Just when you thought it was safe.....
Where do I vote?......
And why?
Re-Precincting in Wellesley with GIS

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Town of Wellesley
"The great principle established by [Mass. Const. Amend. Art. XXI] is equality of representation among all the voters of the Commonwealth. That is a fundamental principle of representative government... There can be no equality among citizens if the vote of one counts for considerably more than that of another in electing public officers."

Attorney General v. Suffolk County Apportionment Comm'rs, 224 Mass. 598, 604 (1916)
Standards for Precincts (M.G.L. ch.54 §§1,2,6)

• Compact and contiguous territory – no “fingers” or “tails”
• Boundaries must also be U.S. Census Bureau block boundaries
• Precincts must not dilute minority group votes
• No precinct may contain more than 4000 residents
• Population in each precinct must be ± 5% of average for all precincts

Wellesley’s Population = 27,982

8 Precincts
Target = 3498 (± 175)
Challenge 1: Route 9
Challenge 2: Large Blocks
Challenge 5: Polling Places
Scenario 1

Target Population = 3498 (+/- 175)

- Precinct A - 3540
- Precinct B - 3396
- Precinct C - 3388
- Precinct D - 3674
- Precinct E - 3611
- Precinct F - 3409
- Precinct G - 3570
- Precinct H - 3394
Scenario 7

Target Population = 3498 (+/- 175)

- precinct A - 3393
- precinct B - 3654
- precinct C - 3409
- precinct D - 3569
- precinct E - 3432
- precinct F - 3614
- precinct G - 3431
- precinct H - 3480
Results

8530

6264

Bar chart showing the election results with 8530 for one party and 6264 for another party.
Questions?
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