



City of Valdez

212 Chenega Ave.
Valdez, AK 99686

Meeting Agenda - Final

City Council

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

7:30 PM

Civic Center Conference Room

Special Meeting

SPECIAL AGENDA - 7:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. [Approval to Go Into Executive Session Regarding Legal Strategy for Redistricting Decisions](#)

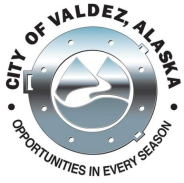
IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

VI. RESOLUTIONS

1. [#21-38 - Supporting Adoption of the Alaska Redistricting Board Proposed House District 36 Boundaries as Depicted in the Draft Composite Redistricting Plan Version 1 and 2 Maps Published on September 9, 2021](#)

VII. ADJOURNMENT



Legislation Text

File #: 21-0447, **Version:** 1

ITEM TITLE:

Approval to Go Into Executive Session Regarding Legal Strategy for Redistricting Decisions

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Staser, City Attorney

FISCAL NOTES:

Expenditure Required: N/A

Unencumbered Balance: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

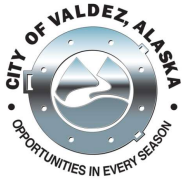
Approve going into executive session

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Alaska Statute AS 44.62.310 provides an exception to the Alaska Open Meetings law (AS 44.62.310) which allows the City Council to meet in executive session for the purpose of discussion related to:

1. Matters which involve litigation and where matters of which the immediate knowledge would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the City.
2. Matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential.

Any formal action related to the discussion requiring a motion and vote of the governing body must be done in open session.



Legislation Text

File #: RES 21-0038, **Version:** 1

ITEM TITLE:

#21-38 - Supporting Adoption of the Alaska Redistricting Board Proposed House District 36 Boundaries as Depicted in the Draft Composite Redistricting Plan Version 1 and 2 Maps Published on September 9, 2021

SUBMITTED BY: Jake Staser, City Attorney

FISCAL NOTES:

Expenditure Required: N/A
Unencumbered Balance: N/A
Funding Source: N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve resolution # 21-38

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Alaska Constitution tasks the Alaska Redistricting Board with drawing new state legislative districts every ten years when the census of the United States is completed.

Alaska's resident population determined by the 2020 census is 733,391, which means the target population for each of Alaska's 40 House districts will be 18,335 for the current redistricting cycle.

The Alaska Constitution requires that new districts meet four criteria: compactness, contiguity, socio-economic integration, and equality of population (*definitions of each criteria available here: <http://www.akredistrict.org/mapping-criteria>*). Any recommended map drawings will be evaluated by the Alaska Redistricting Board using these requirements.

During a public hearing on September 7, 2021, the Alaska Redistricting Board provided direction to third-party map submitters that their map plans for presentation on September 17, 2021 must be submitted to board staff for review no later than noon on September 15, 2021.

During the September 7, 2021 regular Valdez City Council meeting, Council expressed interest in holding a special meeting on September 14, 2021 to develop a map recommendation for submission prior to the September 15th deadline.

During a public meeting on September 9, 2021, the Alaska Redistricting Board adopted two Proposed Redistricting Plans: Board Composite v.1 and Board Composite v.2 (*both versions*)

attached and also available online here: <http://www.akredistrict.org/map-gallery>>).

Both Proposed Redistricting Plan versions have Valdez incorporated in a different, large rural district (district 36), which is drawn north along the Richardson Highway and encompasses land around/north of the Fairbanks area. *(The current 2013 district boundary map is attached for comparison purposes).*

The attached resolution provides Council a place to start discussion during the special meeting and does not necessarily reflect a specific staff recommendation. Amendments may/should be made to both the resolution language and the map attachments as Council determines necessary.

City administration also received the attached (draft) letter from the executive director of the Prince William Sound Economic Development District on September 9, 2021. The contents of the (draft) letter may or may not align with Council preferences regarding redistricting recommendations. The letter is being provided as part of this packet for awareness and consideration during Council discussion.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

RESOLUTION # 21-38

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA SUPPORTING ADOPTION OF THE ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD PROPOSED HOUSE DISTRICT 36 BOUNDARIES AS DEPICTED IN THE DRAFT COMPOSITE REDISTRICTING PLAN VERSION 1 AND 2 MAPS PUBLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

WHEREAS, as a result of the 2020 Census, the Alaska Redistricting Board is actively preparing draft redistricting plans for the State of Alaska that will directly affect the City of Valdez and its citizen; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Constitution imposes specific criteria for redistricting plans for both House and Senate seats; and

WHEREAS, the communities along the Richardson Highway have shared for decades many aspects of life including social, cultural, economic, and political ties; and

WHEREAS, the communities north along the Richardson Highway and east Alaska have commonalities in many ways including the highway corridors, utilities, watershed, education, high cost of energy and much more; and

WHEREAS, District 36, as depicted in the Redistricting Board's draft composite redistricting plan Versions 1 and 2, satisfies the constitutional criteria for redistricting; represents a socioeconomically integrated area that is contiguous and compact; and includes as near as possible a population totaling one fortieth of Alaska's statewide population.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, that:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated in this resolution as if set forth fully herein.

Section 2. The City of Valdez does hereby urge the Alaska Redistricting Board to adopt boundaries for District 36 as depicted in the Redistricting Board's draft composite redistricting plans Versions 1 and 2.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, this _____ day of _____, 2021.

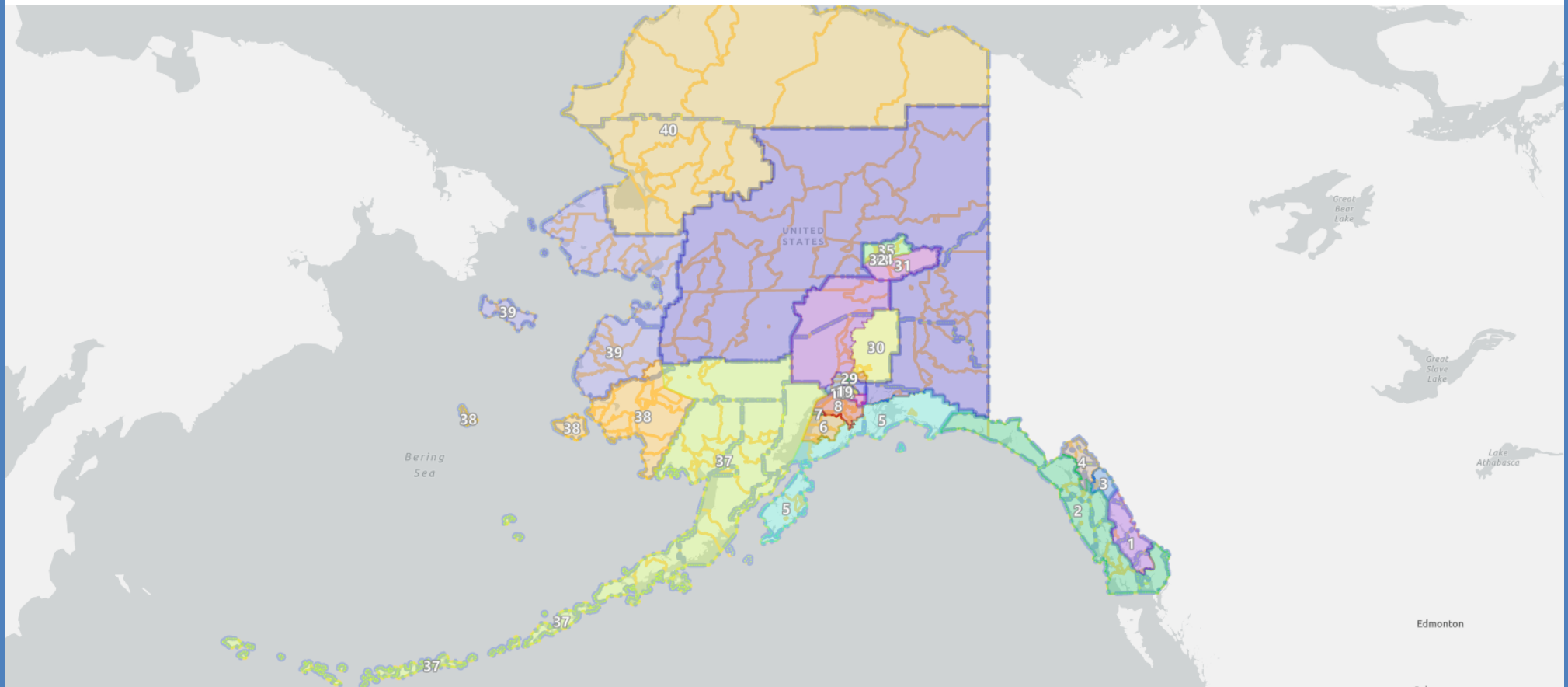
CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

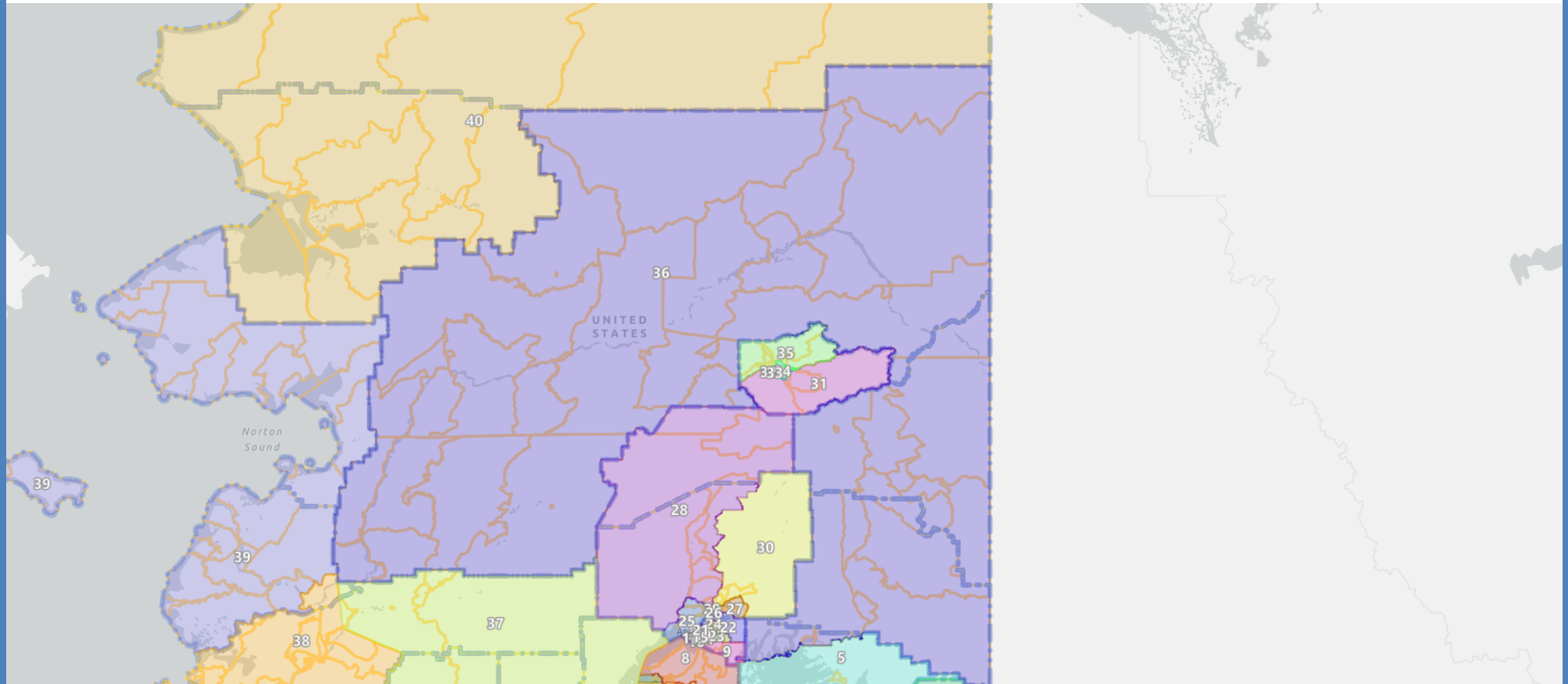
Sharon Scheidt, Mayor

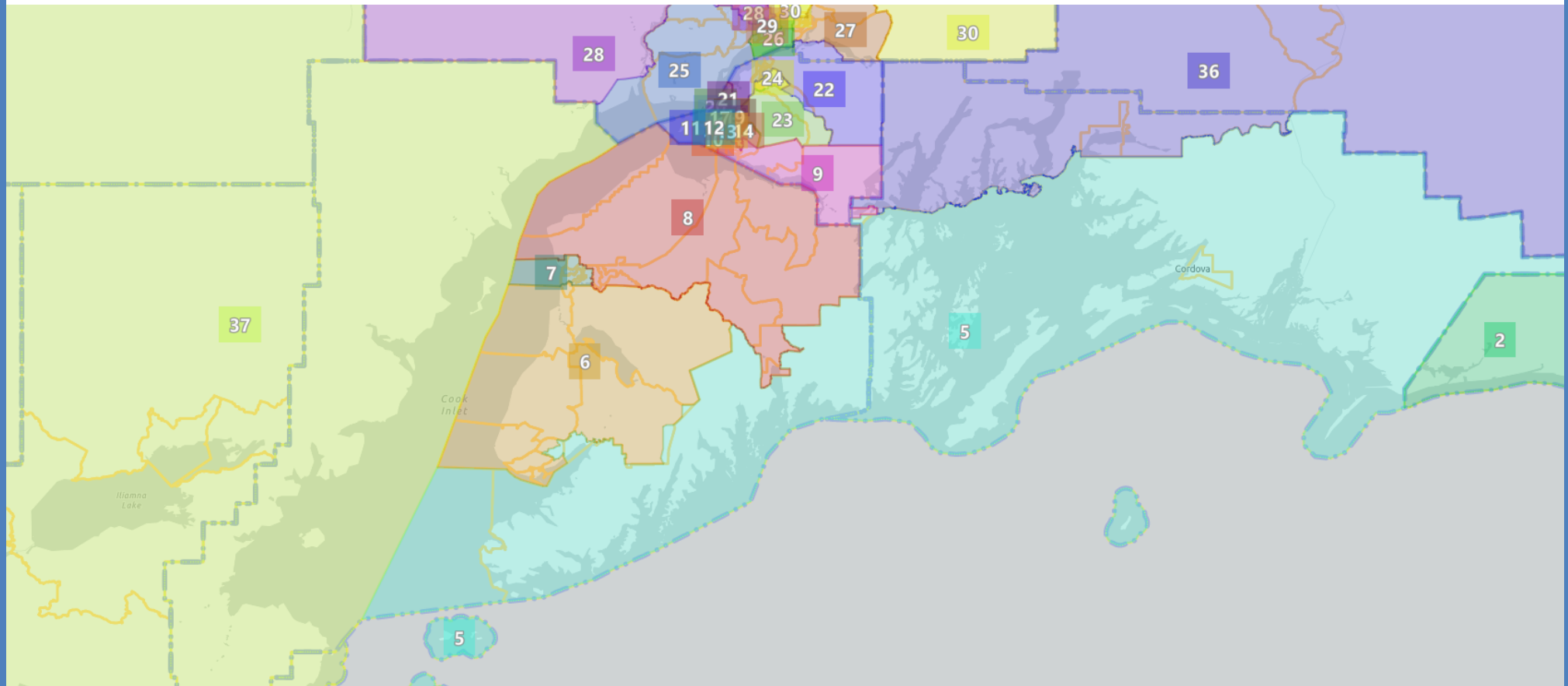
ATTEST:

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk

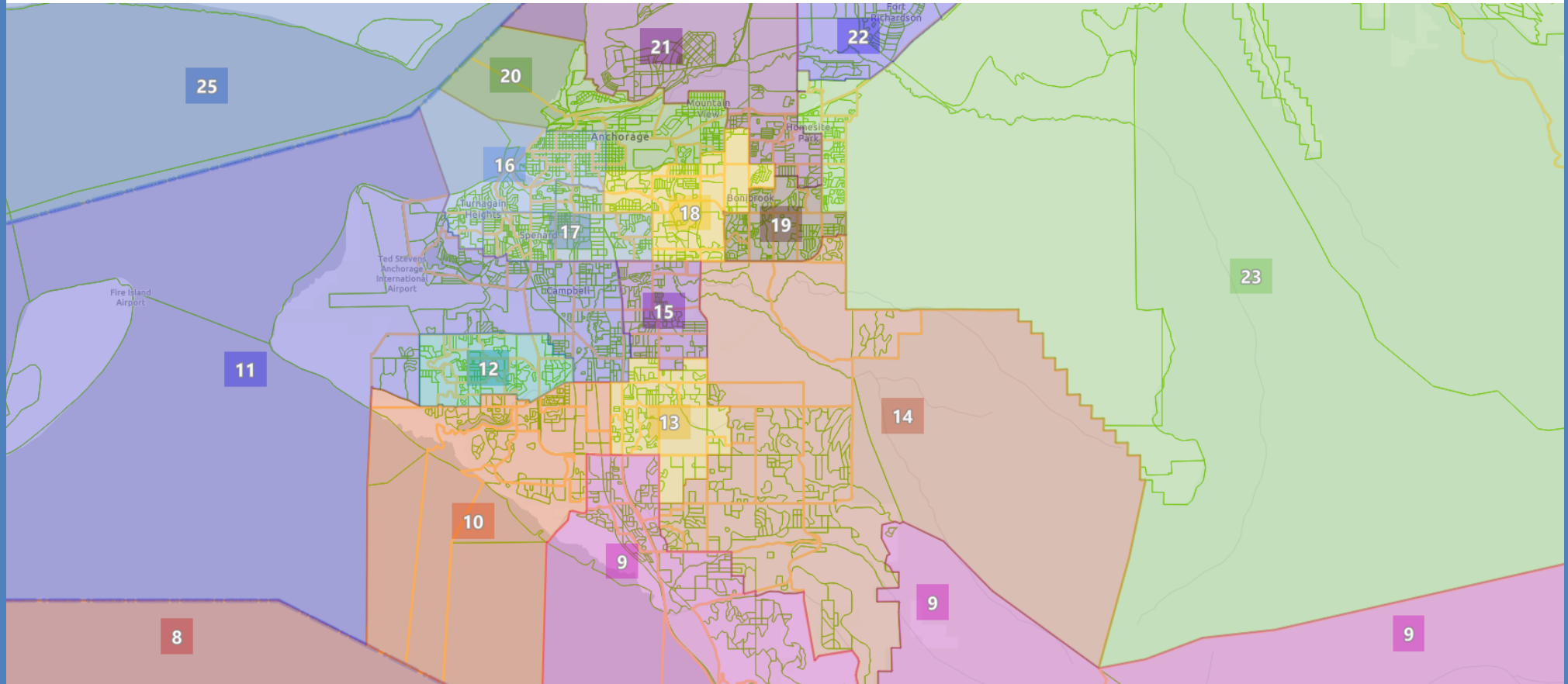
Board Composite v.1





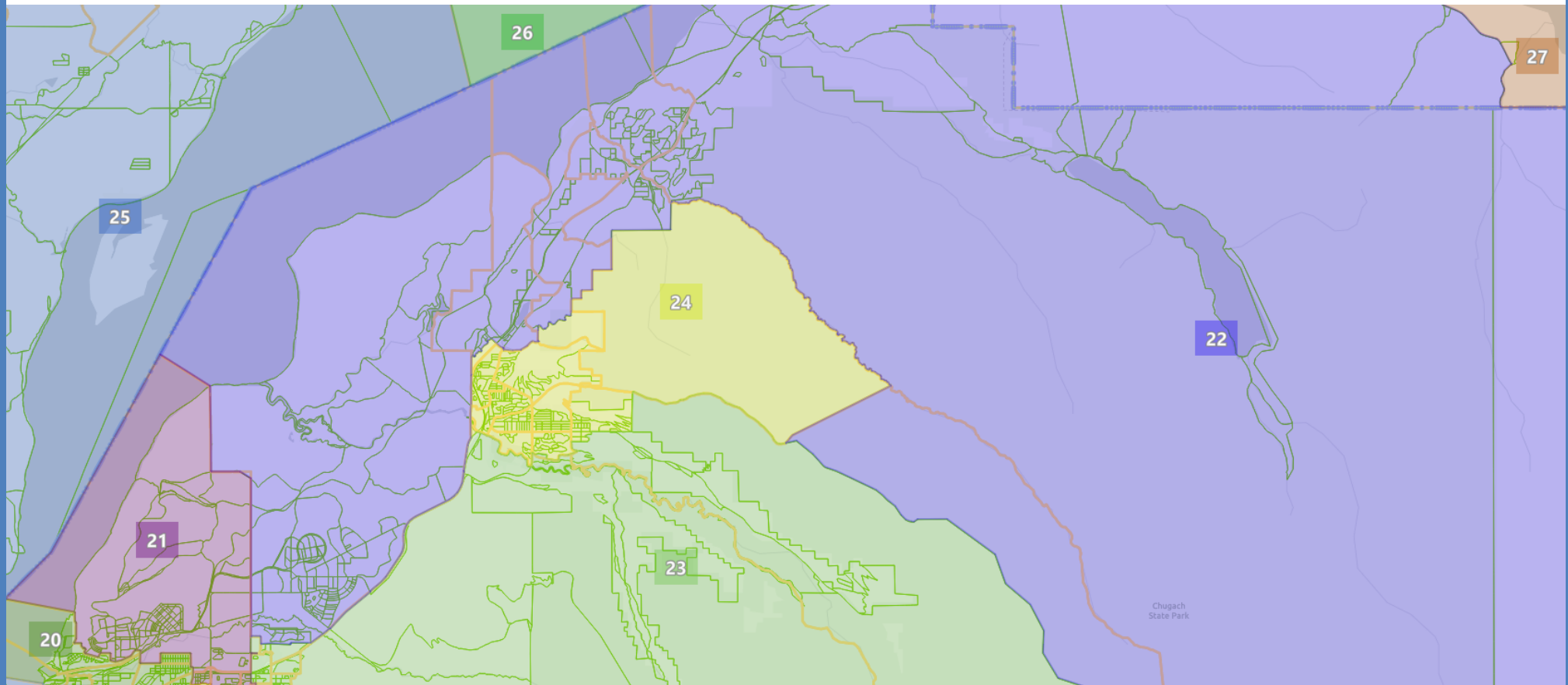


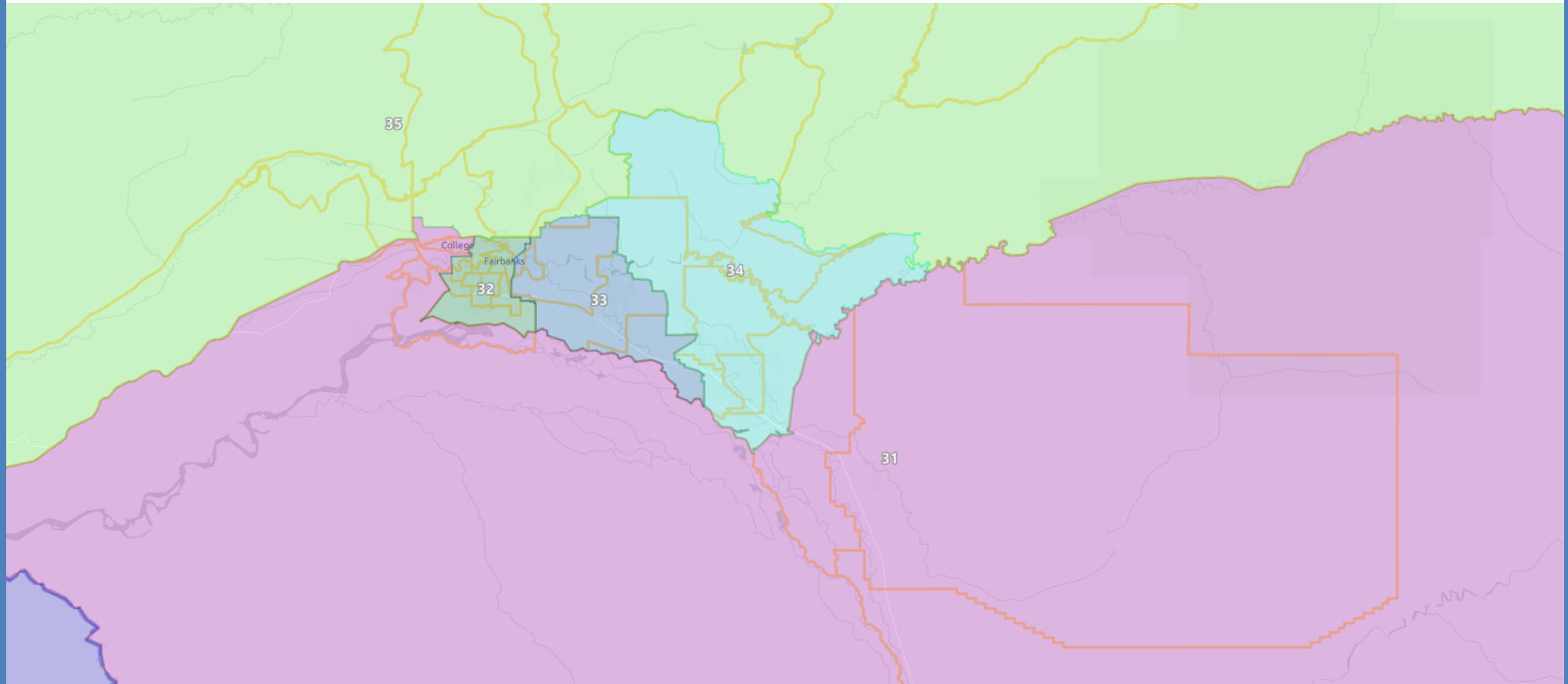
Board Composite v.1

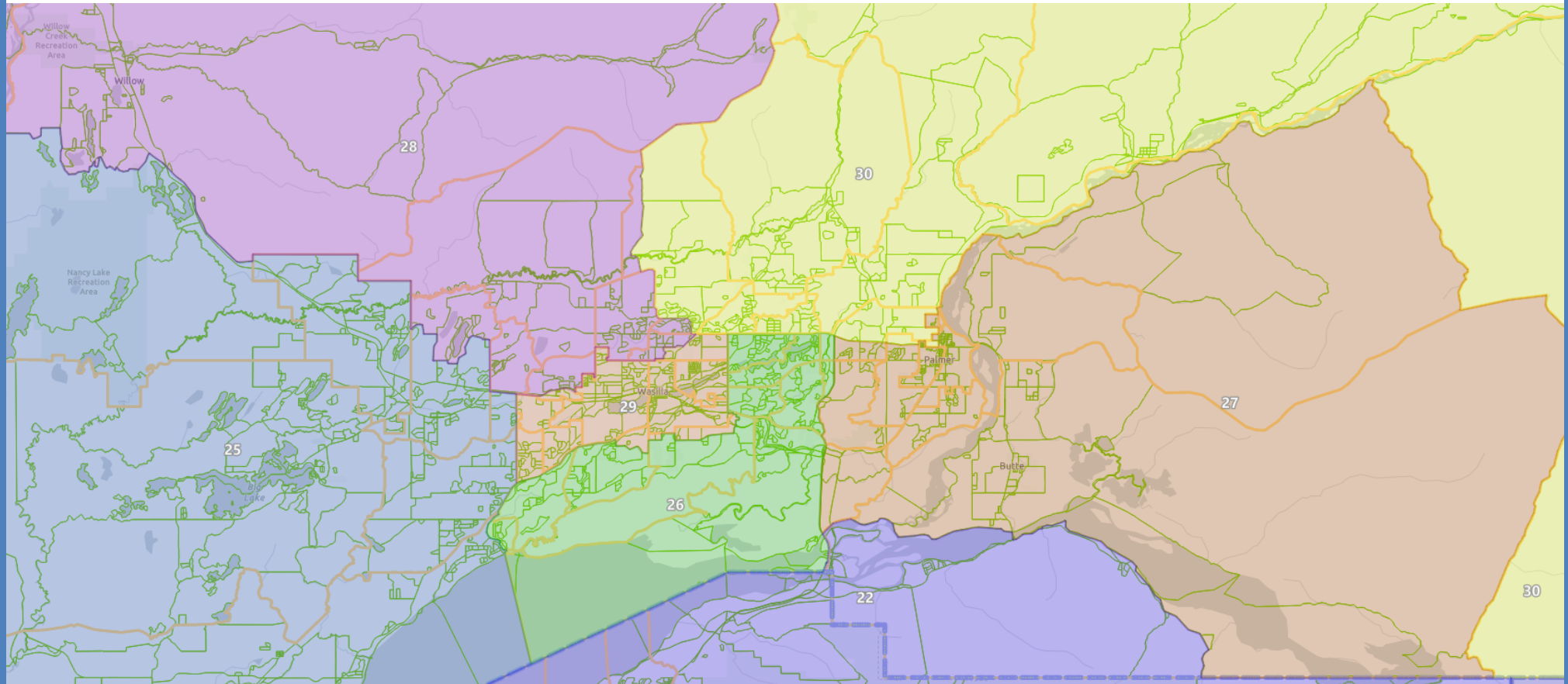


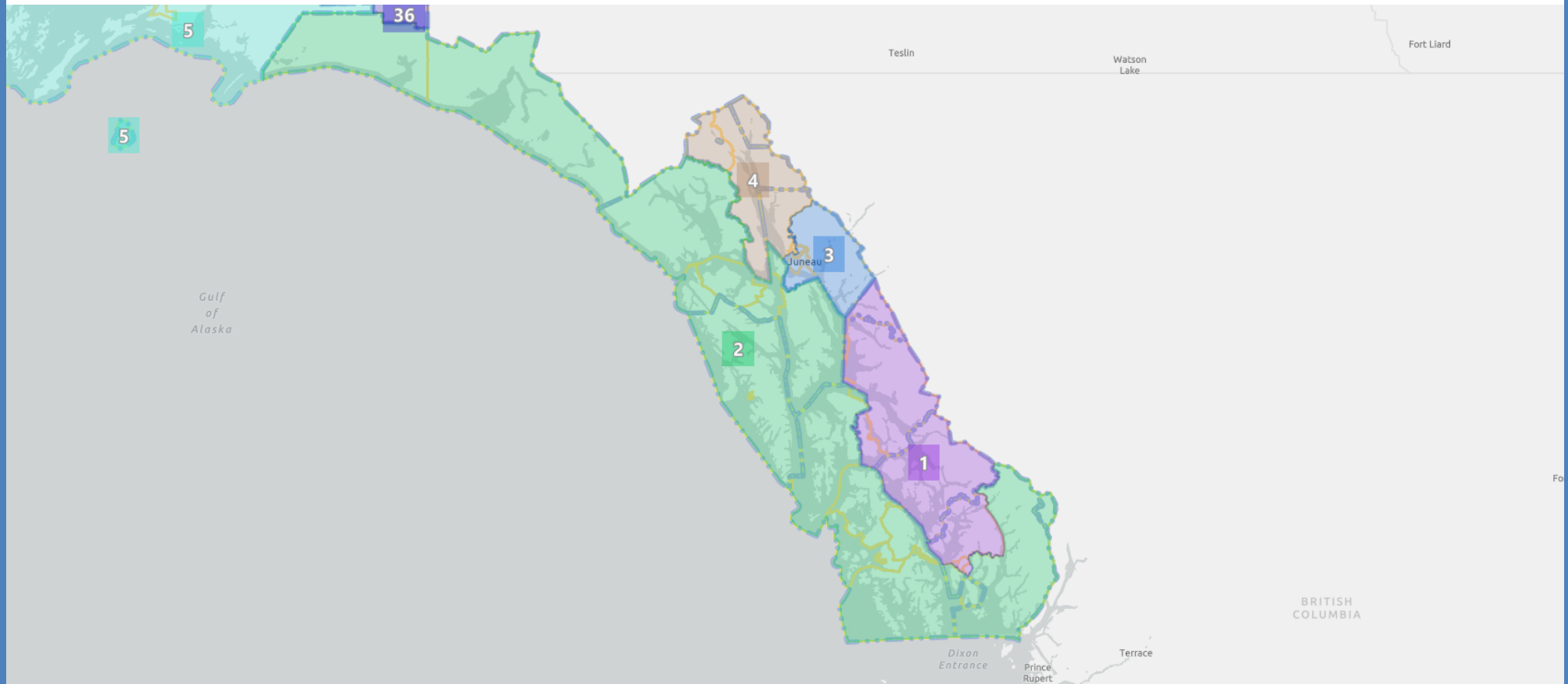
AutoBound Edge MAP - Based on: 2020 Census Geography

Map Date: 9/9/2021 4:59:43 PM

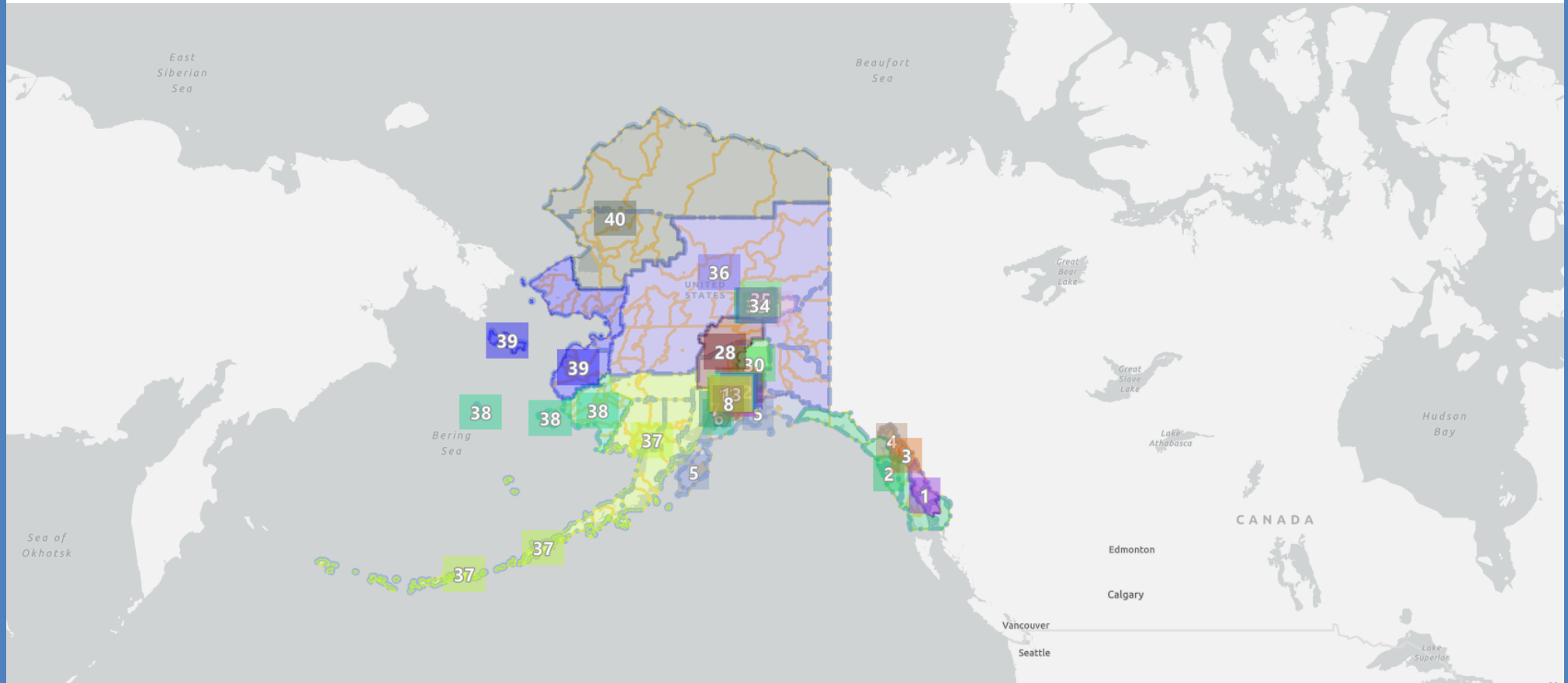








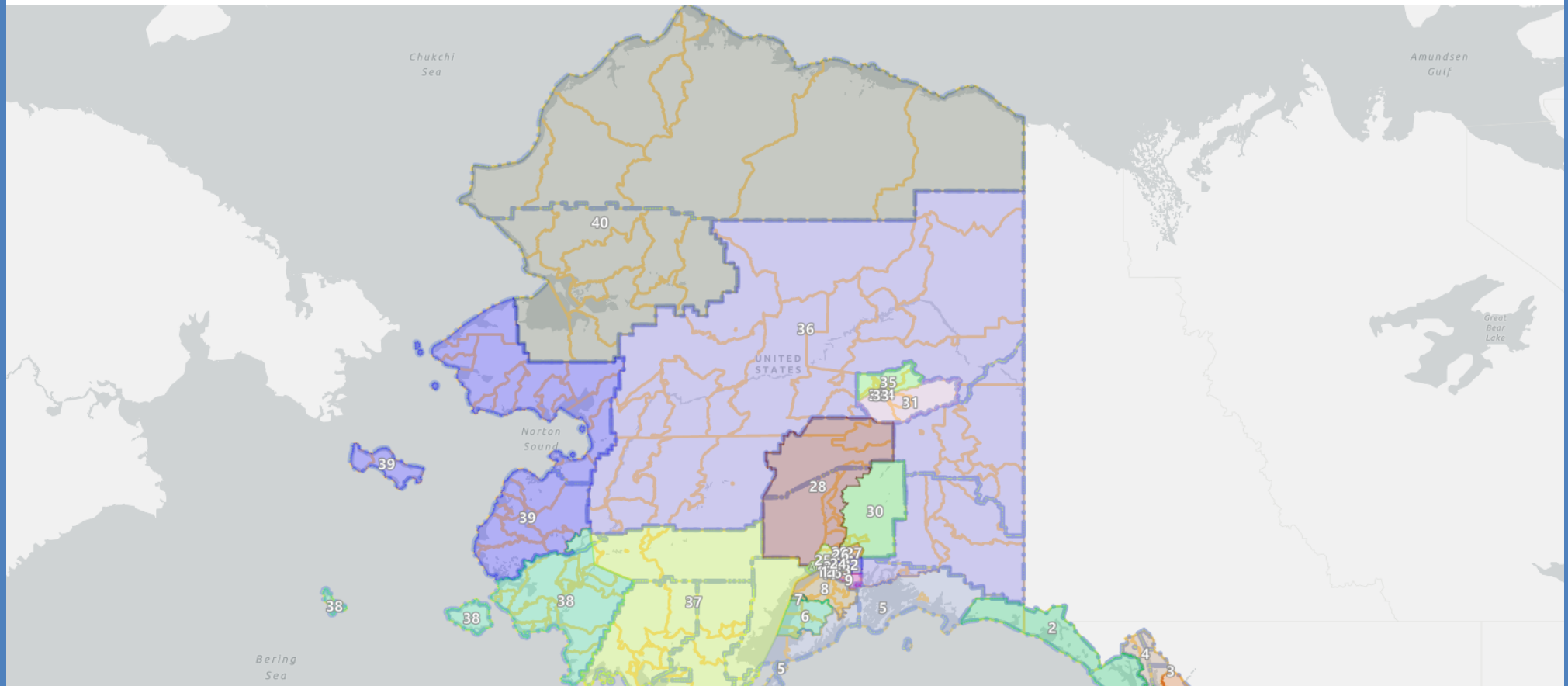
Board Composite v. 2



AutoBound Edge MAP - Based on: 2020 Census Geography

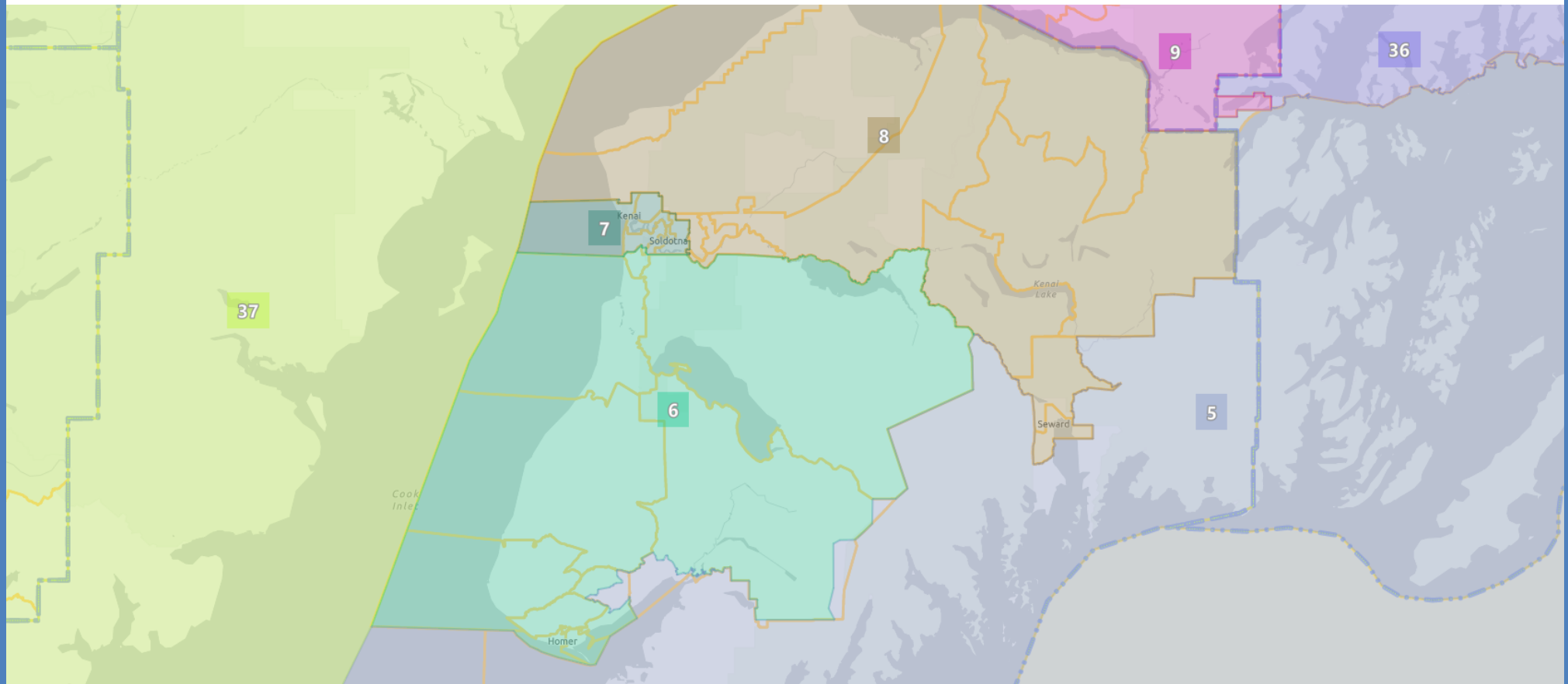
Map Date: 9/9/2021 4:44:35 PM

Board Composite v. 2

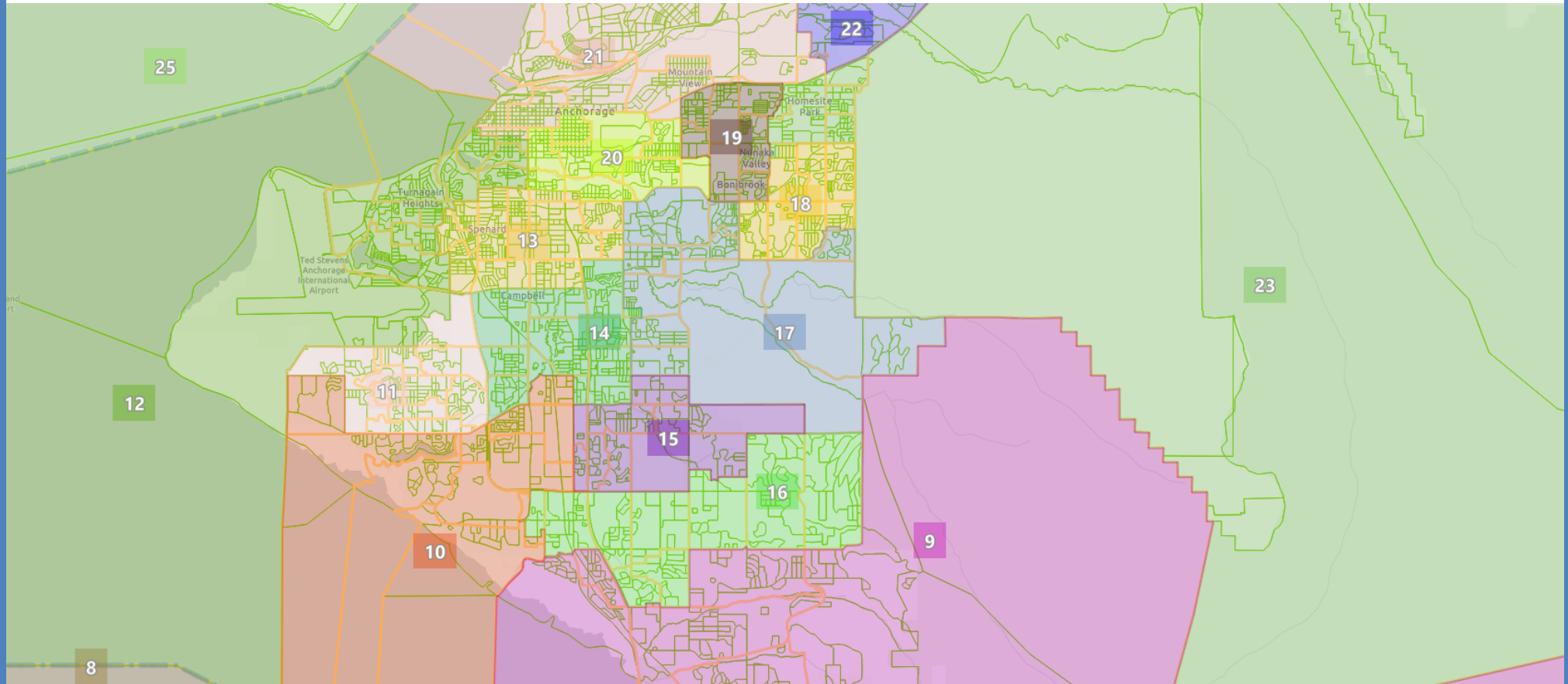


AutoBound Edge MAP - Based on: 2020 Census Geography

Board Composite v. 2

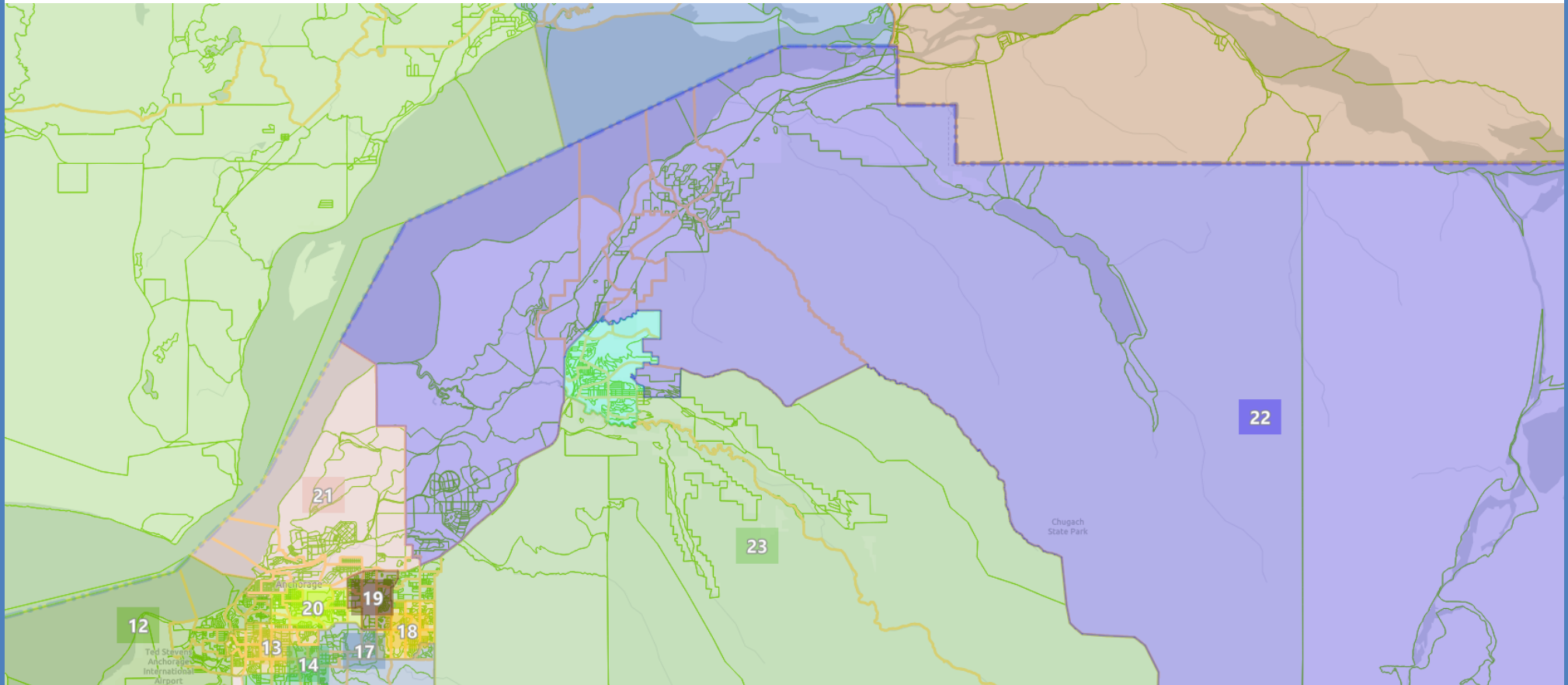


Board Composite v. 2

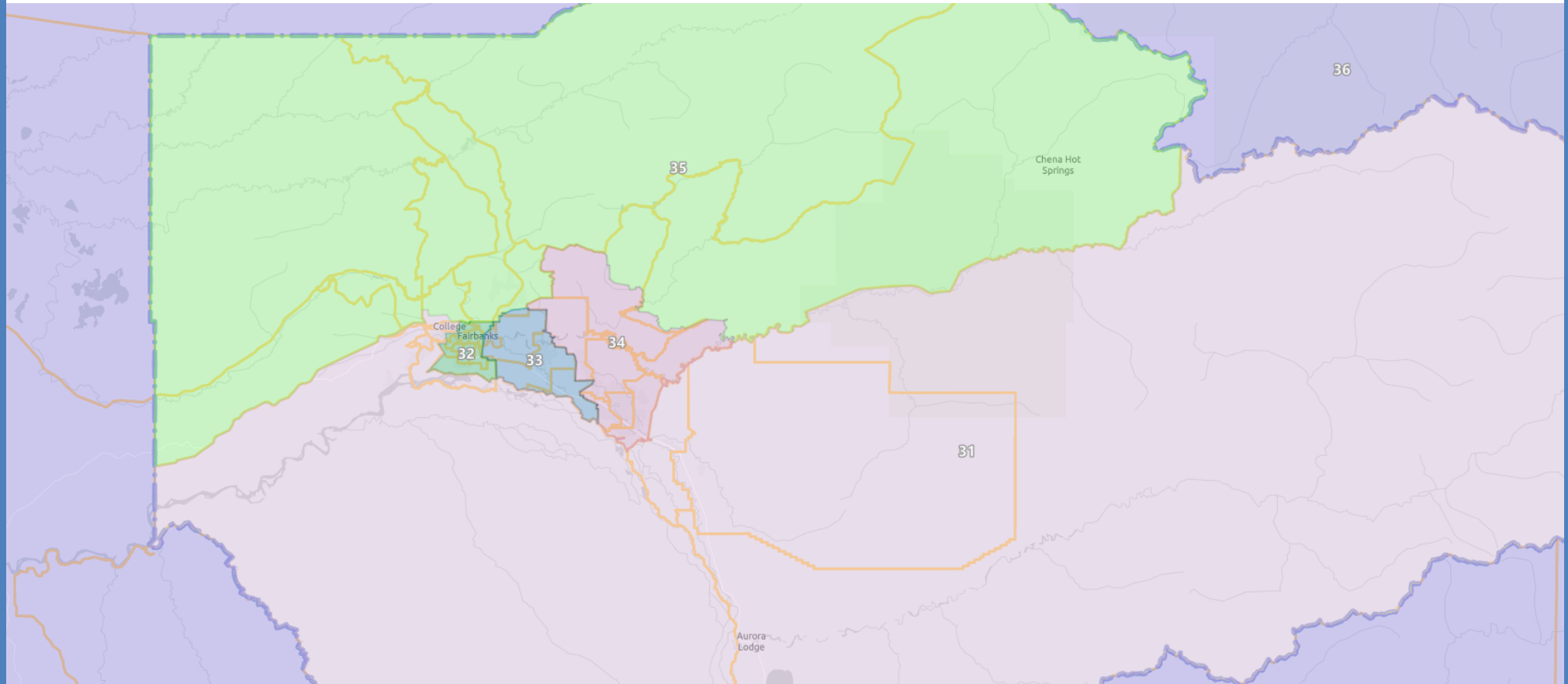


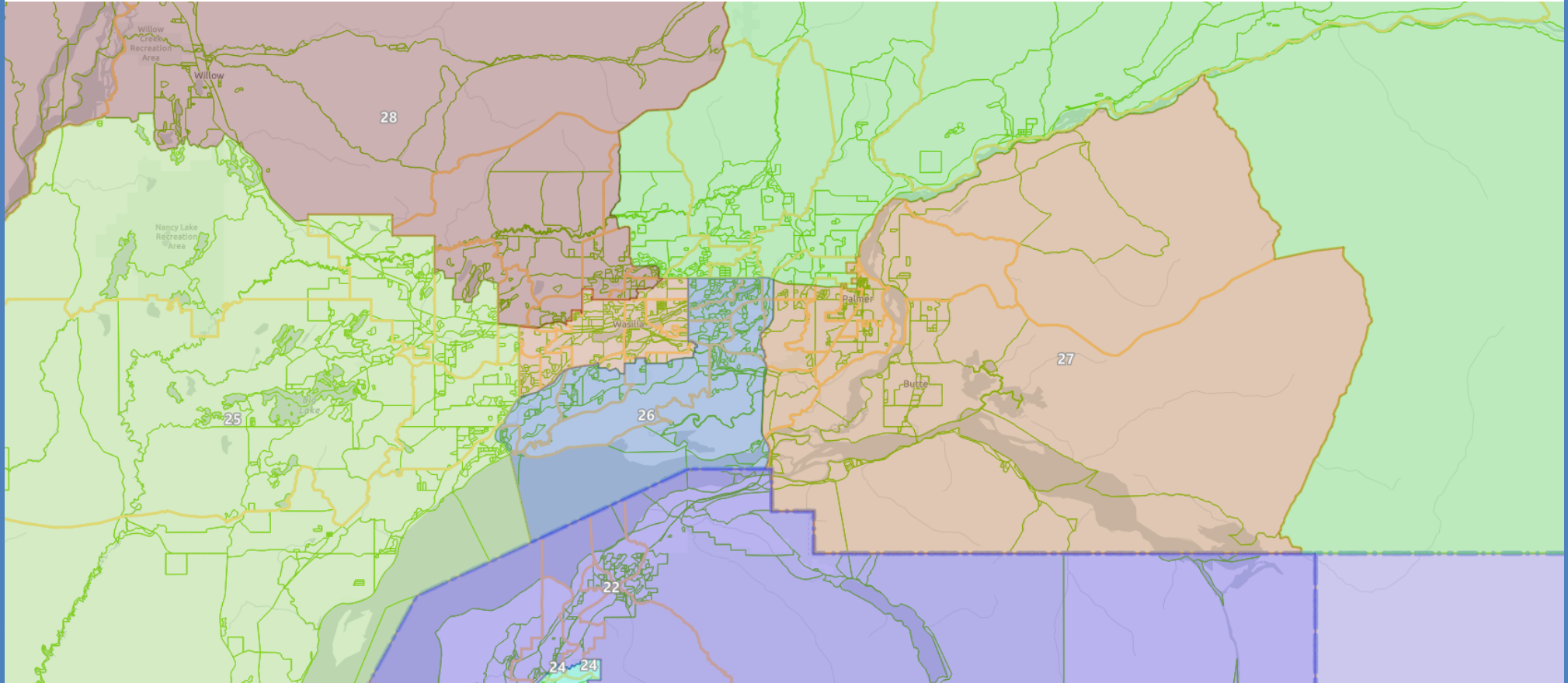
AutoBound Edge MAP - Based on: 2020 Census Geography

Board Composite v. 2

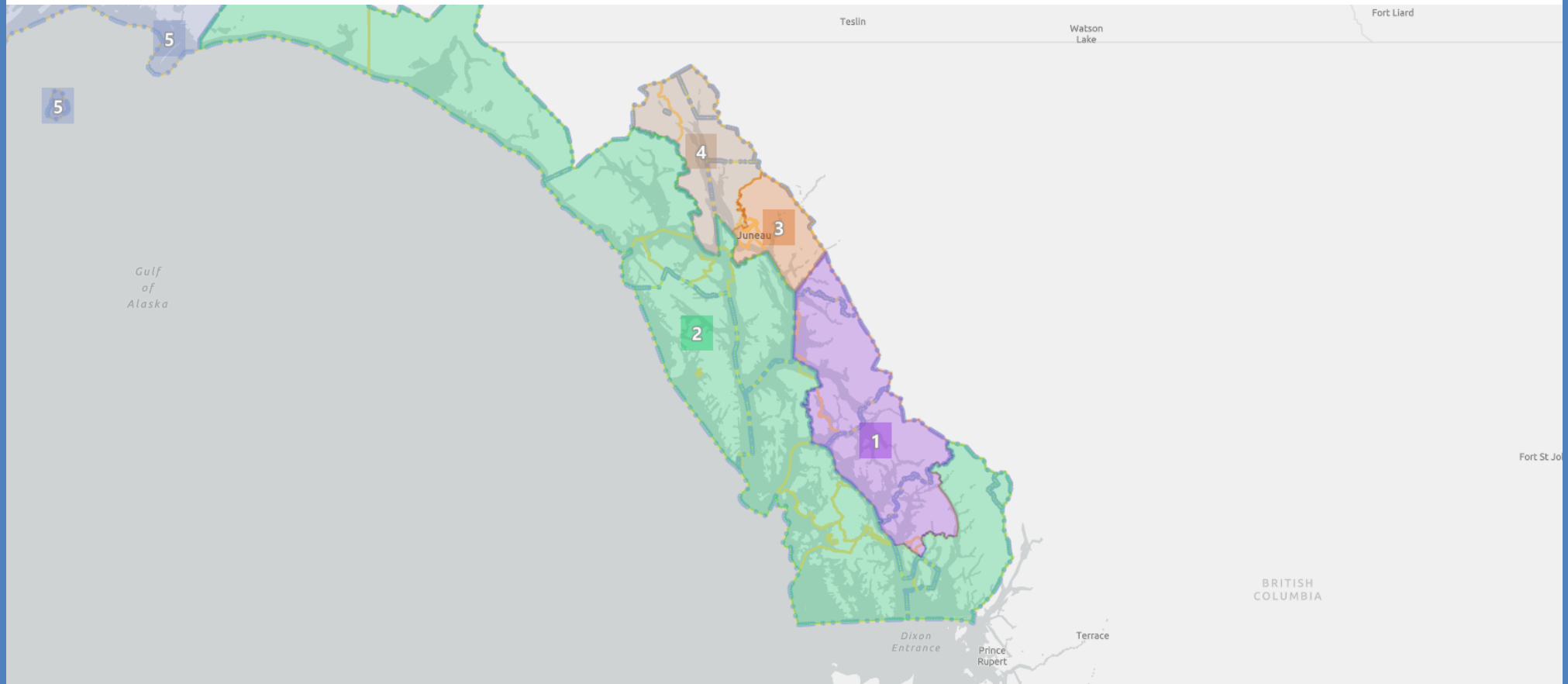


Board Composite v. 2



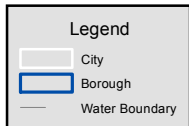


Board Composite v. 2

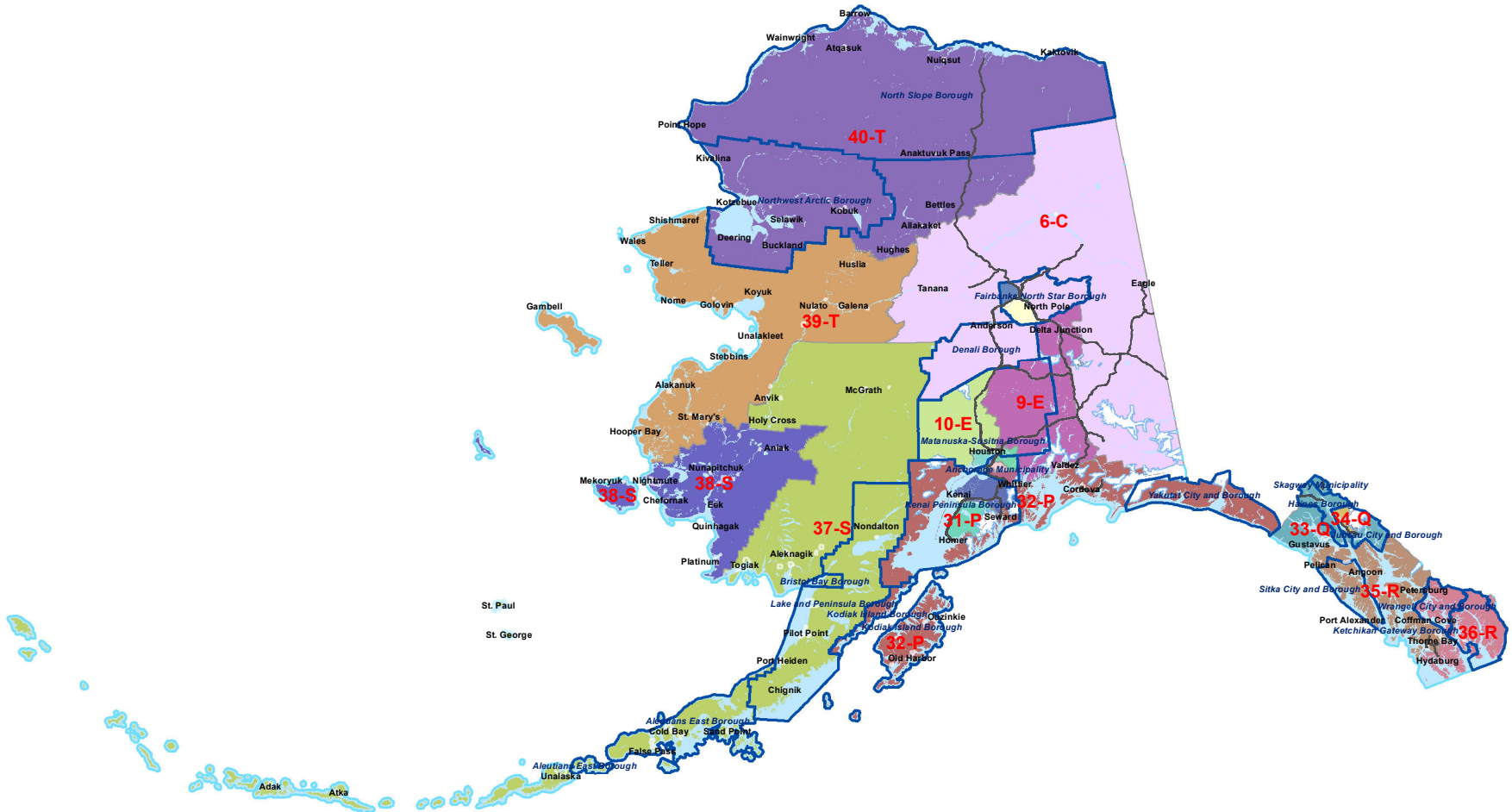


2013 Proclamation House Districts

Statewide

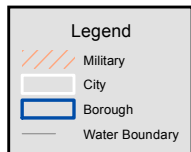


Prepared by:
Alaska Redistricting Board

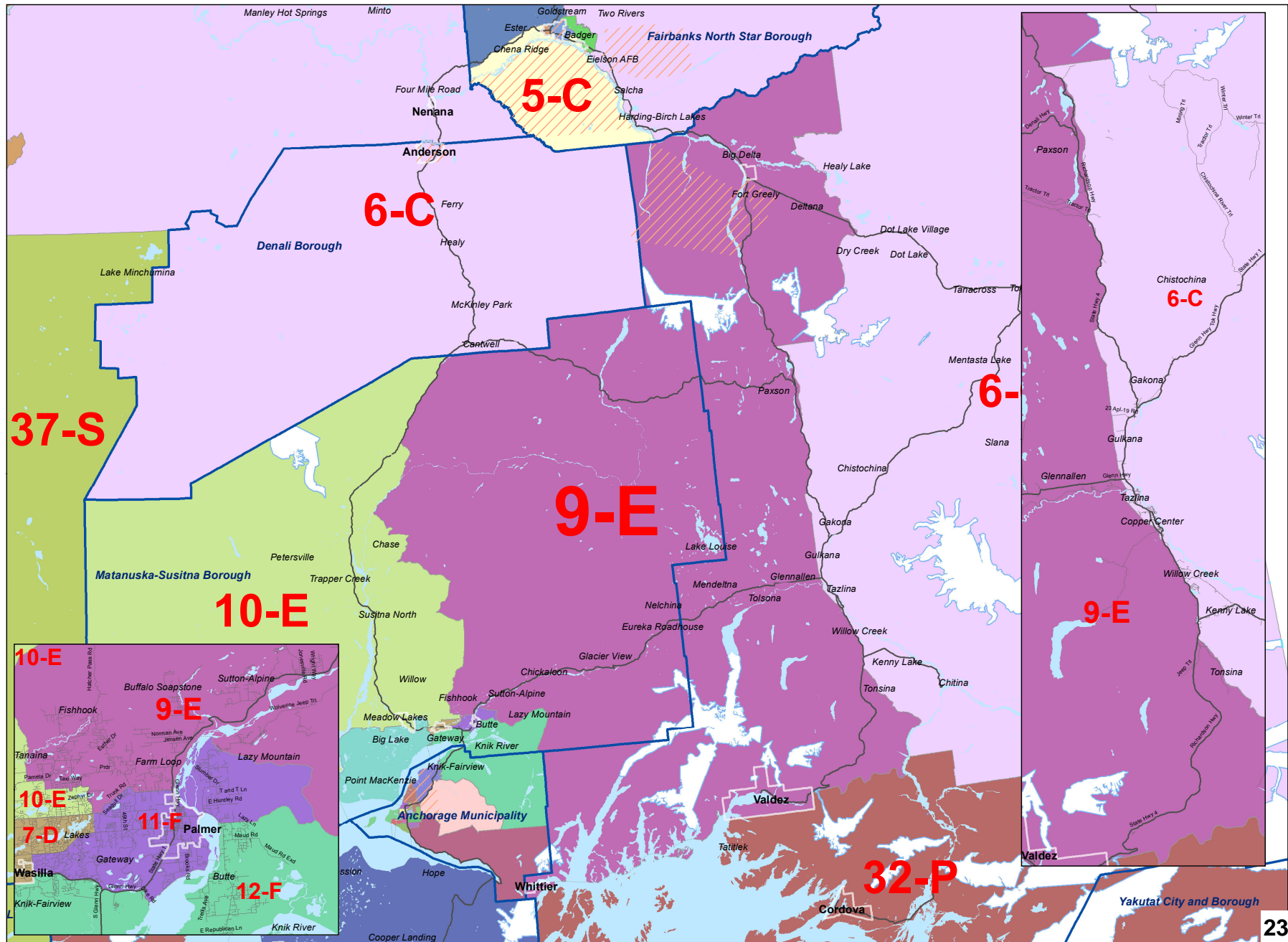


2013 Proclamation House Districts

House District 9



Prepared by:
Alaska Redistricting Board





September 9, 2021

John Binkley, Chair
Alaska Redistricting Board
P.O. Box 240147
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. Binkley,

On behalf of the communities of Prince William Sound, I am writing to urge your consideration for an election district that encompasses Prince William Sound as a contiguous unit.

Our communities already represent a compact, contiguous geographic unit by virtue of their location encircling the marine waters of Prince William Sound. Our economies are driven collectively by the Sound's commercial fishing activity, marine transport through the Sound (fishing vessels, shipping of oil, goods, and people on the AMHS ferry and cruise ships), and tourism activity in the Sound.

From the regional level, we work on coordinating among our five communities on our schools' sports and academic event schedules, our ferry service schedule, regional tourism marketing, and our telecommunications infrastructure.

For our communities to work with a legislator who can advocate for our coastal community needs as a region, we feel we are best served by being included as a group in one election district.

Thank you for your consideration of the interests of our Prince William Sound communities as you work through the process of drawing new election districts for Alaska.

Sincerely,

Kristin Carpenter
Executive Director

...