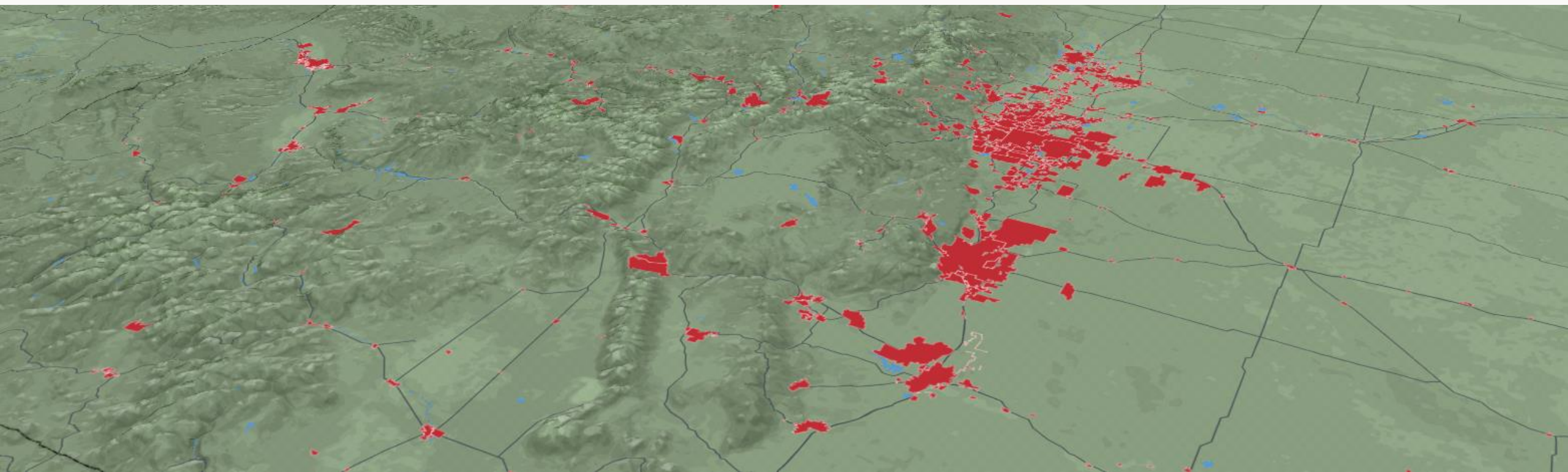




COLORADO
MUNICIPAL
LEAGUE



REDISTRICTING FOR CITIES & TOWNS





ABOUT FLO ANALYTICS



John McKenzie

Senior Analyst &
Director of Business
Development



- FLO is a wholly owned subsidiary of Maul Foster & Alongi, Inc. (MFA), a multidisciplinary consulting firm based in Vancouver, Washington.
- We are a GIS and data analytics firm serving local governments and school districts throughout the Northwest.
- We are the sole service provider for the Association of Washington Cities GIS Consortium.

Redistricting experience

Over 90 redistricting and demographic analysis projects in the past five years

Assisted both small rural communities and large urban areas.

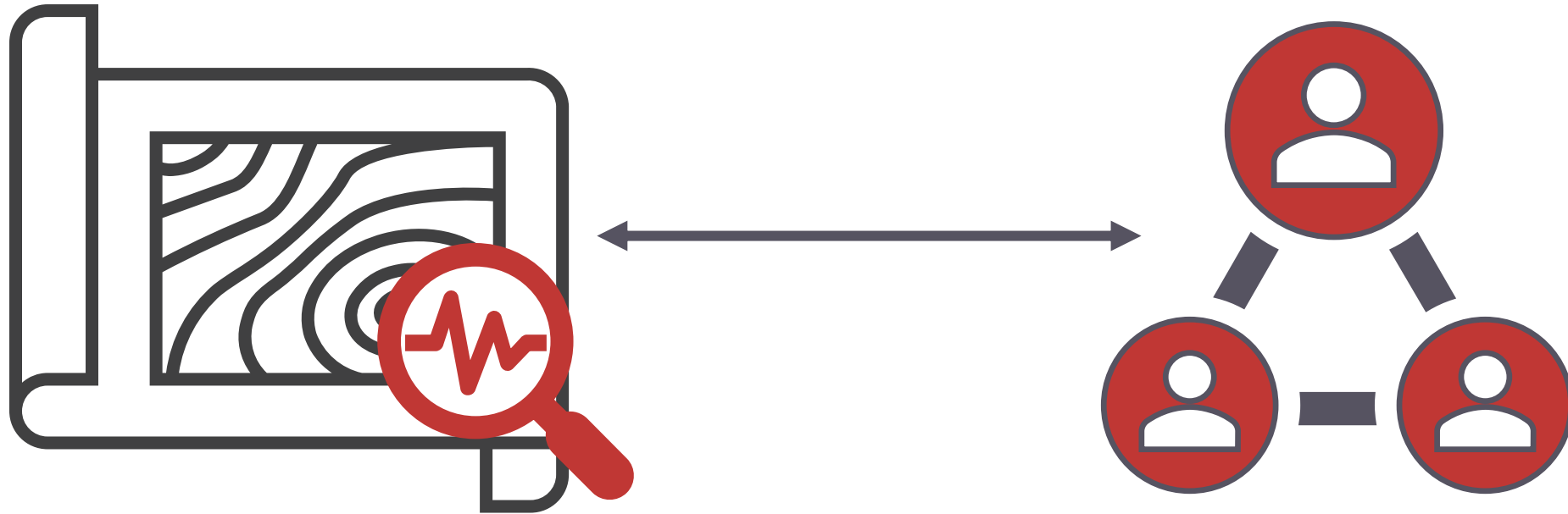
2021 Redistricting clients

- City of Brookhaven, GA
- Port of Skamania, WA
- Snohomish County, WA
- City of Lincoln, CA
- Plumas County, CA
- Spokane County, WA
- Port of Chehalis, WA

THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Analysis

Outreach & Engagement





THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Redistricting Principles

- Districts **must** be “population balanced”
- Districts **must** be contiguous
- Redistricting **must** be done in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws including the Federal Voting Rights Act
- Redistricting **must** not be done to favor or disfavor a political party
- Districts **should** be as compact as possible
- Districts **should** preserve communities of mutual interest
- Districts **should** preserve the use of existing natural boundaries

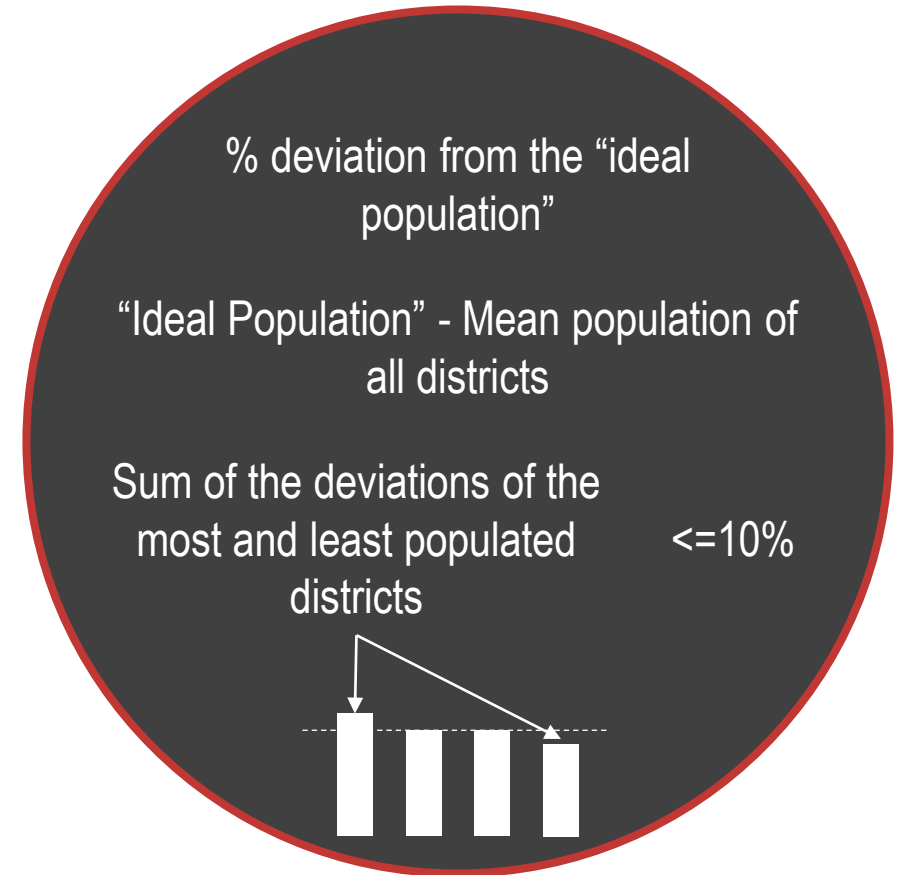
REDISTRICTING ANALYSIS

Balancing population

The appropriate measure of population when considering substantial equality of population is total population, **not** alternative measures like the number of voters or the citizen voting-age population (CVAP).

This reflects the principle that a city council represents all of a city's residents, not merely those who are eligible to vote.

*The Supreme Court decided in *Evenwel v. Abbott*, 578 US __, 136 S.Ct. 1120 (2016), that the "one person, one vote" principle of the Equal Protection Clause allows a state or locality to design its districts based on total population.





REDISTRICTING ANALYSIS

Communities of mutual interest

“A community of interest is a population that shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation”

“populations or communities that have common needs and interests reflected in patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, and common interests.”

"In Colorado, community of interest considerations may also include agricultural or industrial identity, water issues, transportation concerns, and comparison of growth rates.
Colo. Const. Art. V § 47(3).

Defined neighborhoods

School districts

Military installations

Unincorporated CDPs

Special districts

Geographically concentrated
minority populations

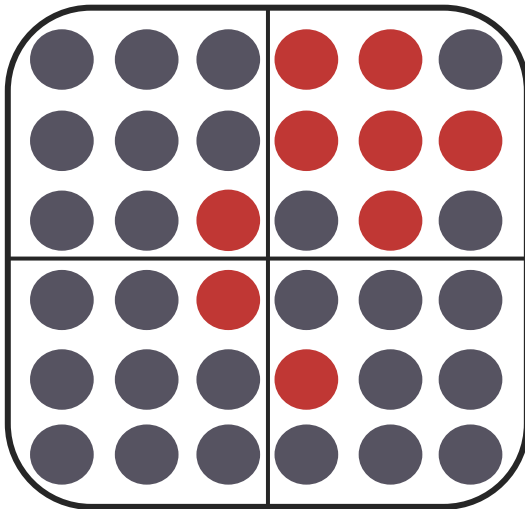
Homeowners associations

REDISTRICTING ANALYSIS

Voting Rights Act and Demographics

● Majority group

● Minority group

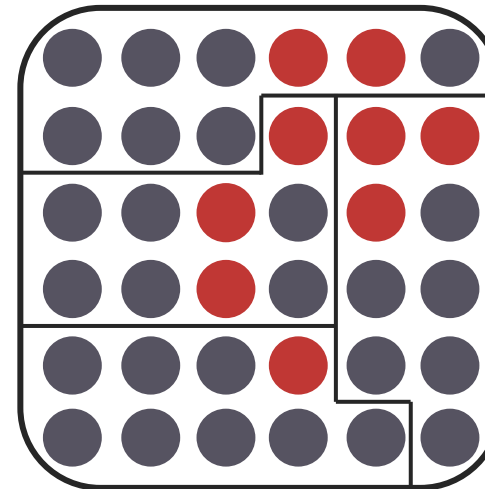


Majority group: 75% of population, make up the majority in **75%** of districts

Minority group: 25% of population, make up the majority in **25%** of the districts

Don't set out to hurt voters based on their race or ethnicity

Vote dilution



Majority group: 75% of population, make up the majority in **100%** of districts

Minority group: 25% of population, make up the majority in **0%** of the districts

REDISTRICTING ANALYSIS

Contiguity

NO



YES



- ✓ No islands
- ✓ Except for real islands which should be connected by bridges, tunnels, or ferries

Compactness

NO



YES



- ✓ Districts should not be unnecessarily thin or serpentine
- ✓ There are many different methods to measure compactness

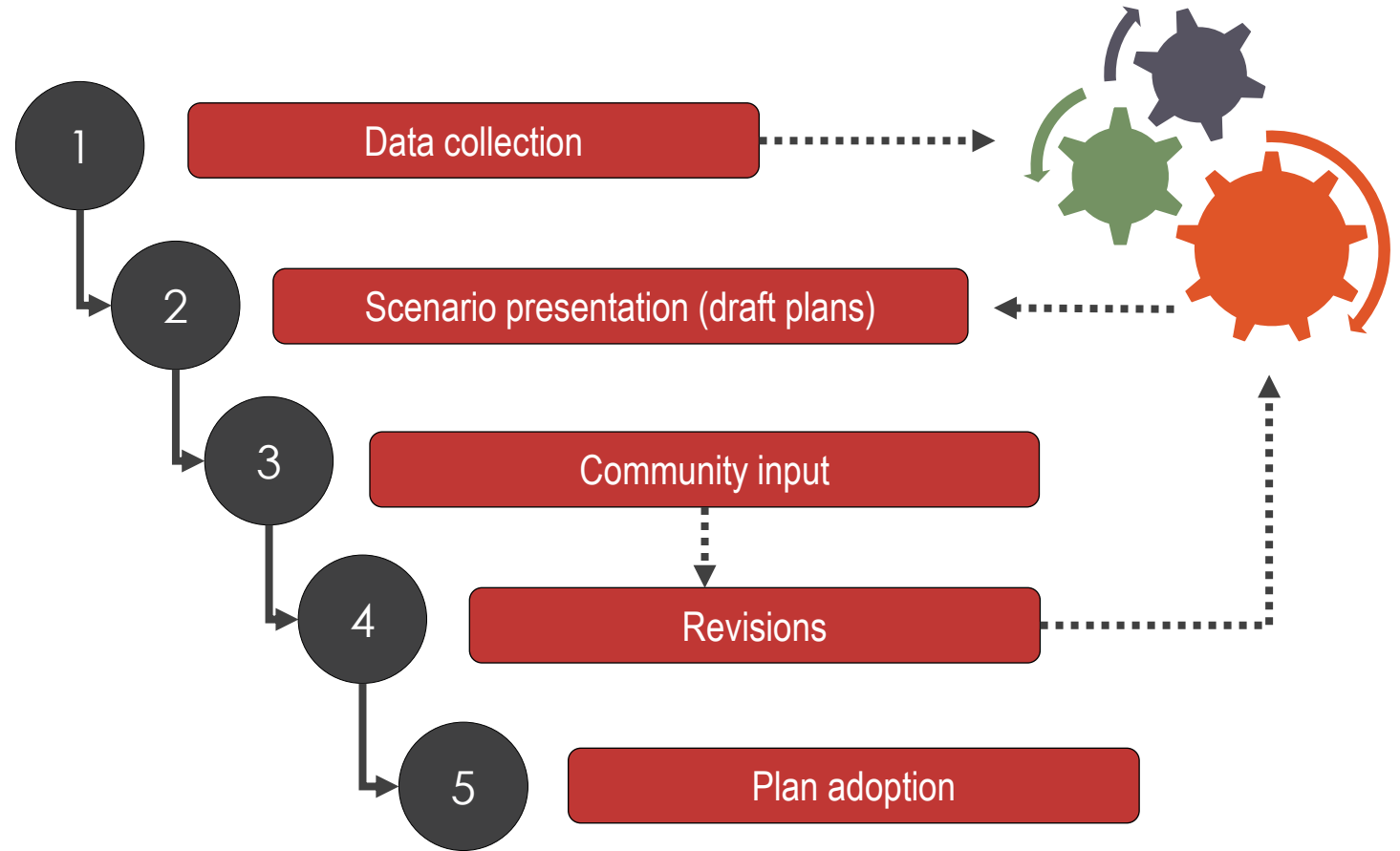
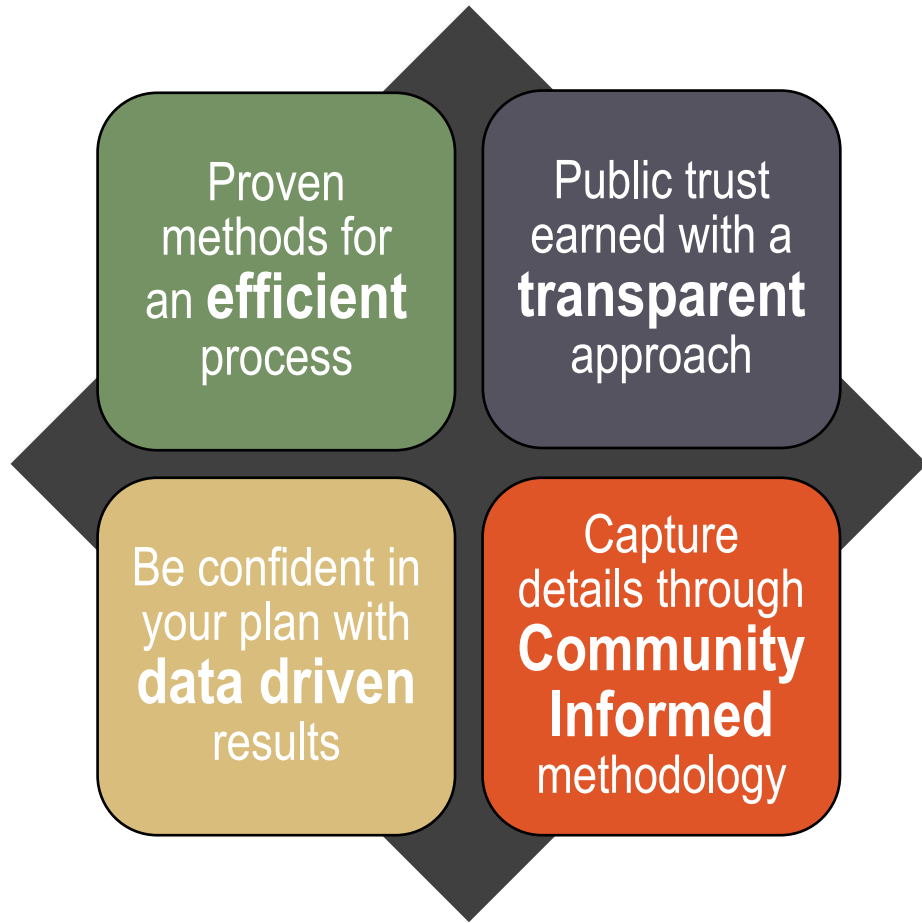
Existing or Natural Boundaries

YES

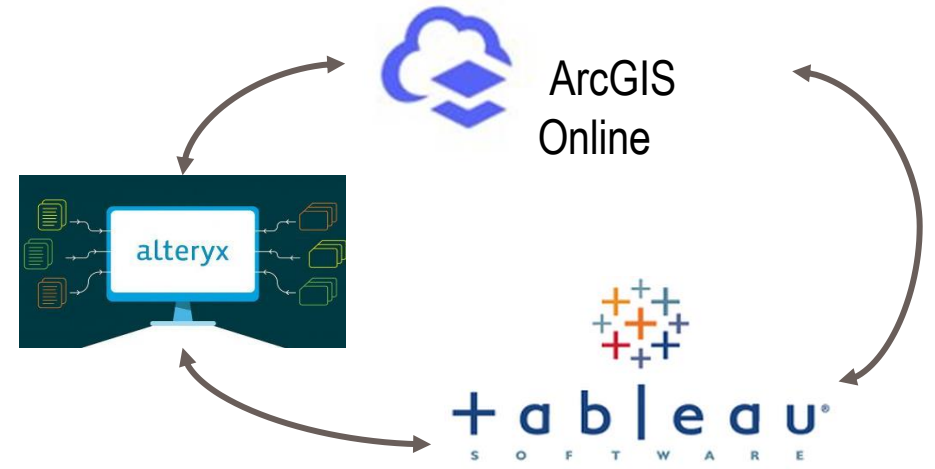


- ✓ Major streets and roads
- ✓ Rivers, lakes, mountains
- ✓ Lines that are already being used as boundaries

THE PROCESS



ANALYTICAL TOOLBOX





OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

What is needed for a fair & transparent process that earns the trust of *your* community?

- ✓ Community engagement strategy
 - Plan out how you will engage your community during the process.
- ✓ Pre-map meetings
 - Before drawing maps hold one or more meetings to explain how the process works and how your community can inform the process.
- ✓ Online mapping tools
 - Use current technology to show your community the options and let them explore the data.
- ✓ Collect feedback and public comments, incorporate that information into the analysis, and explain to your community how their input is being used to inform the process.



COLORADO SPECIFICS

- **Colorado Accurate Residence for Redistricting Act:** reassigns prisoners to their last known residence in Colorado prior to incarceration.
- Ward boundaries may not be changed more than once in 6 years unless "necessary to conform to constitutional apportionment requirements."
- Ward boundaries may be changed only by majority vote of all members elected to the governing body.
- Ward boundary redistricting must be completed 90 days prior to an election.
- **Effect on Current Elected Officials:** depends on whether the municipality is a statutory town, statutory city, or home rule municipality, and if home rule, it also depends on the charter. Affected municipalities should consult with their attorney for specific direction on this issue.
- **Precincts:** Ward boundaries cannot split precincts. Precincts will need to be redrawn too.

HOW IS ALL THIS GOING TO HAPPEN?

The challenges of 2021...

- Census delay (latest anticipated release is Sept. 30th)
- Polarized political climate



So, what can we do?

HOW IS ALL THIS GOING TO HAPPEN?

START NOW!!!

- The delayed census release is **not** a reason to delay your redistricting process!

Stuff you can do right now

- Determine who is going to do the analysis
- Do research
- Put out an RFP
- Start talking with community groups
- Get a dedicated webpage ready
- Develop a redistricting timeline

Look at data that *is* available to help develop an understanding of how your county and its communities will be impacted by redistricting.

US Census

- 2010 Decennial Census total population enumerations
- American Community Survey population estimates

ESRI Demographics

- 2020 population estimates

WA OFM

- 2020 population estimates

County data

- Municipal boundaries
- UGAs
- Streets
- Building permits

BASELINE ANALYSIS

US Census

- 2010 Decennial Census total population enumerations
- American Community Survey population estimates

ESRI Demographics

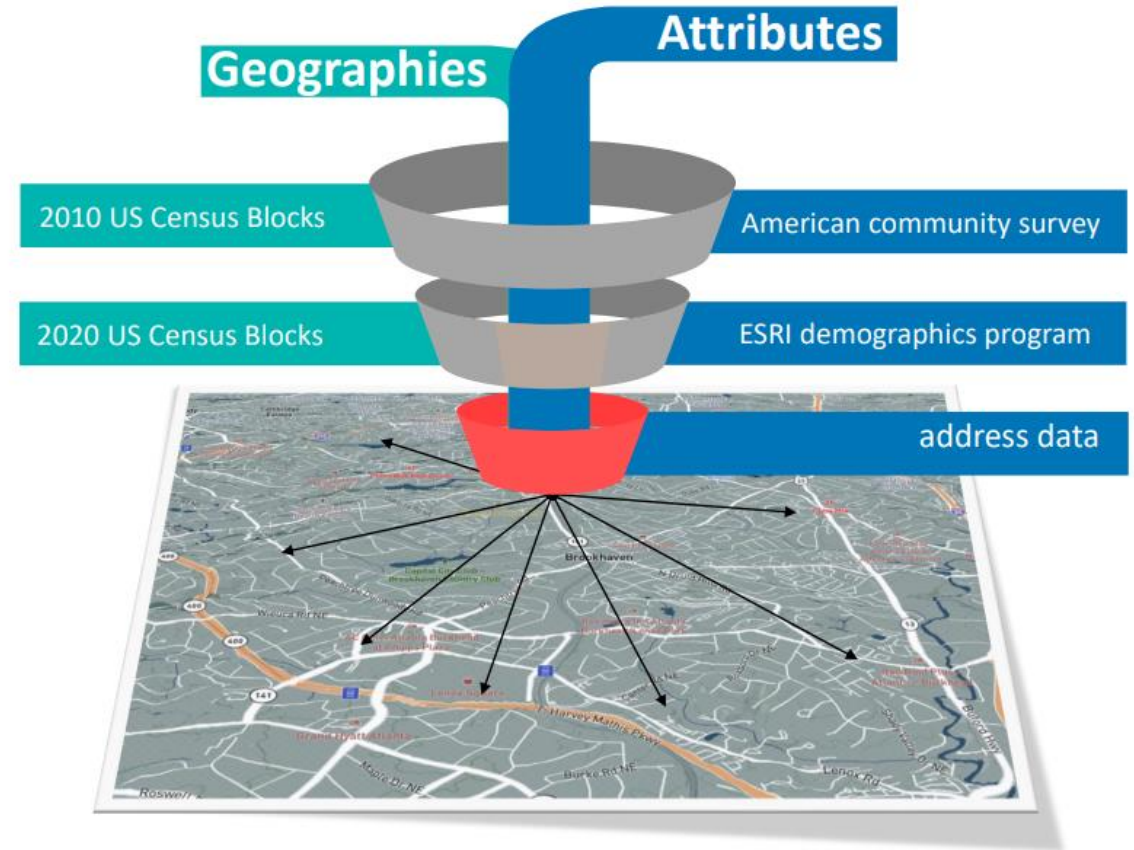
- 2020 population estimates

County population estimates

- 2020 population estimates

County data

- Municipal boundaries
- UGAs
- Streets
- Building permits



THANK YOU



John McKenzie

Senior Analyst & Director of Business
Development

Website: <https://www.flo-analytics.com/redistricting>

Email: jmckenzie@flo-analytics.com

Phone: (617) 797-0152



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