

**PANOLA COUNTY, TEXAS – 2021 REDISTRICTING PROJECT:**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Panola County, Texas (“County”), by and through its governing body, the Panola County Commissioners Court (“Commissioners Court”), will hold a public meeting at the following date, time, and location -- and at that meeting will conduct a public hearing regarding the County’s 2021 Redistricting Project (“Project”):

DATE: October 21, 2021  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
LOCATION: Panola County Commissioners Room  
110 S. Sycamore, Room 102-A  
Panola, TX 75633

According to the 2020 United States Census data, the County’s commissioner precincts are not of sufficiently equal population and must be redrawn to comply with the “one-person, one-vote” principle established by the United States Constitution and other authority. The Commissioners Court is considering new boundaries for its commissioner precincts. The purpose of the public hearing is to discuss potential options for the drawing of those new boundaries in compliance with the law for the Project.

The Commissioners Court adopted Guidelines for public participation regarding the Project. The Guidelines may be reviewed and downloaded from the County’s website at [www.co.panola.tx.us](http://www.co.panola.tx.us). The Guidelines, among other things, require that: (1) all comments be submitted in writing, even if made orally at the public hearing; and (2) all written comments must be delivered to the County by the close of the public hearing. Also, any redistricting plan submitted to the County for consideration must conform to the redistricting Criteria adopted by the Commissioners Court. The Criteria may be reviewed and downloaded from the County’s website at [www.co.panola.tx.us](http://www.co.panola.tx.us).

The Commissioners Court encourages participation in the redistricting process for the Project and invites all interested persons to attend the meeting and participate in the public hearing.

THE STATE OF TEXAS           §  
  §  
THE COUNTY OF PANOLA       §

**ORDER ADOPTING CRITERIA  
FOR USE IN 2021 REDISTRICTING PROCESS**

WHEREAS, this Commissioners Court has certain responsibilities for redistricting under federal and state law including but not limited to Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, U.S.C.A.; section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 52 U.S.C.A. §10301; article 5, section 18 of the Texas Constitution; Texas Local Government Code §81.021; and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2058.001 and 2058.002; and

WHEREAS, a review of the 2020 census data reveals that a population imbalance exists among the County's commissioner precincts requiring redistricting of those commissioner precincts; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the County to comply with the Voting Rights Act and with all other relevant law, including *Shaw v. Reno* jurisprudence; and

WHEREAS, a set of established redistricting criteria will serve as a framework to guide the County in the formulation and consideration of districting plans; and

WHEREAS, redistricting criteria will provide the County a means by which to evaluate proposed plans; and

WHEREAS, redistricting criteria will assist the County in its efforts to comply with all applicable federal and state laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that the County, in its adoption of a redistricting plan for commissioner precincts, will adhere to the following criteria to the greatest extent possible when establishing new commissioner precinct boundaries:

To the extent practicable:

1. Easily identifiable geographic boundaries should be followed.
2. Communities of interest should be maintained in a single commissioner precinct, and attempts should be made to avoid splitting neighborhoods.
3. Commissioner precincts should be composed of whole voting precincts. Where this is not possible or practicable, commissioner precincts should be drawn in a way that permits the creation of practical election precincts and that ensures (i) that adequate facilities for polling places exist in election precincts; or, as applicable, (ii) that efficient ballot preparation be facilitated

for elections conducted at vote centers in the County. Avoid splitting census blocks unless necessary.

4. Although it is recognized that existing commissioner precincts will have to be altered to reflect new population distribution in the County, any districting plan should be based on existing commissioner precincts.
5. Commissioner precincts must be configured so that they are relatively equal in total population according to the 2020 federal census. In no event should the total population deviation between the largest and the smallest commissioner precinct exceed ten percent as compared to the ideal precinct size.
6. The commissioner precincts should be compact and composed of contiguous territory. Compactness may contain a functional, as well as a geographical, dimension.
7. Consideration may be given to the preservation of incumbent-constituency relations by recognition of the residence of incumbents and their history in representing certain areas.
8. The plan should be narrowly tailored to avoid racial gerrymandering in violation of *Shaw v. Reno*.
9. The plan should not fragment a geographically compact minority community or pack minority voters in the presence of polarized voting or otherwise discriminate against protected groups so as to create liability under the Voting Rights Act.

The Commissioners Court will review all plans considering these criteria and will evaluate how well each plan conforms to the criteria.

Any plan submitted to the Commissioners Court by a citizen for its consideration should be a complete plan—*i.e.*, it should all four commissioner precincts and should redistrict the entire County. The Court may decline to consider any plan that is not a complete plan.

All plans submitted by citizens, as well as plans submitted by staff, consultants, and members of the Commissioners Court should conform to these criteria.

This resolution shall be effective upon passage by the Commissioners Court.

BE IT SO ORDERED.

Adopted on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

PANOLA COUNTY, TEXAS

LeeAnn Jones  
LeeAnn Jones, County Judge

William R. Alexander  
William R. Alexander, Commissioner, Precinct 1

David A. Cole  
David A. Cole, Commissioner, Precinct 2

Craig M. Lawless  
Craig M. Lawless, Commissioner, Precinct 3

Glen Dale LaGrone  
Glen Dale LaGrone, Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Bobbie Davis  
Bobbie Davis, County Clerk





THE STATE OF TEXAS           §  
  §  
THE COUNTY OF PANOLA       §

**GUIDELINES FOR PERSONS SUBMITTING  
SPECIFIC REDISTRICTING PROPOSALS  
AND PROVIDING COMMENTS**

WHEREAS, this Commissioners Court has certain responsibilities for redistricting the county commissioner precincts under federal and state law including but not limited to Amendments 14 and 15 to the United States Constitution, U.S.C.A. and Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 52 U.S.C.A. §10301; article 5, section 18 of the Texas Constitution; and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§ 2058.001 and 2058.002; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the orderly consideration and evaluation of redistricting plans which may come before the Court; and

WHEREAS, these guidelines relate to persons who have specific redistricting plans they wish the Court to consider; and

WHEREAS, the Court also welcomes any comments relevant to the redistricting process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in order to make sure that any comments regarding the redistricting process and any redistricting plan that might be submitted are of maximum assistance to the Court in its decision-making process, the Court hereby sets the following guidelines to be followed by each person submitting a comment or a redistricting plan for consideration:

1. Proposed plans must be submitted in writing and be legible. If a plan is submitted orally, there is significant opportunity for misunderstanding, and it is possible that errors may be made in analyzing it. The Court wants to be sure that all proposals are fully and accurately considered.
2. Any plan must show the total population and voting age population for African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Anglo/Other for each proposed commissioner precinct based on the 2020 Census Data. If a plan is submitted without a population breakdown, the Court may not have sufficient information to give it full consideration.
3. Plans should redistrict the entire county. The Court, of course, will be considering the effect of any plan on the entire county. Any plan is subject to the Voting Rights Act, which protects various racial and language minorities. Thus, as a matter of federal law, the Court will be required to consider the effect of any proposal on multiple racial and ethnic groups. If a plan does not redistrict the entire county, it may be impossible for the Court to assess its impact on one or more protected minority groups.

4. Plans should conform to the redistricting criteria the Court will be using in drawing the commissioner precincts.
5. Comments must be submitted in writing and be legible, even if the person also makes the comments orally at a public hearing.
6. Persons providing comments and those submitting proposed plans must identify themselves by full name and home address and provide a phone number and, if available, an email address. The Court may wish to follow up on such comments or obtain additional information about submitted plans.
7. All comments and proposed plans must be submitted to the Commissioners Court by the close of the public hearing.

This resolution shall be effective upon passage by the Commissioners Court.

BE IT SO ORDERED.

Adopted on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 2021.

PANOLA COUNTY, TEXAS

*LeeAnn Jones*

LeeAnn Jones, County Judge

*William R. Alexander*

William R. Alexander, Commissioner, Precinct 1

*David A. Cole*

David A. Cole, Commissioner, Precinct 2

*Craig M. Lawless*

Craig M. Lawless, Commissioner, Precinct 3

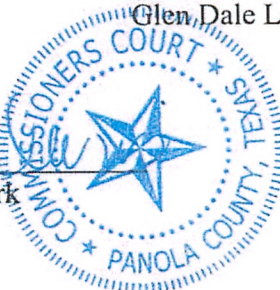
*Glen Dale LaGrone*

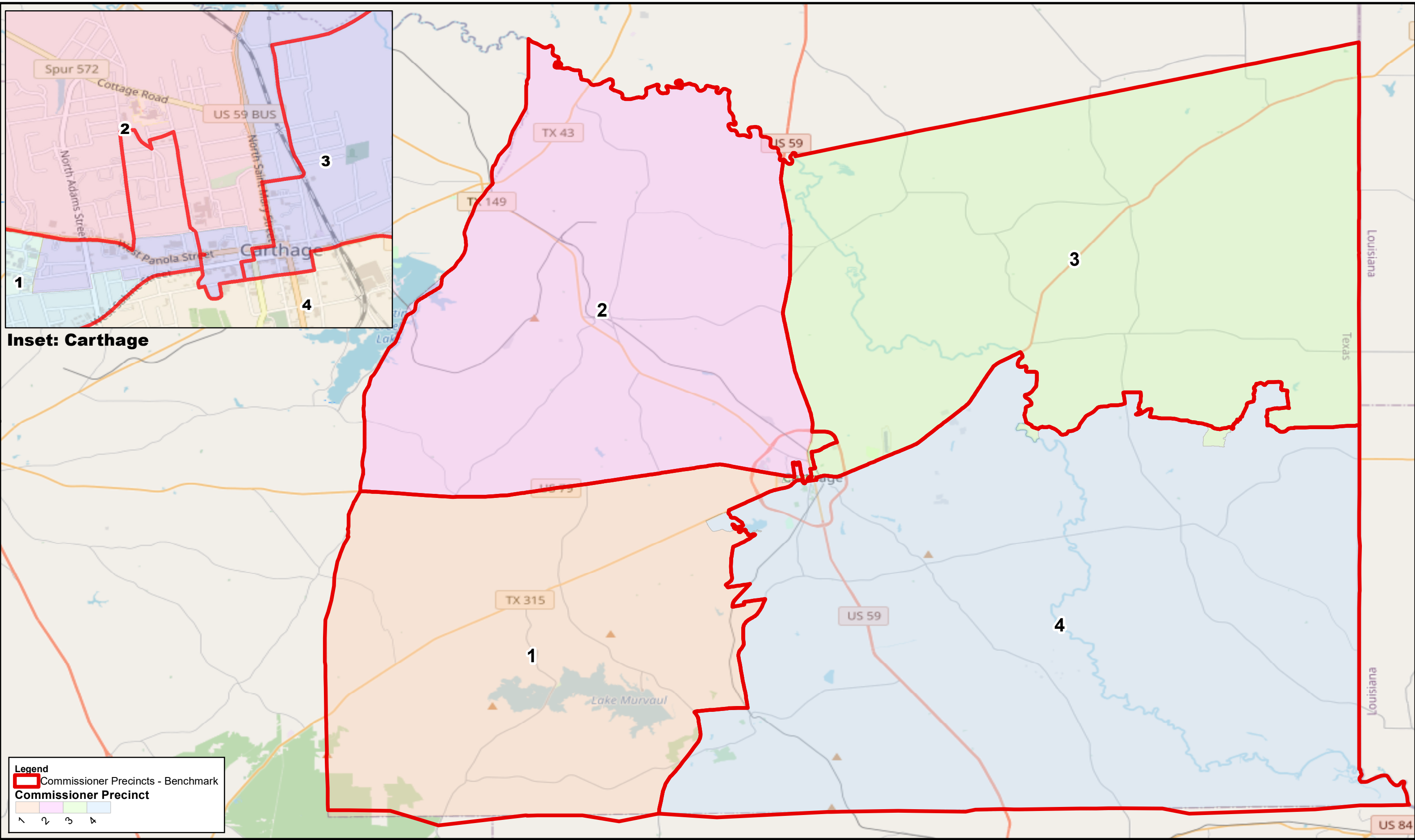
Glen Dale LaGrone, Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

*Bobbie Davis*

Bobbie Davis, County Clerk

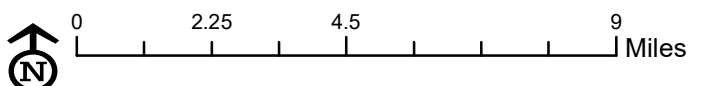




**Inset: Carthage**

**Legend**

Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark  
**Commissioner Precinct**  
 1  
 2  
 3  
 4



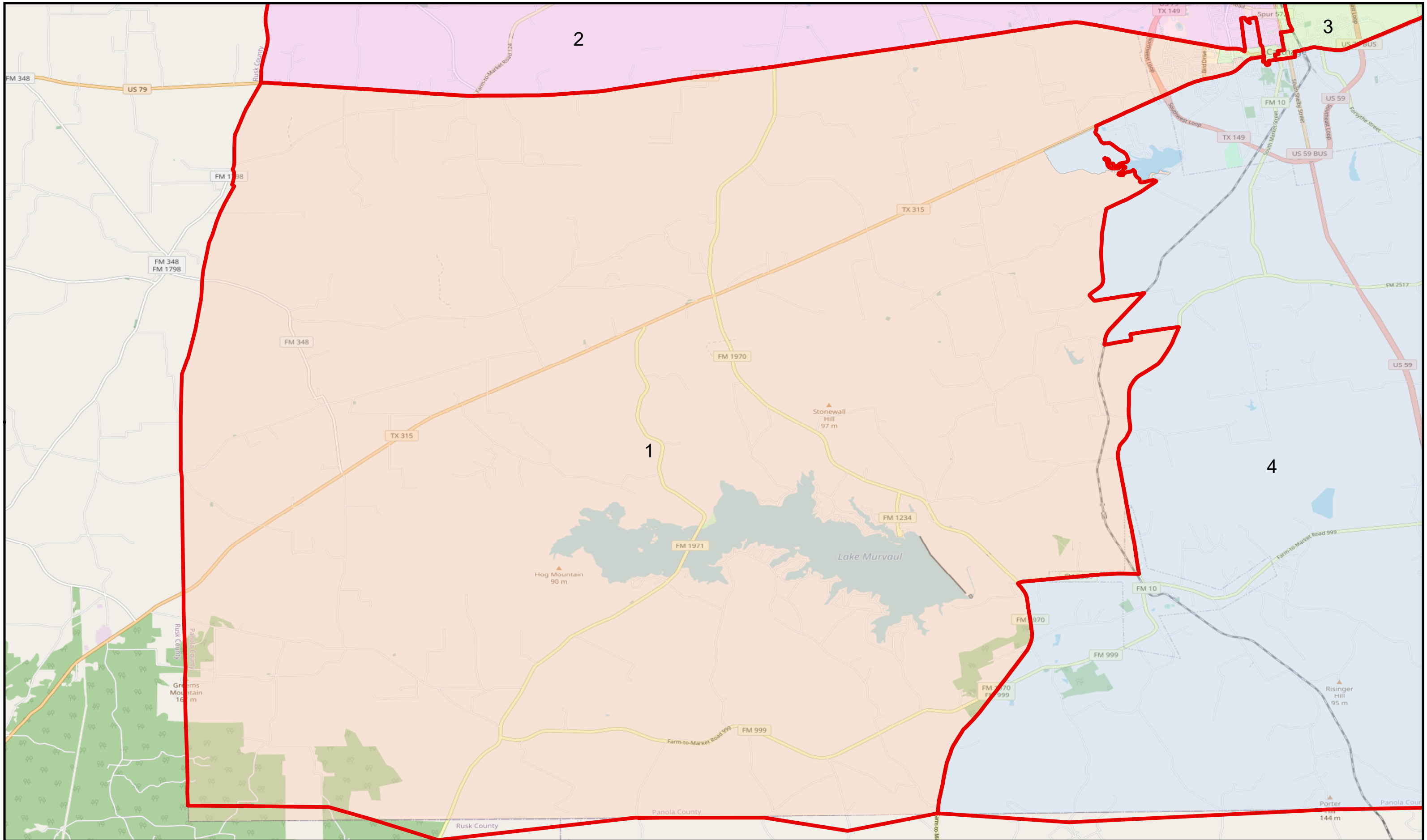
# Panola County Commissioner Precincts Plan B

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 Data Source: Roads, Water and other features obtained from the 2020 Tiger/line files, U.S. Census Bureau




Background Image: ESRI World Street Map  
 Date Created: 10/14/21










 0 1 2 4 Miles  
 Background Image: ESRI World Street Map  
 Date Created: 10/14/21

**Legend**

 Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark

 Commissioner Precinct - Plan B

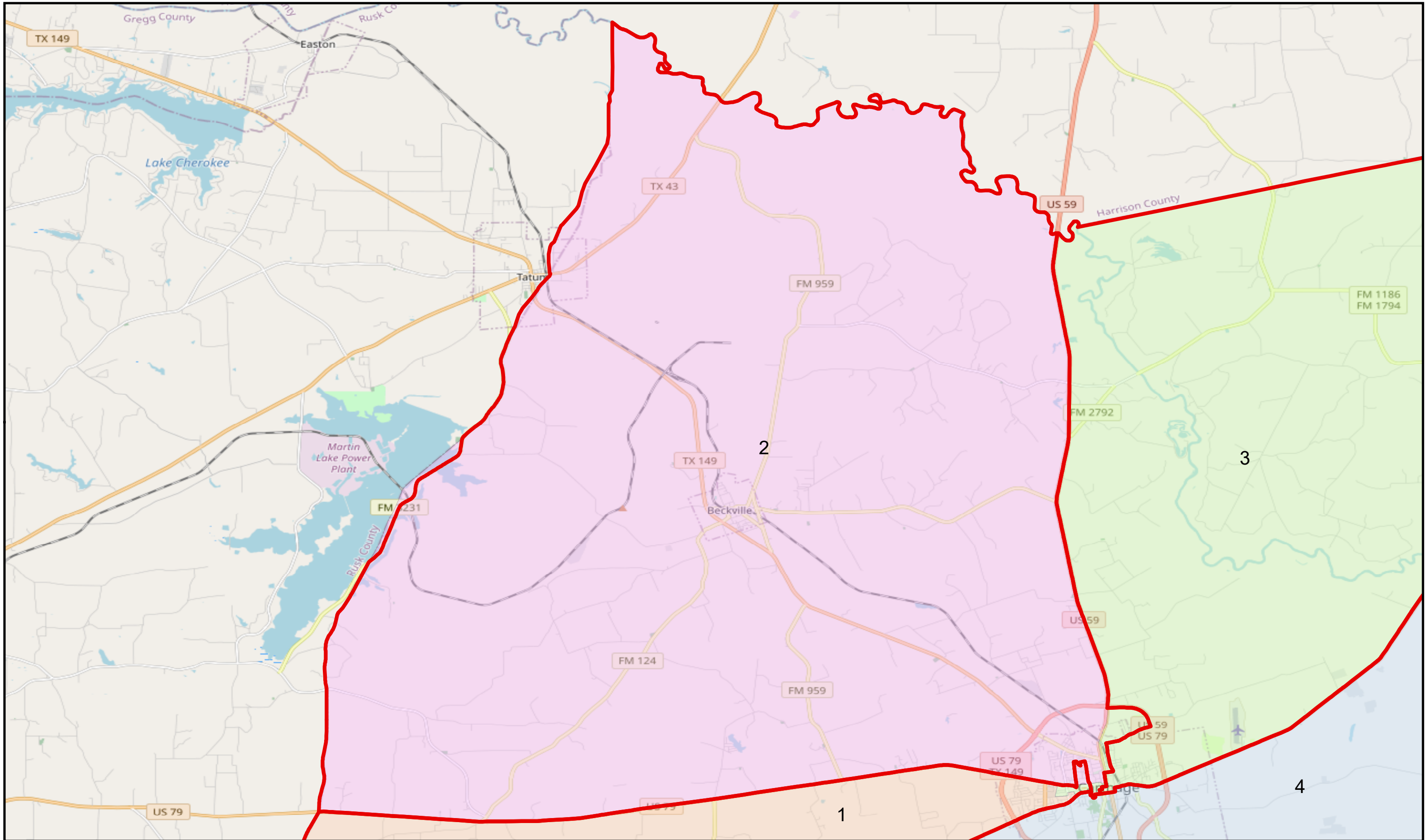





## Panola County Commissioner Precincts Plan B

### Precinct 1



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








 0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles  
 Background Image: ESRI World Street Map  
 Date Created: 10/14/21

**Legend**

-  Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark
-  Commissioner Precinct - Plan B

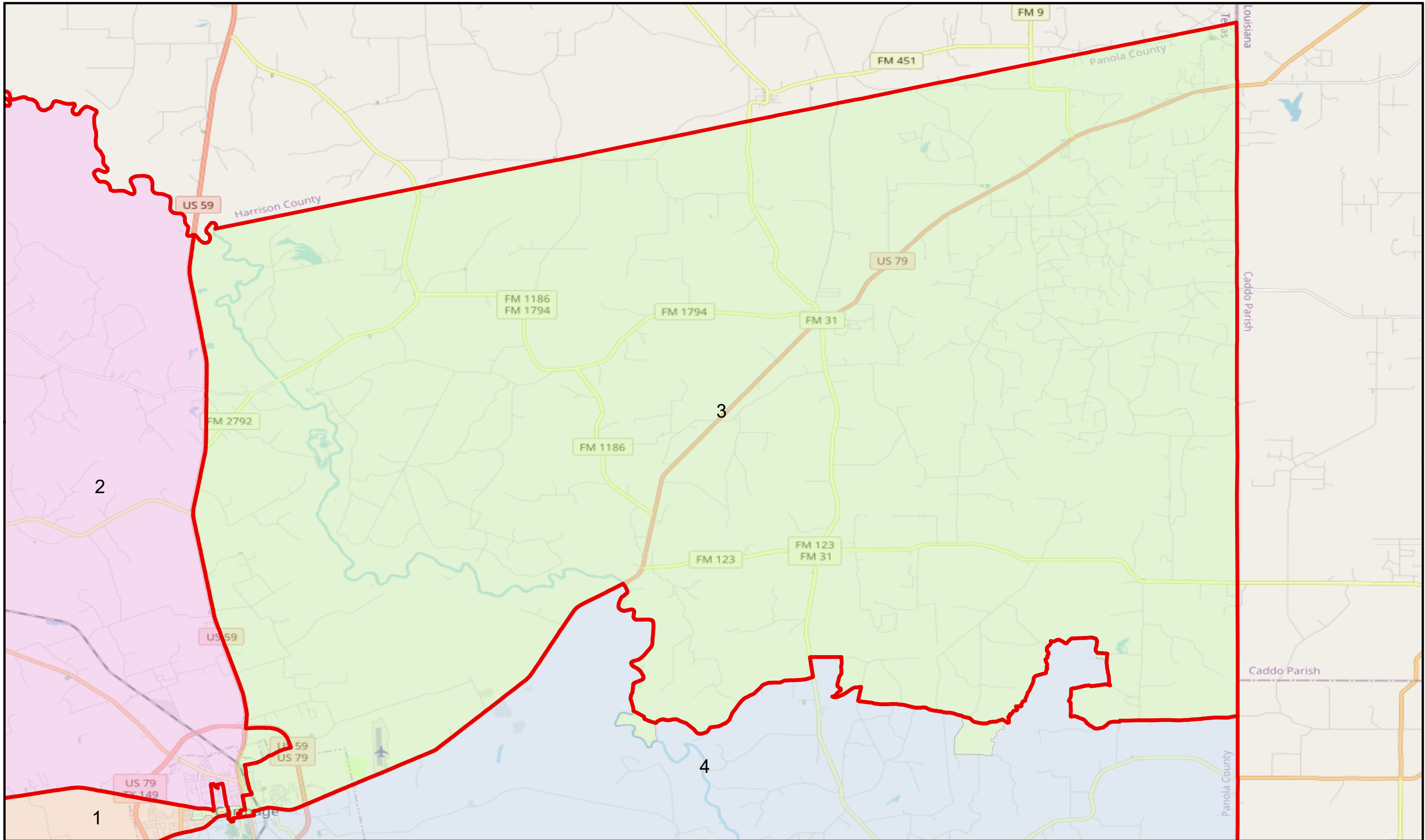
**Panola County  
Commissioner Precincts  
Plan B**


**Precinct 2**

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 features obtained from the 2020  
 Tiger/line files, U.S. Census Bureau














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 Date Created: 10/14/21

**Legend**

-  Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark
-  Commissioner Precinct - Plan B

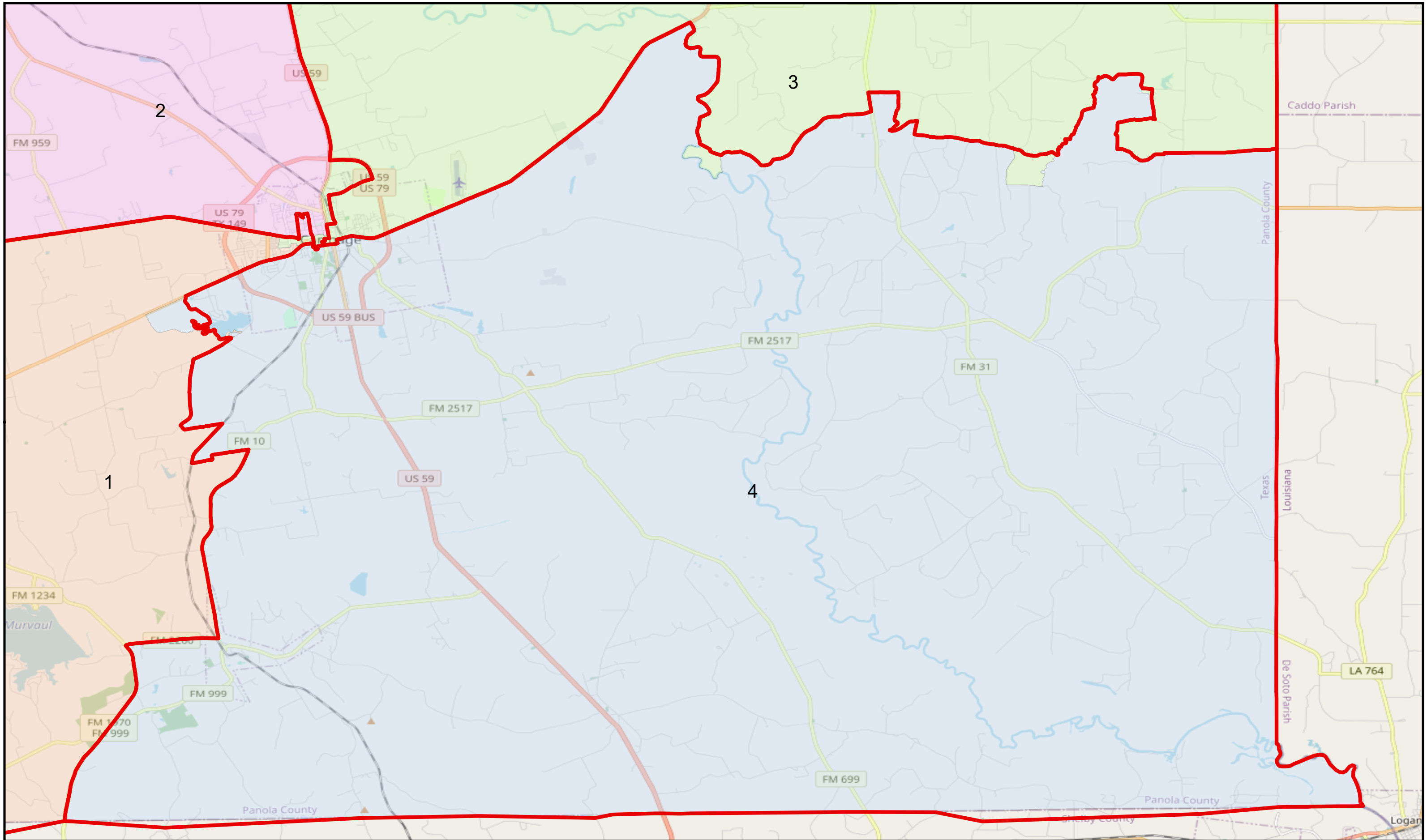
**Panola County**  
**Commissioner Precincts**  
**Plan B**


**Precinct 3**

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






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 Date Created: 10/14/21

**Legend**

 Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark

 Commissioner Precinct - Plan B

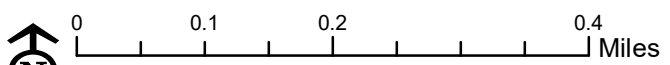
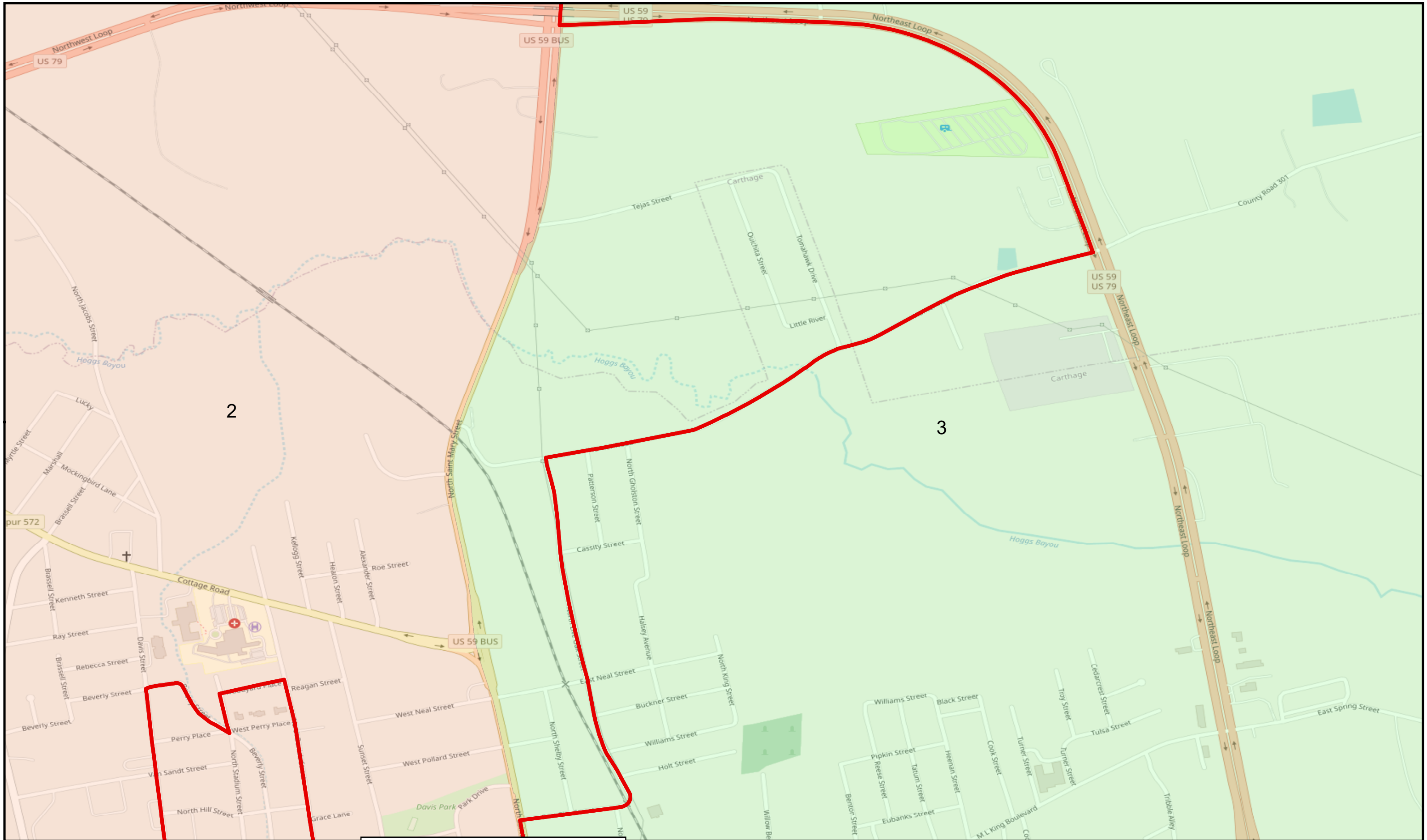





**Panola County  
Commissioner Precincts  
Plan B**

**Precinct 4**

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 Data Source: Roads, Water and other  
 features obtained from the 2020  
 Tiger/line files, U.S. Census Bureau





Background Image: ESRI World Street Map  
Date Created: 10/14/21

**Legend**

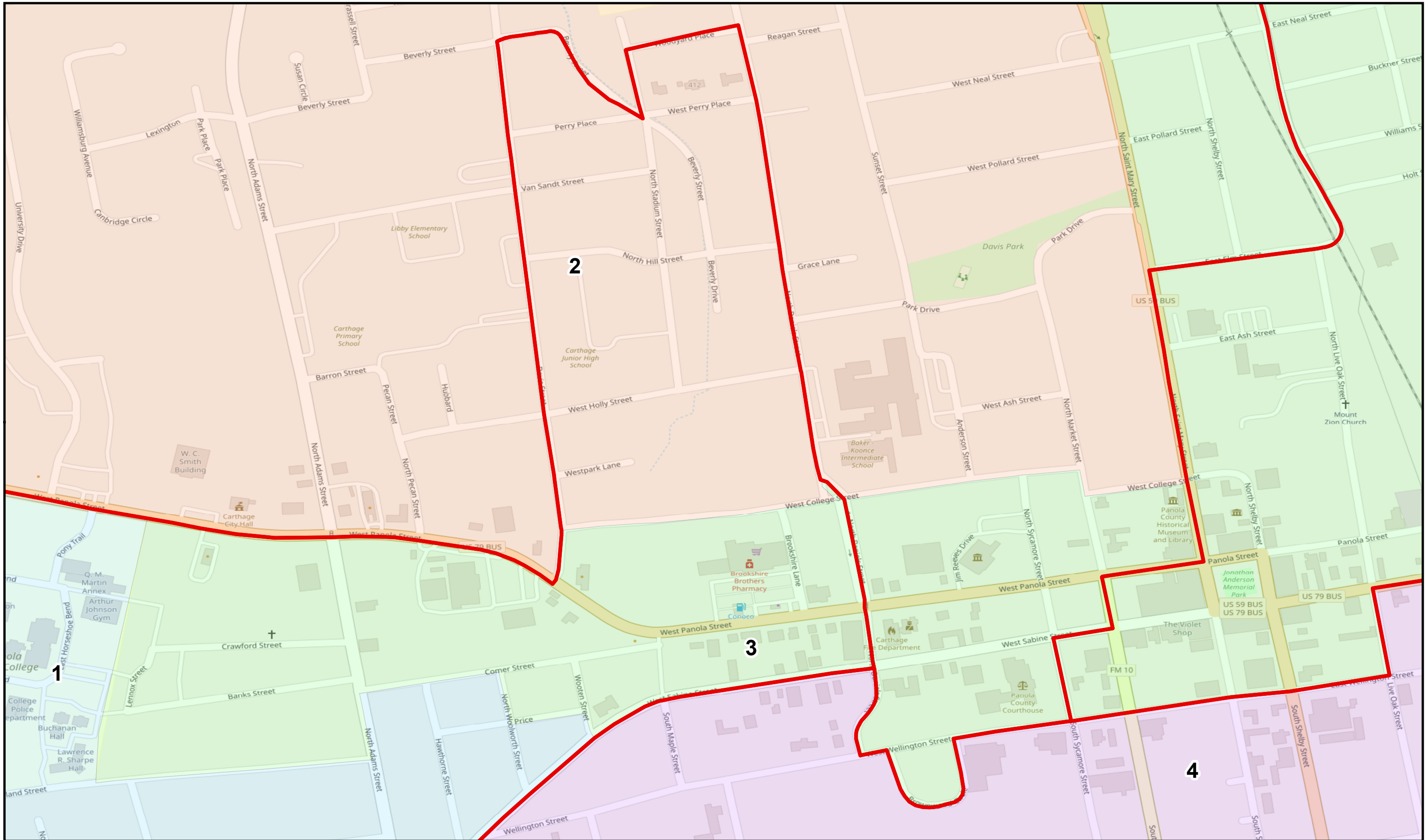
- Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark
- Commissioner Precincts - Plan B

## Panola County Commissioner Precincts Plan B - Northeast Carthage Area

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Data Source: Roads, Water and other features obtained from the 2020 Tiger/line files, U.S. Census Bureau













 0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles  
 Background Image: ESRI World Street Map  
 Date Created: 10/14/21

**Legend**

 Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark

**Commissioner Precincts - Plan B**

 1  
 2  
 3  
 4

## Panola County Commissioner Precincts Plan B

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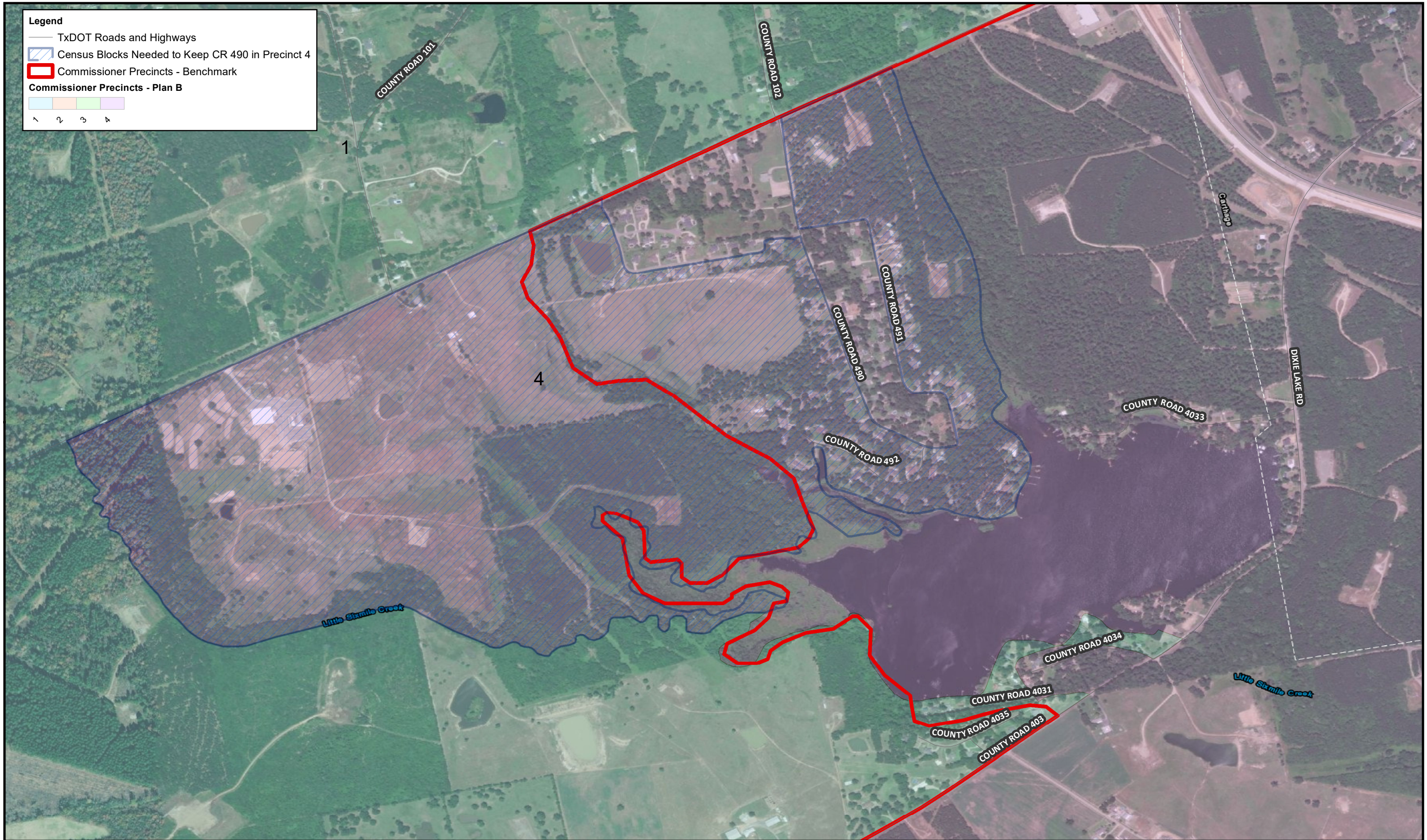


**Legend**

- TxDOT Roads and Highways
- ▨ Census Blocks Needed to Keep CR 490 in Precinct 4
- ▭ Commissioner Precincts - Benchmark

**Commissioner Precincts - Plan B**

1 2 3 4



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

Background Image: ESRI World Street Map  
Date Created: 10/14/21

**Panola County Commissioner Precincts  
Plan B  
Close Up: County Road 490 Area**

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Data Source: Roads, Water and other features obtained from the 2020 Tiger/line files, U.S. Census Bureau





**Plan Name: Panola County Commissioner Precincts - Plan B**



**Demographics Report - Detailed 2020 Census Total Population**

Plan Last Edited on: 10/13/2021 1:45:50 PM

District	Persons	Ideal Size	Deviation	Hispanic	Hispanic % of Total Population	ANGLO	Non-Hispanic Anglo % of Total Population	Black	Black % of Total Population	Asian	Asian % of Total Population	AM Indian Native	IND / NAT % TOT Pop.	Haw Pac. Isl.	HAW/ PAC % of Total Pop.	Other	Other % of Total Pop.	Two or More Races	Two or More Races % Tot Pop
1	5,442	5,623	-3.21%	478	8.78%	4,193	77.05%	534	9.81%	12	0.22%	34	0.62%	5	0.09%	8	0.15%	178	3.27%
2	5,688	5,623	1.16%	608	10.69%	4,066	71.48%	785	13.80%	31	0.55%	14	0.25%	1	0.02%	2	0.04%	181	3.18%
3	5,438	5,623	-3.29%	496	9.12%	3,330	61.24%	1,385	25.47%	25	0.46%	21	0.39%	1	0.02%	1	0.02%	179	3.29%
4	5,923	5,623	5.34%	608	10.27%	4,509	76.13%	540	9.12%	31	0.52%	27	0.46%	0	0.00%	15	0.25%	193	3.26%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	22,491			2,190	9.74%	16,098	71.58%	3,244	14.42%	99	0.44%	96	0.43%	7	0.03%	26	0.12%	731	3.25%

**Ideal Size: 22,491 / 4 = 5,623**

**Total Population: 22,491**

**Overall Deviation: 8.63%**

*Some percentages may be subject to rounding errors.*

**Demographics Report - Summary 2020 Census Total Population**

Plan Last Edited on: 10/13/2021 1:45:50 PM

District	Persons	Ideal Size	Deviation	Hispanic % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic White % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic Black % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic Asian % of Total Population	Non-Hispanic Other % of Total Population
1	5,442	5,623	-3.21%	8.78%	77.05%	9.81%	0.22%	4.13%
2	5,688	5,623	1.16%	10.69%	71.48%	13.80%	0.55%	3.48%
3	5,438	5,623	-3.29%	9.12%	61.24%	25.47%	0.46%	3.71%
4	5,923	5,623	5.34%	10.27%	76.13%	9.12%	0.52%	3.97%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	22,491			9.74%	71.58%	14.42%	0.44%	3.82%

**Ideal Size: 22,491 / 4 = 5,623**

**Total Population: 22,491**

**Overall Deviation: 8.63%**

*Some percentages may be subject to rounding errors.*



**Plan Name: Panola County Commissioner Precincts - Plan B**  
**Demographics Report - Detailed 2020 Census Voting Age Population**



Plan Last Edited on: 10/13/2021 1:45:50 PM

District	Total VAP	Hispanic VAP	% Hispanic VAP	Anglo VAP	% Anglo VAP	Black VAP	% Black VAP	Asian VAP	% Asian VAP	AM IND NATIVE VAP	% AM IND NATIVE VAP	HAW/PAC VAP	% HAW/PAC VAP	Other VAP	% Other VAP	Two or More Races VAP	% Two or more VAP
1	4,212	283	6.72%	3,310	78.58%	432	10.26%	11	0.26%	33	0.78%	3	0.07%	4	0.09%	136	3.23%
2	4,224	357	8.45%	3,159	74.79%	573	13.57%	25	0.59%	6	0.14%	1	0.02%	0	0.00%	103	2.44%
3	4,166	311	7.47%	2,624	62.99%	1,088	26.12%	16	0.38%	14	0.34%	1	0.02%	1	0.02%	111	2.66%
4	4,574	393	8.59%	3,583	78.33%	426	9.31%	30	0.66%	16	0.35%	0	0.00%	9	0.20%	117	2.56%
<b>TOTALS:</b>	17,176	1,344	7.82%	12,676	73.80%	2,519	14.67%	82	0.48%	69	0.40%	5	0.03%	14	0.08%	467	2.72%

\* VAP - Voting Age Population

*Some percentages may be subject to rounding errors.*



**Demographics Report - Summary 2020 Census Voting Age Population**

Plan Last Edited on: 10/13/2021 1:45:50 PM

District	Total VAP*		Hispanic % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Anglo % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Black % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Asian % of Total VAP	Non-Hispanic Other % of Total VAP
1	4,212		6.72%	78.58%	10.26%	0.26%	4.18%
2	4,224		8.45%	74.79%	13.57%	0.59%	2.60%
3	4,166		7.47%	62.99%	26.12%	0.38%	3.05%
4	4,574		8.59%	78.33%	9.31%	0.66%	3.10%
	17,176		7.82%	73.80%	14.67%	0.48%	3.23%

\* VAP - Voting Age Population

*Some percentages may be subject to rounding errors.*