STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

2019 Ward Boundary Review

Report Purpose
To provide ward boundary options

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals
Governance Requirement
Goal 7 - Provide opportunities for public engagement and communication

Report
Through the passing of the Ward Boundary Review Policy GOV-002-032, Council aims to ensure equal and effective representation. This representation is fundamental to any democratic system and is the primary goal for the ward boundary review.

Using the 2018 census results, a deviation exceeding the +25% recommended deviation for population was identified in the current Ward 4. Enclosure 1 contains a map of the current urban wards and a map of the current rural wards. Each map contains the current population, eligible voters and the deviation from the mean for both population and eligible voters.

Applying the criteria in Council's Ward Boundary Review Policy, Administration is presenting four urban ward options that are found in Enclosure 2. The colours on the legend of the maps are for the proposed wards. The maps contain the population, deviation from the population mean, eligible voters and the deviation from the eligible voter mean. The current ward boundaries are overlaid in yellow highlighting.

Enclosure 3 contains a scoring matrix that was used to measure the policy criteria ranked and weighted by order of importance. Options 1 and 2 are tied, both receiving 26 out of 28 possible points. Option 3 has scored 21 out of 28 possible points followed by Option 4 which has scored 18 out of 28 possible points.

Enclosure 4 contains one option for the rural wards. It is important to note that the current rural wards comply with the policy; however the map has been included as an option to create more blocked shaped wards and a better alignment with geographical features i.e. Wye Road is used as the boundary up to Range Road 213. Enclosure 5 contains the scoring matrix for the rural option. The option is desirable for election planning purposes and will reduce confusion for electors in some rural voting stations.

Options for Priorities Committee consideration:

1. Make a recommendation to Council with the preferred urban and rural option to be used for the Ward Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw.

2. Refer to the Community Living Advisory Committee and direct them to review the ward boundary options and make a recommendation to Council.

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Director(s): Mavis Nathoo, Legislative and Legal Services
Associate Commissioner: Lori Cooper, Corporate Services
Lead Department: Legislative and Legal Services

Council and Committee History

January 29, 2019	Priorities Committee was updated on the Ward Boundary Review
October 23, 2018	Priorities Committee, Report for Information, Municipal Census Update and Summary of 2018 Results
June 21, 2016	Council directed Administration to conduct a ward boundary review following the 2018 municipal census and report back to Council by the end of Q1 2019
April 5, 2016	Council approved GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy

Other Impacts

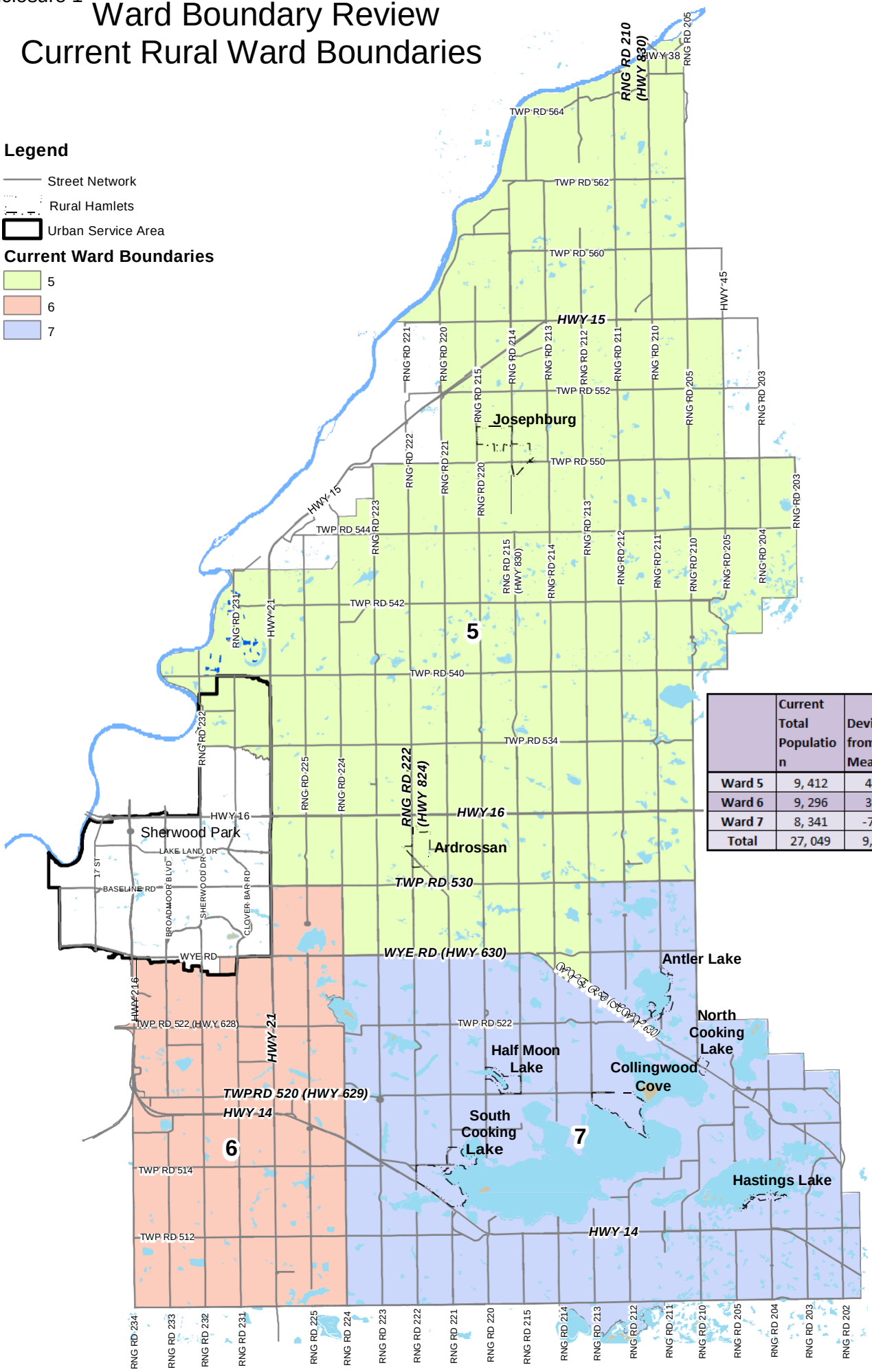
Policy: GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy
Legislative/Legal: The *Municipal Government Act* and the *Local Authorities Election Act* govern processes association with municipal elections. The legislation allows municipalities to establish electoral boundaries for municipal elections and to determine the number of councillors for each ward.
Interdepartmental: GIS Branch of Information Technology, Planning and Development Services, Communications.
Master Plan/Framework:
Communication Plan n/a

Enclosures

1	Current Ward Boundaries
2	Urban Ward Boundary Options 1 - 4
3	Scoring Matrix for Urban Ward Boundary Options
4	Ward Boundary Rural Option
5	Scoring Matrix for Rural Ward Boundary Option
6	2019 Ward Boundary Review PowerPoint Presentation

Enclosure 1

Ward Boundary Review
Current Rural Ward Boundaries



	Current Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Current Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 5	9, 412	4.4%	6, 650	3.3%
Ward 6	9, 296	3.1%	6, 745	4.8%
Ward 7	8, 341	-7.5%	5, 919	-8.1%
Total	27, 049	9, 015	19, 313	6, 438

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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 1

Ward Boundary Review
Current Urban Ward Boundaries

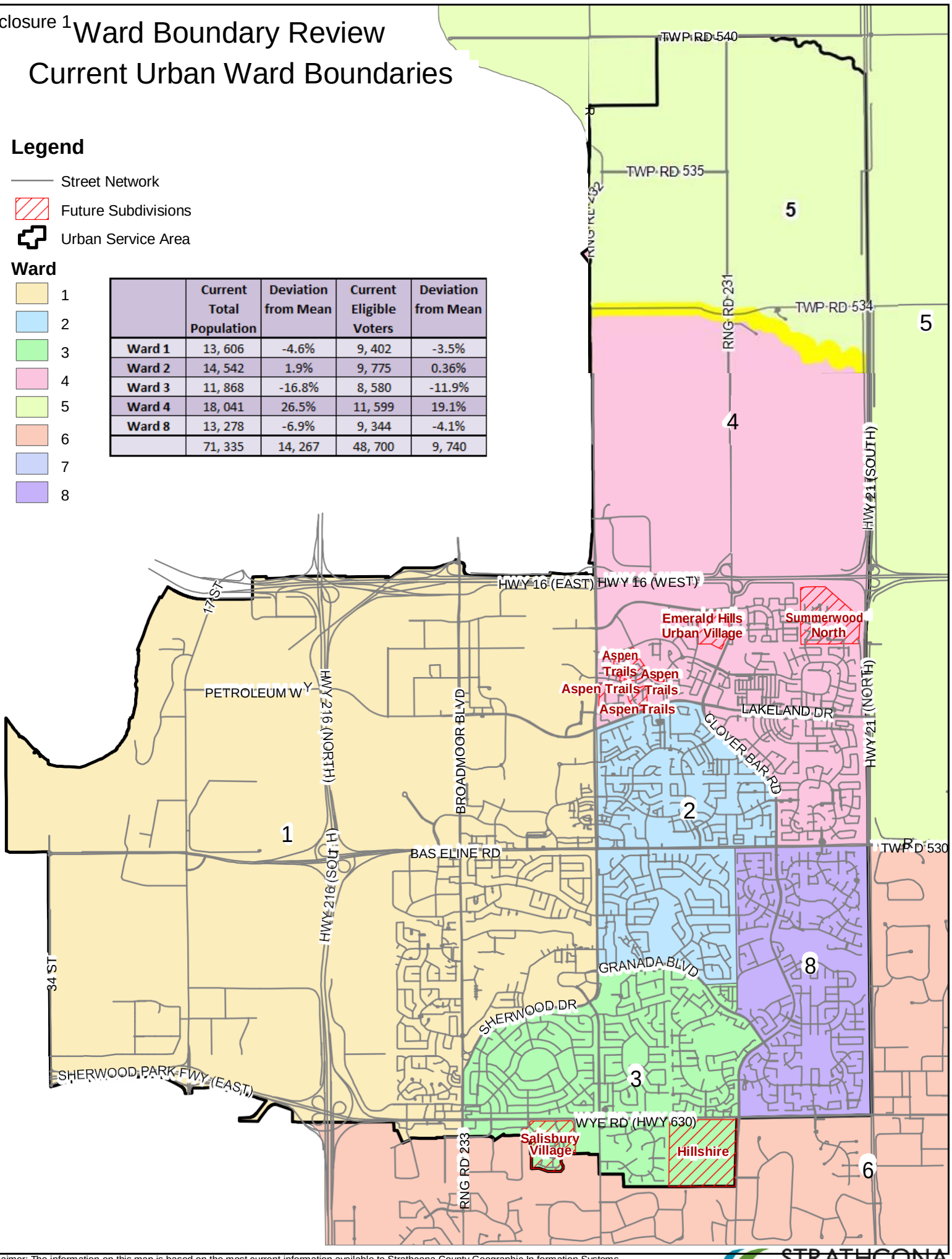
Legend

- Street Network
- Future Subdivisions
- Urban Service Area

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Current Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Current Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 1	13, 606	-4.6%	9, 402	-3.5%
Ward 2	14, 542	1.9%	9, 775	0.36%
Ward 3	11, 868	-16.8%	8, 580	-11.9%
Ward 4	18, 041	26.5%	11, 599	19.1%
Ward 8	13, 278	-6.9%	9, 344	-4.1%
	71, 335	14, 267	48, 700	9, 740



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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 1

Legend

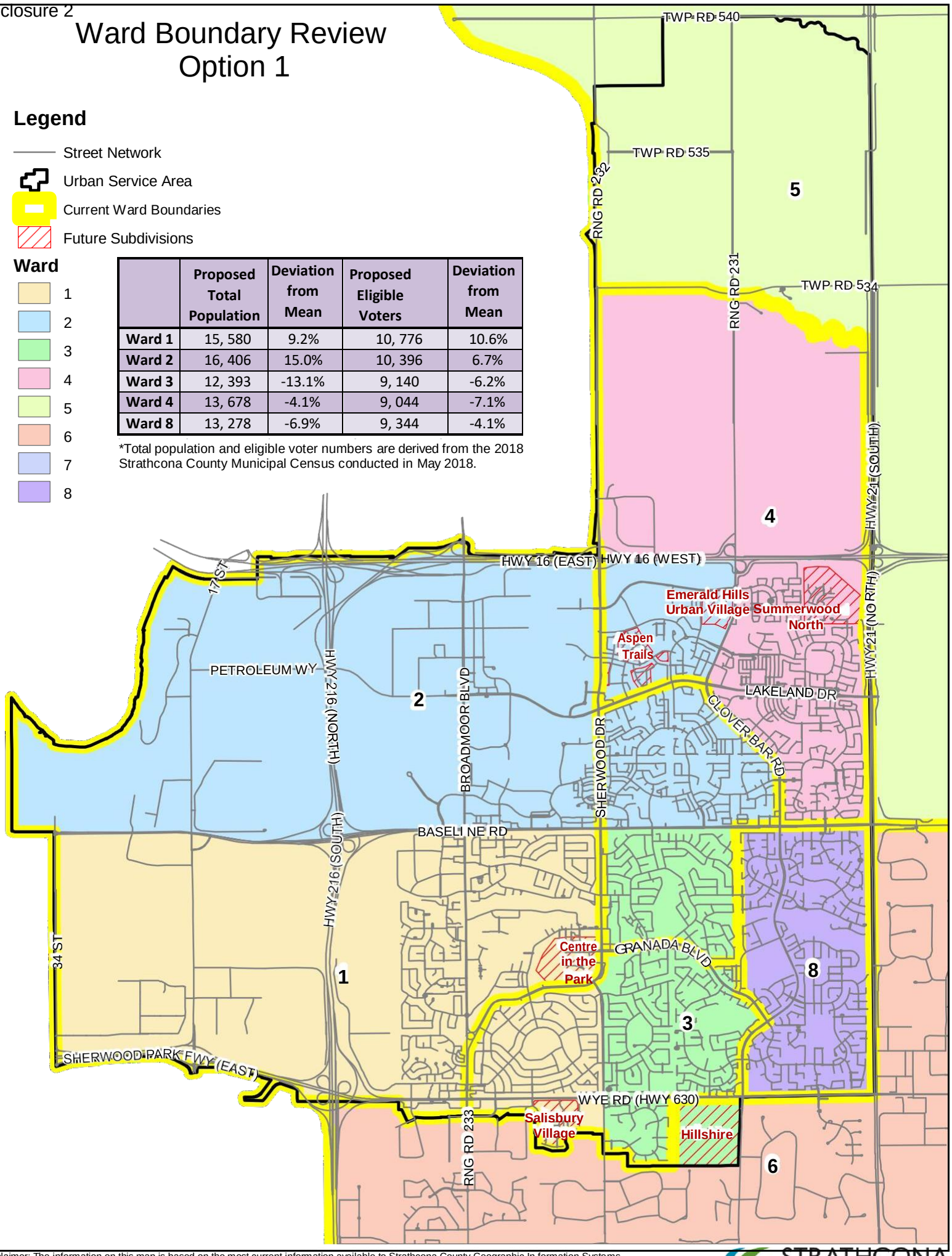
- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 1	15, 580	9.2%	10, 776	10.6%
Ward 2	16, 406	15.0%	10, 396	6.7%
Ward 3	12, 393	-13.1%	9, 140	-6.2%
Ward 4	13, 678	-4.1%	9, 044	-7.1%
Ward 8	13, 278	-6.9%	9, 344	-4.1%

*Total population and eligible voter numbers are derived from the 2018 Strathcona County Municipal Census conducted in May 2018.



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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 2

Legend

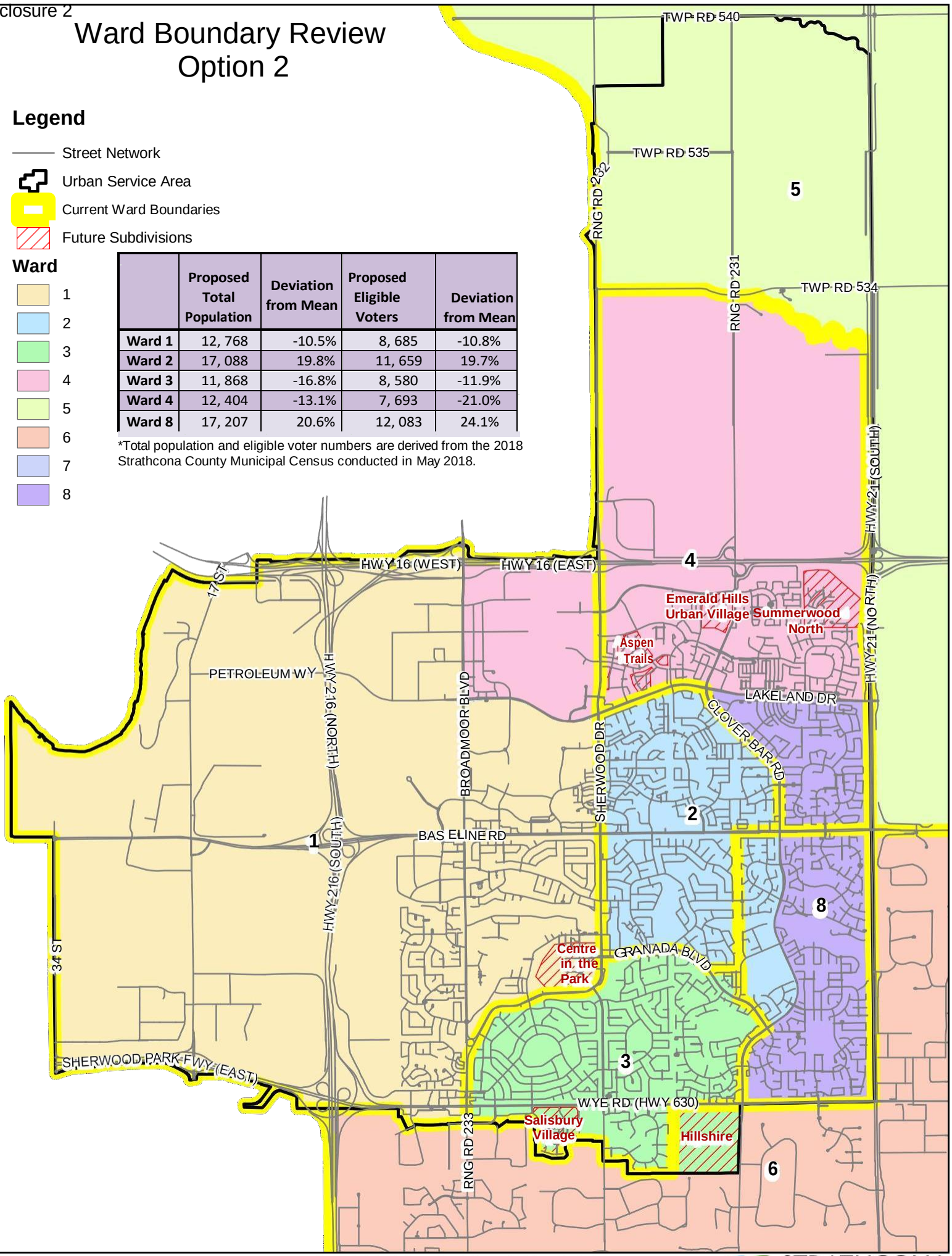
- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 1	12, 768	-10.5%	8, 685	-10.8%
Ward 2	17, 088	19.8%	11, 659	19.7%
Ward 3	11, 868	-16.8%	8, 580	-11.9%
Ward 4	12, 404	-13.1%	7, 693	-21.0%
Ward 8	17, 207	20.6%	12, 083	24.1%

*Total population and eligible voter numbers are derived from the 2018 Strathcona County Municipal Census conducted in May 2018.



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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 3

Legend

- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 1	13, 606	-4.6%	9, 402	-3.5%
Ward 2	14, 054	-1.5%	8, 819	-9.5%
Ward 3	16, 719	17.2%	12, 091	24.1%
Ward 4	13, 678	-4.1%	9, 044	-7.1%
Ward 8	13, 278	-6.9%	9, 344	-4.1%

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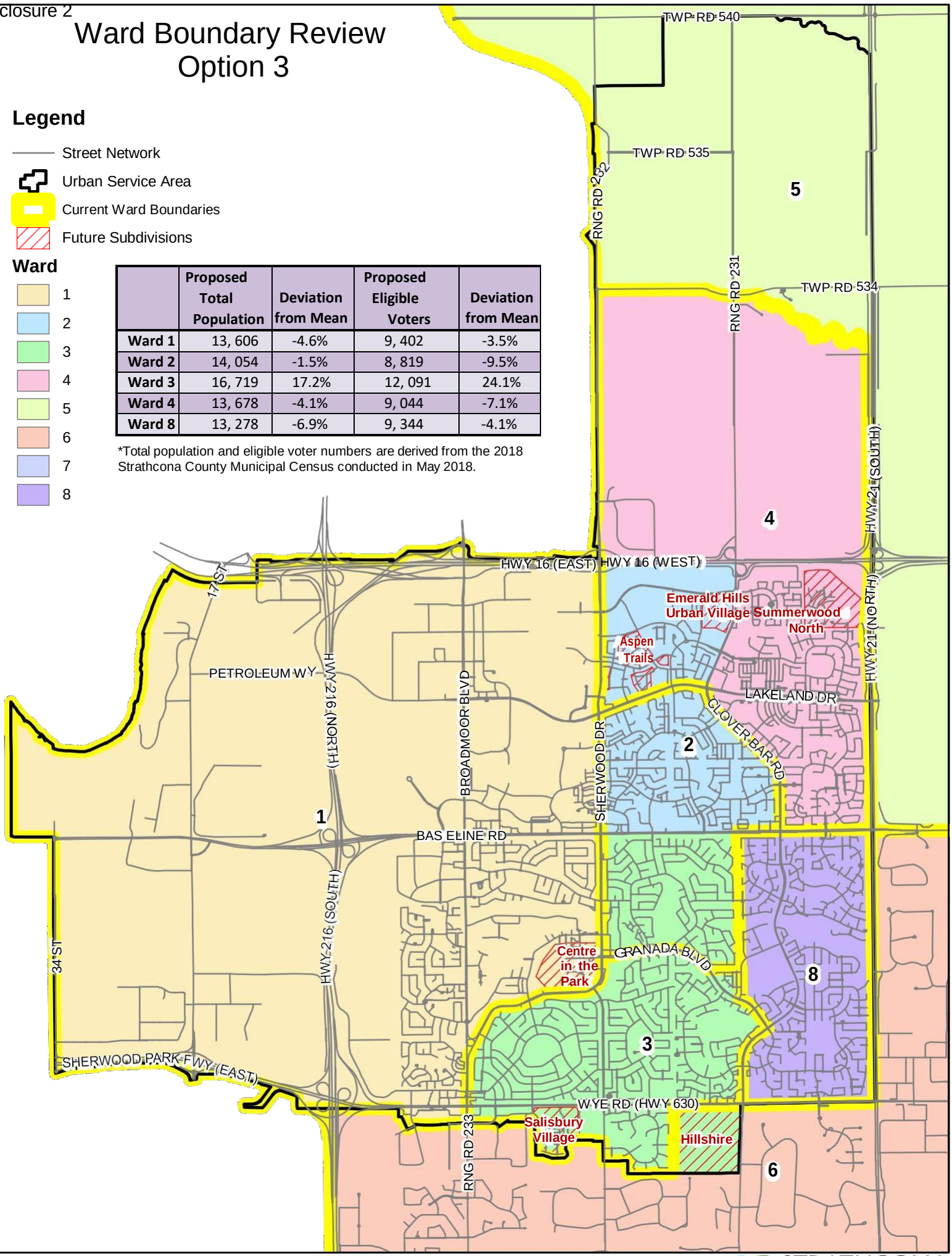

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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 4

Legend

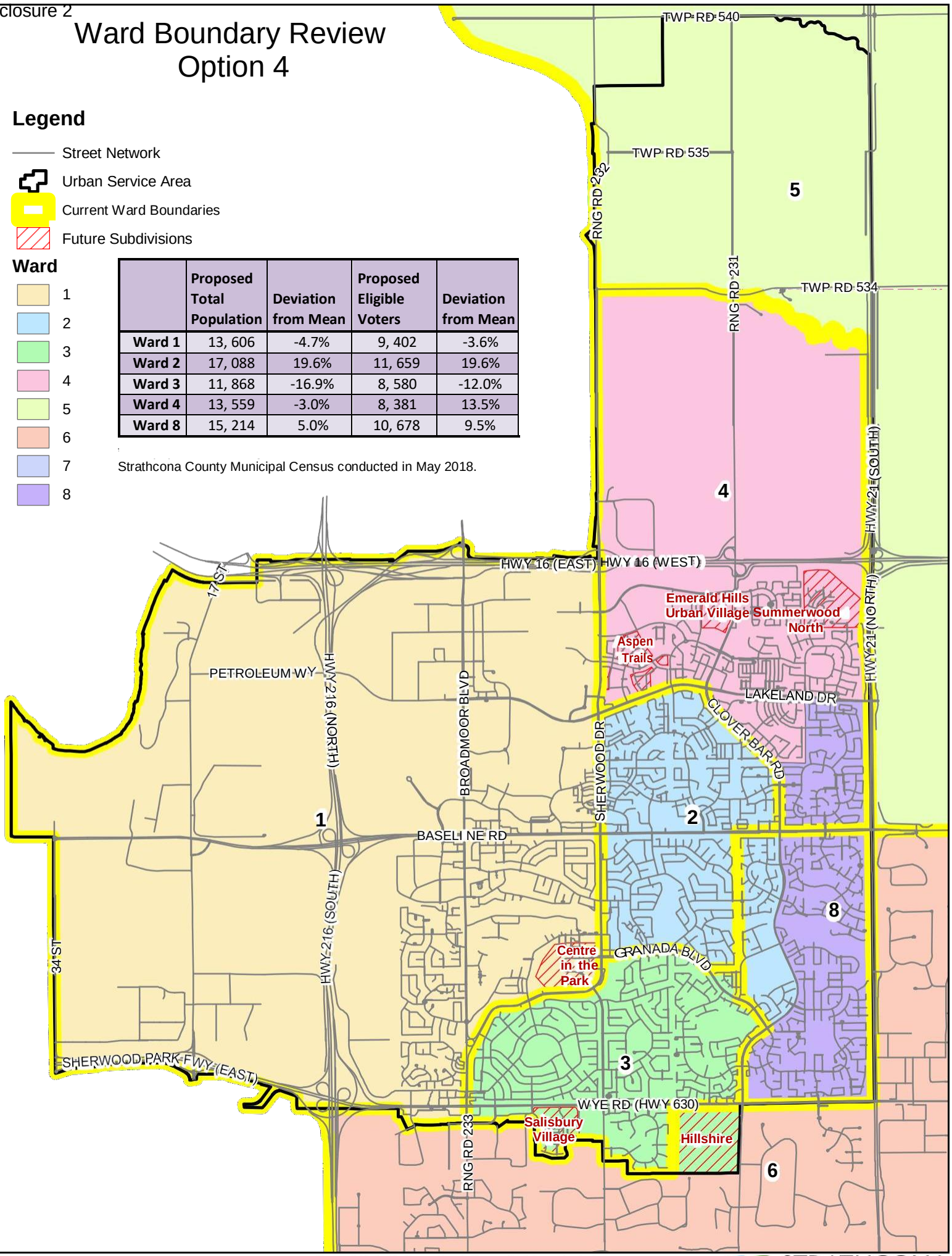
- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 1	13, 606	-4.7%	9, 402	-3.6%
Ward 2	17, 088	19.6%	11, 659	19.6%
Ward 3	11, 868	-16.9%	8, 580	-12.0%
Ward 4	13, 559	-3.0%	8, 381	13.5%
Ward 8	15, 214	5.0%	10, 678	9.5%

Strathcona County Municipal Census conducted in May 2018.



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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 1

Legend

- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
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- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
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Ward 2	16, 406	15.0%	10, 396	6.7%
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Ward 4	13, 678	-4.1%	9, 044	-7.1%
Ward 8	13, 278	-6.9%	9, 344	-4.1%

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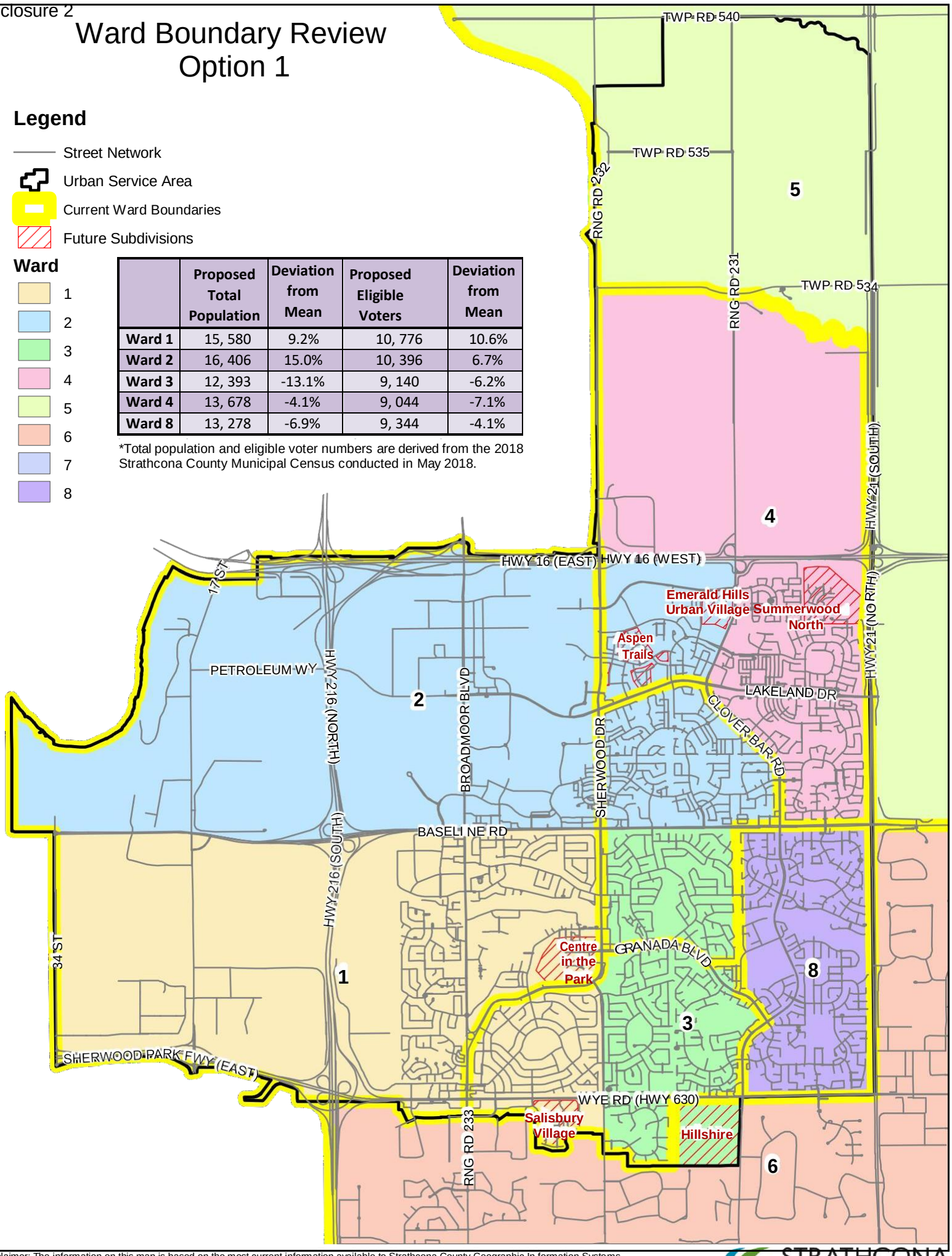

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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 2

Legend

- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
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- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
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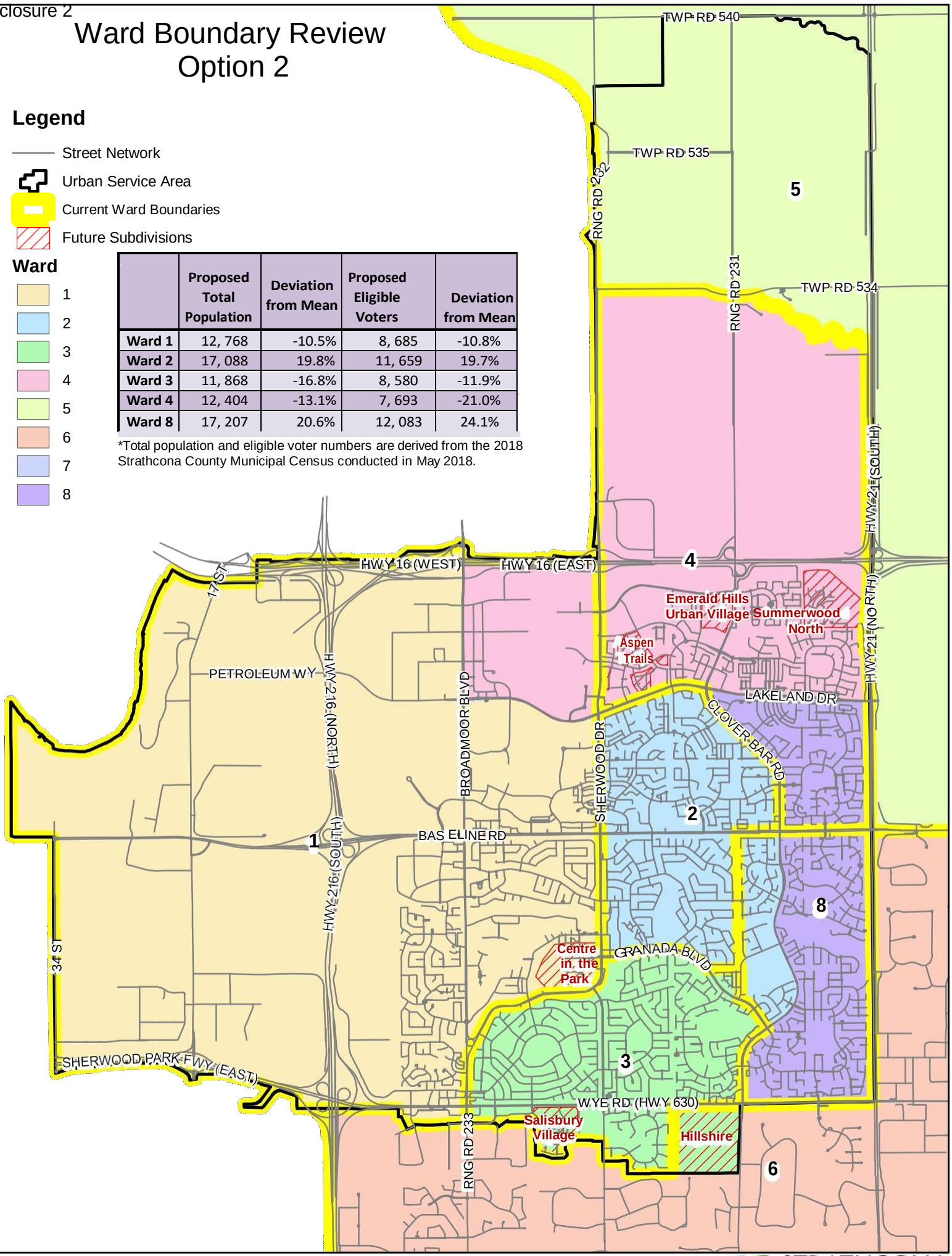

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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 3

Legend

- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
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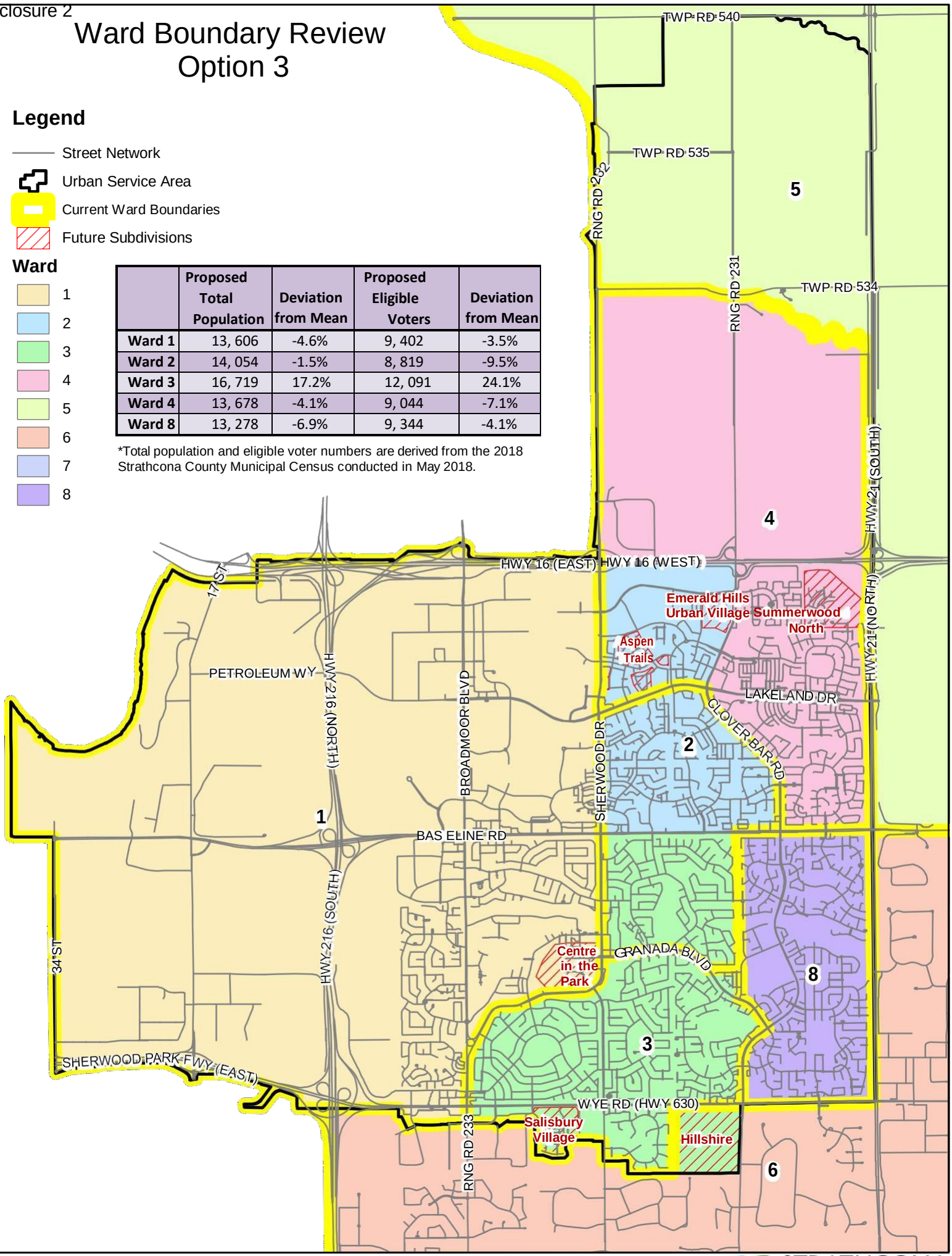

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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 2

Ward Boundary Review
Option 4

Legend

- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Current Ward Boundaries
- Future Subdivisions

Ward

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 1	13, 606	-4.7%	9, 402	-3.6%
Ward 2	17, 088	19.6%	11, 659	19.6%
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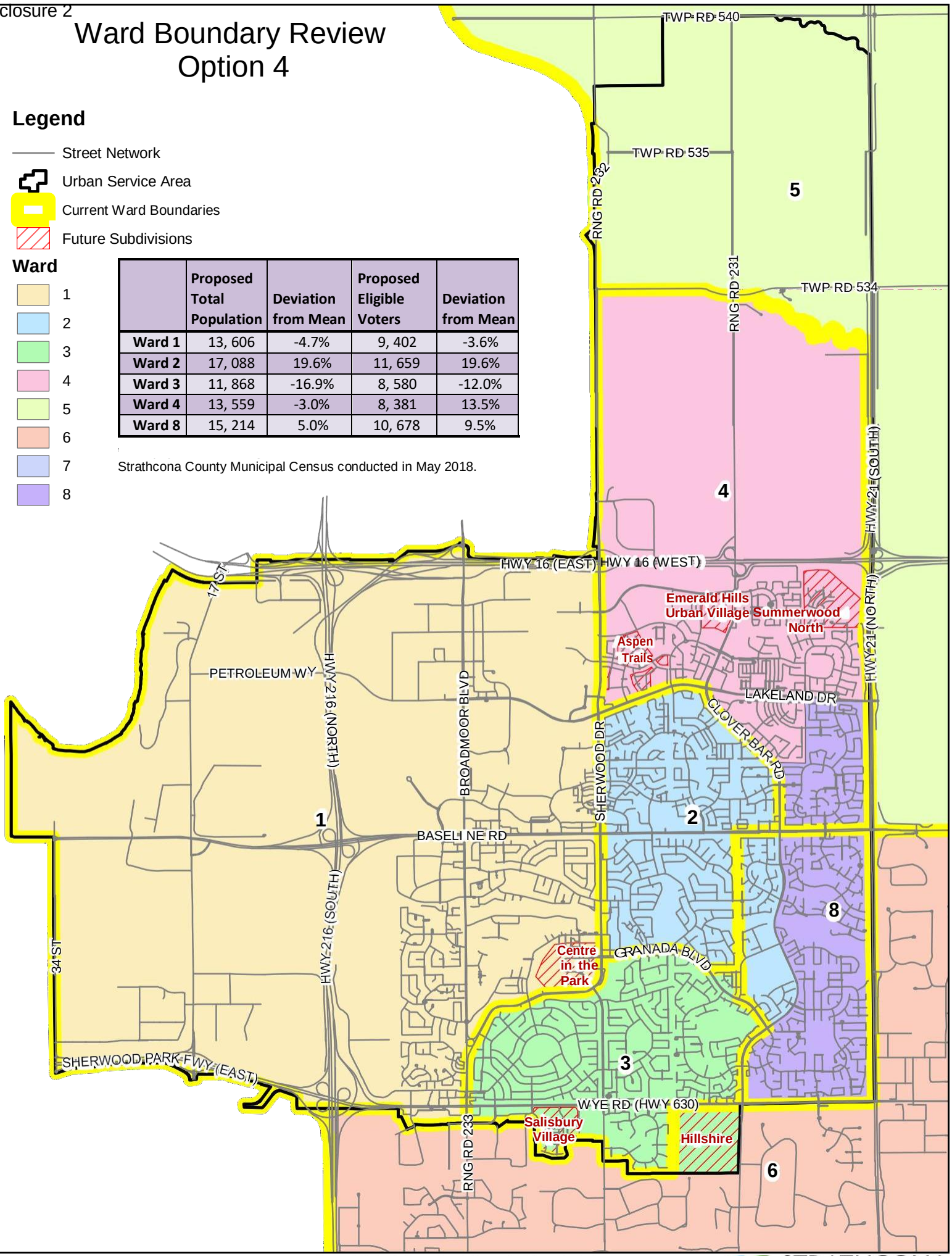
Strathcona County Municipal Census conducted in May 2018.



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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 3

Criteria	Option 1	Score	Option 2	Score	Option 3	Score	Option 4	Score
Relatively Equal Population/ Number of Electors (7 points)	✓	7	✓	7	✓	7	✓	7
Total Population Deviation (6 points)	✓	6	✓	6	✓	6	✓	6
Future Growth (5 points)	✓	5	✓	5	•Ward 3 may exceed recommended population deviation by 2025 (29.1%)	0	✓	5
Communities of Interest (4 points)	✓	4	✓	4	✓	4	•Davidson Creek & Clarkdale Meadows are split	0
Geographical Features (3 points)	✓	3	✓	3	✓	3	•Ward 8 boundary does not follow Cloverbar Rd. all the way North	0
Least Number of Changes (2 points)	•8 subdivisions move wards •4 ward boundaries are adjusted	0	•4 subdivisions move wards •5 ward boundaries are adjusted	0	•3 subdivisions move wards •3 ward boundaries are adjusted	0	•3 subdivisions move wards •4 ward boundaries are adjusted	0
Block-Shaped Wards (1 point)	✓	1	✓	1	✓	1	•Ward 4 protrudes South	0
Total /28	26		26		21		18	

Enclosure 4

Ward Boundary Review Rural Wards Option 1

Legend

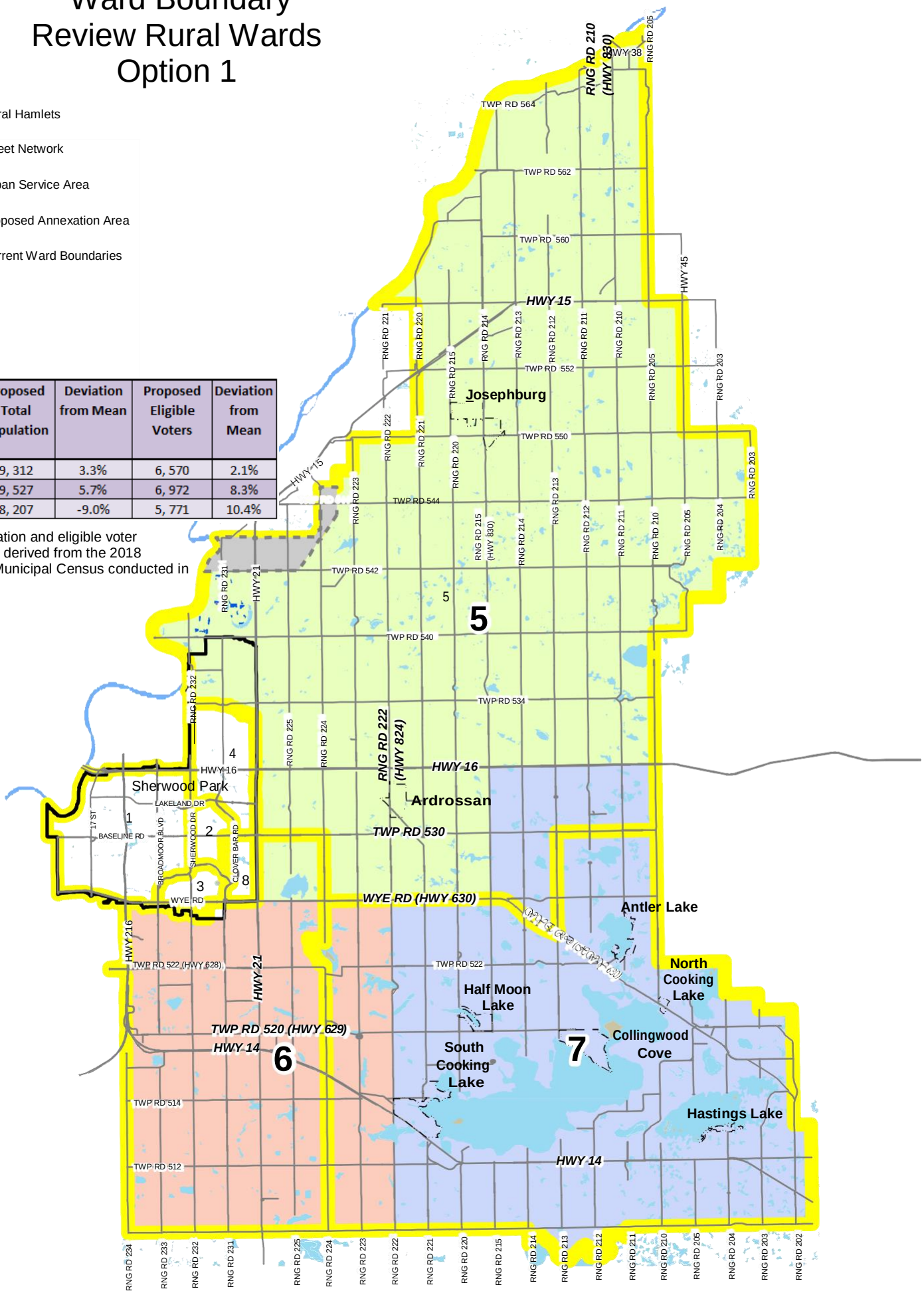
- Rural Hamlets
- Street Network
- Urban Service Area
- Proposed Annexation Area
- Current Ward Boundaries

Ward

- 5
- 6
- 7

	Proposed Total Population	Deviation from Mean	Proposed Eligible Voters	Deviation from Mean
Ward 5	9, 312	3.3%	6, 570	2.1%
Ward 6	9, 527	5.7%	6, 972	8.3%
Ward 7	8, 207	-9.0%	5, 771	10.4%

*Total population and eligible voter numbers are derived from the 2018 Strathcona Municipal Census conducted in May 2018.



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STRATHCONA COUNTY

Enclosure 5

Criteria	Option 1	Score
Relatively Equal Population/ Number of Electors (7 points)	✓	7
Total Population Deviation (6 points)	✓	6
Future Growth (5 points)	✓	5
Communities of Interest (4 points)	✓	4
Geographical Features (3 points)	✓	3
Least Number of Changes (2 points)	✓	2
Block-Shaped Wards (1 point)	✓	1
Total /28	28	

2019 Ward Boundary Review

2018 Census Results

- Enclosure 1 of the report contains two maps (urban and rural) of our current ward boundaries
- Ward 4 exceeds the +25% recommended deviation
- Ward 3 is falling close to the -25% recommended deviation at -16.8%

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Policy Criteria Outcomes

- Administration applied the Ward Boundary Review Policy Criteria
- Enclosure 2 contains 4 maps for the urban ward options
- Each option contains a legend on the map with colours that have been assigned to the proposed ward
- For example the proposed Ward 8 in each option is a shade of purple
- All of the options contain a table that lists the population, eligible voters and the deviation from the mean for the population and the eligible voters

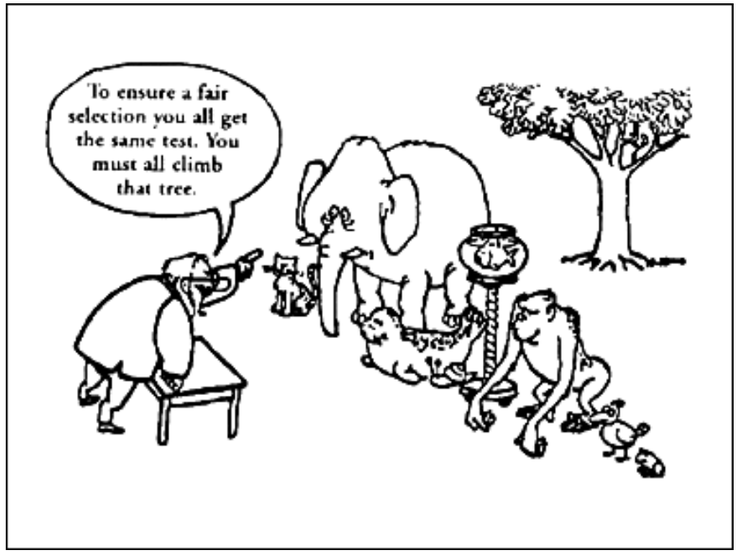
STRATHCONA COUNTY

Calculating the Mean

- The **mean** is equal to the sum of all the urban ward populations divided by the number of urban wards (71,335/5=14,267)
- The **deviation** from the mean is a measure of difference between the population of the ward and the urban population mean
- The sign of the **deviation** reports the direction of that difference
- For example, the **deviation** is positive when an urban ward's population exceeds the urban population mean

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Scoring Matrix



- Enclosure 3 contains a scoring matrix for the urban options
- Each of the policy criteria can be found in the far left column and is assigned a weight based on the order of importance
- The ward boundary options were then scored against the policy criteria

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Urban Ward Boundary Options

- Options 1 and 2 are tied, both receiving 26 out of 28 possible points
- Option 3 scored 21 out of 28 possible points
- Option 4 scored 18 out of 28 possible points
- Of the top two, Option 1 is slightly better as it does not change the current Ward 8 boundary

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Rural Ward Option

- The current ward boundaries for the rural wards comply with the policy including the boundary adjustments contemplated in the Alliance Exploration Agreement between Strathcona County and the City of Fort Saskatchewan
- Enclosure 4 contains an option to create a more blocked shaped ward and a better alignment with geographical features i.e. Wye Road is used as the boundary up to Range Road 213
- Enclosure 5 contains the scoring matrix for the rural option
- The option is desirable for election planning purposes and will reduce confusion for electors in some of our rural voting stations by reducing the number of ballot choices

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Next Steps

Options for the Priorities Committee

- Make a recommendation to Council with the preferred urban and rural option
- Refer to the Community Living Advisory Committee and direct them to review the ward boundary options and make a recommendation to Council

STRATHCONA COUNTY