

COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

**July 14, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.
Council Chamber – City Hall**

A Council work session was held to discuss the following issues: 1) Proposed new City Council Districts; and 2) City's response to rising COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

Attending: Mayor Bill McMurray and Councilmembers Brenda Blessing, Madison Davis, PJ Kovac, Russell Moore, Brian Myers, Marty Novak, Kent O'Dell and Gary Roach.

Bryan Carter, City Manager; Clint Thompson, Planning & Community Development Director; Chris Connally, Police Chief; Debra Bradley, Health Director; Ted Elo, Asst. City Attorney; Kenny Cordonnier, Interim Fire Chief; Kendra Bundy, Asst. Health Director; Zack Martin, City Planner; Mary Robertson, Asst. to the City Manager/Communications & Public Relation Manager; and Paula Heyde, City Clerk.

Mayor Bill McMurray called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #1 – Proposed new City Council Districts. Bryan Carter, City Attorney, gave a brief recap of the three proposed district layouts (copy attached). He said the guidance needed at this meeting is on whether to bring an ordinance back to approve Proposal 2 or go back to the drawing board for an alternative proposal to meet some different objectives.

After discussion, Mayor McMurray and Councilmembers Brenda Blessing, Madison Davis, Brian Myers and Marty Novak voted for Proposal 3; Councilmembers PJ Kovac and Russell Moore voted for Proposal 2; Councilmember Kent O'Dell voted for Proposal 1 and Councilmember Gary Roach abstained.

Mayor McMurray said the consensus is to run Proposal 3 through the process again.

Mr. Carter said the ordinance will have to be introduced for first reading again and it will be ready for the next Council meeting (July 26) and a vote on August 9.

Agenda #2 – City's response to rising COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. Mr. Carter said the COVID-19 positivity rates have increased fairly significantly over the past month and it was requested that a work session be scheduled to discuss how to proceed. City staff's recommendation regarding how to proceed is mostly based on educational and noticing efforts and is not recommending re-imposing a mask mandate. A vaccination campaign is already underway and will focus on the need to vaccinate to avoid the continued increase in COVID-19 case numbers. The Health Department is looking at opportunities to hold vaccination clinics in various locations that are not easily served and make it convenient to get vaccinated. They are also pushing out messaging related to environmental controls including cleaning and disinfection, social distancing and avoiding large gatherings without wearing any masks. They've also been encouraging wearing masks for all individuals just as a best practice.

Dr. Davin Turner, Chief Medical Office at Mosaic Life Care, gave an overview on what has transpired over the last ten days and answered the City Council's questions.

Debra Bradley, Health Director, listed the clinics that have been scheduled.

There was discussion on encouraging City employees to get vaccinated. Mr. Carter said if the City Council is interested in offering an incentive to City employees to get vaccinated, an additional vacation day could be provided upon proof of vaccination. No one objected to this proposal. Mr. Carter said he will file a resolution at the next meeting for the City Council to vote on the proposal.

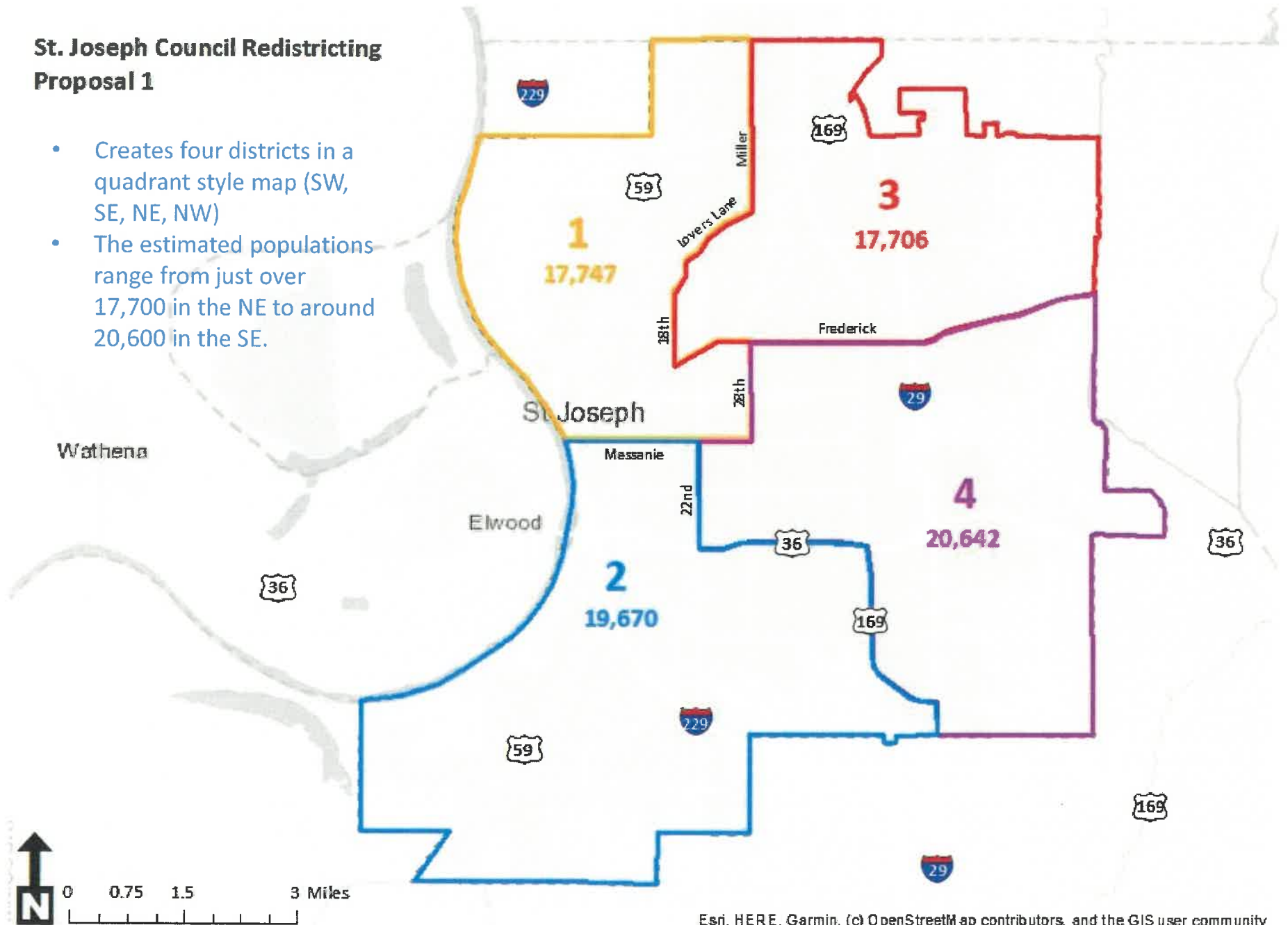
The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula Heyde". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

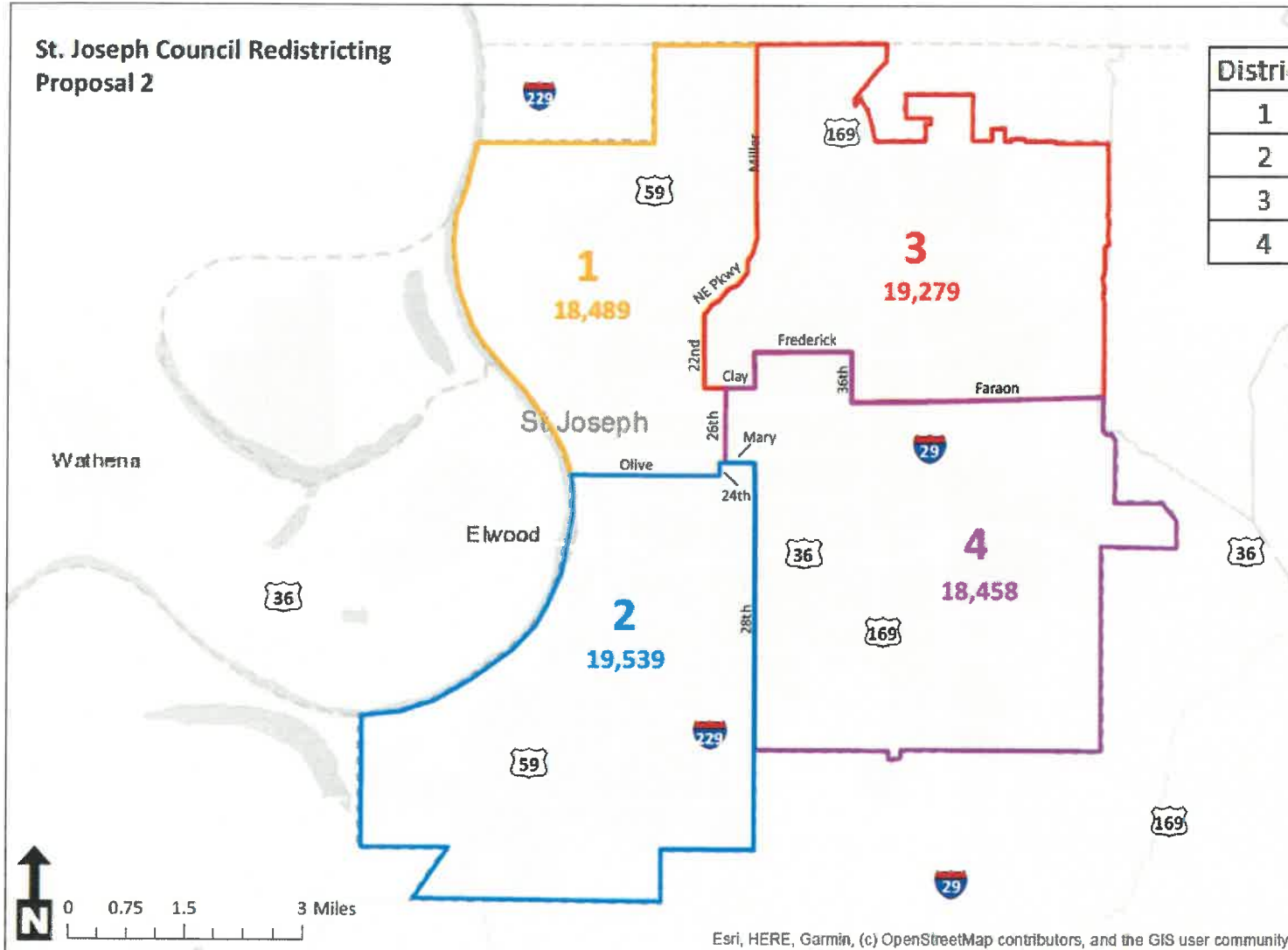
Minutes transcribed by Paula Heyde, CMC, City Clerk.

St. Joseph Council Redistricting Proposal 1

- Creates four districts in a quadrant style map (SW, SE, NE, NW)
- The estimated populations range from just over 17,700 in the NE to around 20,600 in the SE.



St. Joseph Council Redistricting Proposal 2

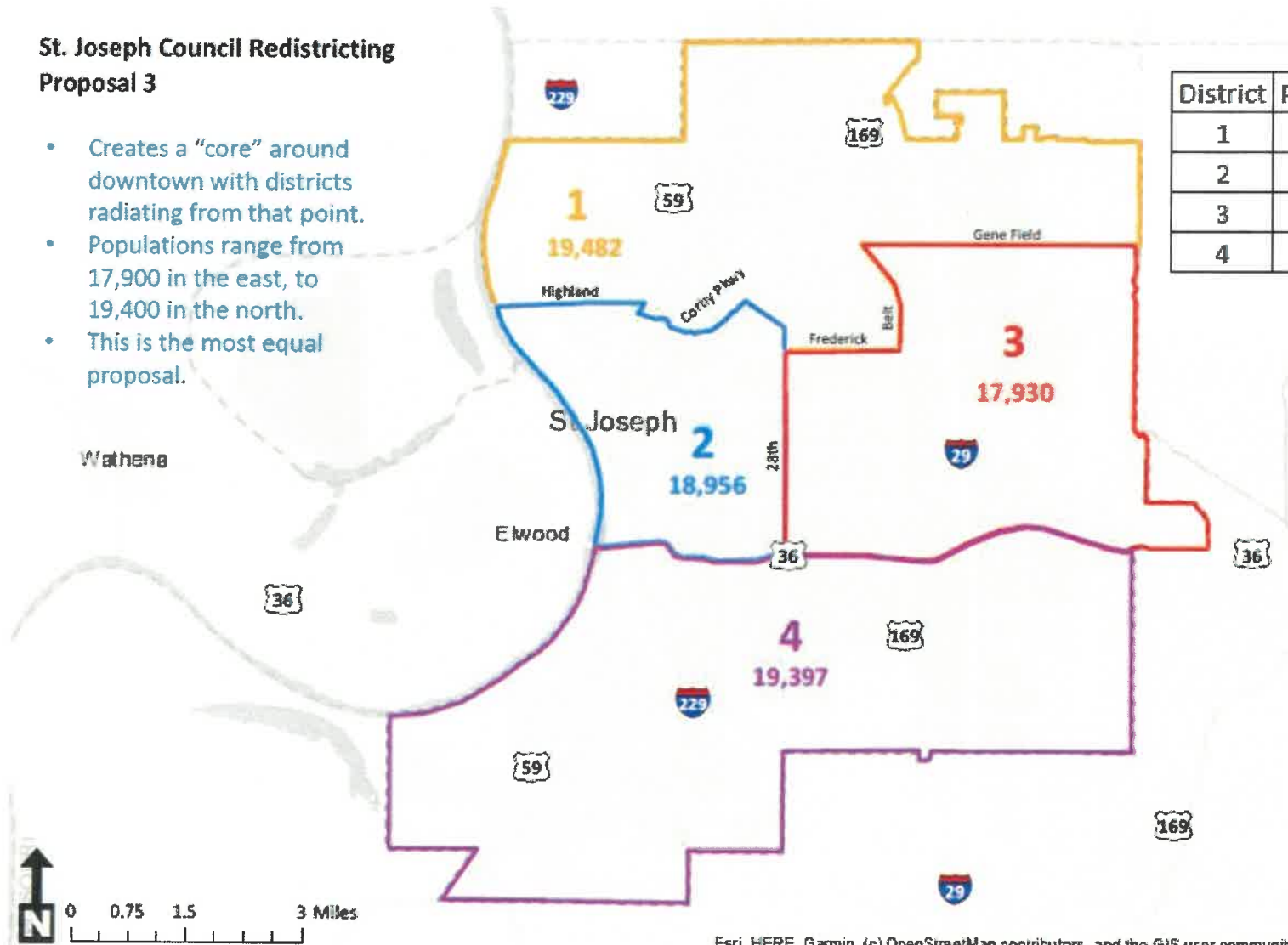


District	Population	Ratio	Deviation
1	18489	24.4%	-2.4%
2	19539	25.8%	3.2%
3	19279	25.4%	1.8%
4	18458	24.4%	-2.6%
		1.4%	5.7%

- More even population distribution.
- Based more on estimates and roof counts.

St. Joseph Council Redistricting Proposal 3

- Creates a “core” around downtown with districts radiating from that point.
- Populations range from 17,900 in the east, to 19,400 in the north.
- This is the most equal proposal.



District	Population	Ratio	Deviation
1	19482	25.7%	2.9%
2	18956	25.0%	0.1%
3	17930	23.7%	-5.3%
4	19397	25.6%	2.4%
		2.0%	8.2%

- Less even population distribution.
- Based more on ACS data rather than roof count estimations.