

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY Annapolis, Maryland 21401

October 12, 2021

Ms. Nahid Khozeimeh (via email to: elections@montgomerycountymd.gov)
President, Montgomery County Board of Elections
18753 N. Frederick Ave, Suite 210, Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Dear Ms. Khozeimeh and members of the Board:

We are writing to ask that the Board consider several changes to precinct boundaries within our legislative district. The proposed changes are designed to provide safer access to polling places on election day and to keep communities together.

- Consolidate Precinct 13-30 (Holiday Park Senior Center) into Precinct 13-29 (Highland Elementary School)
 - The polling place for precinct 13-30 is located outside the precinct boundaries. Voters residing in 13-30 must cross two busy state roads, Connecticut Avenue and Veirs Mill Rd, at one of the County's most dangerous intersections to reach their polling place on election day. This discourages pedestrian access to the polling place. By consolidating both precincts into 13-29 at Highland Elementary School, all voters will be able to safely and conveniently travel to the polling place on election day. Voters in the enlarged 13-29 will also continue to have easy access to an early voting at the Wheaton Community Recreation Center on Georgia Avenue at Arcola.
- Reconfigure the boundary between precincts 13-27 (Einstein High School) and 13-40 (Rock View Elementary School) to improve pedestrian access Currently there are some voters in 13-27 who must cross busy Connecticut Ave to reach their polling place (Einstein High School) on election day. Likewise there are some voters in 13-40 who must cross Connecticut Avenue to vote at Rock View Elementary School. The proposal is for Connecticut Avenue to be the new dividing line between these precincts. Everyone living west of Connecticut Ave would be assigned to vote at Rock View and everyone living east of Connecticut Ave would be assigned to vote at Einstein. It is further proposed that the voters in 13-40 living in Ken Gar (Plyers Mill, Hampden, Mertford, Shaftsbury, Vaughn, Walmesley) be reassigned to precinct 13-34 (Kensington Armory) to reduce the walking distance to vote on election day.

 Reconfigure the boundary between precincts 4-4 (Parkside Clubhouse) and 4-8 (Garrett Park Elementary School)

The polling place for 4-4, Parkside Clubhouse, is undersized. On election day, voters are forced to wait outside in line, exposed to the elements, on the walkway and down the sidewalk. The polling place for 4-8, Garrett Park Elementary School, is within walking distance of Parkside Clubhouse and is a shorter walk for many who currently reside in 4-4. Garrett Park Elementary School has ample inside waiting areas. Both precincts are experiencing growth in the number of housing units. The proposal is to reassign those voters currently in 4-4 to instead be within 4-8 with all voting at Garrett Park Elementary School. The proposal is also to establish a new precinct and polling place from the northern section of 4-8, north of the White Flint Mall property.

Please see the attached materials for a graphical depiction of these proposals.

We thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Senator Jeff Waldstreicher

Haldstreiter

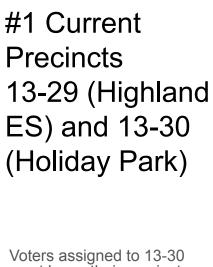
Delegate Emily Shetty

Delegate Al Carr

Delegate Jared Solomon

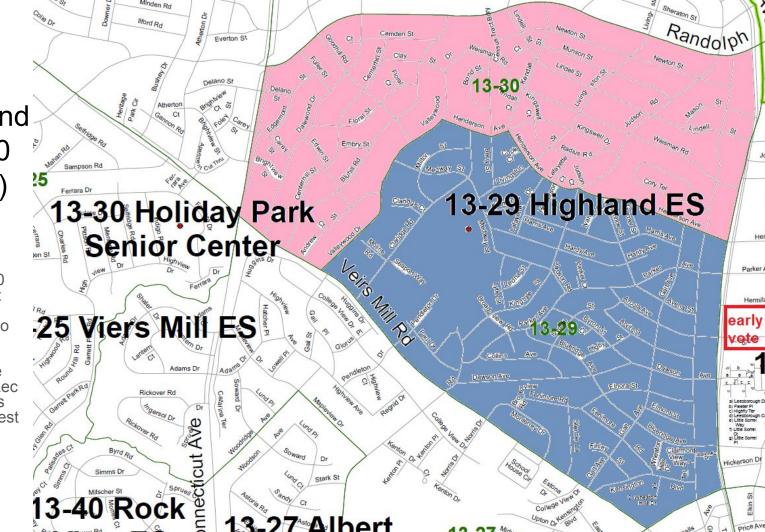
cc: Margaret Jurgensen, Election Director, Montgomery County Board of Elections Alysoun McLaughlin, Deputy Director, Montgomery County Board of Elections

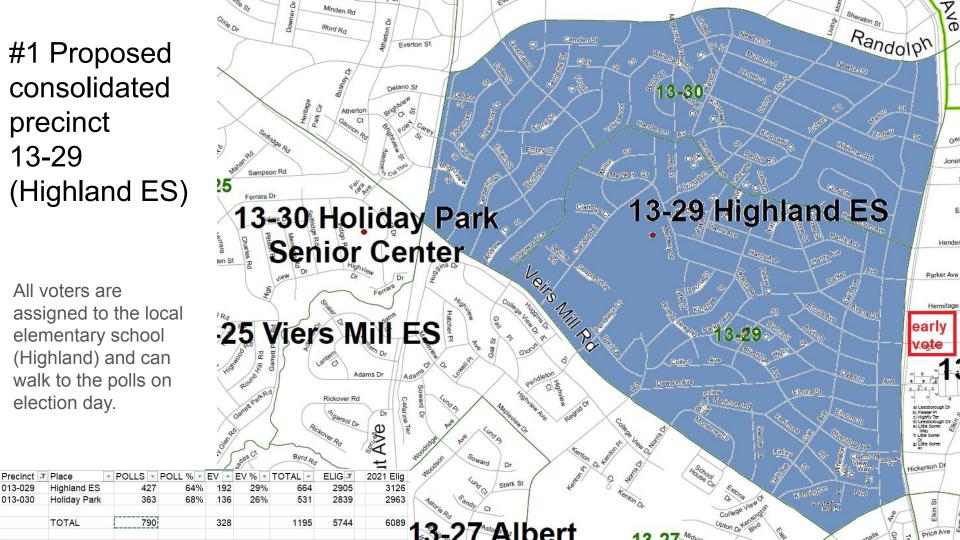
attachments



must leave their precinct and traverse 2 major state highways to vote on election day. Due to nearby early vote

Due to nearby early vote center at the Wheaton Rec Center, these 2 precincts have the 2nd & 3rd highest EV rates in D18.

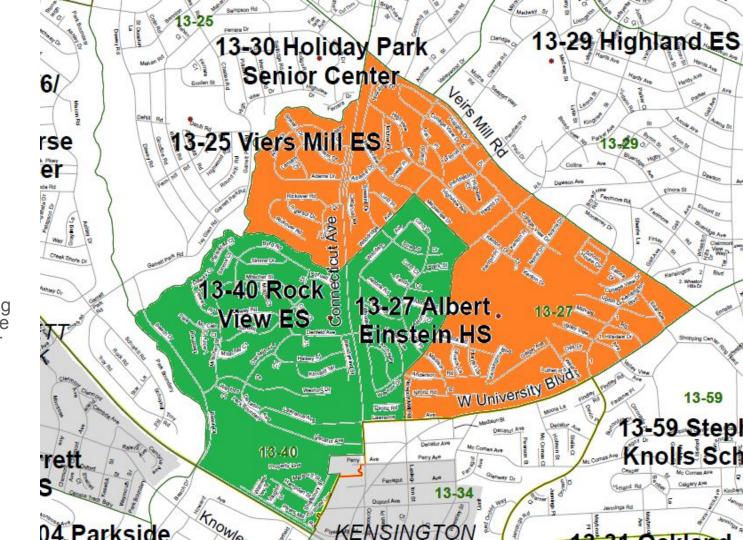


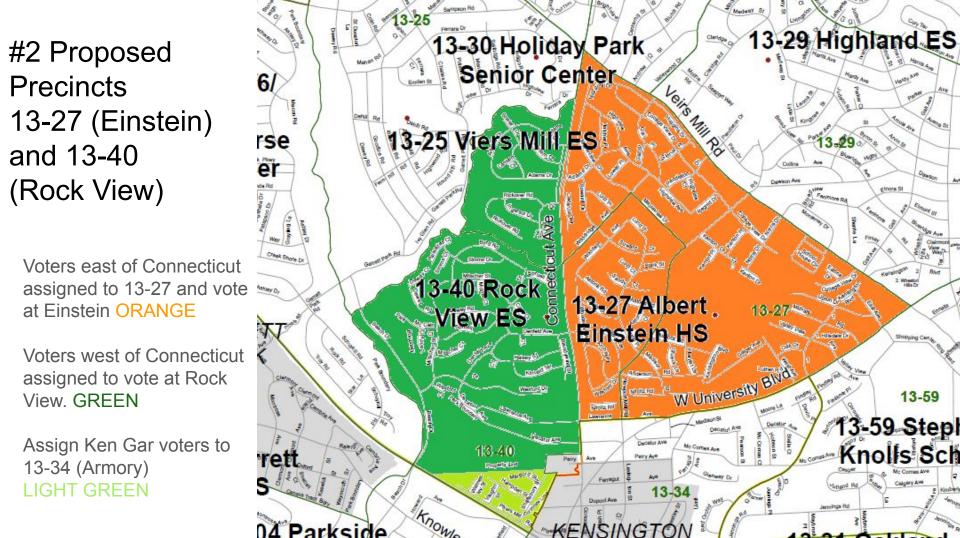


#2 Current
Precincts
13-27 (Einstein)
and 13-40
(Rock View)

Both precincts straddle Connecticut Ave, making for an unsafe walk to the polls on election day for many.

Some communities of interest are split





#3 Current Precincts 04-04 (Parkside) and 04-08 (Garrett Park ES)

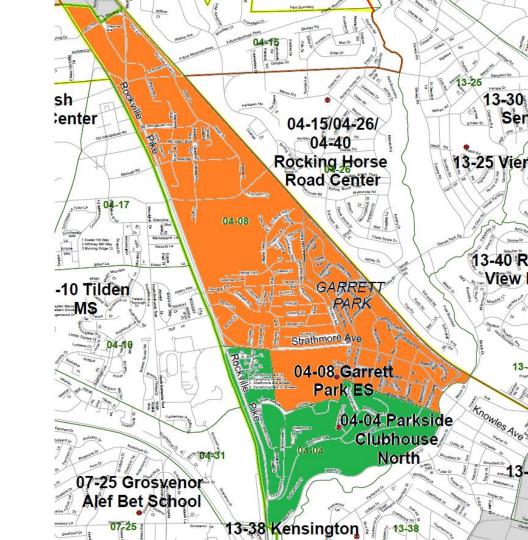
Parkside and GPES polls are within walking distance of each other

Parkside clubhouse is undersized, with people waiting in long lines on election day, exposed to weather. No nearby early voting location.

Precinct 04-08 is one of the largest precincts in Montgomery County and growing.

Much development activity near Grosvenor, White Fint and Twinbrook metro stations

Communities of interest are split



#3 Proposed precinct 04-08 (Garrett Park ES) and new precinct

Create a new precinct from the northern tip of 04-08 north of White Flint Mall property. Establish a new neighborhood polling place.

Combine 04-04 with the remainder of 04-08. All people living south of White Flint Mall property vote at Garrett Park ES.

