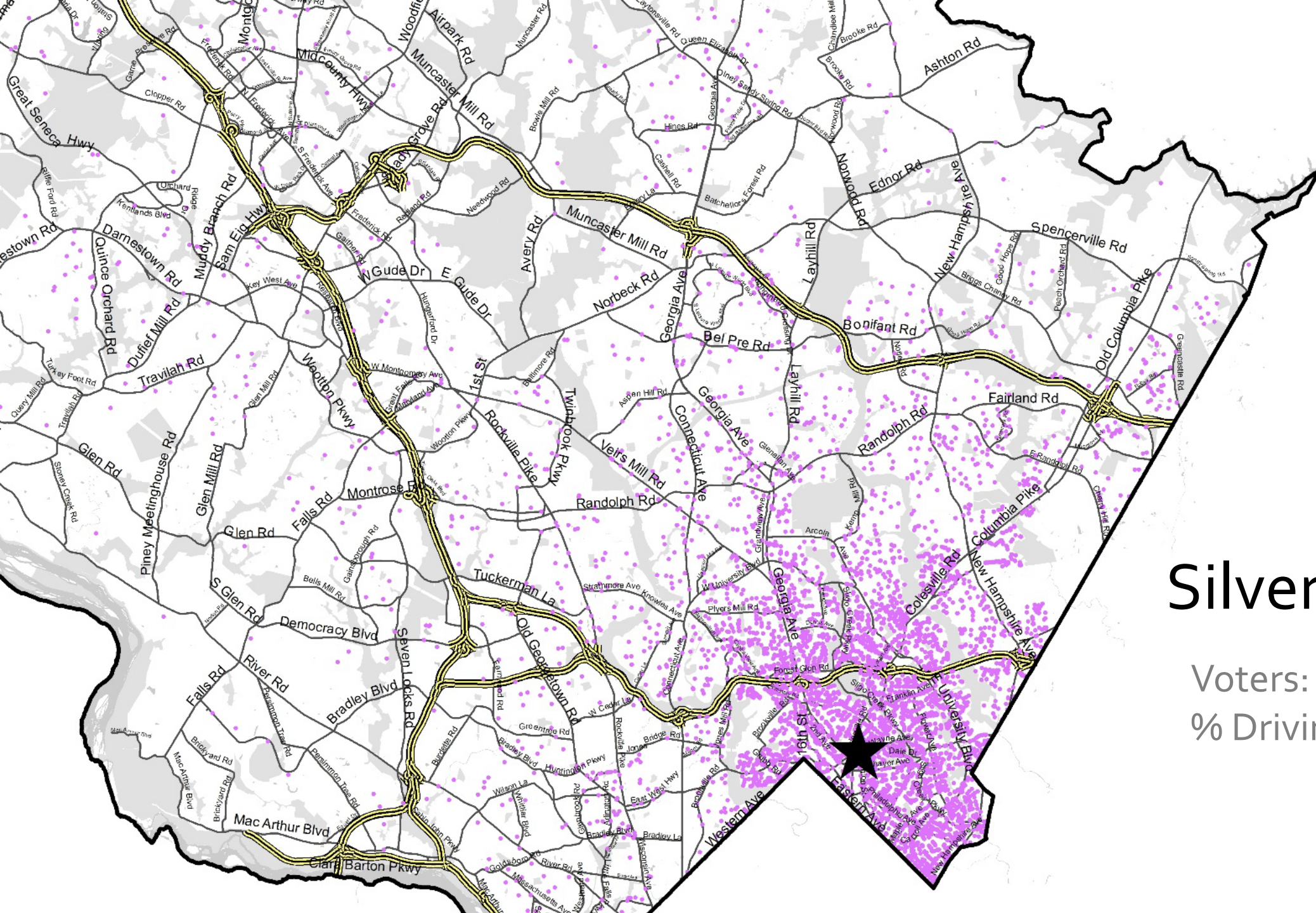
# Sandy Spring

Voters: 6,154 (10/11)

% Driving: 97%





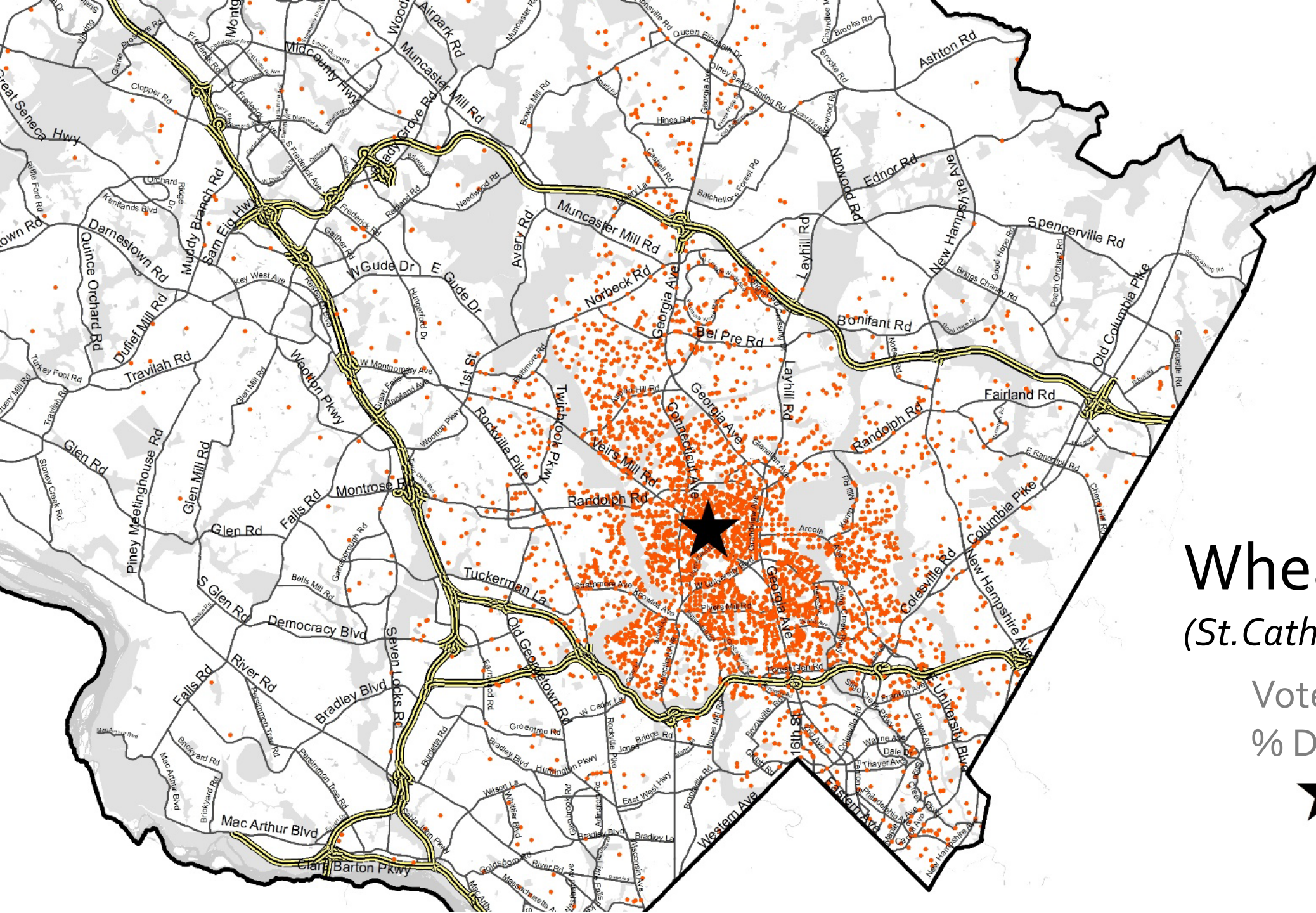


# Silver Spring

Voters: 16,684 (1/11)

% Driving: 66%






# Wheaton

(St. Catherine's)

Voters: 7,808 (9/11)  
% Driving: 95%





# Mitigating and Solving Previous Issues



# Bohrer Park



**Problem:** Social Hall is only 3,094 square feet at the 3<sup>rd</sup> busiest Early Voting Center in the county.

**Solution:** Working with Gaithersburg to try and use the 7,500+ square foot Gymnasium 1.

# EOB

**Problem:** Smallest voting room at only 2,485 square feet and handled over 9,000 voters in the 2018 General Election.

**Solution:** Move the check in process to the lobby to expand voting space and add more than 1,000 square feet of space.





# Germantown

**Problem:** Social Hall is just under 4,000 square feet at the 5<sup>th</sup> most popular early voting location.



**Solution:** Working to use the gym during certain days and hours for overflow voters. The gym is shared by the middle school and not available for all days of early voting.



# Lawton

**Problem:** Only 84 spaces in parking lot plus street parking.

**Solution:** Inquired with 4H Headquarters nearby but they will not host us for an election. The problem is mitigated somewhat by 17% of voters walking or using transit to go to this location (3<sup>rd</sup> most of all locations.) Parking permission from Chevy Chase on the street.



# Potomac

**Problem:** Site is very popular and parking is limited, crowded

**Solution:** Recommend prohibiting electioneers from using center lot, set up a shuttle for election workers





# Praisner

**Problem:** Social Hall is only 3,192 square feet at a location that had over 10,000 voters in 2018.

**Solution:** Working with Praisner to see if we can use the more than 6,000 square foot gymnasium.




# Wheaton

**Problem:** St. Catherine's was a temporary location for 2018 while the previously used Wheaton Community Recreation Center was being rebuilt.

**Solution:** Wheaton Community Recreation Center opens this fall.





# Early Voting Center Options & Maps



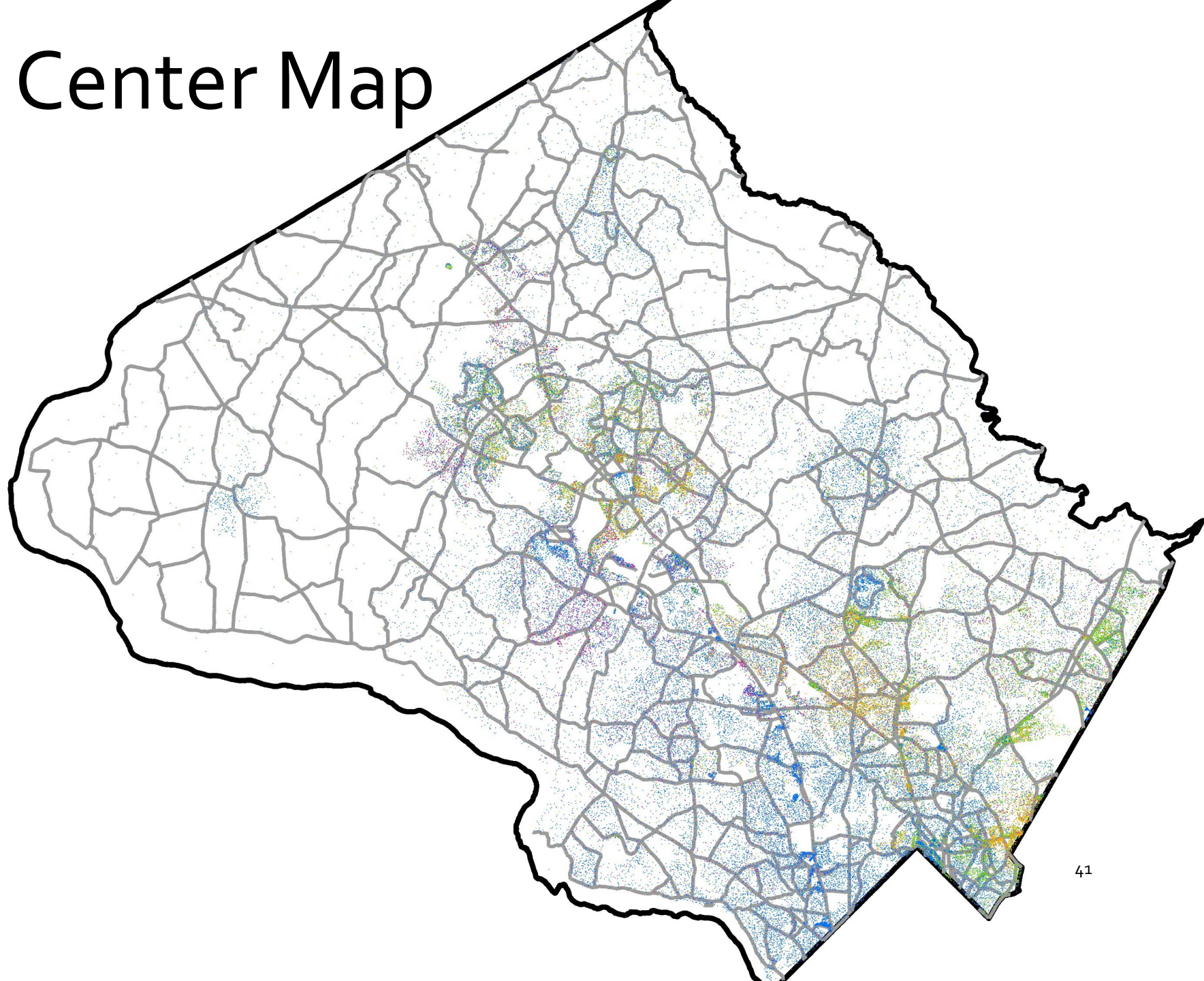
# Potential 2020 Early Voting Centers

- Activity Center at Bohrer Park
- Bauer Drive Community Recreation Center
- Dacek Community Recreation Center
- Damascus Community Recreation Center
- Executive Office Building
- Germantown Community Recreation Center
- Lawton Community Recreation Center
- Long Branch Community Recreation Center
- Longwood Community Recreation Center
- Praisner Community Recreation Center
- Mid-County Community Recreation Center
- Potomac Community Recreation Center
- Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department
- Silver Spring Civic Building
- Upper County Community Recreation Center
- Wheaton Community Recreation Center
- White Oak Community Recreation Center

# Early Voting Center Map

Colored dots represent Montgomery County residents.

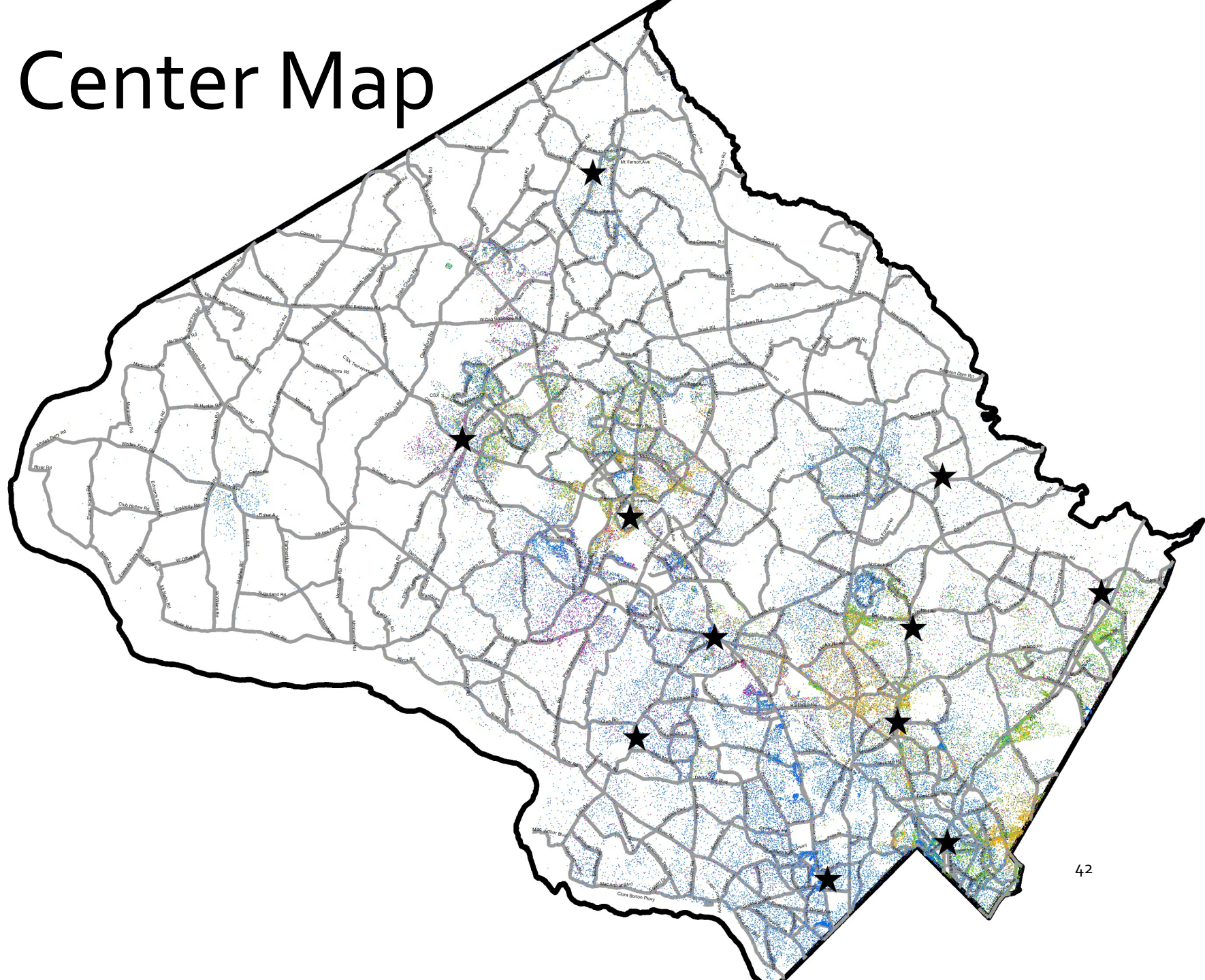
Detailed maps are available on the walls and table for additional detail and definition.





# Early Voting Center Map

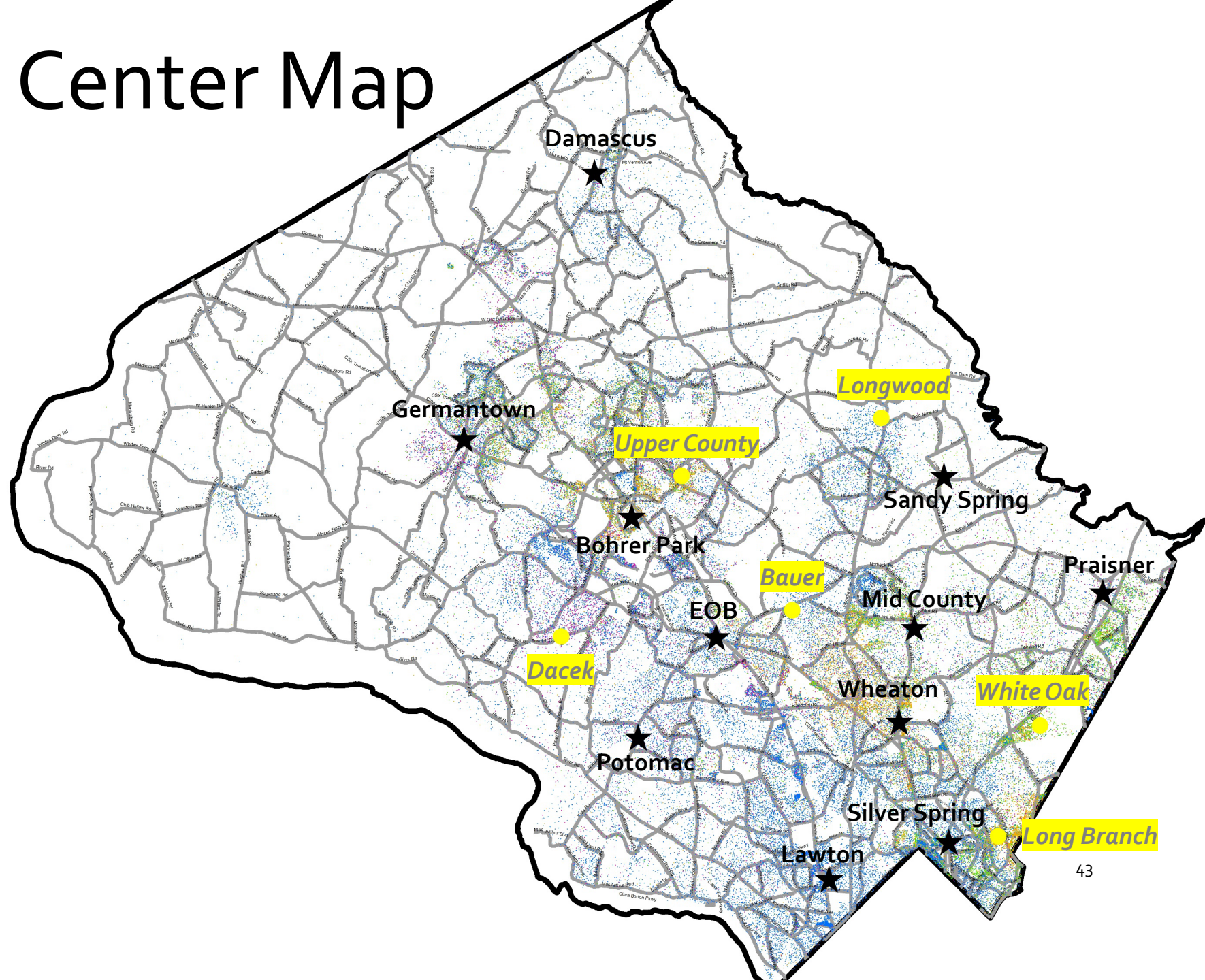
Black stars represent the Early Voting Centers used during the 2018 election cycle (as well as Wheaton).





# Early Voting Center Map

Yellow dots  
represent  
potential Early  
Voting Centers.



## 2020 Early Voting Site Selection - Essential Statistics and State Criteria

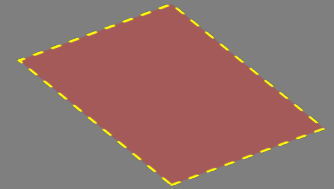
Location & Address	2018 Center	Cong. Dist.	Leg. Dist.	Coun. Dist.	Room	Square Footage	Bus/Public Transit	Parking Spaces	ADA Compliant	Security	Camp.	Shelter	Major Roads	Utilities	Phone
<b>Bauer Drive Comm. Rec. Center</b> 14625 Bauer Drive Rockville, MD 20853		8	19	3	GYM	3,180	Rt. 48	92 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	Norbeck Rd. Rt. 28	YES	YES
<b>Bohrer Park (Activity Center)</b> 508 S. Frederick Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877	✓	8	17	3	SOCIAL HALL/ GYM	3,032/ 7,592	Rt. 55	147 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	S. Frederick Ave. Rt. 355	YES	YES
<b>Dacek Comm. Rec. Center</b> 13850 Travilah Road Rockville, MD 20850		8	15	2	SOCIAL HALL	4,157	Rt. 301	186	YES	YES	YES	YES	Darnestown Rd. Rt. 28	YES	YES
<b>Damascus Comm. Rec Center</b> 25520 Oak Drive Damascus, MD 20872	✓	8	14	2	GYM	3,431	Rt. 90	157	YES	YES	YES	YES	Ridge Rd. Rt. 27	YES	YES
<b>Executive Office Building</b> 101 Monroe Street Rockville, MD 20850	✓	8	17	3	AUDITORIUM	3,480	Rt. 44, 46, 47, 54, 56, 63, Rockville Metro	COB Pkg. Garage 179	YES	YES	YES	YES	Rt. 355 Rt. 28	YES	YES
<b>Germantown Comm. Rec. Center</b> 18905 Kingsview Road Germantown, MD 20874	✓	8	15	2	SOCIAL HALL	3,738	Rt. 71, 78, 98	195	YES	YES	YES	YES	Clopper Rd. Rt. 117	YES	YES
<b>Lawton Comm. Rec. Center</b> 4301 Willow Lane Chevy Chase, MD 20815	✓	8	18	1	GYM	6,750	Rt. 34, L2 Circulator-Free Metro Station	80 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	Wisconsin Ave. Rt. 355	YES	YES
<b>Long Branch Comm. Rec. Ctr.</b> 8700 Piney Branch Road Silver Spring, MD 20901		8	20	5	GYM	7,200	Rt. 14, 15, 16, 20, 24, C2, C4, J4	75	YES	YES	YES	YES	Piney Branch Rd. & Univ. Blvd.	YES	YES
<b>Longwood Comm. Rec. Ctr.</b> 19300 Georgia Avenue Brookeville, MD 20833		3	14	4	GYM	6,077	Rt. 53 AM & PM Only	108 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	Georgia Ave. Rt. 97	YES	44 YES

## 2020 Early Voting Site Selection - Essential Statistics and State Criteria

Location & Address	Prev. Center	Cong. Dist.	Leg. Dist.	Coun. Dist.	Room	Square Footage	Bus/Public Transit	Parking Spaces	ADA Compliant	Security	Camp.	Shelter	Major Roads	Utilities	Phone
<b>Mid-County Comm. Rec. Center</b> 2004 Queensguard Road Silver Spring, MD 20906	✓	8	19	4	SOCIAL HALL	4,400	Rt. 26, 39, 49	118 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	Layhill Rd. Rt. 182	YES	YES
<b>Praisner Comm. Rec. Center</b> 14906 Old Columbia Pike Burtonsville, MD 20866	✓	3	14	5	SOCIAL HALL/ GYM	3,192/ 6,200	Rt. 26, 27	151 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	Old Columbia Pike	YES	YES
<b>Potomac Comm. Rec. Center</b> 11315 Falls Road Potomac, MD 20854	✓	6	15	1	GYM	6,840	Rt. 37, T2	124	YES	YES	YES	YES	Falls Rd. Rt. 189	YES	YES
<b>Sandy Spring Vol. Fire Dept.</b> 17921 Brooke Road Sandy Spring, MD 20860	✓	3	14	4	BALLROOM	4,100	Rt. 22	128	YES	YES	YES	LIMITED	Olney-Sandy Spring Rd. Rt. 108	YES	YES
<b>Silver Spring Civic Building</b> One Veterans Place Silver Spring, MD 20910	✓	8	20	5	GREAT HALL	5,056	Rt.16,17,20,28 F4, VanGo-Free, SS Metro	Garage, street	YES	YES	YES	YES	Colesville Rd. Georgia Ave.	YES	YES
<b>Upper County Comm. Rec. Center</b> 8201 Emory Grove Road Gaithersburg, MD 20877		6	39	4	SOCIAL HALL	2,448	Rt. 57, 60, 64	55 + Overflow	YES	YES	YES	YES	Washington Grove Ln. & Midcounty Hwy.	YES	YES
<b>Wheaton Comm. Rec. Center</b> 11701 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20902	✓	8	18	4	GYM	11,778	Rt. Y2, Y7, Y8, Wheaton Metro	248	YES	YES	YES	YES	Georgia Ave. & University Blvd.	YES	YES
<b>White Oak Comm. Rec. Center</b> 1700 April Lane Silver Spring, MD 20910		3	20	5	SOCIAL HALL	4,851	Rt. 10, 26, 28	131	YES	YES	YES	YES	Stewart Ln. Rts. 29 & 650	YES	YES

# Early Voting Center Pages

- Essential statistics
- Photo of the voting room
- Photo of the official voter entrance
- Overhead shot including parking and local roads
- Designated “No Electioneering” Zone =







# Early Voting Center Locations Used in 2018

# Bohrer Park

Recreation Center (City)

Room: Social Hall/Gym 1

Square Feet: 3,032/7,592 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 147+

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Damascus

Recreation Center

Room: Gym

Square Feet: 3,431 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 157

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# EOB

County Building

Room: Auditorium

Square Feet: 3,480+ ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 179 (garage)

Bus routes? Yes

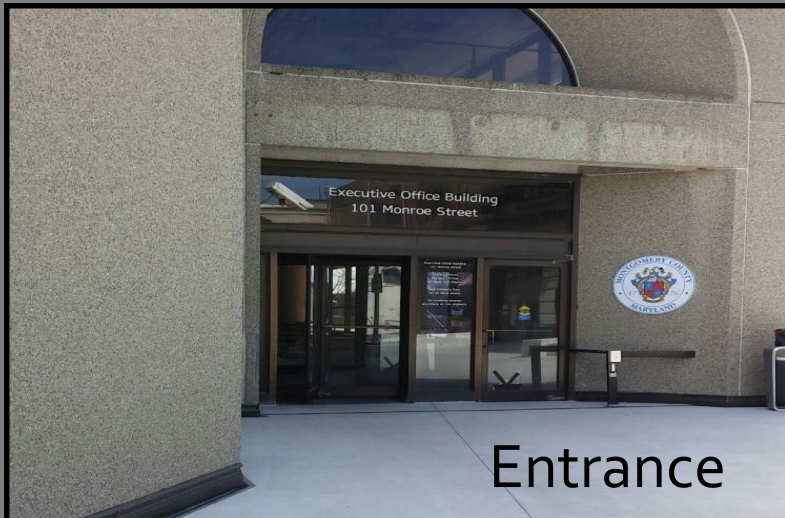
ADA? Yes



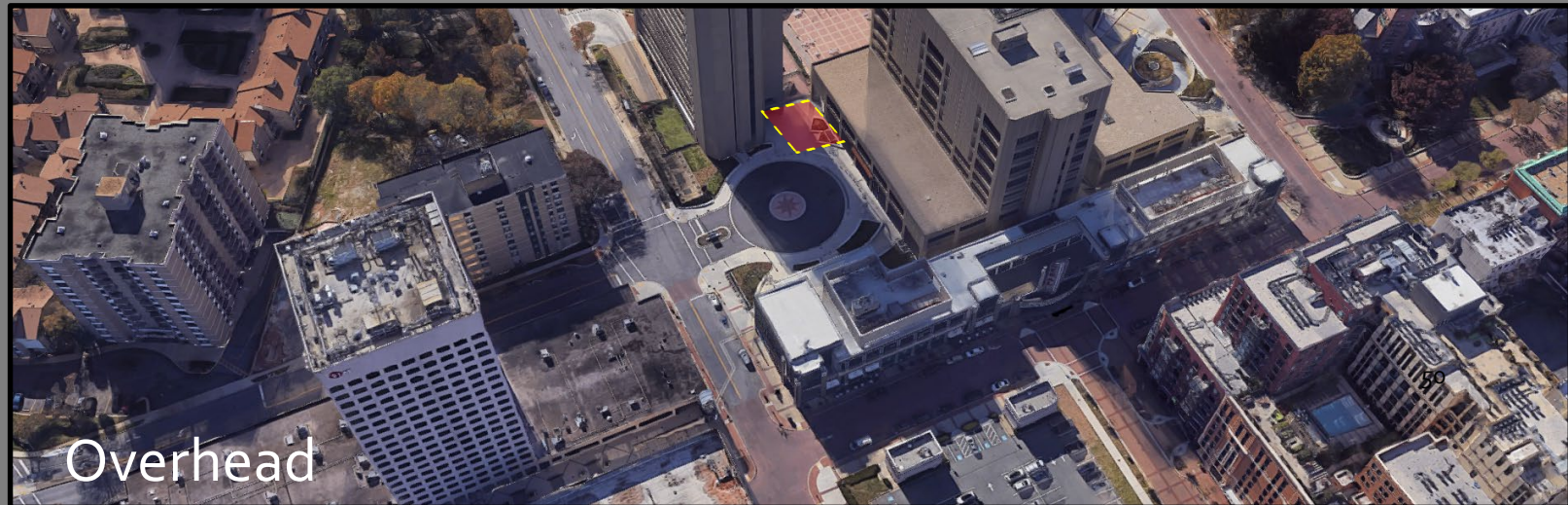
Lobby



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Germantown

Recreation Center

Room: Social Hall

Square Feet: 3,738 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 195

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Lawton

Recreation Center

Room: Gymnasium

Square Feet: 6,750 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 80+ street parking

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Mid County

Recreation Center

Room: Social Hall

Square Feet: 4,400 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 118+

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Potomac

Recreation Center

Room: Gymnasium

Square Feet: 6,840 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 124

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Praisner

Recreation Center

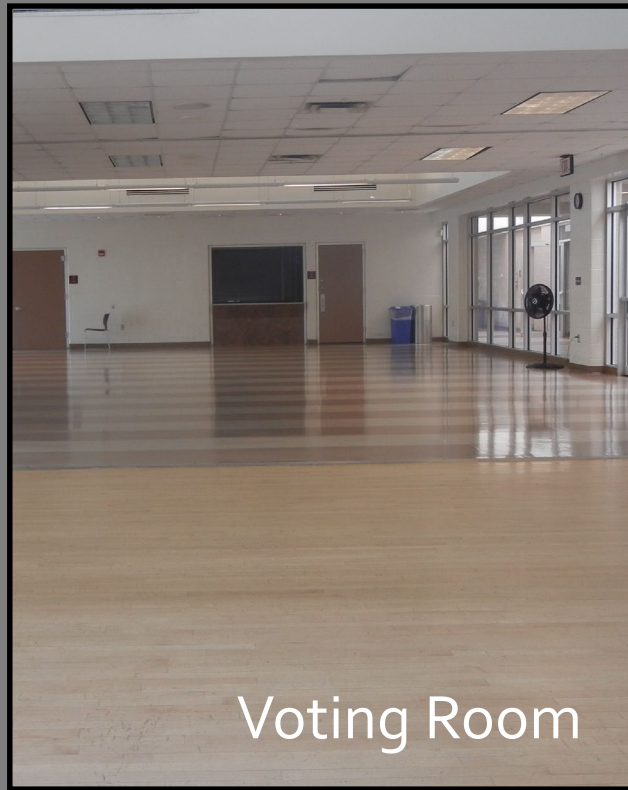
Room: Hall/Gymnasium

Square Feet: 3,192/6,200 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 151+

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Sandy Spring

**Fire Station**

**Room: Oak Room**

**Square Feet: 4,100 ft<sup>2</sup>**

**Parking spaces: 128**

**Bus routes? Yes**

**ADA? Yes**



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Silver Spring

County Building

Room: Great Hall

Square Feet: 5,056 ft<sup>2</sup>

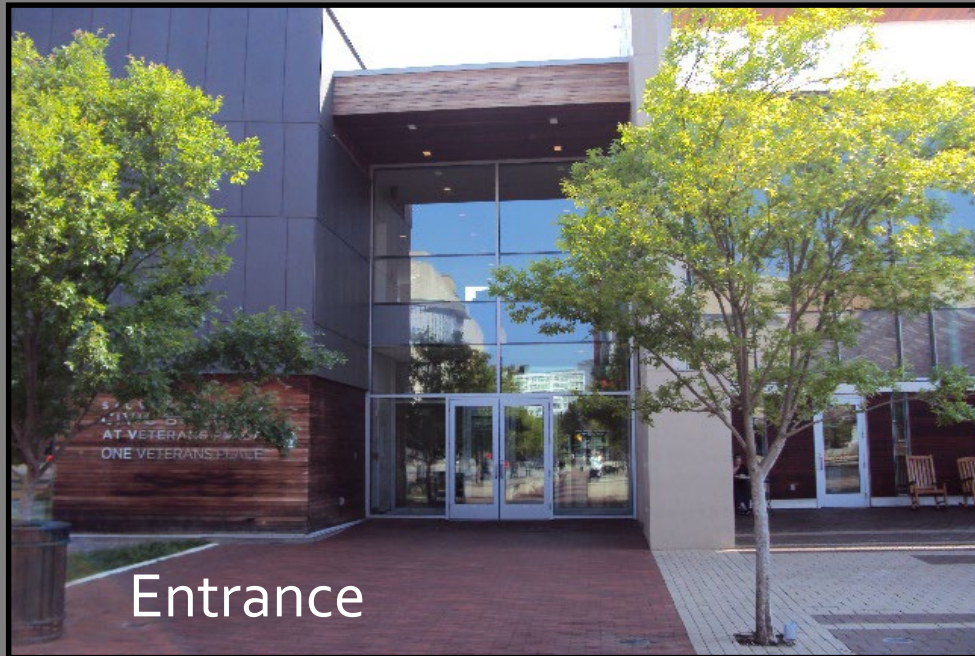
Parking spaces: Garage/street

Bus routes? Yes

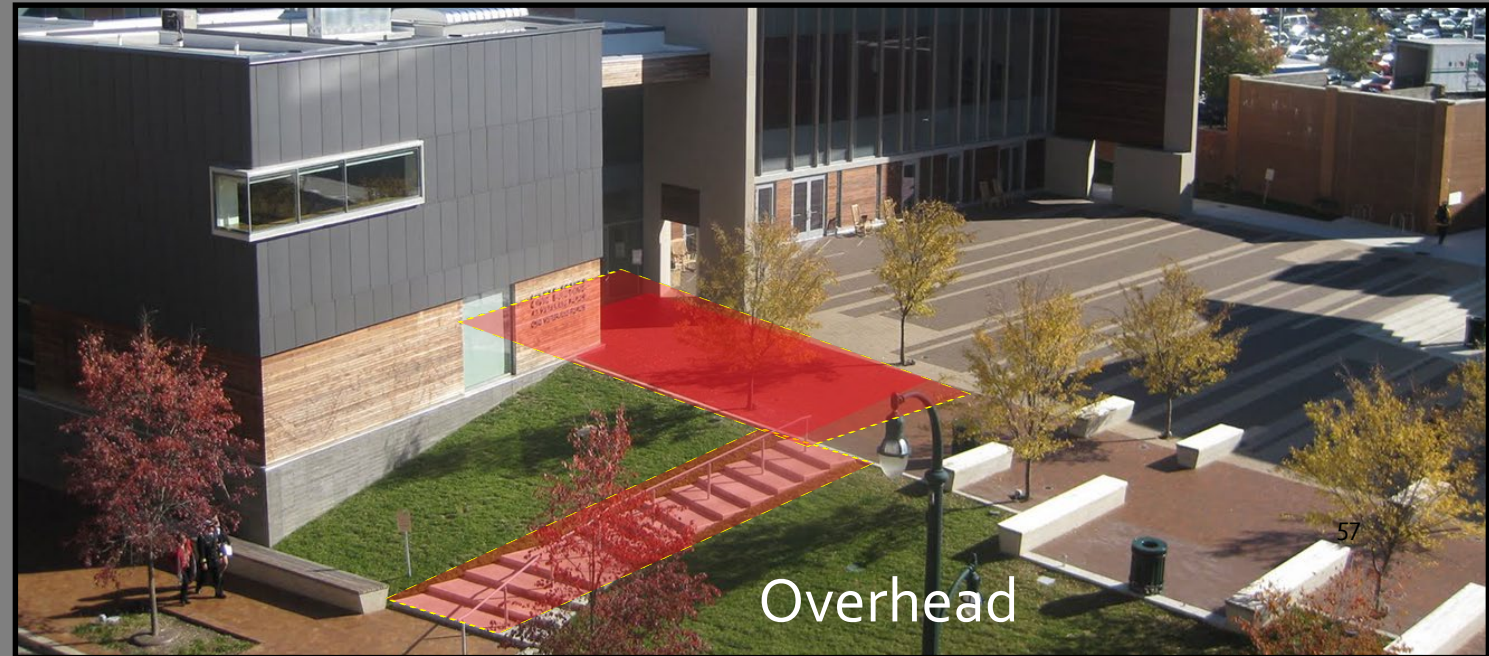
ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Wheaton

Recreation Center (new)

Room: Gymnasium

Square Feet: 11,778 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 248

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead





# Locations Not Used in 2018

# Bauer Drive

Recreation Center

Room: Gym

Square Feet: 3,180 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 92+

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Dacek

Recreation Center

Room: Social Hall (multi)

Square Feet: 4,157 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 186

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Long Branch

Recreation Center

Room: Gymnasium

Square Feet: 7,200 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 75

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Longwood

Recreation Center

Room: Gymnasium

Square Feet: 6,077 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 108+

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Upper County

Recreation Center

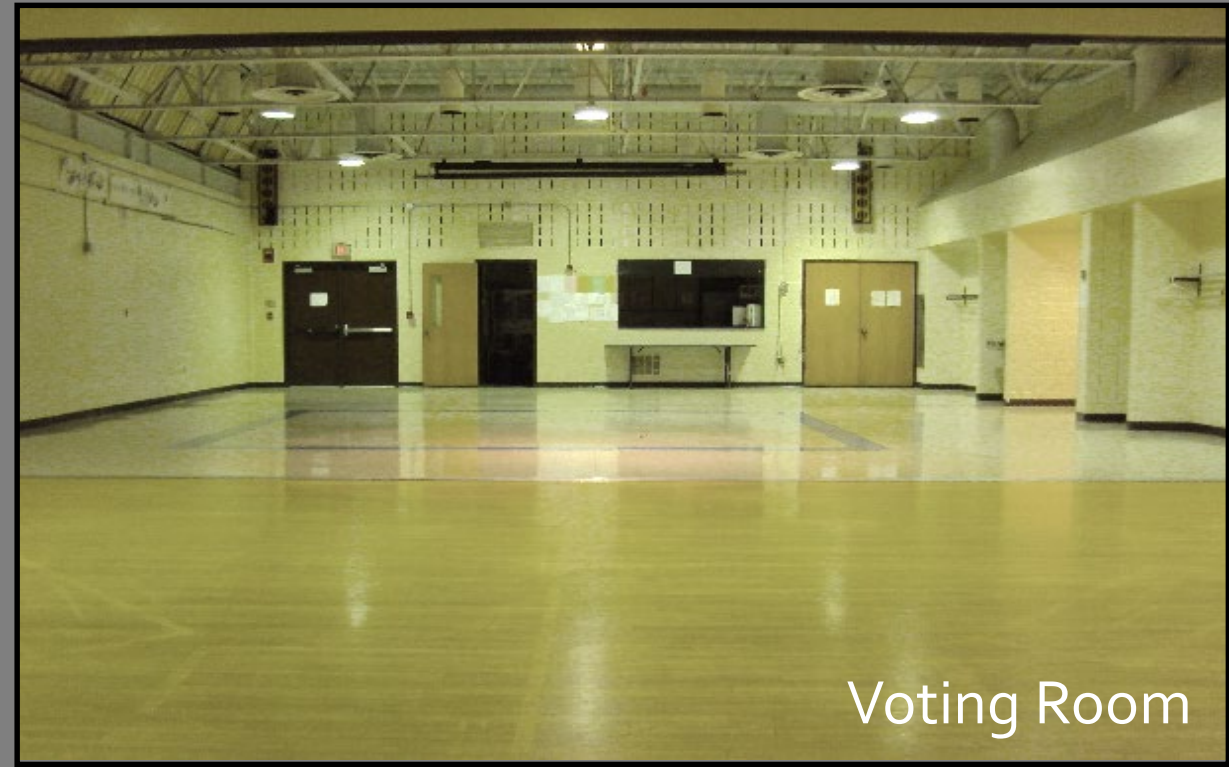
Room: Social Hall

Square Feet: 2,448 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 55+

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# White Oak

Recreation Center

Room: Social Hall

Square Feet: 4,851 ft<sup>2</sup>

Parking spaces: 131

Bus routes? Yes

ADA? Yes



Voting Room



Entrance



Overhead



# Montgomery County Board of Elections