

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AGENDA for September 24, 2019
5:30 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome of Visitors
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Second Voting Location Changes and Out of Precinct Voting Locations
- V. Discussion of Census Preparation/Precinct Project
- VI. Discussion of Automark replacement
- VII. General Office Update—facilities update
staffing update
municipals/trainings
- VIII. Other Business

Buncombe County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2019

Opening

The scheduled meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 5:30 pm on September 24, 2019 at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Present

Board Members-

Jake Quinn, Chairman
Elizabeth Newman, Secretary
Linda Block
Stephen G. Duncan
Jay Watson

BOE Staff-

Trena Velez, Director
John Noce
Jennifer Sparks
Victoria Leyva
Corinne Duncan

Visitors-

(See attached)

Item One – Welcome Visitors

Item Two - Approval of Minutes – Kevin Roberts

- Staff member Roberts presented the minutes from August 8, 2019.
- Member Block requested that the wording on page two be changed from “precinct” to “location.”
- Member Watson motioned the minutes to be approved as amended for August 8, 2019. Secretary Newman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item Three – Out of Precinct Voting Locations and Second Voting Location – Kevin Roberts

- Staff member Roberts presented the secondary voting location resolution. (See attached)
 - Resolution 09242019A – 68.1 would have a secondary voting location, 681, due to the extensive travel around the mountain range starting at Gouges Branch.
 - Member Block questioned the wording of the resolution.
 - Member Duncan suggested to add another “whereas, adding the reasoning behind the action” to help give clarification to the resolution.

- Chairman Quinn requested the changes be made and the resolutions be presented at the next Board meeting.

Item Four – Discussion of Census Preparation/Precinct Project– Corinne Duncan

- Staff member Duncan presented a review of the 2020 Precinct Project law, procedures and State recommendations. Staff recommendations were as follows:
 - Accept all minor changes not affecting voters.
 - Accept change between 8.2 to 8.3 affecting one household (large area but small voter impact, additional distance to new precinct is 0.4 miles).
 - Accept change between 21.1 and 23.3 affecting approximately 50 households (larger voter impact, additional distance to new precinct is 0.7 miles, however any other snap to census block would be a larger impact).
 - Do not accept change between 68.1 and 681 as addressed by earlier discussed resolution.
- Other changes to improve administrative efficiency such as reducing the number of ballot styles within a precinct were investigated but not found. It was noted that changing precinct lines does not change district lines.
- Member Duncan asked if following the census recommendations and moving these precinct lines would change districts as were already determined by the general assembly. Duncan also stated that he does not want to make changes recommended by the US census block lines if these changed district lines. Duncan stated he does not support any changes if this was determined to be the outcome.
 - Staff member Sparks explained that if we move the precinct lines to census block lines now in 2020 it will avoid precinct splits and will not change the district lines.
- Chairman Quinn requested a motion to accept changes not affecting voters, the change between 8.2 and 8.3, and the change between 21.1 and 23.3. Member Watson moved to approve. Secretary Newman seconded and the Board approved unanimously.
- Chairman Quinn requested a motion to not accept the change between 68.1 and 681. Member Watson moved to approve. Secretary Newman seconded and the Board approved unanimously.

Item Five – Discussion of Automark Replacement– Director Velez

- Chairman Quinn informed the visitors that all of the Board, except member Block, visited Haywood County to observe new voting equipment options.
- Per Director Velez, funds were requested in 2015 to purchase new voting equipment, and Buncombe County upgraded from the M100 to the DS200

tabulators. Unfortunately, the Automark ADA machine did not have a certified upgrade at that time.

- On August 23, 2019 three new ADA machines have been certified and the Board discussed options.
- Member Watson asked Director Velez if the voting systems could be mixed and matched between vendors.
- Director Velez responded that the machines could not be intermixed which was outlined in the recent memorandum from the SBOE.
- The Board decided that the most economic option is the ExpressVote if it is decided that an upgrade is advantageous. This will allow the current system to operate with the new ADA machines as they are both compatible with Electionware software.
- Chairman Quinn made a motion to approve testing for the ExpressVote ADA machine and the Electionware software. Member Duncan seconded and the Board approved unanimously.

Item Six – Other Business –Director Velez

- Director Velez shared that the warehouse facility at 50 Coxe is almost ready to move in. Director Velez also stated some of our part time workers have been brought back in and the rest will start within the next couple of weeks.
- Director Velez stated that an orientation for the chief judges and captains will be held October 8th and invited the Board to attend. Former Chairperson/Board member Lucy Smith will be honored.
- The mall satellite site contract is still in legal negotiating the contract.
- Staff member Duncan provided updates from the managers meeting:
 - County wide emergency alert system to alert offices of emergencies.
 - Security for each of the county buildings.
 - Change in capital improvements but money is still in the budget for election complex in 2023.
 - House/Senate/County Commissioner districts could be changing in the future.
- Staff member Noce explained that overseas voters submit their ballot by email which must be duplicated by a 4-member bi-partisan team.
 - Noce proposed that the duplicating be completed before the applicable board meeting for efficiency and would be subject to a 2-step verification process.
- Chairman Quinn added that the Asheville City Council is meeting tonight to discuss holding their primary election in March. Chairman Quinn stated that there

was legal risk in conducting a municipal primary in March because it is not specifically authorized in the statute.

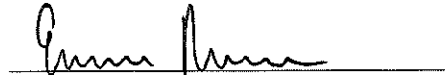
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next meeting will be held Tuesday October 15th, at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Minutes submitted by: Kevin J. Roberts

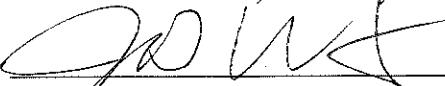
Approved by:



Jake Quinn, Chairman




Elizabeth Newman, Secretary



Jay Watson, Member



Stephen G. Duncan, Member



Linda Block, Member

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

SESSION LAW 2019-16
HOUSE BILL 1014

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE 2020 VOTING DISTRICT VERIFICATION PROJECT WITH THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF THE CENSUS AND TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO REVIEW PRECINCT LINES IN ADVANCE OF THE 2030 CENSUS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 163A-1065 reads as rewritten:

"§ 163A-1065. **Participation in the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program of the United States Census Bureau.**

(a) **Participation.** – The State of North Carolina shall participate in the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program, conducted pursuant to P.L. 94-171, of the United States Bureau of the Census, so that the State will receive 2020 Census data by voting districts.

(b) **Reporting of Voting Districts.** – ~~The Executive Director of the State Board Legislative Services Officer shall report to the Bureau of the Census this State's voting precincts as of January 1, 2018, precincts, which shall be based upon the 2010 Census block boundaries, to be used in developing the geography for the 2020 Census as voting districts. Before making that report, the Executive Director shall consult with the Legislative Services Office concerning the accuracy of the information to be reported. The Executive Director Legislative Services Officer shall submit the information to be reported.~~ The Executive Director shall approve and the Legislative Services Officer shall submit the report to the Bureau of the Census in time to comply with the deadlines of that Bureau for the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program. The Executive Director, with the assistance of the county boards of elections, Legislative Services Officer shall participate in the Bureau of the Census's verification program and notify the Bureau of the Census of any errors in the entry of the voting districts in time for those errors to be corrected.

(c) **Additional Rules.** – ~~The Executive Director and the Legislative Services Officer shall develop a systematic method for review and input by the Legislative Services Office prior to provide a copy of the submission required by subsection (b) of this section.~~ section to the Executive Director and to the chair of each political party recognized under G.S. 163A-950. The Legislative Services Officer shall also, at the time of the report to Bureau of the Census, post the report on the Web site of the General Assembly."

SECTION 2. Section 7(c) of S.L. 2016-109 is repealed.

SECTION 3. Section 7(d) of S.L. 2016-109 reads as rewritten:

"**SECTION 7.(d)** On or before July 1, 2019, the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections shall provide each county board of elections with a copy of the submission provided in accordance with G.S. 163A-1065 with respect to that county. The county boards of election, shall, on or before November 1, 2017, October 1, 2019, report to the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections and the Legislative Services Officer any requested changes to-in the precinct boundaries to be used in elections held on or after January 1, 2018. The State Board of Elections shall develop criteria for the county boards of elections to use in developing proposed precinct boundaries, shall notify the county boards of elections of the requirement to submit proposed changes, and shall facilitate the county boards of elections in developing proposed



boundary changes. The State Board of Elections shall consult with the Legislative Services Office about the proposed changes to precinct boundaries in a timely and systemic manner in order to accommodate submitting a statewide map of updated precinct boundaries reported to the Bureau of the Census for the Phase 2 Voting District Project. Upon receipt of the responses from the county boards of elections regarding the voting districts geography from the Bureau of the Census for the 2020 Census, the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections and the Legislative Services Office Officer, in conjunction with the Executive Director of the State Board, shall determine if any alterations to the precinct boundaries are needed in order to comply with G.S. 163-132.3(a1)(1), as enacted by Section 8(a) of this act, needed."

SECTION 4.(a) G.S. 163A-1071 reads as rewritten:

"§ 163A-1071. Alterations to approved precinct boundaries.

(a) No county board of elections may change any precinct boundary unless approved by the Executive Director of the State Board.

(b) ~~The~~ To be used by the Executive Director and the county boards of elections in changing precinct boundaries in accordance with this section, the State Board shall set uniform standards for precinct boundaries that the county boards of elections shall follow. Any uniform standards for precinct boundaries set by the State Board shall comply with all of the following:

- (1) Precinct boundaries shall coincide with Census block ~~boundaries~~ boundaries, as set forth in the TIGER/Line Shapefiles associated with the most recent federal decennial census.
- (2) Precincts shall consist solely of contiguous territory.
- (3) Precincts shall consist of territory and population that allows for efficient and accurate administration of elections, taking into consideration available polling places and access to polling places.
- (4) The county shall be able to reallocate any out of precinct ballots cast by a voter to the precinct associated with that voter's voter registration for purposes of reporting the results of an election.

(c) The county board of elections shall report every change in precinct boundary to the Executive Director in a format required by the Executive Director.

No newly created or altered precinct boundary is effective until approved by the Executive Director of the State Board as being in compliance with this section.

(d) The Executive Director of the State Board shall examine the maps of the proposed new or altered precincts and any required written descriptions. If the Executive Director of the State Board determines that all precinct boundaries are in compliance with this section, the Executive Director of the State Board shall approve the maps and written descriptions as filed and these precincts shall be the official precincts for voting.

(e) If the Executive Director of the State Board determines that the proposed precinct boundaries are not in compliance with subsection (b) of this section, the Executive Director shall not approve those proposed precinct boundaries. The Executive Director shall notify the county board of elections of the disapproval specifying the reasons. The county board of elections may then resubmit new proposed precinct maps and written descriptions to cure the reasons for the disapproval."

SECTION 4.(b) This section becomes effective January 1, 2020.

SECTION 5. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.
In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 28th day of May, 2019.

s/ Philip E. Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate



s/ Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved 1:00 p.m. this 29th day of May, 2019

Buncombe County
2020 Precinct Project
Election Services
Buncombe County, North Carolina

Updated September 2019



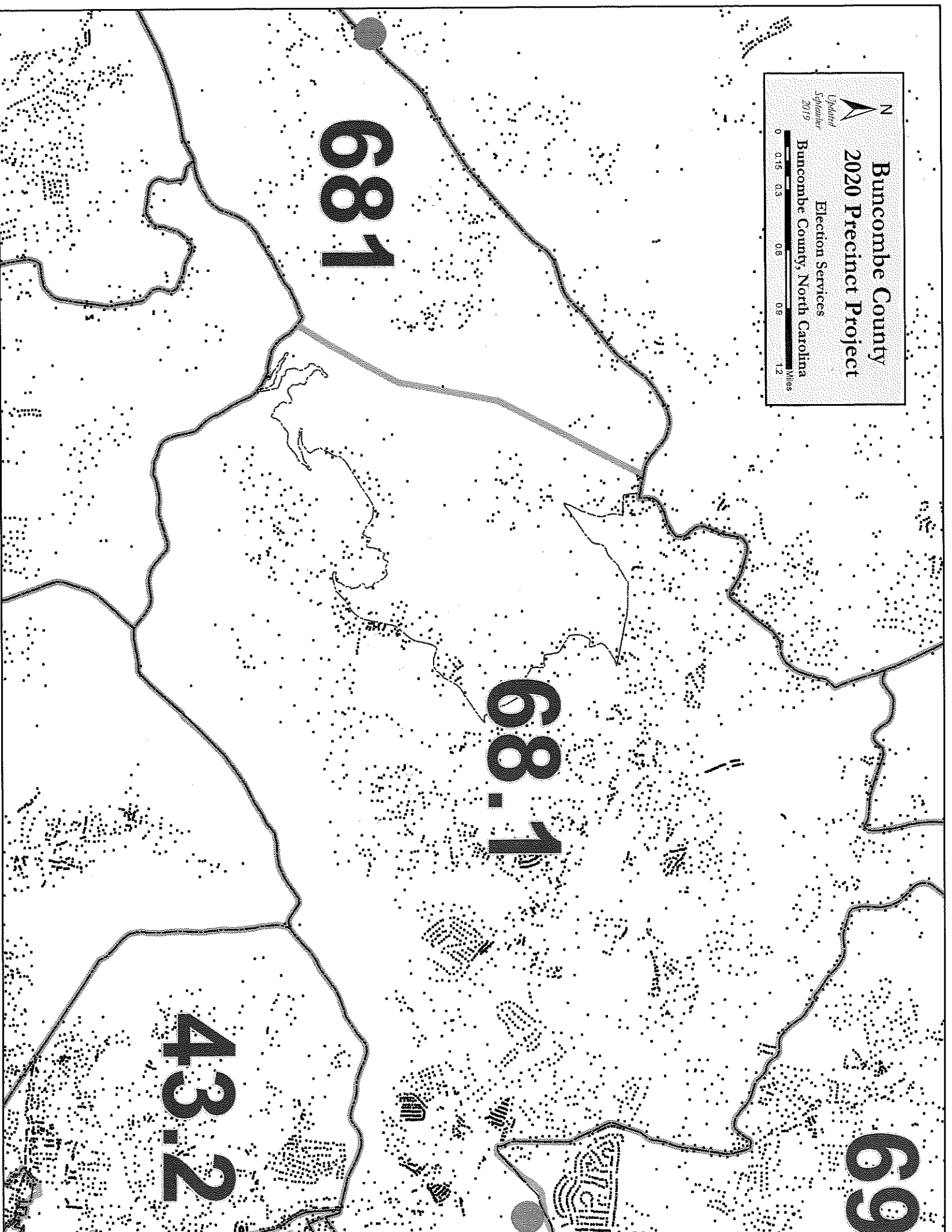
Miles

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BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

Precinct 681

Newfound Community Center

3 MORGAN BRANCH RD
LEICESTER, NC 28748

NC Senator:
District 49

NC House of Representatives:
District 116

County Commissioners:
District 3

US House of Representatives:
District 11

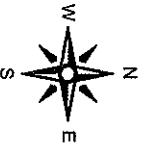
● Polling Location

▬ NC House of Representatives

▬ NC Senate

▬ County Commissioners

▬ US House of Representatives



Date: 9/24/2019





BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

Precinct 68.1

West Buncombe Elementary School

175 ERWIN HILLS RD
ASHEVILLE, NC 28806

NC Senate:
District 49

NC House of Representatives:
District 116

County Commissioners:
District 3

US House of Representatives:
District 11

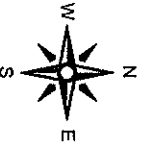
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Polling Location

▬ NC House of Representatives

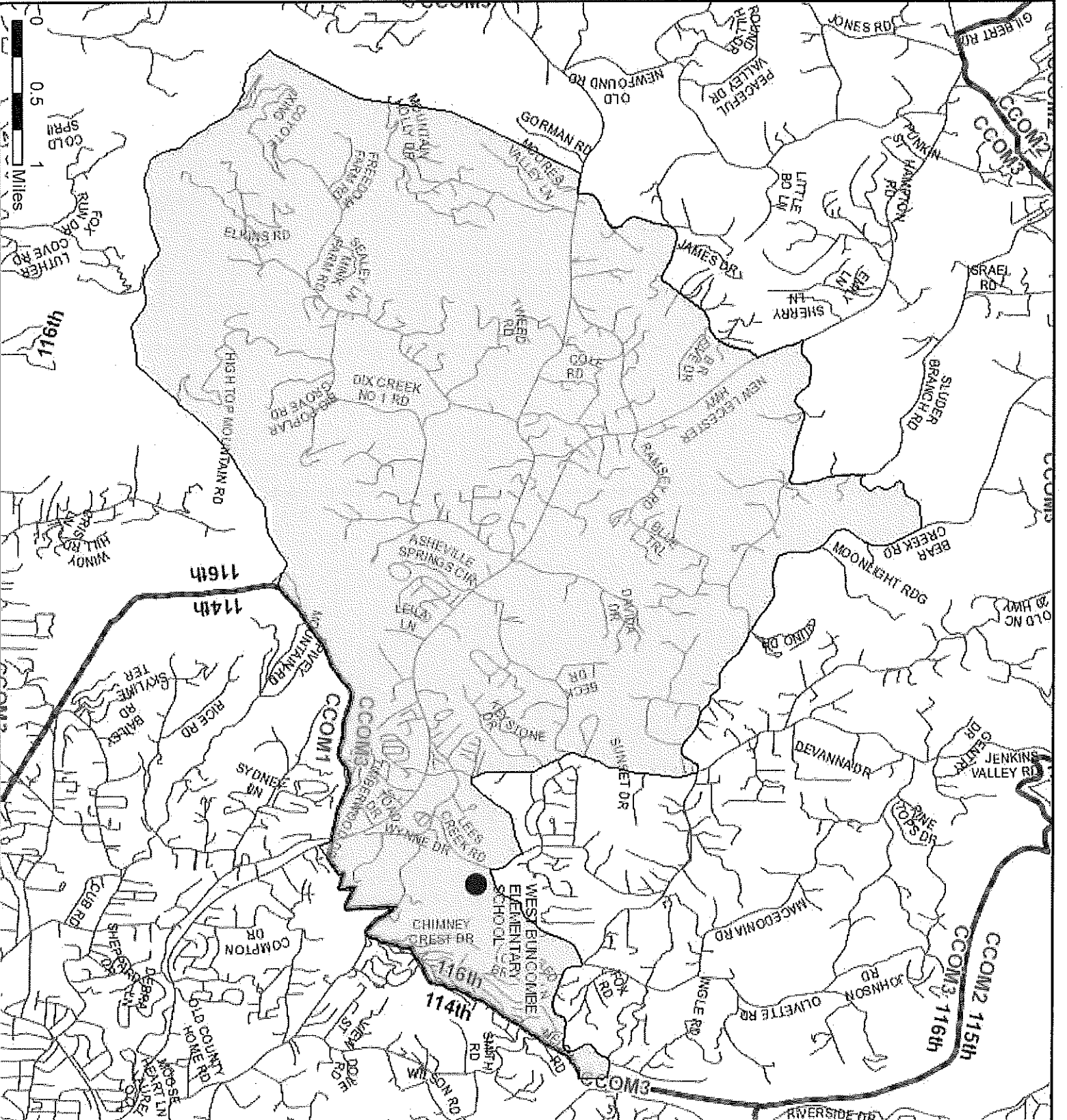
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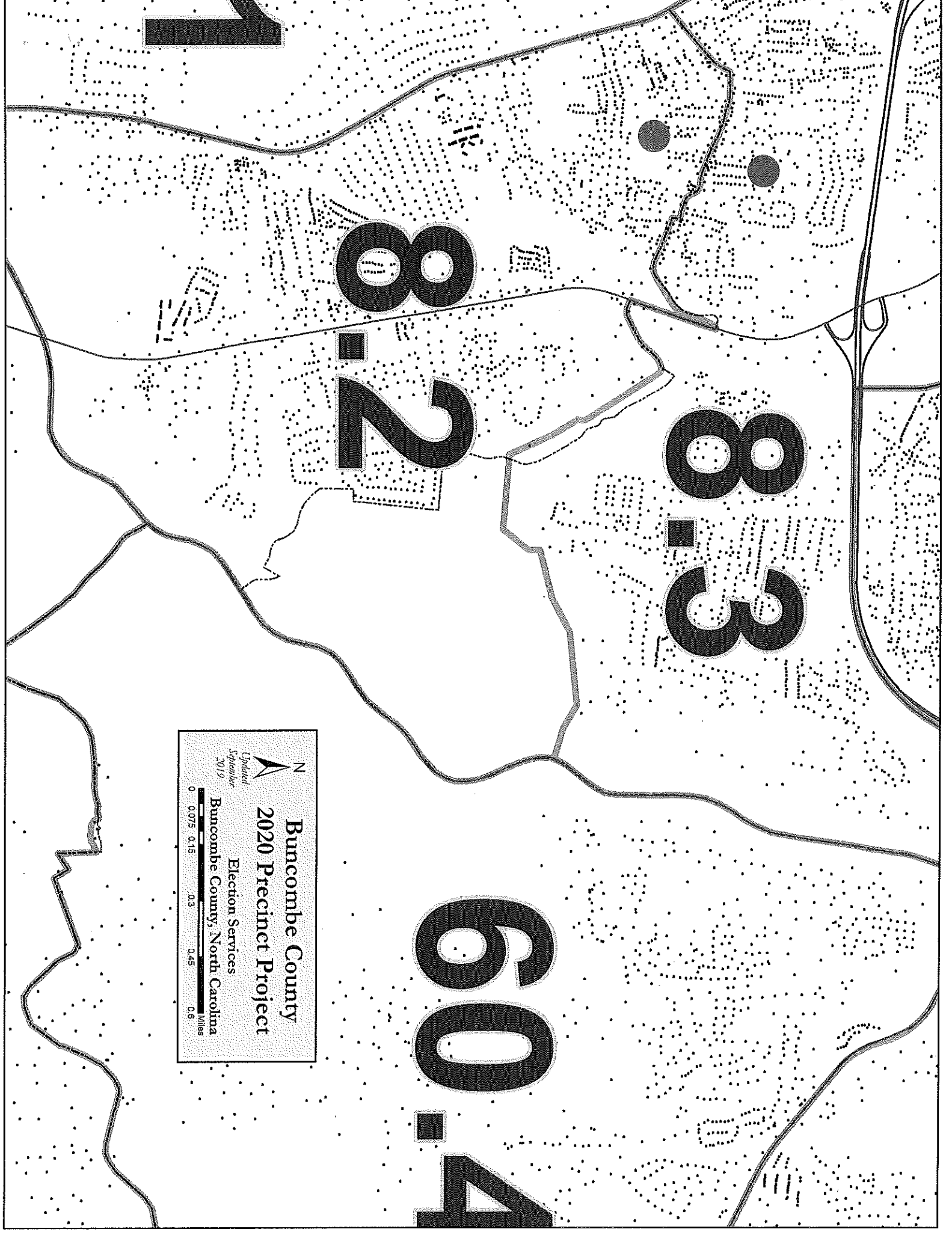
▬ County Commissioners

▬ US House of Representatives



Date: 9/24/2019





Buncombe County
2020 Precinct Project
Election Services
Buncombe County, North Carolina

Updated
September
2019

0 0.075 0.15 0.3 0.45 0.6 Miles



BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

Precinct 8.3

Faith Tabernacle Christian Center

800 APPELDOORN CIR
ASHEVILLE, NC 28803

NC Senate:
District 49

NC House of Representatives:
District 114

County Commissioners:
District 1

US House of Representatives:
District 10

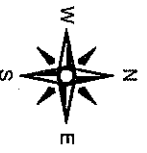
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Polling Location

▬ NC House of Representatives

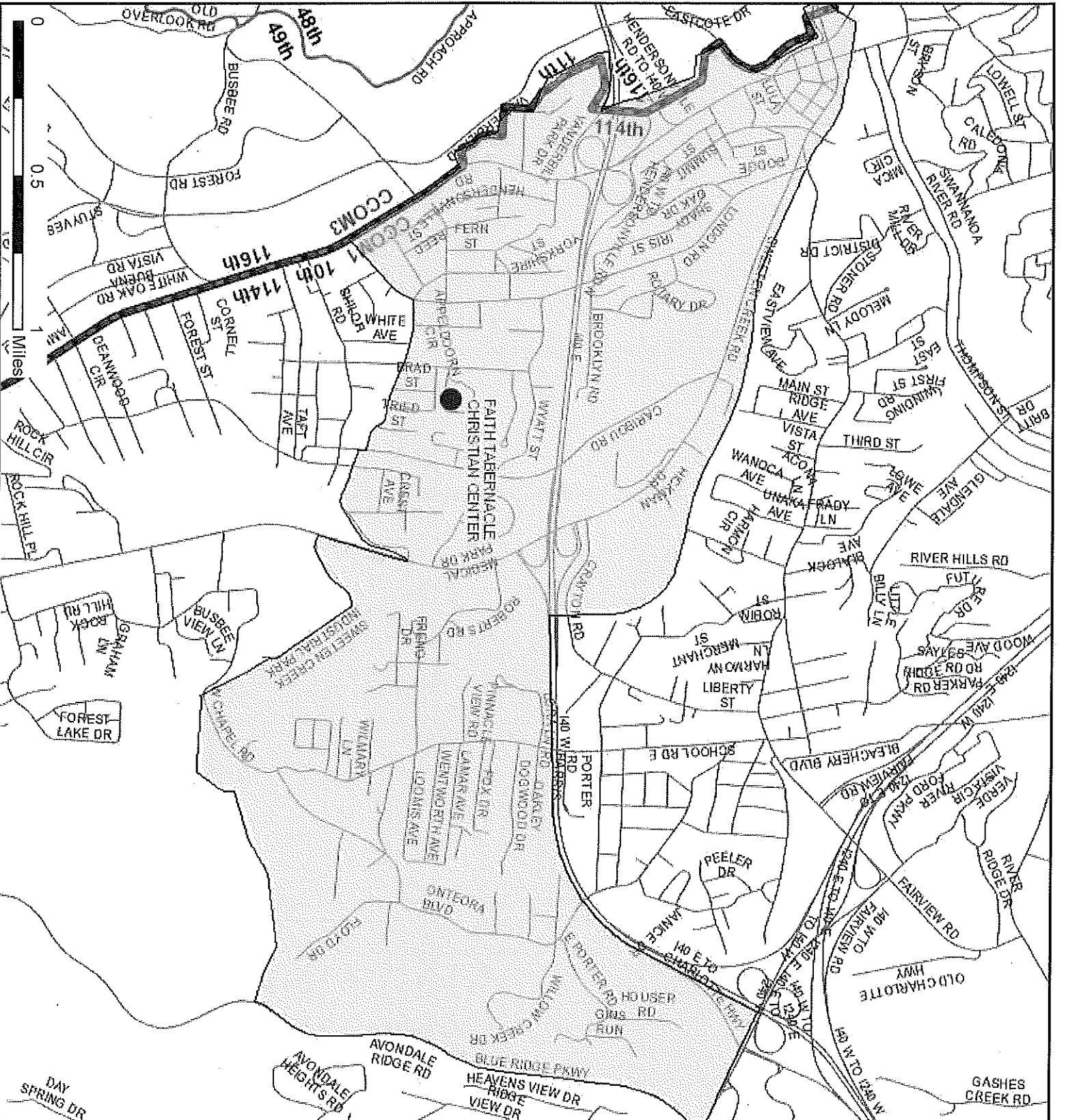
▬ NC Senate

▬ County Commissioners

▬ US House of Representatives



Date: 9/24/2019





BUNCOMBE COUNTY
ELECTION SERVICES

Precinct 8.2

Shiloh Community Center

121 SHILOH RD
ASHEVILLE, NC 28803

**NC Senate:
District 49**

**NC House of Representatives:
District 114**

**County Commissioners:
District 1**

**US House of Representatives:
District 10**

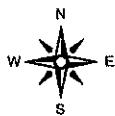
Polling Location

NC House of Representatives

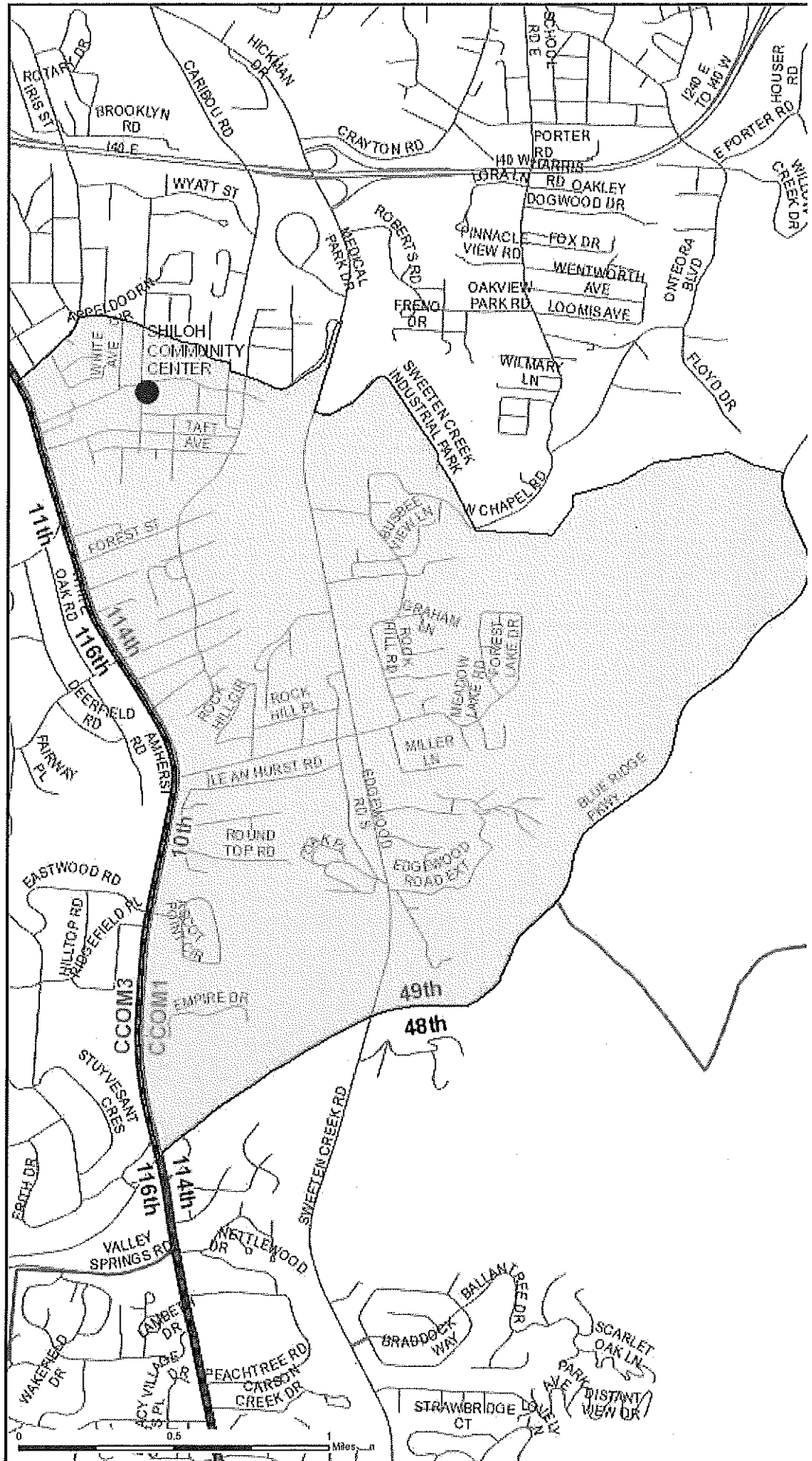
NC Senate

County Commissioners

US House of Representatives



Date: 9/24/2019




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23-3

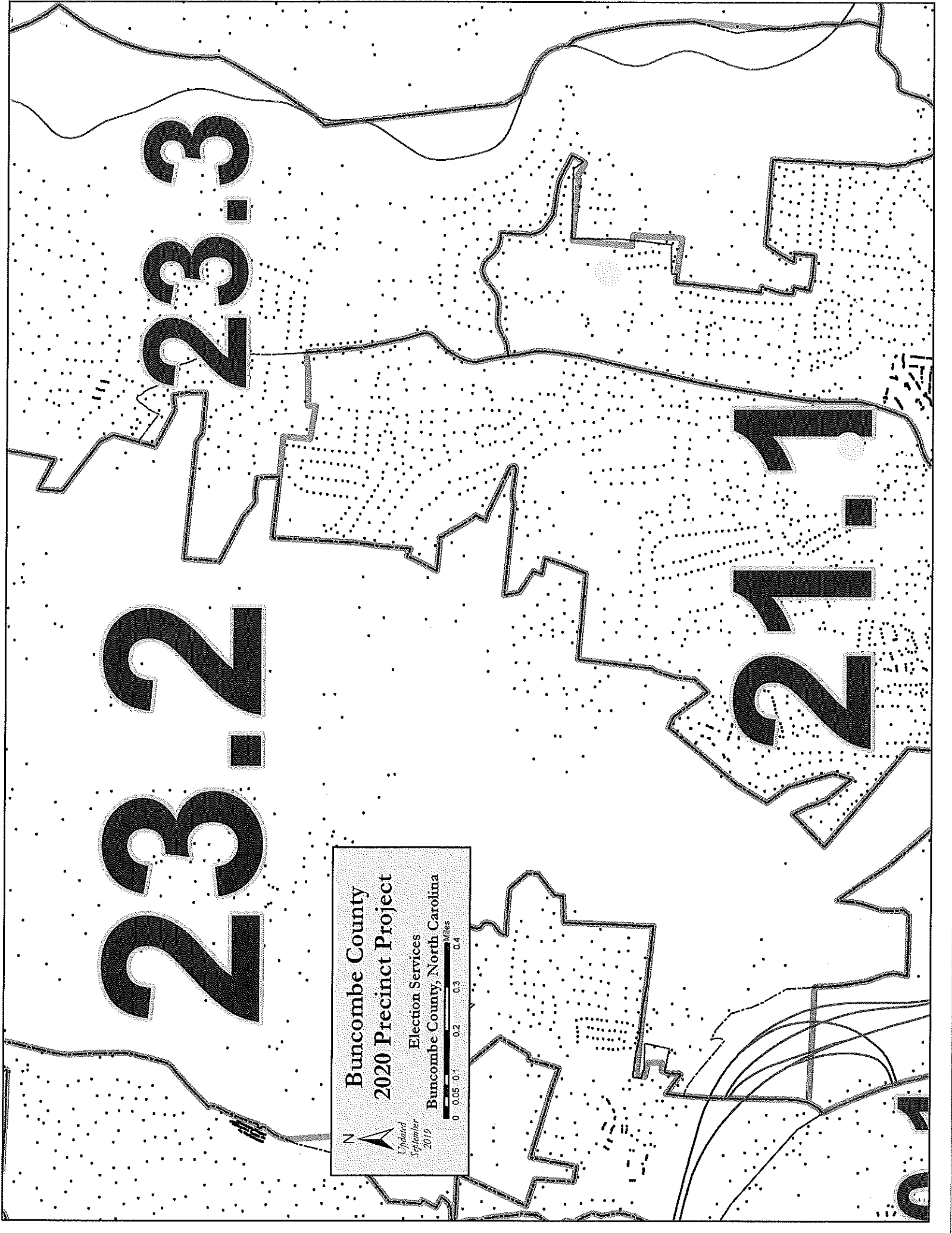

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Buncombe County
2020 Precinct Project
Election Services
Buncombe County, North Carolina



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

Updated
September
2019





BUNCOMBE COUNTY
ELECTION SERVICES

Precinct 23.3

Evergreen Community School

50 BELL RD
ASHEVILLE, NC 28805

NC Senate:
District 49

NC House of Representatives:
District 114

County Commissioners:
District 1

Us House of Representatives:
District 10

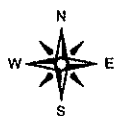
● Polling Location

▬▬▬▬▬ NC House of Representatives

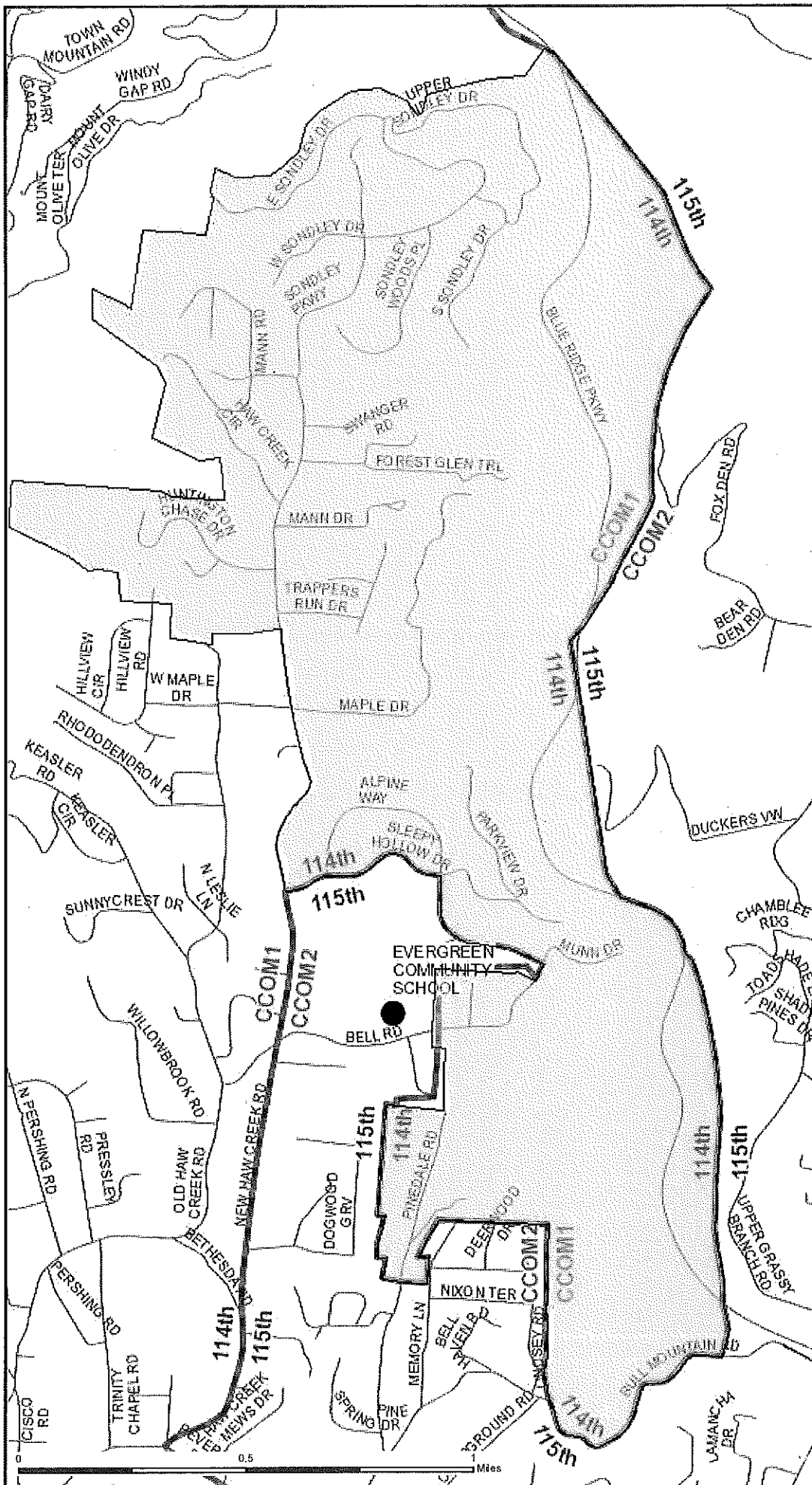
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▬▬▬▬▬ County Commissioners

▬▬▬▬▬ US House of Representatives



Date: 9/24/2019





BUNCOMBE COUNTY
ELECTION SERVICES

Precinct 21.1

Haw Creek Elementary School
10 BETHESDA RD
ASHEVILLE, NC 28805

NC Senate:
District 49

NC House of Representatives:
District 114

County Commissioners:
District 1

Us House of Representatives:
District 10

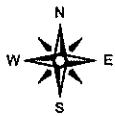
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Date: 9/24/2019

