



2020 REDISTRICTING BENCHMARK REPORT

TOWN OF FORT MILL

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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REDISTRICTING REPORT 2020
PRESENTED TO: TOWN OF FORT MILL

The South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office (RFA) has prepared the following analysis and accompanying maps regarding the redistricting for the Town of Fort Mill Council.

RFA strives to release data that is complete, accurate, and useful. However, we ask that you notify us, either by email (redistricting@rfa.sc.gov) or phone (803-734-3793), of any discrepancies.

ITEMS TO NOTE PRIOR TO REVIEWING THIS REPORT:

- The 2020 Census presents new challenges regarding redistricting as the data below the state level will be affected by the U.S. Census Bureau's efforts with respect to differential privacy. The Bureau has stated that the total population in each state will be "as enumerated," but that all other levels of geography could have some variance from the raw data. This variance is referred to by the Census Bureau as "injecting noise" into the data and is an attempt to improve privacy. The bureau has indicated that no "noise" will be injected into the state total population, but it is likely that noise will be injected for every other level of geography. More noise is injected as the geography levels get smaller. In other words, population counts at the county, city, or block level may not be "as enumerated".
- Race is defined following the guidance provided in OMB Bulletin No. 00-02 which allocates population counts of a "minority race and white" category to the minority race. In Tables 2 and 3, NH DOJ Black is the sum of Non-Hispanic Black and Non-Hispanic Black and White as recommended by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PRELIMINARY PLAN:

In developing a preliminary plan, RFA recommends following constitutional and statutory provisions:

- The requirement of “one person, one vote” under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and accepted variances.
- The Voting Rights Act, primarily Section 2, which protects the interest of the racial minority population.
- Other applicable court decisions and federal and state law.

Further, RFA recommends the following set of traditional redistricting principles be considered:

- Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
- Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
- Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.

2020 CENSUS BENCHMARK REPORT

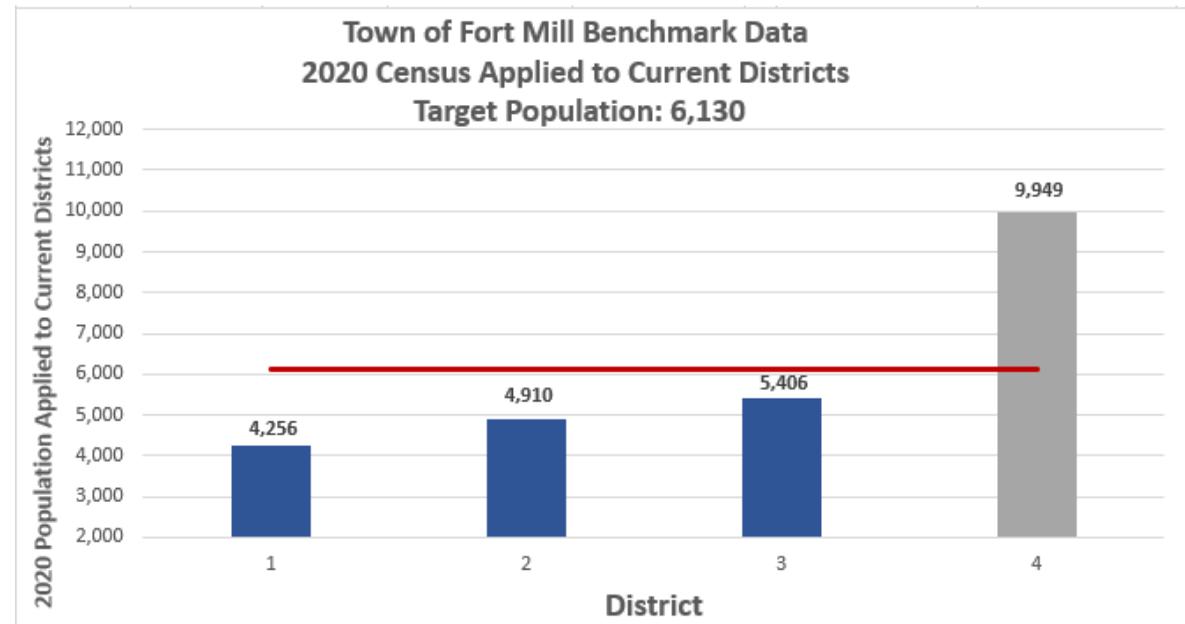
The population of the Town of Fort Mill has increased 126.8% from 10,811 to 24,521. As a result, the ideal district changed from 2,703 to 6,130. The Benchmark Report noted a deviation range of 92.87% (the sum of the highest deviation, 62.29%, and the absolute value of the lowest deviation |-30.57%|) which is above the maximum range of 10%. RFA recommends a deviation range of 5%.

The following table and chart show which districts are (under-) or over-populated indicating potential adjustments needed to be within the allowable deviation range.

TABLE 1: 2020 CENSUS COUNTS APPLIED TO CURRENT DISTRICTS

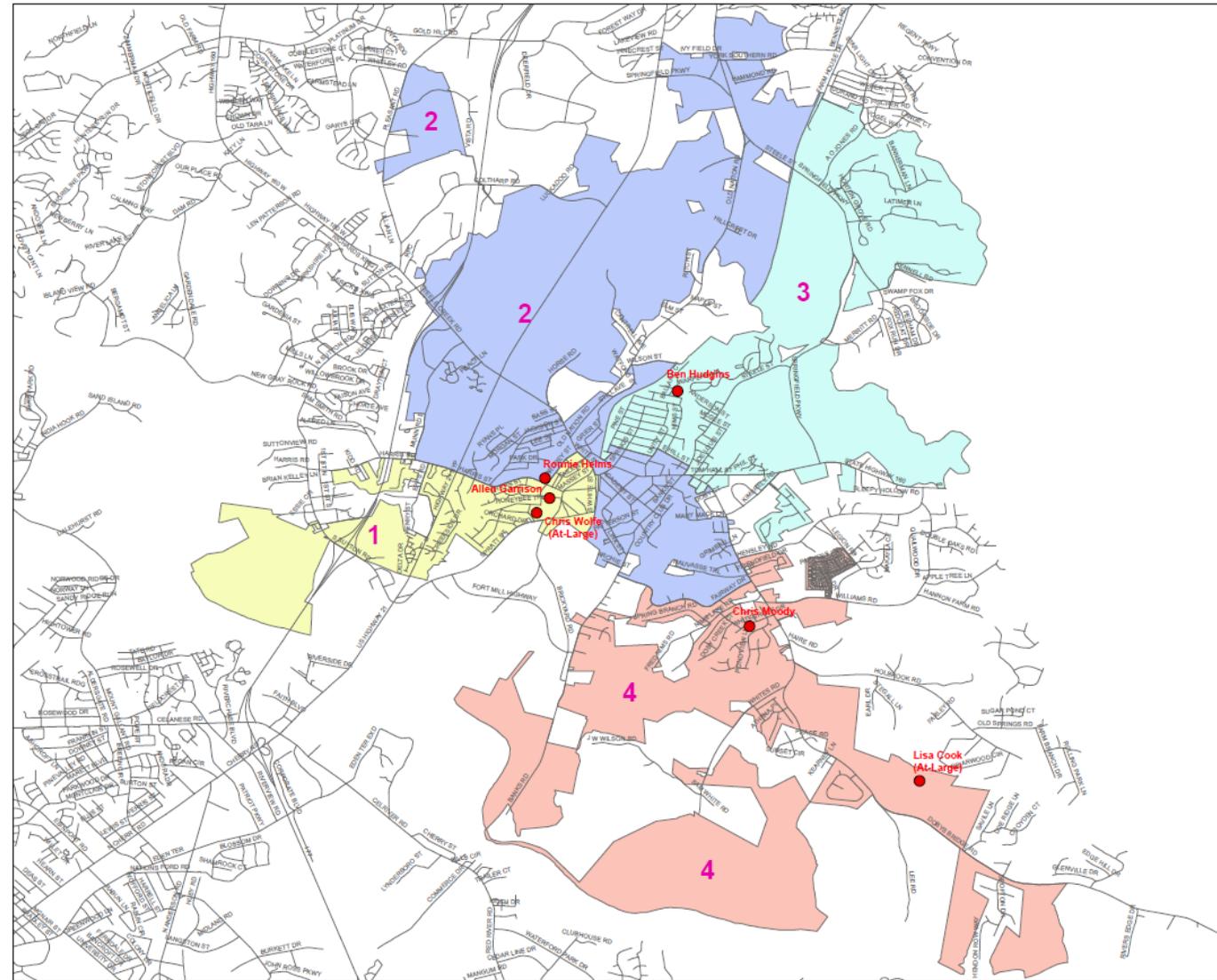
CHART 1:

District	2020 Census	Goal	Over/(Under)	% Deviation
1	4,256	6,130	(1,874)	-30.57%
2	4,910	6,130	(1,220)	-19.91%
3	5,406	6,130	(724)	-11.81%
4	9,949	6,130	3,819	62.29%
Lowest	-30.57%			
Highest	62.29%			
Range	92.87%			



MAP 1:

Council District Lines and
Addresses of Incumbents



Town of Fort Mill
Town Council
Benchmark 2020

TABLE 2: TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE *RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total	Hispanic	% Hispanic	NH White	% NH White	NH DOJ Black*	% NH DOJ Black	NH Other Race	% NH Other Race
1	4,256	344	8.08%	2,855	67.08%	731	17.18%	326	7.66%
2	4,910	283	5.76%	3,625	73.83%	487	9.92%	515	10.49%
3	5,406	297	5.49%	3,508	64.89%	1,059	19.59%	542	10.03%
4	9,949	747	7.51%	7,222	72.59%	989	9.94%	991	9.96%
Total	24,521	1,671	6.81%	17,210	70.18%	3,266	13.32%	2,374	9.68%

TABLE 3: VOTING AGE POPULATION BY RACE *RACE DEFINED USING DOJ DEFINITIONS. NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO IS ABBREVIATED AS NH.

District	Total VAP	Hispanic VAP	% Hispanic VAP	NH White VAP	% NH White VAP	NH DOJ Black* VAP	% NH DOJ Black VAP	NH Other Race VAP	% NH Other Race VAP
1	2,927	222	7.58%	2,075	70.89%	438	14.96%	192	6.56%
2	3,863	181	4.69%	3,017	78.10%	332	8.59%	333	8.62%
3	3,797	200	5.27%	2,544	67.00%	713	18.78%	340	8.95%
4	6,393	445	6.96%	4,759	74.44%	599	9.37%	590	9.23%
Total	16,980	1,048	6.17%	12,395	73.00%	2,082	12.26%	1,455	8.57%

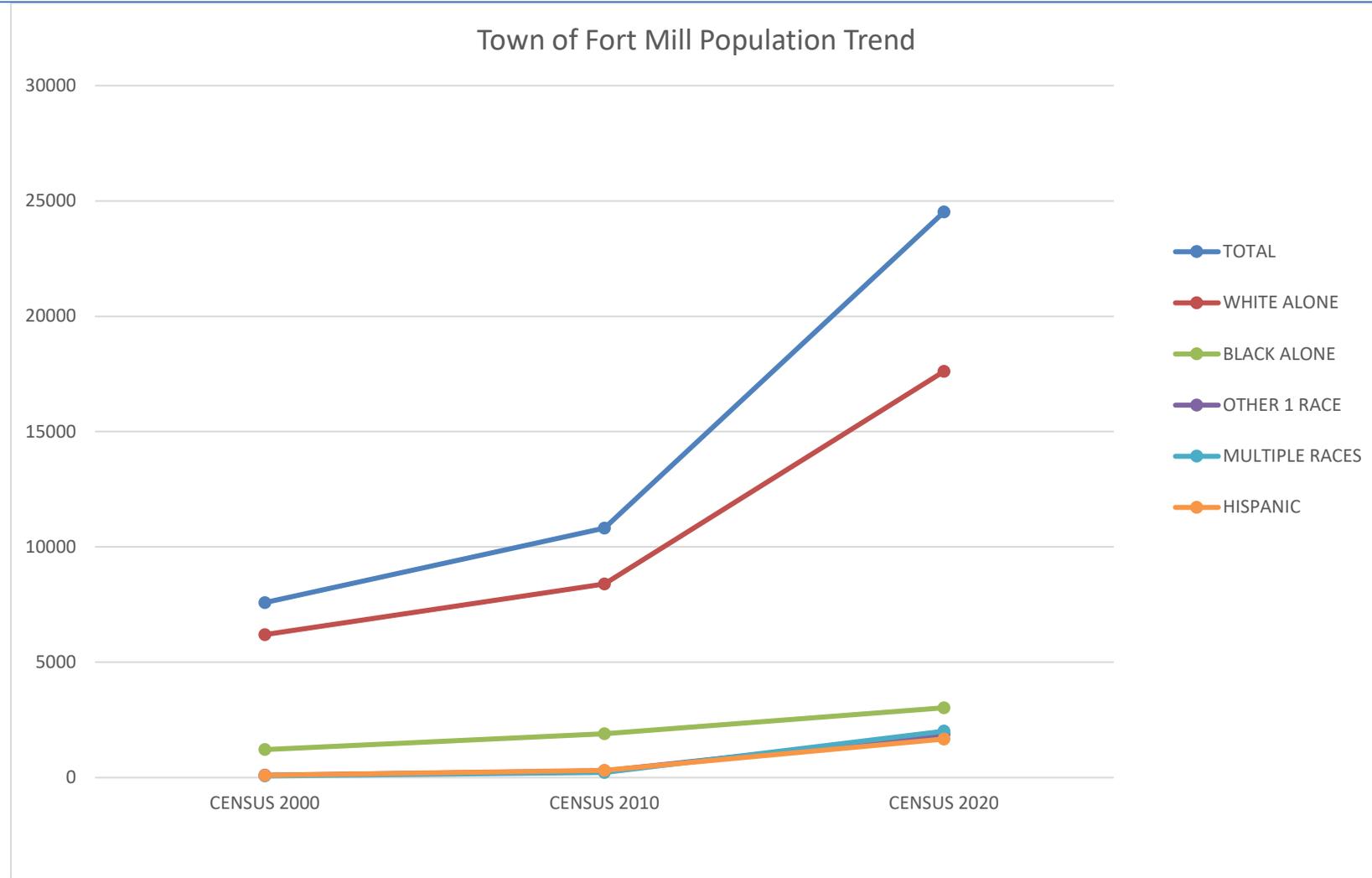
RFA ANALYSIS RESULTS:

Due to data limitations, RFA has not yet completed the voting analysis. If the data becomes available, we will provide the results to Council.

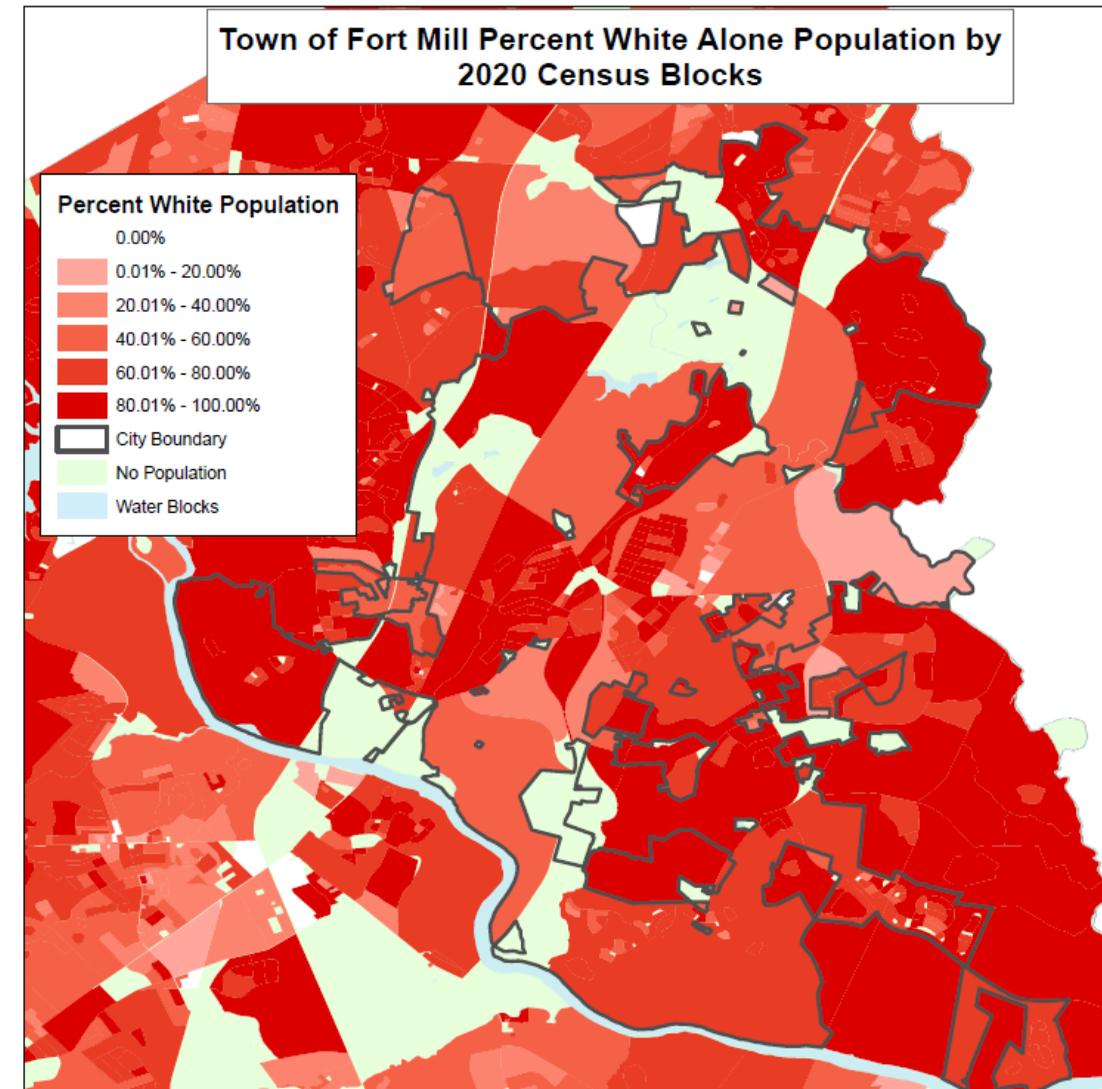
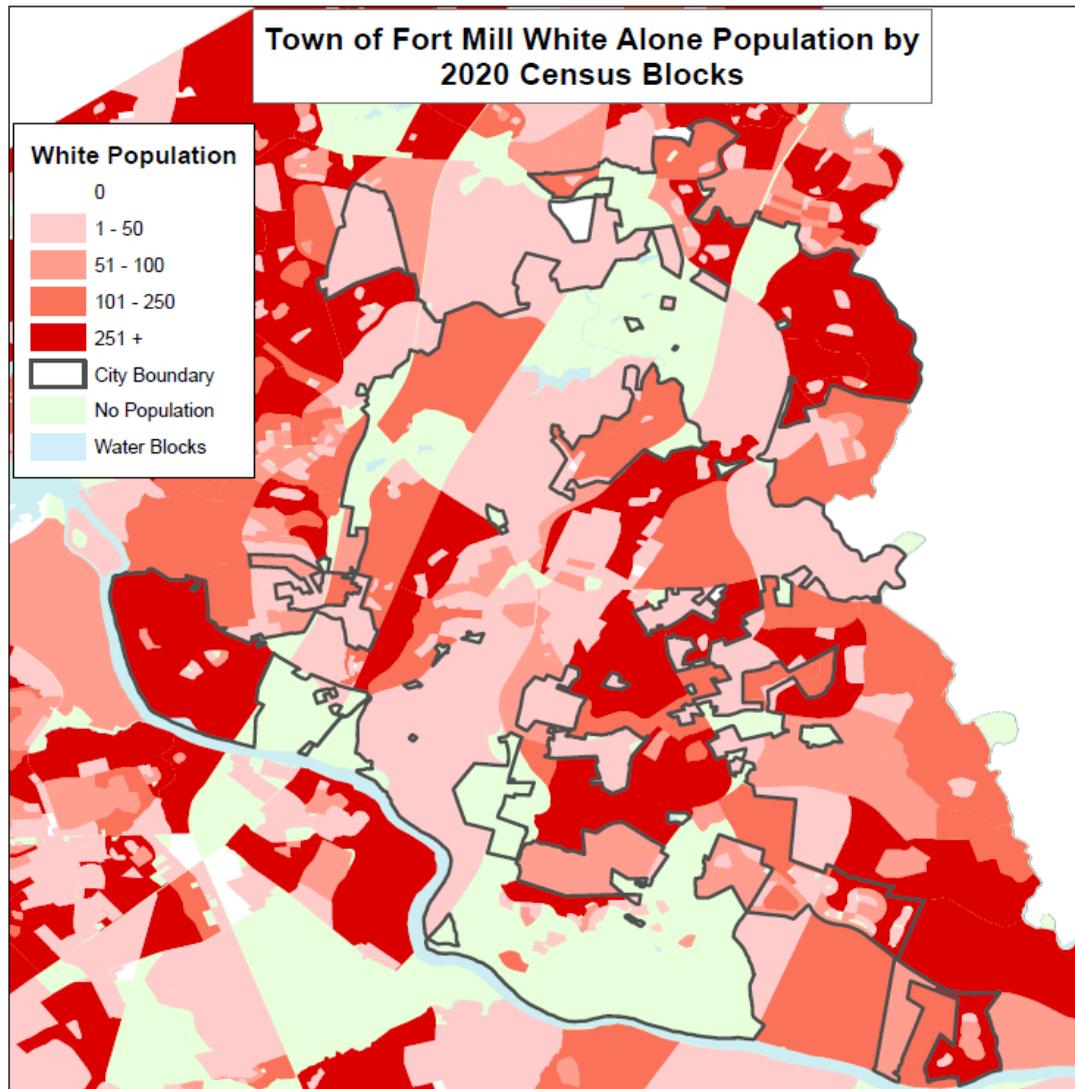
RFA RECOMMENDATIONS:

- RFA requests Council conduct a public meeting to discuss this report and solicit feedback from the public.
- RFA recommends Council adopt, through either a resolution or acceptance of this plan, the following traditional redistricting principles:
 - Districts or wards will be drawn contiguously, so that all parts of the district or ward are connected to each other.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn to minimize the division of voting precincts.
 - Districts or wards will be geographically compact to the extent practicable, such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for a more distant population.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn to comply with other applicable court decisions and federal and state laws.
 - Districts or wards will be drawn, when feasible, with respect to existing districts and communities of interests, which will require input from Council and the citizens.
- RFA recommends Council give careful consideration to minority districts for compliance with Section 2 criteria of the Voting Rights Act.
- Because of the potential effects of differential privacy, RFA recommends Council adopt a deviation range of 5%.

CHART A-1 POPULATION TREND BY SINGLE RACE, 2000 - 2020



MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - WHITE



MAPS BY SINGLE RACE CATEGORY - BLACK

