

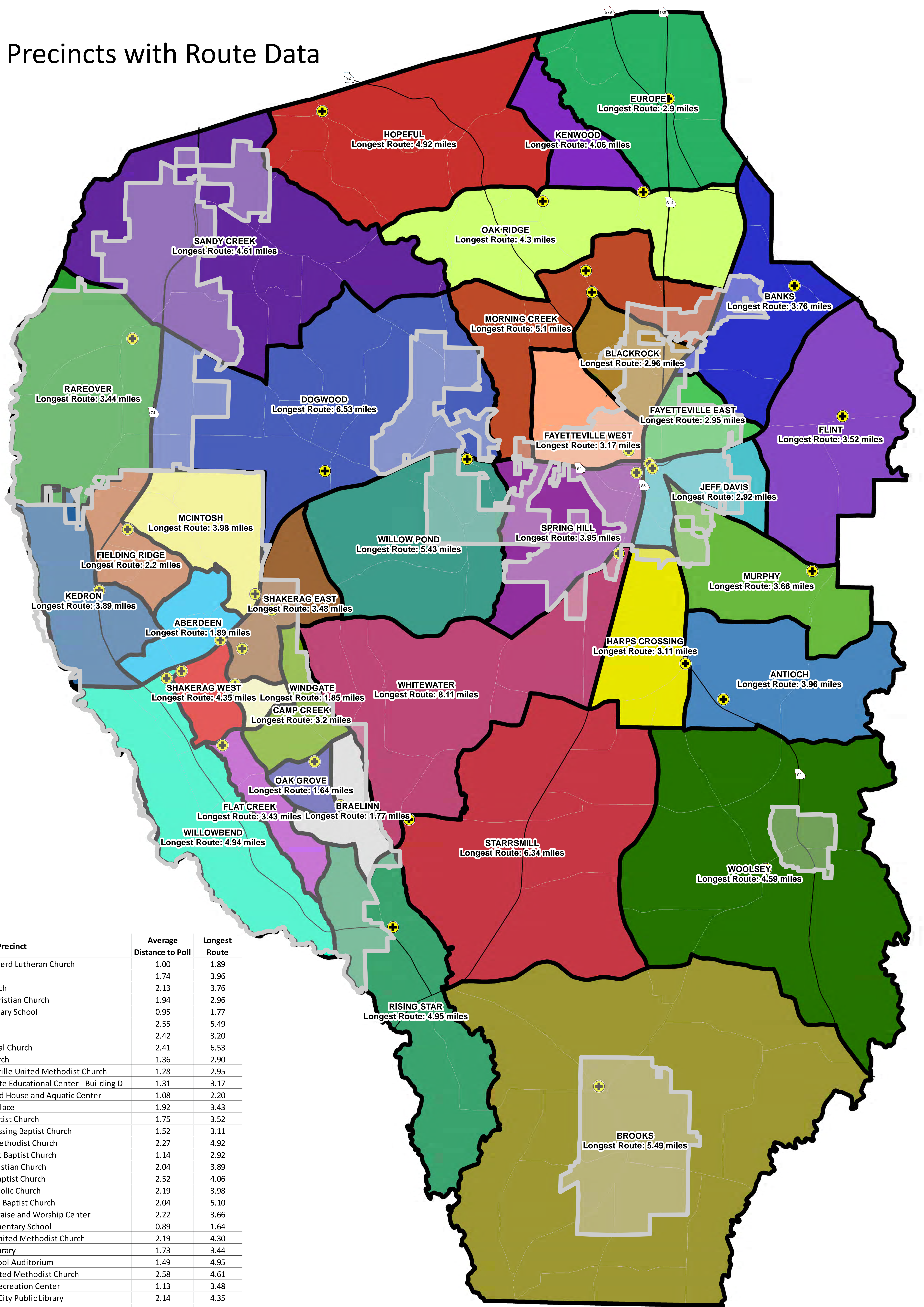
CONSOLIDATING PRECINCTS

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

CURRENT VOTING PRECINCTS

- Fayette County currently has thirty-six voting precincts. The precincts were established at the beginning of 1998 during a time when early voting was not as accessible as today.
- Per law, each precinct must have a manager and two assistant managers. Additional poll workers can be hired as needed for election day. This means that Fayette County must hire 36 managers, 72 assistant managers, and additional staff for to conduct elections. This requirement necessarily creates departmental inefficiencies and high taxpayer expenses.
- Many of the polling locations are next to each other or only a few miles separated from each other.
- Current precincts result in many voters having to vote in dual locations.
- Although the current system is seen as ineffective and overly costly, it is a tried and true system.
- The provided map of the current precincts provides the precincts, shows the cities and towns in the shaded areas, and provides the longest route per miles a person would have to drive to get to their current precinct's polling location.

Current Precincts with Route Data



Precinct	Average Distance to Poll	Longest Route
ABERDEEN - Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church	1.00	1.89
ANTIOCH - Antioch	1.74	3.96
BANKS - Berachah Bible Church	2.13	3.76
BLACKROCK - Fayetteville Christian Church	1.94	2.96
BRAELINN - Braelinn Elementary School	0.95	1.77
BROOKS - Brooks	2.55	5.49
CAMP CREEK - Camp Creek	2.42	3.20
DOGWOOD - Grace Evangelical Church	2.41	6.53
EUROPE - Liberty Baptist Church	1.36	2.90
FAYETTEVILLE EAST - Fayetteville United Methodist Church	1.28	2.95
FAYETTEVILLE WEST - LaFayette Educational Center - Building D	1.31	3.17
FIELDING RIDGE - Kedron Field House and Aquatic Center	1.08	2.20
FLAT CREEK - The Gathering Place	1.92	3.43
FLINT - McDonough Road Baptist Church	1.75	3.52
HARPS CROSSING - Harps Crossing Baptist Church	1.52	3.11
HOPEFUL - Bethany United Methodist Church	2.27	4.92
JEFF DAVIS - Fayetteville First Baptist Church	1.14	2.92
KEDRON - Peachtree City Christian Church	2.04	3.89
KENWOOD - North Fayette Baptist Church	2.52	4.06
MCINTOSH - Holy Trinity Catholic Church	2.19	3.98
MORNING CREEK - New Hope Baptist Church	2.04	5.10
MURPHY - New Beginnings Praise and Worship Center	2.22	3.66
OAK GROVE - Oak Grove Elementary School	0.89	1.64
OAK RIDGE - North Fayette United Methodist Church	2.19	4.30
RAREOVER - Tyrone Public Library	1.73	3.44
RISING STAR - Rising Star School Auditorium	1.49	4.95
SANDY CREEK - Hopewell United Methodist Church	2.58	4.61
SHAKERAG EAST - Glenloch Recreation Center	1.13	3.48
SHAKERAG WEST - Peachtree City Public Library	2.14	4.35
SPRING HILL - Fayette County Public Library	1.88	3.95
STARRSMILL - Heritage Christian Church	3.21	6.34
WHITEWATER - Fayetteville Church of Christ	4.08	8.11
WILLOW POND - National Heights Baptist Church	2.02	5.43
WILLOWBEND - First Baptist Church of Peachtree City	1.51	4.94
WINDGATE - Evergreen Church	0.91	1.85
WOOLSEY - Woolsey Baptist Church	1.95	4.59
Average	1.87	3.93

Legend

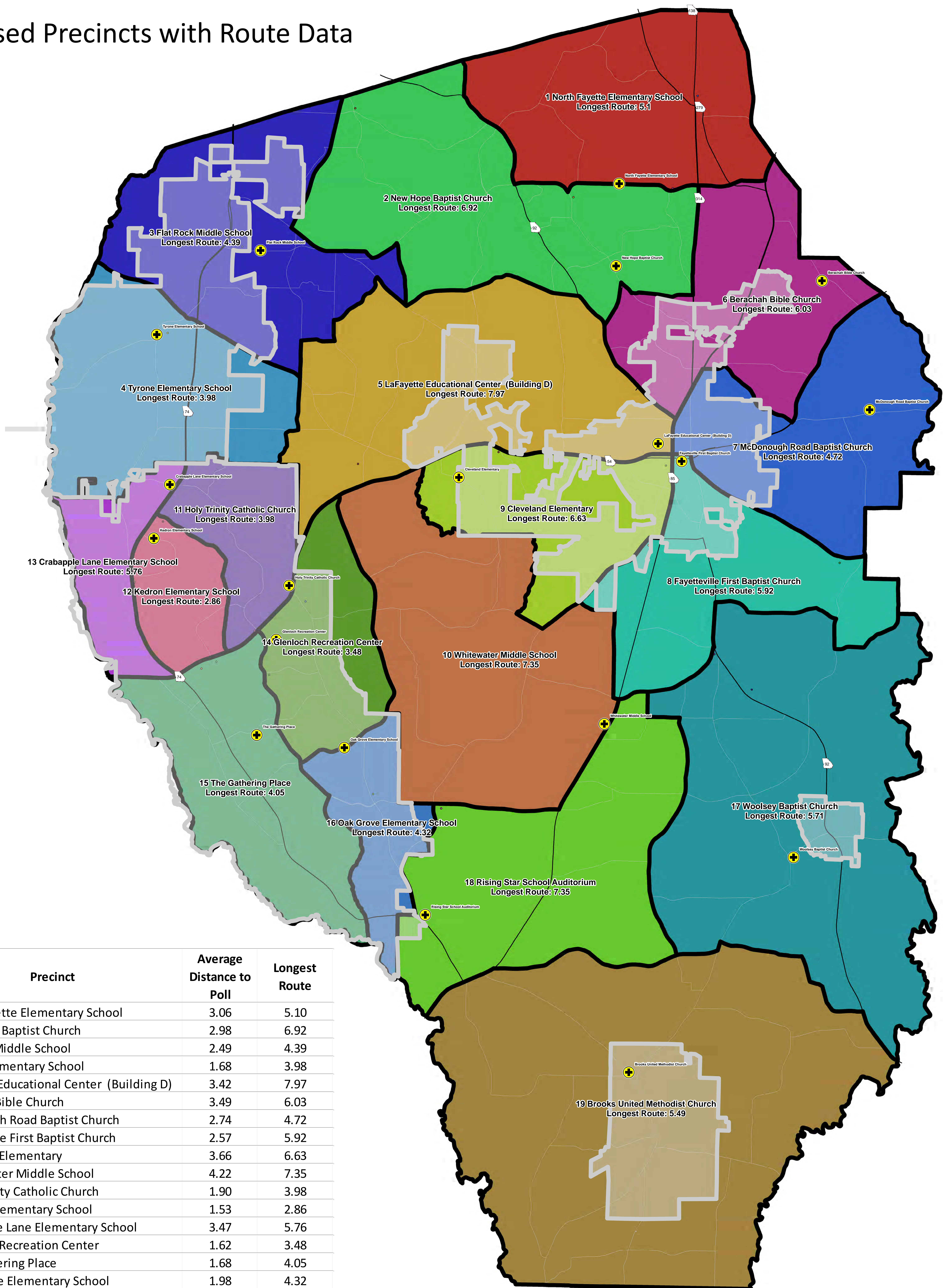
- City Limits
- Polling Locations

ABERDEEN	BRAELINN	EUROPE	FLAT CREEK	JEFF DAVIS	MORNING CREEK	RAREOVER	SHAKERAG WEST	WILLOW POND
ANTIOCH	BROOKS	FAYETTEVILLE EAST	FLINT	KEDRON	MURPHY	RISING STAR	SPRING HILL	WILLOWBEND
BANKS	CAMP CREEK	FAYETTEVILLE WEST	HARPS CROSSING	KENWOOD	OAK GROVE	SANDY CREEK	STARRSMILL	WINDGATE
BLACKROCK	DOGWOOD	FIELDING RIDGE	HOPEFUL	MCINTOSH	OAK RIDGE	SHAKERAG EAST	WHITEWATER	WOOLSEY

PROPOSED CONSOLIDATED PRECINCTS

- Discussion about the need to consolidate precincts began in 2012. The proposal is to consolidate the 36 precincts into 19 precincts.
- Consolidation of precincts is more cost efficient since it will require the hiring and training of less staff- resulting in more cost savings.
- Several counties in Georgia have consolidated precincts. This effort seems to be gaining popularity since voters now can vote up to 45 days in advance prior to election day.
- Consolidating precincts will correct many- but not all- of the dual-voting precincts currently in existence. Dual voting precincts require city residents to vote for city matters at a polling location within the city while requiring the same residents to vote at a polling place in the unincorporated county for county and state matters.
- Consolidation may involve utilizing more schools throughout the county since many of the schools are located in needed areas, have adequate parking for larger numbers of voters, and are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- The provided map pictures the proposed consolidated precincts, the city / town lines, and initially proposed polling locations for each of the 19 polling precincts.

Proposed Precincts with Route Data



Precinct	Average Distance to Poll	Longest Route
1 - North Fayette Elementary School	3.06	5.10
2 - New Hope Baptist Church	2.98	6.92
3 - Flat Rock Middle School	2.49	4.39
4 - Tyrone Elementary School	1.68	3.98
5 - LaFayette Educational Center (Building D)	3.42	7.97
6 - Berachah Bible Church	3.49	6.03
7 - McDonough Road Baptist Church	2.74	4.72
8 - Fayetteville First Baptist Church	2.57	5.92
9 - Cleveland Elementary	3.66	6.63
10 - Whitewater Middle School	4.22	7.35
11 - Holy Trinity Catholic Church	1.90	3.98
12 - Kedron Elementary School	1.53	2.86
13 - Crabapple Lane Elementary School	3.47	5.76
14 - Glenloch Recreation Center	1.62	3.48
15 - The Gathering Place	1.68	4.05
16 - Oak Grove Elementary School	1.98	4.32
17 - Woolsey Baptist Church	3.12	5.71
18 - Rising Star School Auditorium	3.23	7.35
19 - Brooks United Methodist Church	2.75	5.49
Average	2.70	5.37

Polling Locations
 City Limits
 City Limits

1	4	7	10	13	16	19
2	5	8	11	14	17	
3	6	9	12	15	18	

QUICK FACTS

The average number of voters per current precincts is 2,090

Precinct 23 (Kenwood) has the lowest number of registered voters at 865

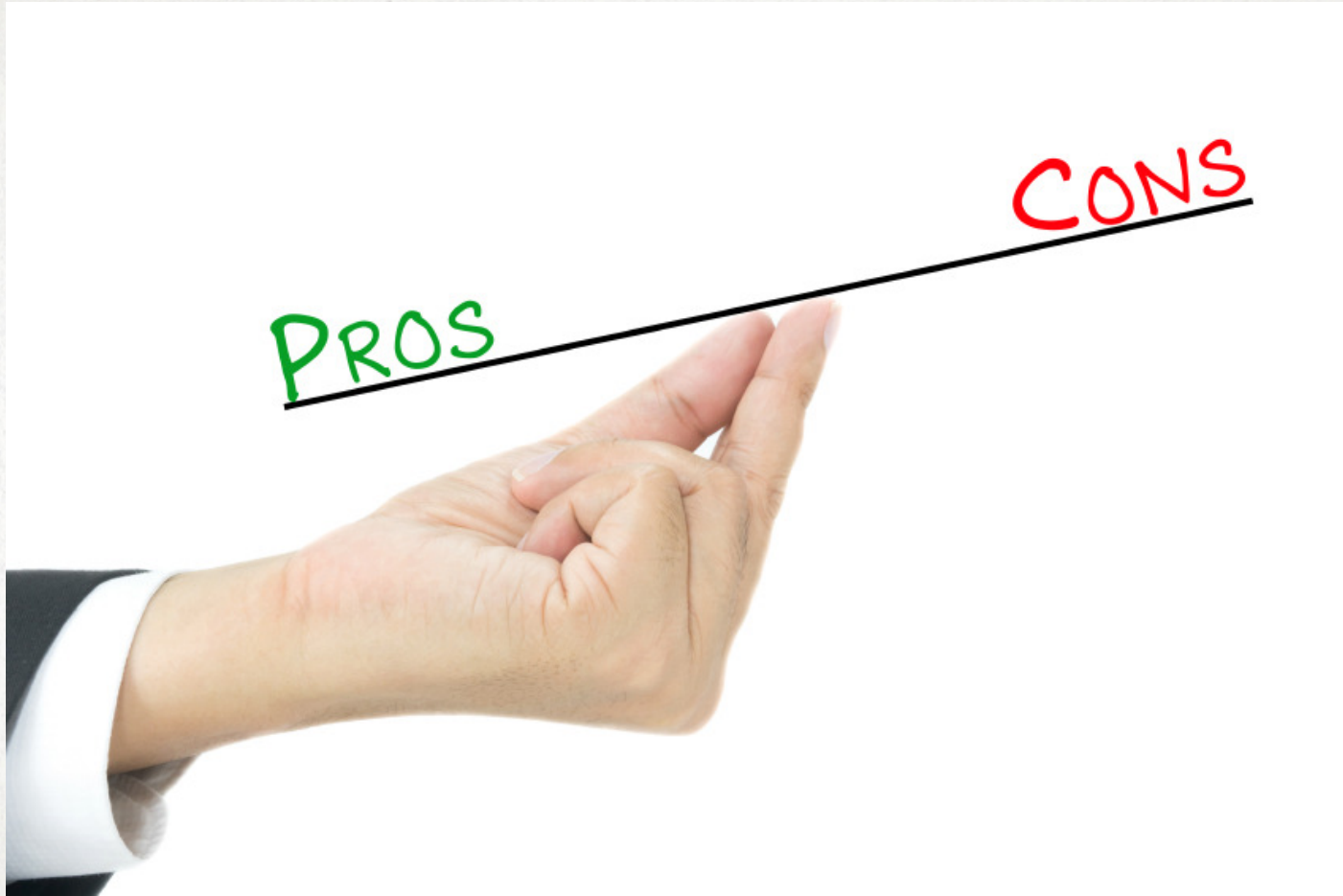
Precinct 10 (Sandy Creek) has the highest number of registered voters at 3,600

CONSOLIDATING PRECINCTS WOULD CHANGE THE NUMBERS OF REGISTERED VOTERS PER PRECINCT

The average number of registered voters per consolidated precincts is 4,595, representing a 45% increase

Proposed Precinct 19 (Brooks and Rising Starr) would have the lowest number of registered voters at 2,796

Proposed Precinct 16 (Braelinn, Oak Grove and Rising Starr) would have the highest number of registered voters at 5,687



“PROS” FOR CONSOLIDATING PRECINCTS

- Consolidated precincts address the rising popularity of early voting.
- Consolidated precincts could result in potential cost savings, however, the larger the election the less cost savings will be realized.
- Consolidated precincts may result in aligning municipal / county polling places allowing municipal voters to vote in one location. Since 1998, the county has had numerous annexations requiring voters to go to two locations to vote during city and county elections.
- Consolidated precincts may increase efficiency since staff will have to recruit and train fewer poll managers and assistant managers. Consolidated precincts will reduce time spent on restocking, packing, and unpacking supplies.
- Consolidated precincts require less machine maintenance costs since, potentially, fewer machines will be used based on the size and scope of the election. (SPLOST Election has need for fewer machines than a Presidential Election.)
- Consolidated precincts helps other county departments such as Building and Grounds and the Sheriff’s Office who assist the Elections Office with personnel and law enforcement.

“CONS” FOR CONSOLIDATING PRECINCTS

- Consolidating precincts has caused concern that there may be voter suppression due to reduced access to physical polling places resulting in less voter turnout
- Consolidating precincts may cause potential distrust among the voters in the county's elections process.
- Consolidating precincts may have less cost savings than first perceived as additional clerks will be staffed for large elections with greater voter turnout
- Consolidating precincts can result in confusion since voters have been voting at the same physical locations for over 19 years
- Consolidating precincts does not account for the growing voter registration in the county. Even using a 50% basis of voters taking advantage of early voting, the county needs to plan for the growing numbers of voters who do not vote early. If precincts are consolidated, the growing number of voters could cause the need for additional precincts to be re-created

“CONS” FOR CONSOLIDATING PRECINCTS

- Consolidating precincts may result in minimal return and/or a “redo” based on the upcoming 2020 Census
- Consolidating precincts may result in locating new, larger polling places. As mentioned by Ms. Watts, locating adequate polling places for larger numbers of voters may be problematic
- Consolidating precincts, at this time, will occur with little to no support from the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office. (It is noted that statewide support is anticipated after the 2020 Census.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- If you have any questions or need further information on this matter, please email Elections Supervisor Floyd Jones at fjones@fayettecountyga.gov.
- The Board of Elections is scheduled to vote on the question of consolidating precincts on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will take place in the Public Meeting Room located at the Fayette County Administrative Complex located at 140 Stonewall Avenue West, Suite 100, Fayetteville, Georgia 30214.