

## Report for Phase III:

### Illustrative Single-member District Plans for Electing Village of Port Chester Board of Trustees

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#### Introduction

In order to assess whether a districted electoral system is a viable governance option for the Village of Port Chester, two districted plans have been drafted and are presented in this report. They are for illustrative purposes only and have been created solely for the purpose of determining the number of majority Hispanic districts that could easily be created if the Village of Port Chester were to move from a modified at-large to a districted electoral system. One of the illustrative plans drawn has six single-member districts, reflecting the current six-member composition of the Village of Port Chester Board of Trustees. The second plan we drew has five single-member districts, allowing for one Board member to be elected at-large and five from districts, or for a reduction in the size of the Board of Trustees from six to five members. The maps and full population statistics for these two plans have been appended to this report.

The two plans were drawn using census blocks, with no blocks split across districts in either plan. The total and the citizen voting age populations for each district have been tabulated for both plans. The total population reported is based on the 2010 census since decennial census data is the data used by courts to determine if districts satisfy the requirement of one person, one vote. The citizen voting age population (CVAP) reported for each district is based on estimates derived from the American Community Survey and have been calculated to reflect the citizen voting age population as of 2010.<sup>1</sup>

The two plans both offer two geographically compact and contiguous districts in which Hispanics would comprise a sizeable majority of the citizen voting age population.

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<sup>1</sup> Because the decennial census does not collect data on citizenship, Hispanic citizen voting age population (CVAP) was estimated using information from the American Community Survey (ACS), an annual Census Bureau survey that collects citizenship data as well as other demographic, housing, social and economic data. The Hispanic citizenship ratio (ACS Tract Hispanic CVAP/ASC Tract Hispanic VAP) for each census tract was calculated from pooled five year ACS survey responses (U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey) and this ratio was then applied to the 2010 census blocks within each tract to produce Hispanic CVAP estimates for each census block group in the Village of Port Chester. The Hispanic CVAP estimates are for 2010, not 2018 – the Hispanic CVAP for each district is likely to be considerably higher now. For a description of the estimation procedure see Jorge Chapa, Ana Henderson, Aggie Jooyoon Noah, Werner Schink and Robert Kengle, “Redistricting: Estimating Citizen Voting Age Population” Research Brief, The Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy, University of California, Berkeley Law School, July 2011.

### Illustrative six-district plan

A six-district plan would be required if all six Board members were elected from single-member districts. The ideal district population for each district in a six-district plan would be 4,828 in Port Chester.<sup>2</sup> The illustrative six-district plan drawn meets the standard for one person, one vote, and creates two geographically compact, contiguous majority Hispanic CVAP districts. Table 1 contains the population statistics associated with the illustrative six-district plan. The largest population deviation is only 1.99 percent. District 2 is 66.69 percent Hispanic in CVAP and District 4 is 64.05 percent Hispanic in CVAP.

**Table 1: Total population and citizen voting age population for illustrative six-district plan**

District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal District Size	Percent Population Deviation	Citizen Voting Age Population Estimate	Hispanic Citizen Voting Age Population Estimate	Percent Hispanic Voting Age Population
1	4840	12	.25	2087	832	39.87
2	4770	-58	-1.20	1749	1166	66.69
3	4924	96	1.99	2031	875	43.08
4	4805	-23	-.48	1699	1088	64.05
5	4767	-61	-1.26	2356	630	26.74
6	4861	33	.68	2861	406	14.18

### Illustrative five-district plan

A five-district plan would be required if the Board were reduced in size to five members or if five members of the Board were elected from single-member districts and a sixth member was elected jurisdiction-wide. The ideal district population in a five-district plan would be 5,793 in Port Chester.<sup>3</sup> In the illustrative five-district plan, Districts 1 and 3 are 69.92 and 64.85 percent Hispanic CVAP, respectively, as shown in Table 2.

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<sup>2</sup>The ideal population is calculated by dividing the total population of the Port Chester as of the 2010 census by the number of districts to be drawn, in this case six (28,967 divided by 6 is 4,828).

<sup>3</sup> The total population Port Chester (28,967) divided by 5 is 5,793.

**Table 2: Total population and citizen voting age population for illustrative five-district plan**

District	Total Population	Deviation from Ideal District Size	Percent Population Deviation	Citizen Voting Age Population Estimate	Hispanic Citizen Voting Age Population Estimate	Percent Hispanic Voting Age Population
1	5699	-94	-1.62	2024	1415	69.92
2	5896	103	1.78	2464	1015	41.19
3	5693	-100	-1.73	2091	1356	64.85
4	5823	30	.52	2788	757	27.17
5	5856	63	1.09	3415	453	13.27

**Overview of two illustrative maps**

These two plans are offered solely for the purpose of demonstrating it is possible to create two districts with substantial Hispanic populations in five and six-district plans that satisfy such traditional redistricting criteria as one person, one vote,<sup>4</sup> and contiguity and compactness. The plans are not being offered as possible district plans to be adopted by the Village of Port Chester as they were drawn with no knowledge of neighborhoods, communities of interest or other factors that presumably should be taken into account when drawing electoral district boundaries.

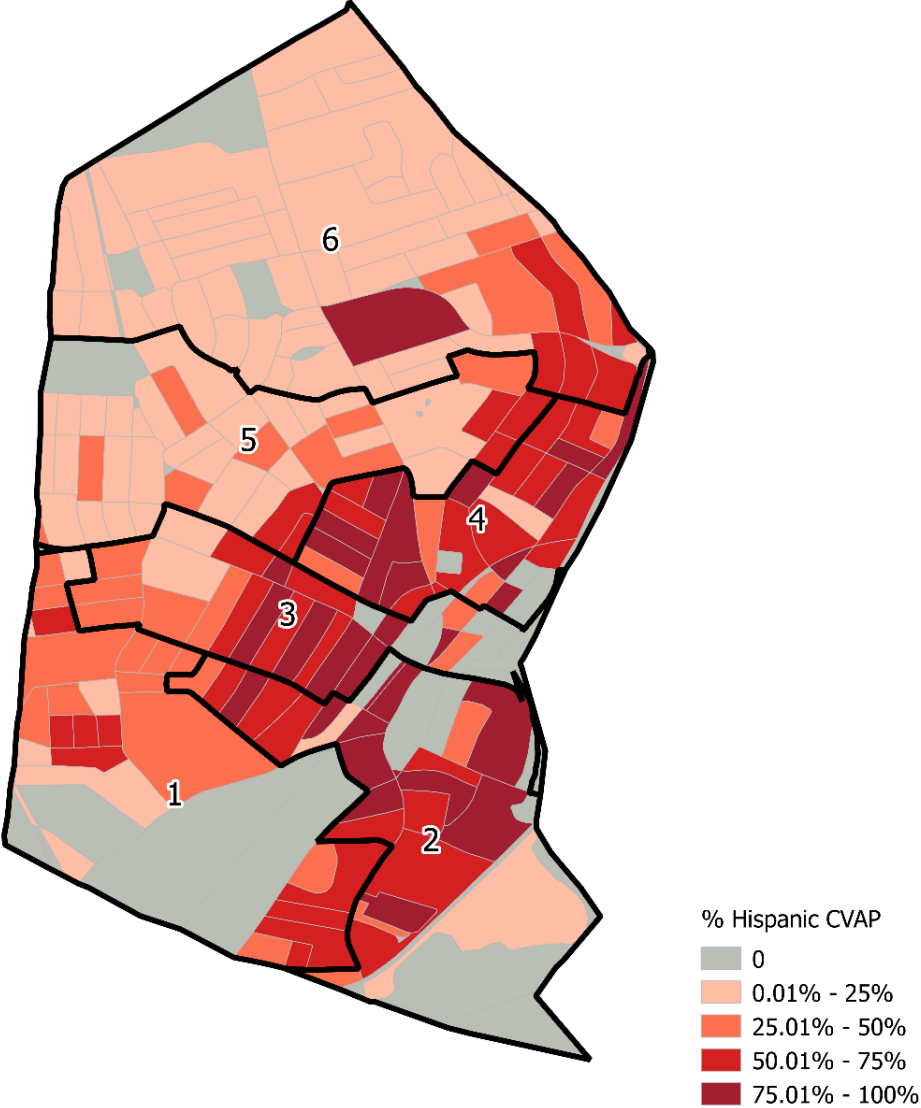
**Conclusion**

The current at-large electoral system modified with cumulative voting offers Hispanic voters an opportunity to elect two candidates of choice to the Board of Trustees. For this reason, only a districted plan that includes at least two districts that provide Hispanic voters with an opportunity to elect their preferred candidates would not be retrogressive with respect to minority voting strength. As this exercise demonstrates, drawing such a plan is quite possible and therefore a districted electoral system is a reasonable governance option for electing members to the Board of Trustees in the Village of Port Chester.

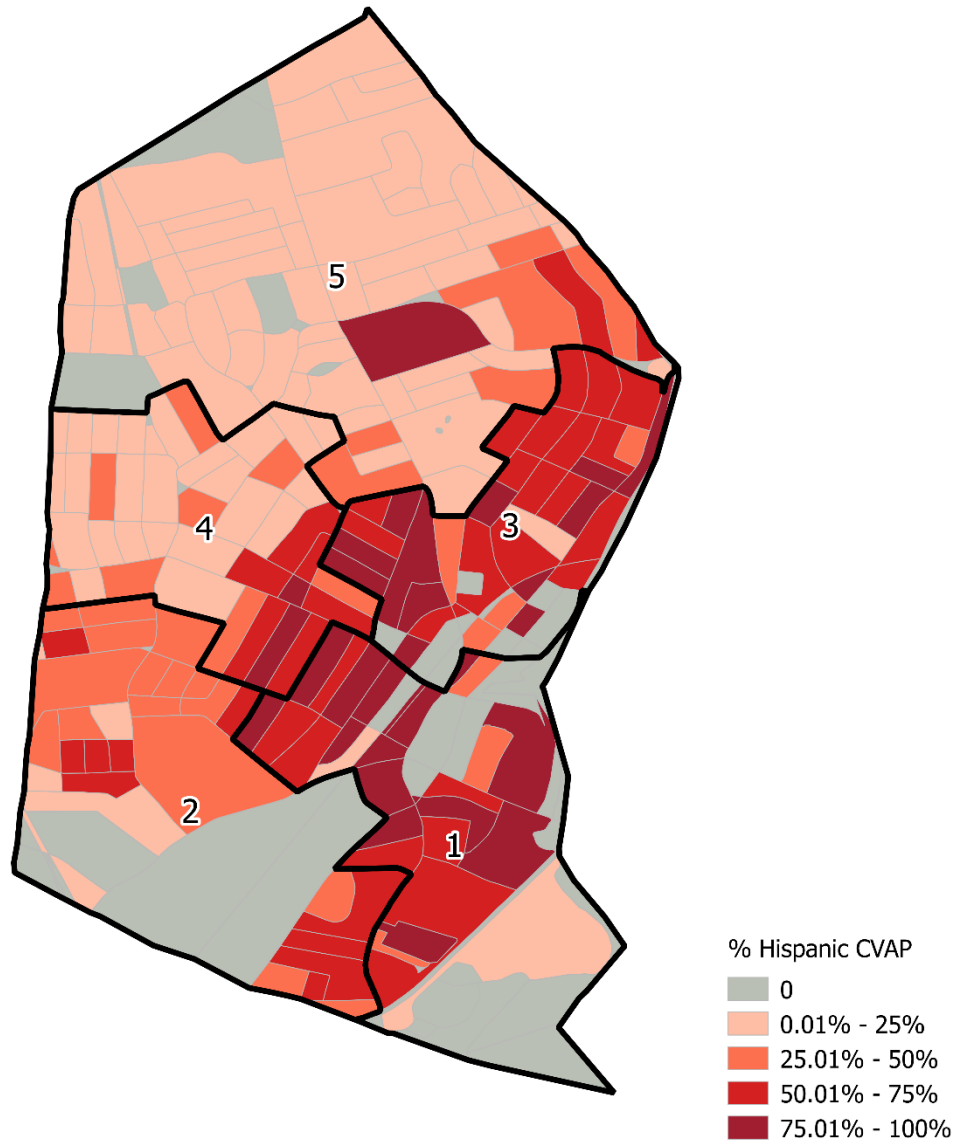
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<sup>4</sup> No district deviates from the ideal population size by even 2 percent – far less than the 10 percent considered acceptable for state and local legislative districts (state and local legislative districts with population deviations of less than 10 percent have prima facie constitutional validity).

Village of Port Chester: Map of Illustrative Six-District Plan



# Village of Port Chester: Map of Illustrative Five-District Plan



Village of Port Chester  
Board of Trustees Elections Districting Statistics

Demographic Statistics for Six District Plan

District	Ideal Value	Deviation	% Deviation	Total Population	VAP	CVAP Estimate	White CVAP Estimate	% White CVAP Estimate	Hispanic CVAP Estimate	% Hispanic CVAP Estimate	Black CVAP Estimate	% Black CVAP Estimate
1	4828	12	0.25%	4840	3691	2087	781	37.41%	832	39.87%	360	17.23%
2	4828	-58	-1.20%	4770	3563	1749	305	17.46%	1166	66.69%	223	12.74%
3	4828	96	1.99%	4924	3954	2031	857	42.19%	875	43.08%	219	10.76%
4	4828	-23	-0.48%	4805	3705	1699	415	24.45%	1088	64.05%	165	9.73%
5	4828	-61	-1.26%	4767	3775	2356	1602	68.02%	630	26.74%	71	3.01%
6	4828	33	0.68%	4861	3734	2861	2363	82.58%	406	14.18%	45	1.57%

Demographic Statistics for Five District Plan

District	Ideal Value	Deviation	% Deviation	Total Population	VAP	CVAP Estimate	White CVAP Estimate	% White CVAP Estimate	Hispanic CVAP Estimate	% Hispanic CVAP Estimate	Black CVAP Estimate	% Black CVAP Estimate
1	5793	-94	-1.62%	5699	4313	2024	278	13.74%	1415	69.92%	280	13.81%
2	5793	103	1.78%	5896	4460	2464	921	37.39%	1015	41.19%	394	15.98%
3	5793	-100	-1.73%	5693	4388	2091	537	25.67%	1356	64.85%	158	7.57%
4	5793	30	0.52%	5823	4692	2788	1752	62.86%	757	27.17%	190	6.80%
5	5793	63	1.09%	5856	4569	3415	2835	83.02%	453	13.27%	61	1.79%