



Redistricting: *Drawing Communities Together to Build Power and Thrive!*

Overview

The ANIKA Foundation is a non-profit organization based in North Minneapolis with a statewide footprint. Over 13 years, we've served over 250,000 Minnesotans through our core impact levers centered in health equity, civic engagement and economic empowerment.

We began our work roughly 2.5 years ago as part of the diverse coalition of community based organizations who comprise the - **MN Census Mobilization Project** - who engaged in an intense relational organizing effort across the state. The ANIKA Foundation partnered with Hennepin County, Ramsey County, the City of St. Paul, City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation, and the NAACP and Minneapolis Urban League. We also engaged African American community members in Mankato, St. Cloud, Duluth and Rochester. As a result of our collective efforts, Minnesota was the first in the nation to reach a 75% response rate. We narrowly secured our Congressional seats by 26 respondents.



Our Maps Community of Interest Mapping Session Findings

- In our recent community of interest mapping sessions, with the Our Maps coalition - building on our collective Census 2020 work - recurring themes emerge: PLACE, HISTORY, and CONNECTIONS.
- We hosted 3 sessions in **North & South Minneapolis** and **St. Paul**, with opportunities for community members to participate virtually.
- In the historic U.S. Born African American community, we learned from our Elders the signature places, neighborhoods and people that matter to them. Churches, schools, local businesses, popular intersections, media outlets. **Representation.** We heard how Interstate I-94 disrupted the heart of the Black community in South Minneapolis and the historic Rondo neighborhood in St. Paul. And yet, despite these disruptions, elements of these communities remain in tact until this day.
- People maintain attachments. People don't see lines, they think in terms of safe stable places to raise families, quality education, homeownership; promote cultural districts and connections, and access to jobs.



Community Mapping Overlap: The Intersectionality of our Cultural Communities

- Even as the African American community has grown in areas traditionally known as historically African American, there's been considerable growth of the API and LatinX communities, also in these areas
- Suggests shared affinity, interests and similar cultural values. It also speaks to affordability, access.
- Suggests opportunities for shared growth, development and representation

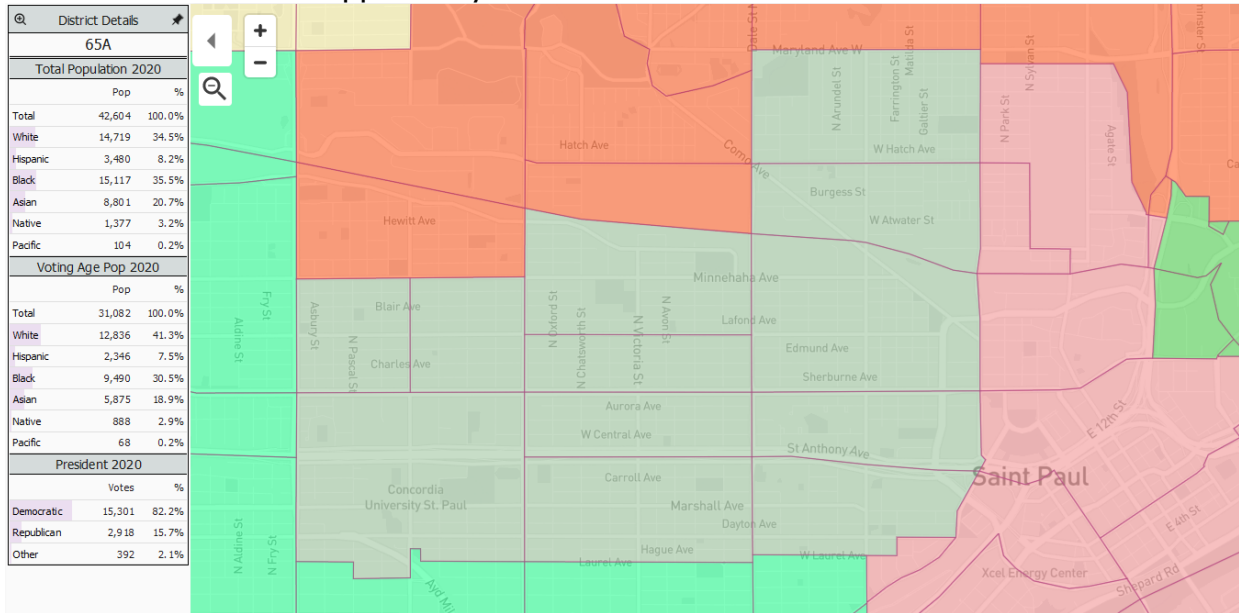


Recommendations

To avoid retrogression and ensure legacy Black communities can select a Candidate that best represents their interests, but would also create an opportunity district for the Asian community in NE St. Paul

St Paul:

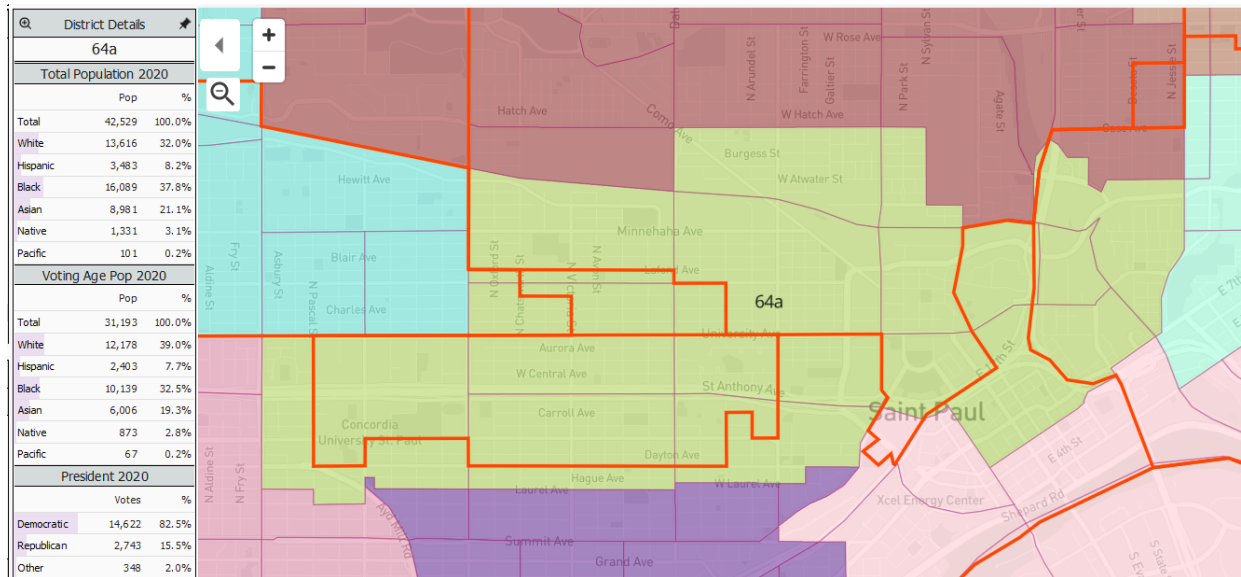
Current AF-American opportunity seat in St Paul:





To maintain African-American opportunity seats and avoid retrocession:

Proposed African American opportunity seat





Rationale

- Currently, there is 1 State House seat where African Americans are a plurality (the Rondo/Frogtown seat, 35.5% AF-Am, 65.5% non-white)
- Population growth matched the state, meaning that it doesn't need to add territory – it can trade it with other seats to enhance the opportunity for A/PI populations to serve as a plurality in a district
- By removing the precincts on the northwest (Ward 4- Precinct 14/15) and the far north Ward 5- Precinct 6) and replacing them with the capitol region and Payne-Phalen area, it increases the AF-Am population to 38%, while ceding plurality white and A/PI precincts to districts in which they would have the plurality

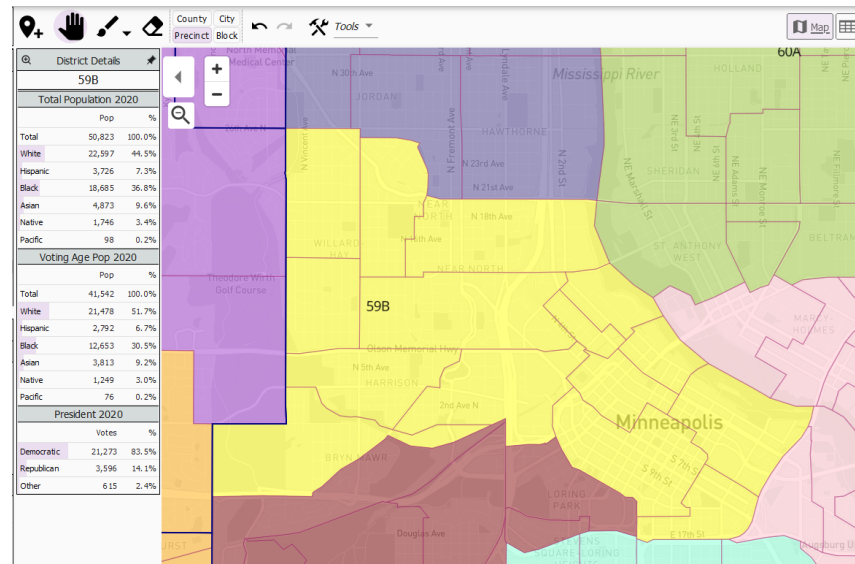
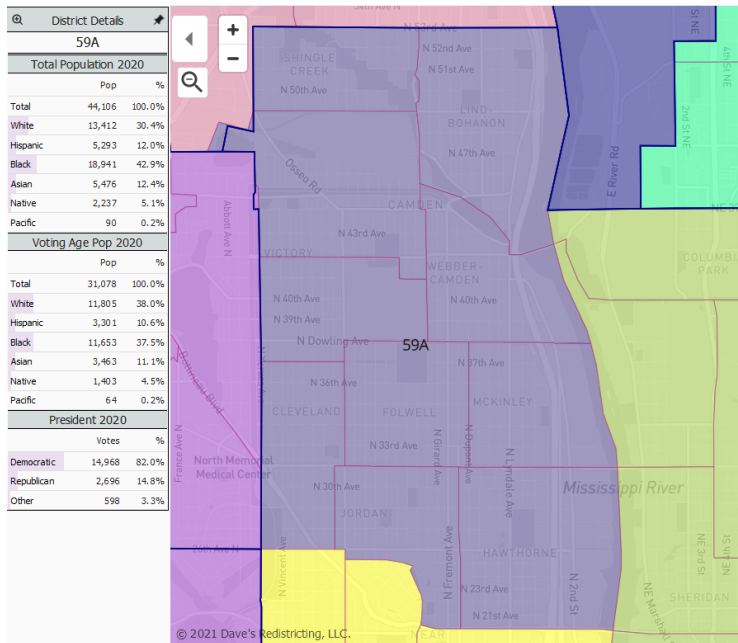


Energizing Communities from within!



North Minneapolis

Current A and B seats in North Minneapolis:

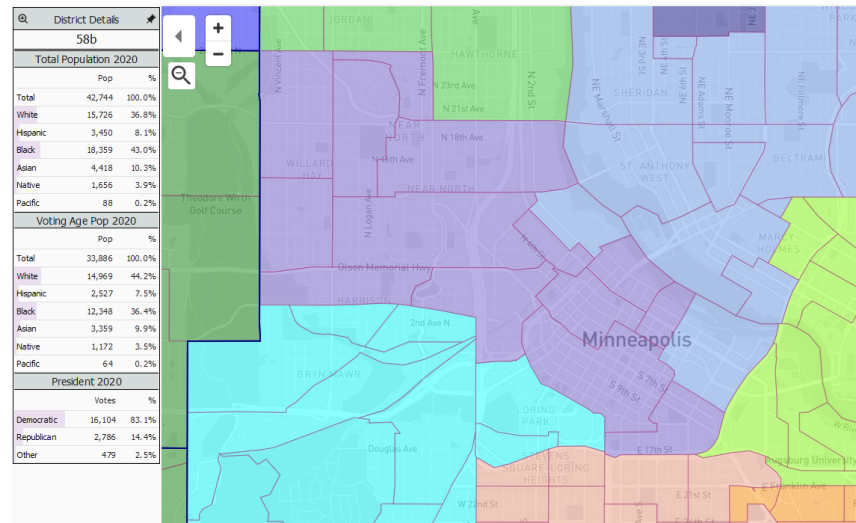
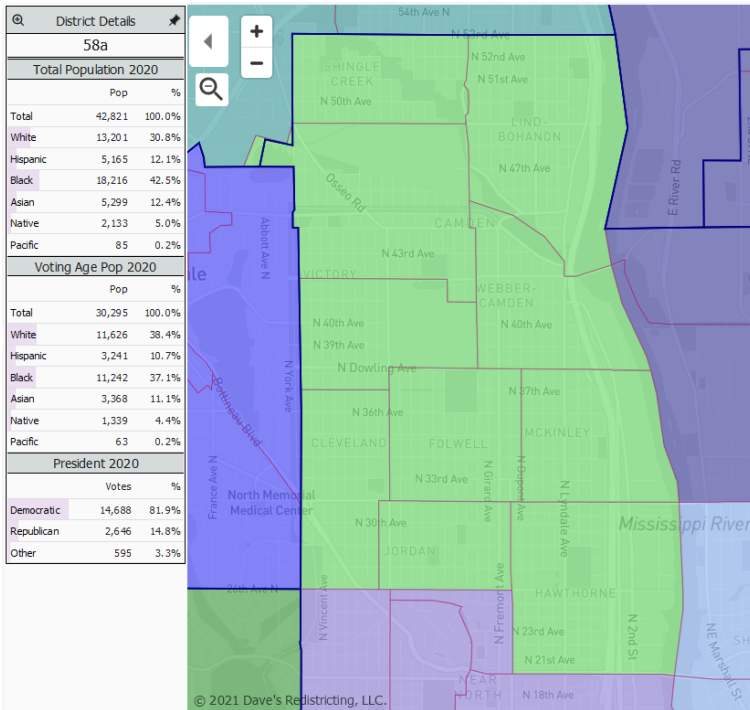




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Proposed A and B seats in North Minneapolis:





Rationale

- Population growth in North Minneapolis exceeded the state, thus both seats (the current 59A on the northern half, and 59B, which contains much of downtown) need to shed population
- Due to heavy growth in downtown, the B side has a smaller African-American % of its population than created in 2012
- African-Americans remain the minority group with the highest population, and still can be the main community in these 2 seats
- The A side can give the B side everything southeast of 26th Ave N and Emerson Ave N to meet population requirements while remaining 42.5% African-American
- To remain an African American plurality district (43% Af-Am), the B side can give up everything south of Glenwood Ave and west of I-94 (Bryn Mawr, the southern part of Harrison), as well as Ward 3 Precinct 7 (which is 84.4% non-Latinx white) and most of W3-P9 in the far eastern corner of downtown where the Mississippi River and 35W meet

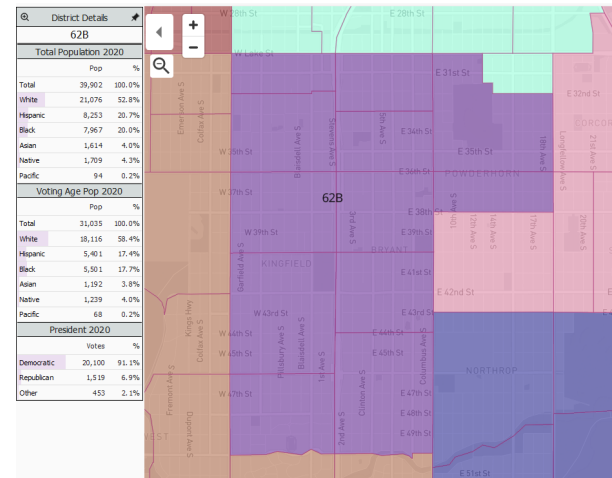
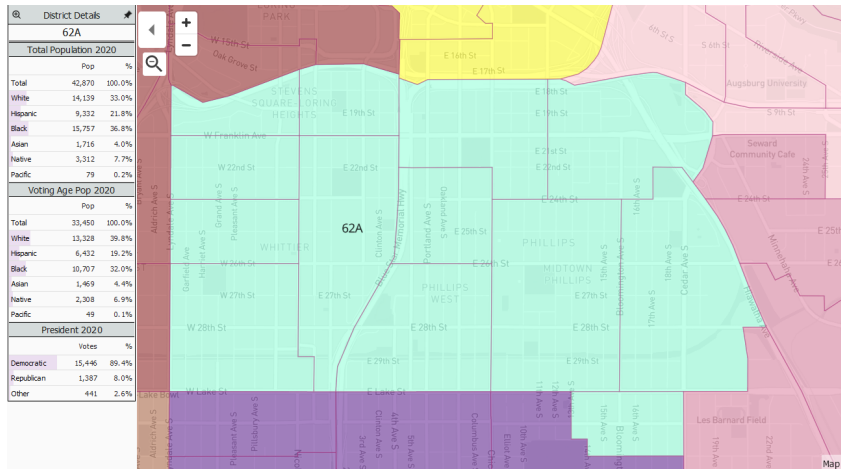


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South Minneapolis

Current A & B district - African-American/Latinx coalition seat in south Minneapolis

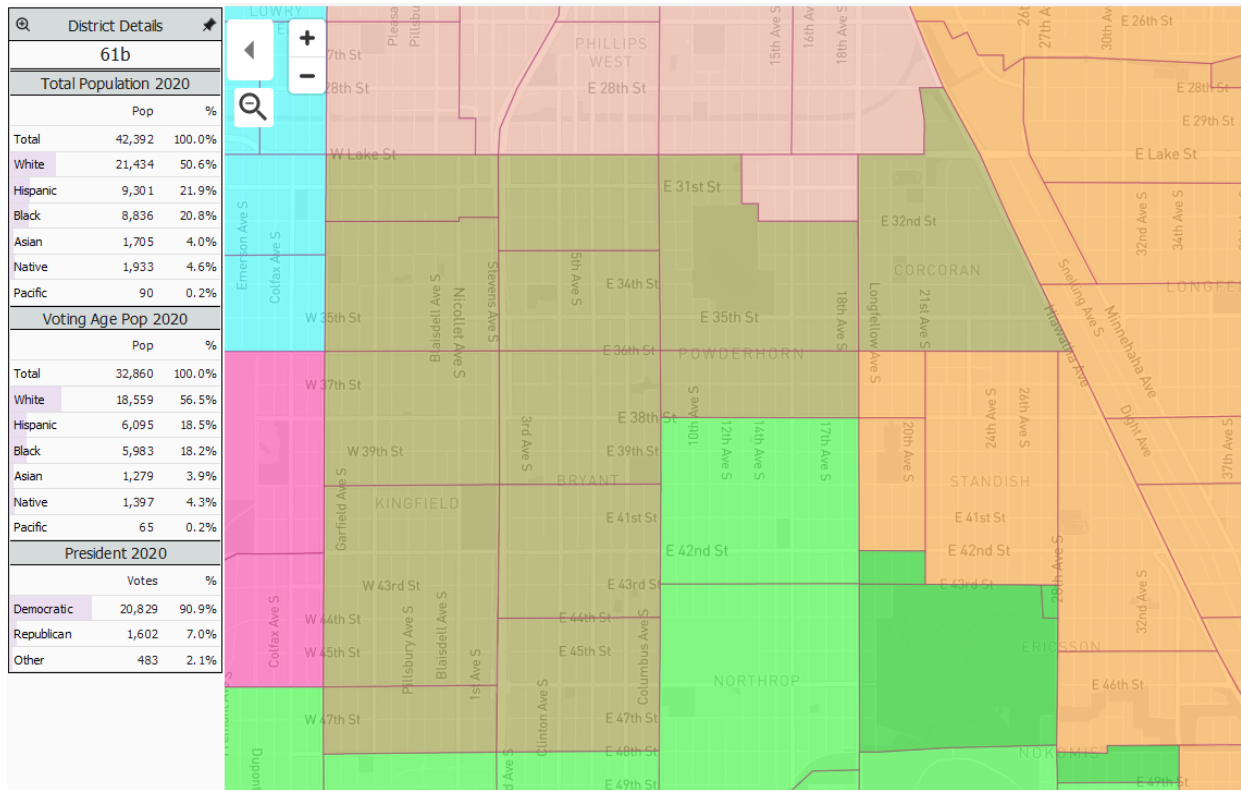




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Proposed B district - African-American/Latinx coalition seat in south Minneapolis





Rationale

- Side A district grew slightly faster than the state, B side did not, and is 2684 people shy of a seat, thus it needs to expand
- A side has an AF-American plurality (37%), with 22% Latinx population, it can essentially remain the same
- B side seat has higher non-Latinx white population than when it formed, up to 53%. To increase its diversity, it needs to add Precinct 9-6, which pushes it over the population requirement. It can then shed the southern parts of Precincts 11-1 and 8-5, which are 70% white. This gets it closer to its 2012 status at 49.4% white



Our asks are simple....

- Keep Communities of Interest centered in your decision-making
- While public entities and law makers seem to largely focus on statistics, *lines*, the community at large have doesn't think along those lines. What matters to them, is PLACE, PEOPLE AND CONNECTIONS
- End Prison Gerrymandering and count prison inmates at their last known address. Hennepin County jails and juvenile detention centers are overly represented by 70% of Black men.
- Compliance with the letter and spirit of the federal Voting Rights Act and its prohibition of vote dilution and of retrogression must remain a primary consideration in redistricting
- As our communities evolve, business development is a key aspiration of our collective communities. Consider how new lines can foster growth, eliminate disparities, increase greater representation for underrepresented communities



For more information:

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