

## EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 13, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Trustee Electoral Ward Boundary Review

ORIGINATOR: A. Habinski, Executive Director School and District Services

RESOURCE  
STAFF: Jenise Bidulock, Michael Ediger, Anne Sherwood, Cindy Skolski

### INFORMATION

On November 12, 2003 a motion was brought to the board seeking an amendment to the current electoral ward criteria. At that board meeting the board requested information regarding the possible implications of the approval of the motion on ward electoral boundaries. This report provides information on two scenarios: one indicating implications should the motion not be approved and one indicating the implications for ward changes should the motion be approved.

The November 12, 2003 motion was placed on today's agenda following this report. If the motion is approved a recommendation for change to ward boundaries and a subsequent change of bylaw would be taken to the next board meeting on January 27, 2004. If the motion is not approved then this information report indicates no change to ward boundaries and no further action would be required by the board.

The next general municipal election will be held on Monday, October 18, 2004. The City of Edmonton has indicated there will be no changes to the municipal ward boundaries. However, any changes for ward boundaries for trustee elections could be accommodated provided that the board decision is communicated and approved by the Minister no later than March 1, 2004.

### **History of Trustee Wards**

Prior to 1989, all public and separate school trustees were elected at large. In 1989 the Minister of Education required trustees to be elected by wards. Nine public and seven separate school trustees were elected under the City of Edmonton's six ward system.

In 1995, nine public school trustee electoral wards were implemented which were distinct from municipal wards. Boundary alignments were chosen in order to distribute future urban growth and to ensure that the ward populations would remain within a +/- 10 per cent of average public school supporting population for at least three elections. Wards were designed on the basis of achieving a balance of total public school supporting population among wards as a priority over seeking to achieve a balance in the number of schools or

students within a ward. The potential for population growth or decline within each ward was also considered.

**Current Criteria**

The current Edmonton Public Schools nine ward trustee electoral ward boundaries were approved by the board on December 13, 1994 to be implemented in the 1995 General Municipal Election. The ward design criteria were as follows:

The wards must:

1. have a resident population of public school supporters that is within +/-10 per cent of the average for all wards (one ninth of the total district-wide public-school supporting population);
2. reflect the potential for population growth or decline with the goal that school ward populations remain within +/- 10 per cent of the average through three municipal general elections;
3. encompass entire school attendance areas where possible;
4. be regular in shape, and be delineated by easily identifiable boundaries such as major roadways, railways, ravines, rivers, etcetera; and
5. ensure where possible that communities of common interests or characteristics are kept within the same ward.

It should be noted that in order for the City of Edmonton Elections Office to provide computerized compilation of electoral results, the public school board ward boundaries must conform to existing voting subdivision boundaries.

The data used to complete the 2003-04 review was provided by the City of Edmonton from the 2002 Federal Census and the 1999 Civic Census counts. This is the same data source the City of Edmonton used for the 2002 City Municipal Ward Review.

**Scenario 1 – Current Ward Boundaries**

Trustee electoral wards have met the 1995 criteria for the past three elections, and the criteria would be met through the next election in 2004. With the current ward boundaries, the resident population of public supporters would deviate from +7 to -9 percent from the average public supporting population. This is within the current +/- 10 per cent criteria (Appendix II). Criteria 2 through 5 would also be met. A list of the schools located in each existing ward is provided in Appendix III. The numbers of operational schools within the current ward boundaries are as follows:

Ward	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
# Schools	23	23	30	22	16	21	28	17	26

**Scenario 2 – Proposed Ward Realignment**

The administration has prepared a scenario that seeks a better balance of public supporting residents among wards and addresses the implications of the board’s approval of the board motion served on November 12, 2003. The motion sought an amendment to the board

approved electoral ward criteria to include: “ensure that each ward includes within its boundaries at least one elementary, junior high and senior high school.”

Minor ward boundary amendments, as follows, would accommodate this and enhance the balance of public supporters among wards as illustrated in Appendix I.

1. Moving voting subdivision #115 West Meadowlark Park and #116 Meadowlark Park from Ward C to Ward E would result in an increase of 4,674 public school supporters in Ward E. Three schools would be moved from Ward C to Ward E, Afton, Meadowlark, and Jasper Place.
2. Moving voting subdivision #409 and #410 Westmount/Oliver from Ward F to Ward C would result in a decrease of 4,243 public school supporters in Ward F. There are no schools in voting subdivision #409 and #410 that would require movement.

The combination of movement between Wards C, E, and F would result in a net decrease of 431 public school supporters to Ward C (Appendix II).

In Scenario 2, the number of operational schools proposed in each ward boundary (Appendix III) would be as follows:

Ward	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
# Schools	23	23	27	22	19	21	28	17	26

If the board approves the motion to add to the current criteria the board would then be asked to approve Scenario 2. This would result in the distribution of public supporting population among wards improving to +7 to -7 percent and continue to meet the current +/- 10 per cent criteria. It is anticipated that this criteria would be met through the 2004 and 2007 General Municipal Elections with potential growth or decline within each ward through urban intensification and new development.

**Ministerial Approval**

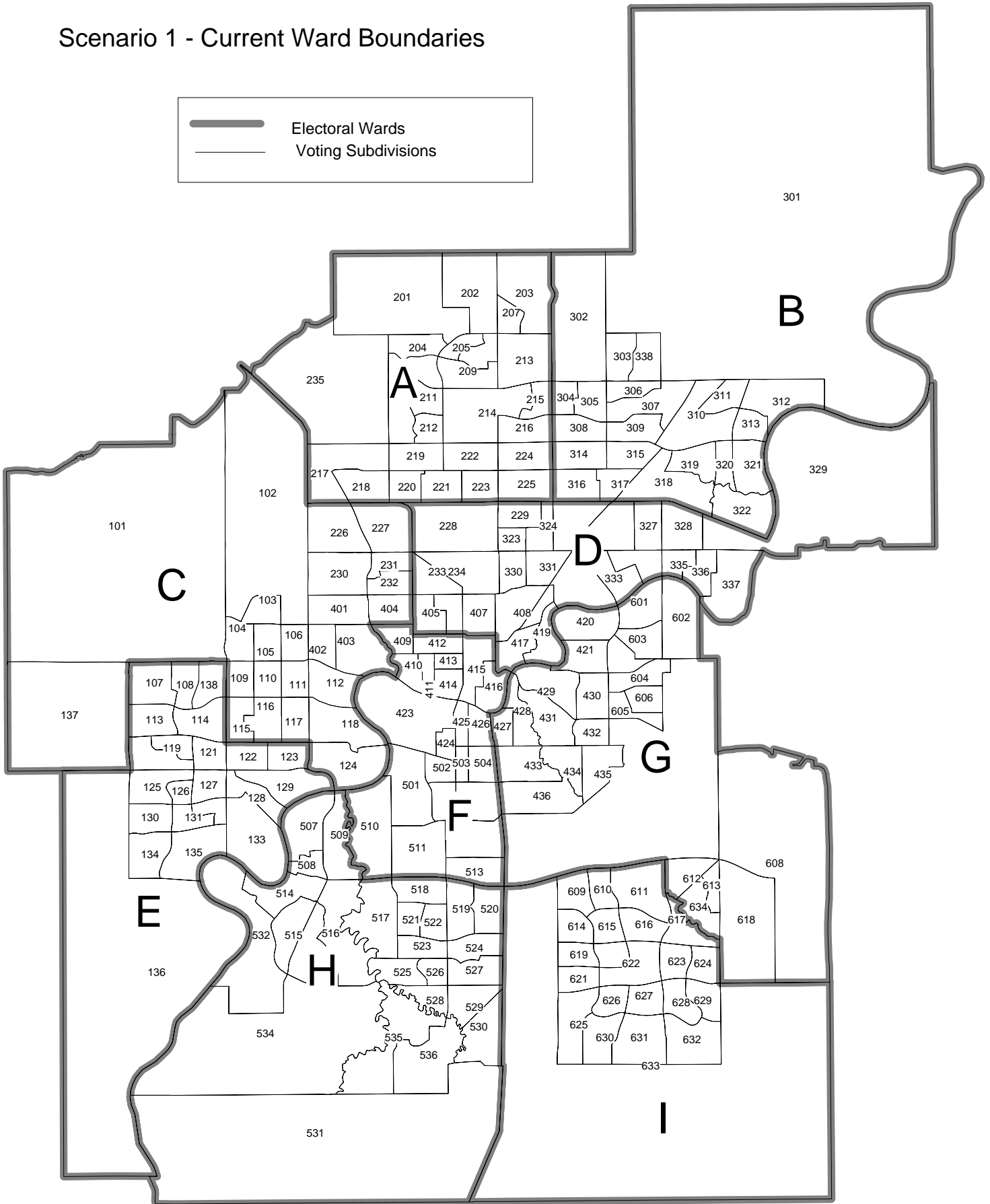
If the board approved the motion, in accordance with Section 262 of the School Act Regulations boards are required to pass a bylaw to establish wards for trustee elections prior to March 1<sup>st</sup> of an election year and seek Ministerial approval. At the January 27<sup>th</sup> board meeting a recommendation to change the ward boundary criteria and bylaw would be brought to board for approval and submission to the Minister of Learning.

CS/jb

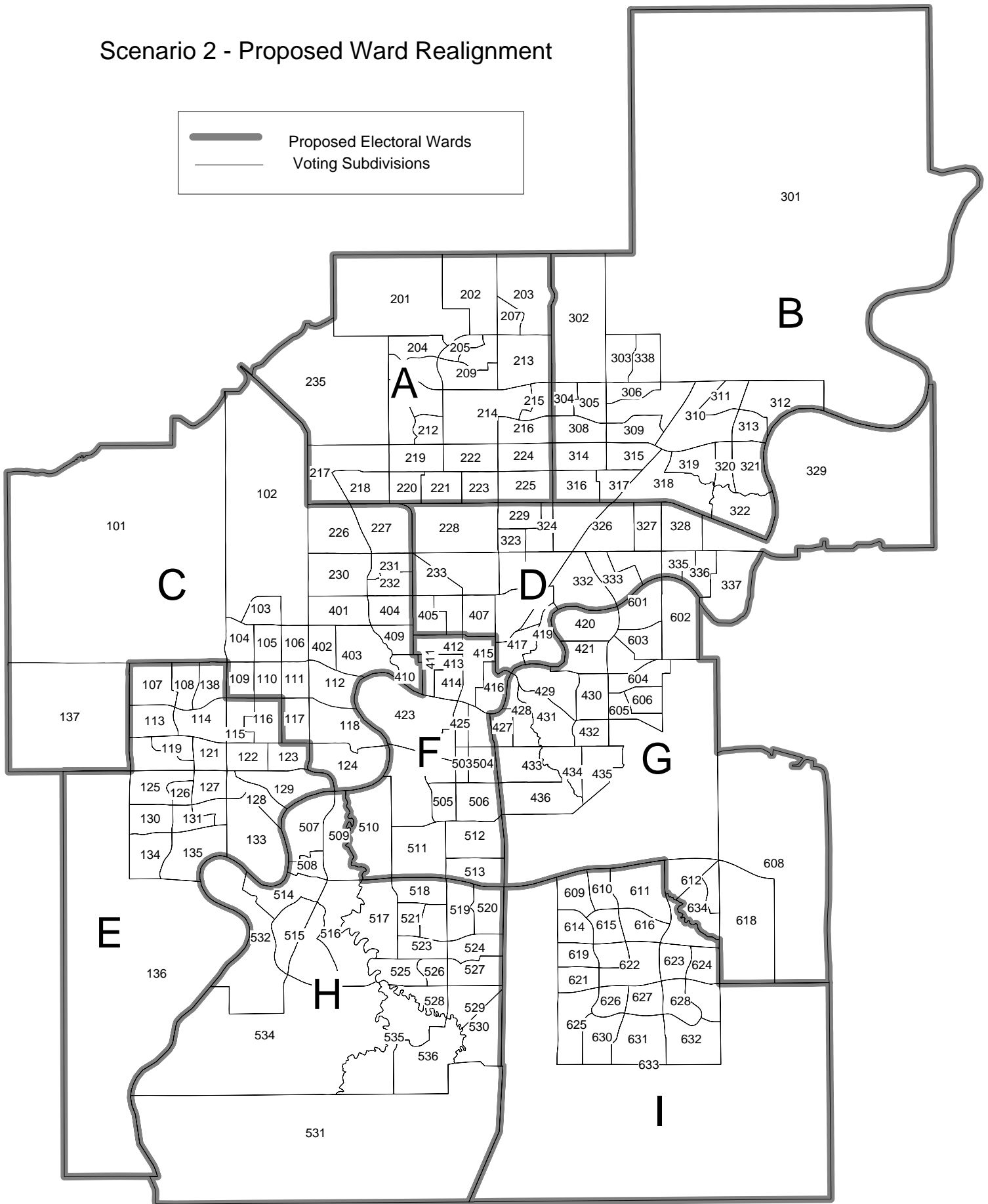
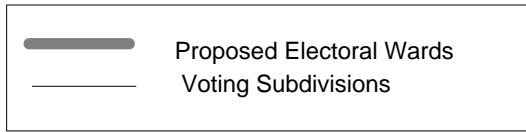
- APPENDIX I - Maps of Trustee Ward Boundaries
  - Scenario 1 – Current Ward Boundaries
  - Scenario 2 – Proposed Ward Realignment
  - Scenario 1 & 2 Combined - Close-up of Proposed Realignment
- APPENDIX II - Public Population Deviation Comparison
- APPENDIX III - School Listing by Ward

### Scenario 1 - Current Ward Boundaries

— Electoral Wards  
— Voting Subdivisions

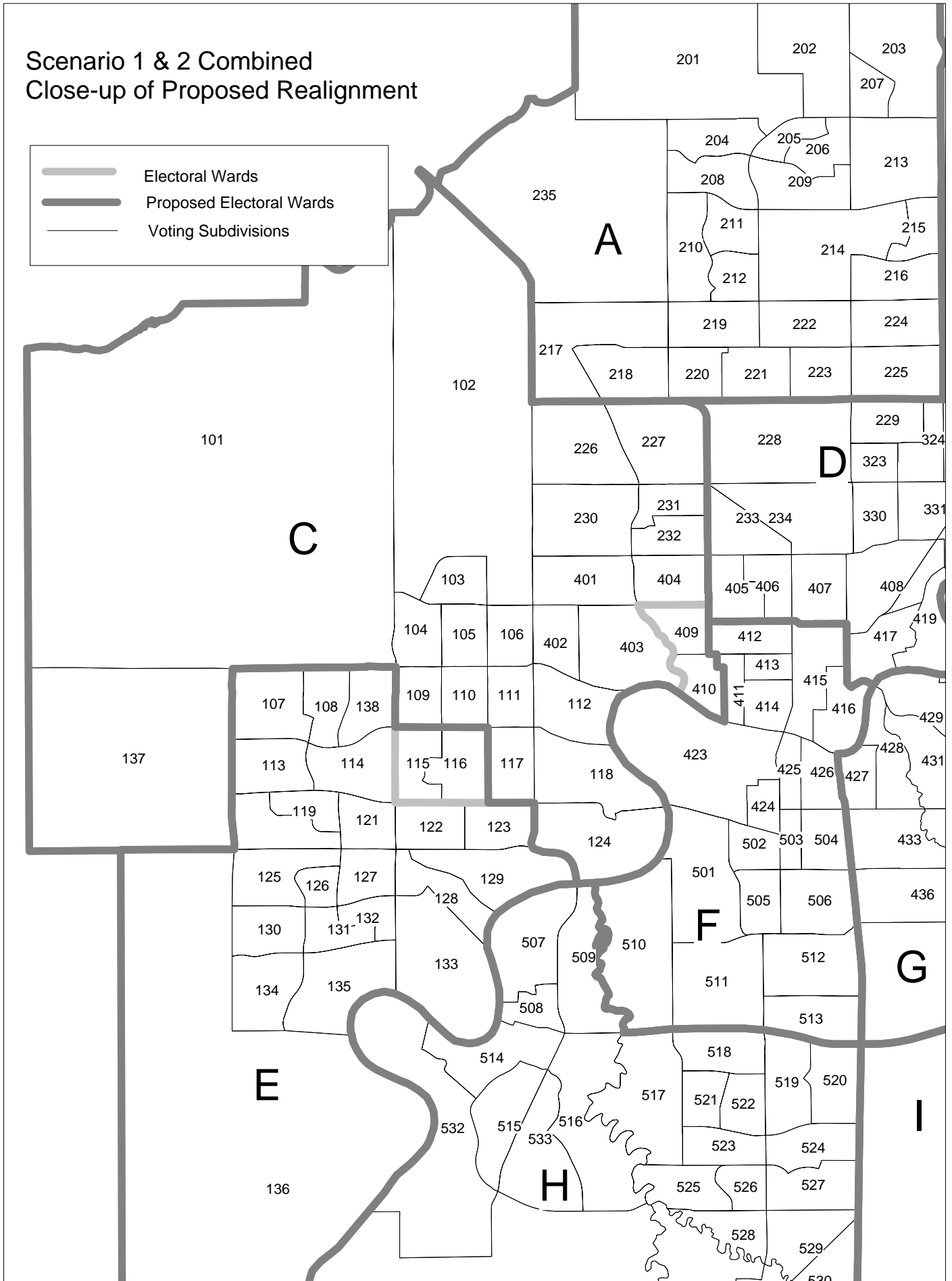


# Scenario 2 - Proposed Ward Realignment



# Scenario 1 & 2 Combined Close-up of Proposed Realignment

Electoral Wards  
 Proposed Electoral Wards  
 Voting Subdivisions



**PUBLIC POPULATION DEVIATION COMPARISON****Scenario 1 – Current Ward Boundaries**

Current Ward Boundaries	Total City Population	Public Supporting Population	Difference from Optimum Public Population +/- 10%	Public Population Deviation
Ward A	87,045	56,646	1,292	2%
Ward B	77,807	52,931	(2,424)	-4%
Ward C	71,525	53,673	(1,681)	-3%
Ward D	77,138	56,804	1,449	3%
Ward E	74,397	50,481	(4,873)	-9%
Ward F	62,307	55,534	180	0%
Ward G	73,357	56,371	1,017	2%
Ward H	74,211	56,680	1,326	2%
Ward I	76,726	59,069	3,714	7%
<b>Total City Population</b>	<b>674,513</b>	<b>498,188</b>		
<b>Ward Average</b>	<b>74,946</b>	<b>55,354</b>		

**Scenario 2 – Proposed Ward Realignment**

Senior High School in Each Ward	Total City Population	Public Supporting Population	Difference from Optimum Public Population +/- 10%	Public Population Deviation
Ward A	87,045	56,646	1,292	2%
Ward B	77,807	52,931	(2,424)	-4%
Ward C	71,525	53,242	(2,112)	-4%
Ward D	77,138	56,804	1,449	3%
Ward E	74,397	55,155	(199)	0%
Ward F	62,307	51,291	(4,063)	-7%
Ward G	73,357	56,371	1,017	2%
Ward H	74,211	56,680	1,326	2%
Ward I	76,726	59,069	3,714	7%
<b>Total City Population</b>	<b>674,513</b>	<b>498,188</b>		
<b>Ward Average</b>	<b>74,946</b>	<b>55,354</b>		

**SCHOOL LISTING BY WARD**

**Scenario 1 – Current Ward Boundaries**

WARD A B. BONKO	WARD B R. DEAN	WARD C L. ODYNSKI	WARD D R. MARTIN	WARD E J. WOODROW	WARD F D. FLEMING	WARD G S. HANSEN	WARD H G. NICHOLSON	WARD I G. GIBEAULT
Athlone Baturyn Caernarvon Calder Dickinsfield Dunluce Evansdale Glengary Kennedale Kensington Killarney Lago Lindo Lauderdale Lorelei Major General Griesbach Mary Butterworth McArthur Mee-Yah-Noh Northmount Queen Elizabeth Rosslyn Scott Robertson Wellington	Balwin Bannerman Belmont Belvedere Delwood Edmonton Christian Northeast Campus Fraser Homesteader Horse Hill J. A. Fife John Barnett John D. Bracco Kildare Kirkness Londonderry M. E. LaZerte McLeod North Edmonton Overlanders Princeton Sifton Steele Heights York	Afton Brightview Britannia Coronation Crestwood Dovercourt Edmonton Christian West Campus Senior High Glendale Glenora Grovenor High Park Inglewood James Gibbons Jasper Place Laurier Heights Mayfield Meadowlark Parkview Prince Charles Ross Sheppard Sherwood Stratford School Westglen Westlawn Westminster Westmount Winterburn Woodcroft Youngstown	Abbott Amiskwacy Academy Beacon Heights Delton Eastglen Eastwood Highlands Institutional Services John A. McDougall McCauley Montrose Mount Royal Newton Norwood Parkdale R. J. Scott/Lawton Riverdale Rundle Spruce Avenue Victoria Virginia Park	Aldergrove Belmead Callingswood Centennial Elmwood Hillcrest LaPerle Lymburn Lynnwood Michael A. Kostek Ormsby Patricia Heights Rio Terrace S. Bruce Smith Talmud Torah Thorncliffe	Alberta School for the Deaf Tevie Miller Allendale Avalon Belgravia Centre High Garneau/Queen Alexandra Grandview Heights L. Y. Cairns Lansdowne Lendrum Malmo McKee McKernan Mount Pleasant Old Scotia Oliver Parkallen Strathcona Windsor Park	Academy at King Edward Argyll Home Education Centre A vonmore Braemar Caplano Clara Tyner Donnan Forest Heights Fulton Place Gold Bar Hardisty Hazeldean Holyrood Jackson Heights Julia Kiniski Kemilworth King Edward L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy McNally Mill Creek/Ritchie Ottewill Rutherford Strathearn Terrace Heights Velma E. Baker W. P. Wagner Waverley	Brander Gardens Brookside D. S. MacKenzie Dugan Earl Buxton George H. Luck Nicholson Greenfield Harry Ainlay Kebeewin Richard Secord Rideau Park Riverbend Steinhauer Sweet Grass Vernon Barford Westbrook	Bisset Crawford Plains Daly Grove Dan Knott Edith Rogers Elkora Eilerslie Grace Martin Greenview Hillview J. Percy Page Kameyosek Kate Chegwin Lee Ridge Malcolm Tweedle Menisa Meyokumin Meyonothk Millwoods Christian Minchau Pollard Meadows Sakaw Satoo T. D. Baker Tipaskan Weinilos

**Scenario 2 – Proposed Ward Realignment**

WARD A B. BONKO	WARD B R. DEAN	WARD C L. ODYNSKI	WARD D R. MARTIN	WARD E J. WOODROW	WARD F D. FLEMING	WARD G S. HANSEN	WARD H G. NICHOLSON	WARD I G. GIBEAULT
Unchanged	Unchanged	Remove Afton Jasper Place Meadowlark	Unchanged	Add Afton Jasper Place Meadowlark	Unchanged	Unchanged	Unchanged	Unchanged