WHAT CAN A FAIR MAP FOR CHICAGO LOOK LIKE?

Building community input for an equitable redistricting of Chicago's 50 wards

CHANGE ILLINOIS

The Basics:
How Chicago draws its ward maps

Timing: Every 10 years, after the census, there is a mandatory remap of the 50 wards

Who: Chicago Committee on Committees, Rules & Ethics drafts an ordinance detailing the exact boundaries of each ward, behind closed doors

How the map gets approved: The whole city council votes on the ordinance (2012 vote was 41-8-1)
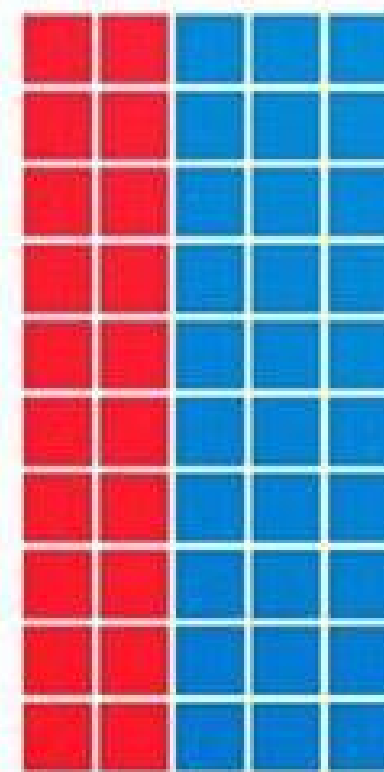
WHEN DRAWING MAPS GOES WRONG: GERRYMANDERING

ger·ry·man·der

/ˈjerēˌmandər/

n. To manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party or class.

- Wards are drawn to help the incumbent stay in office vs. best representaton for people in communities
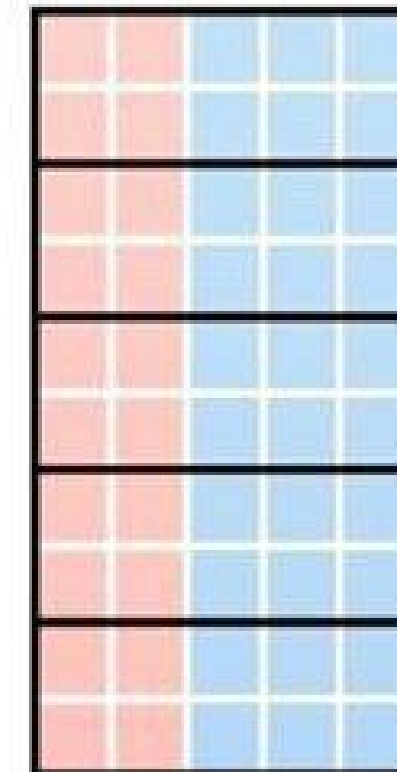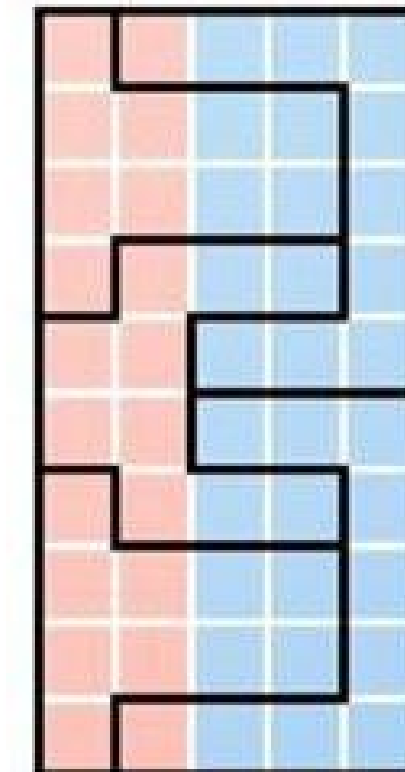- There's a high number of uncompetitive elections

HOW TO STEAL AN ELECTION

50 PRECINCTS
60% BLUE
40% RED

5 DISTRICTS
5 BLUE
0 RED
BLUE WINS

5 DISTRICTS
3 RED
2 BLUE
RED WINS

A CITY OF SEGREGATION

Map Key

One dot = 200 people

CENSUS GROUP
- Black
- Hispanic
- Asian
- White
- Others

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/07/08/us/census-race-map.html
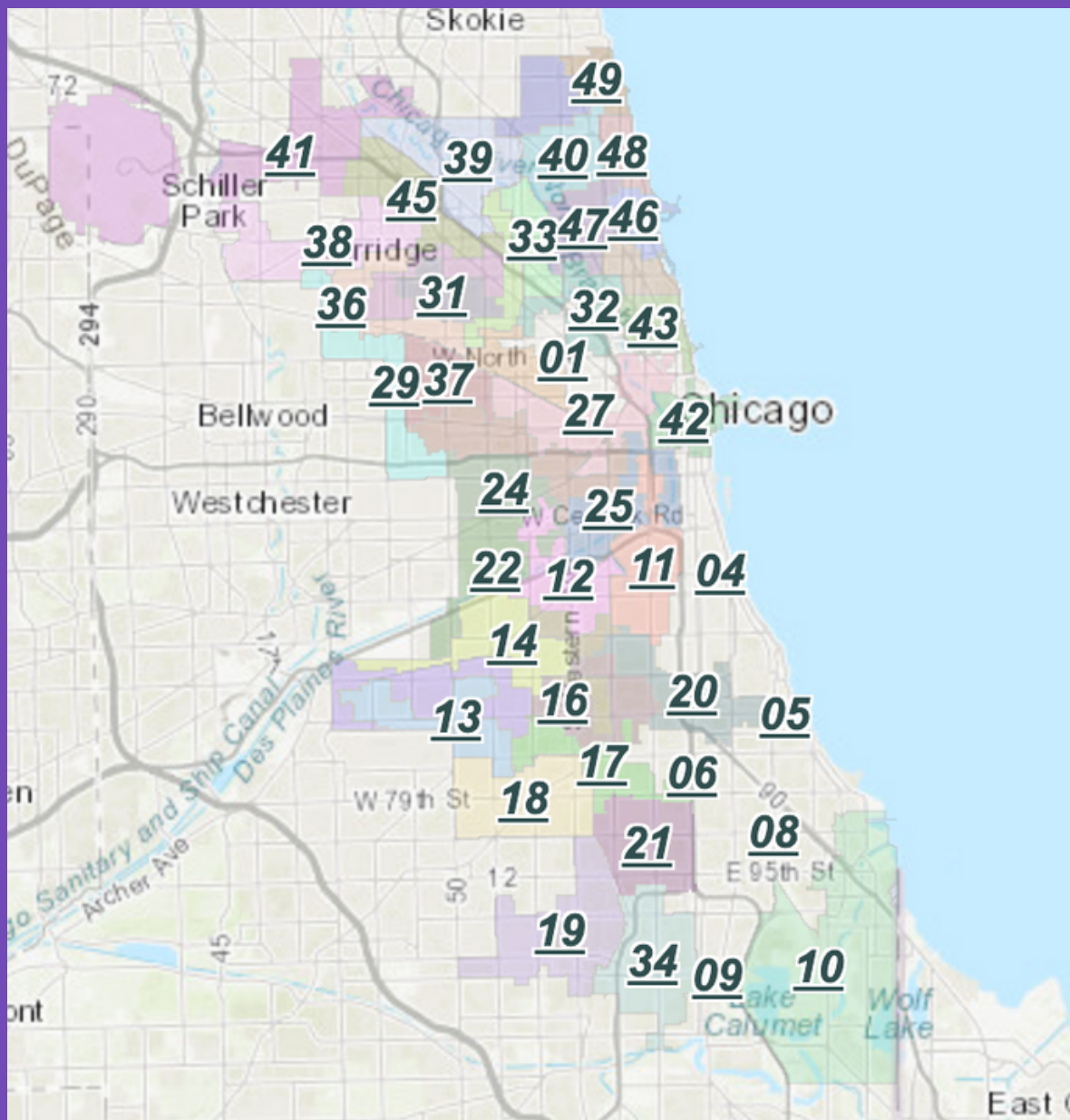
WHY FAIR MAPS IN CHICAGO?

- Better representation
- Maps will be more reflective of community
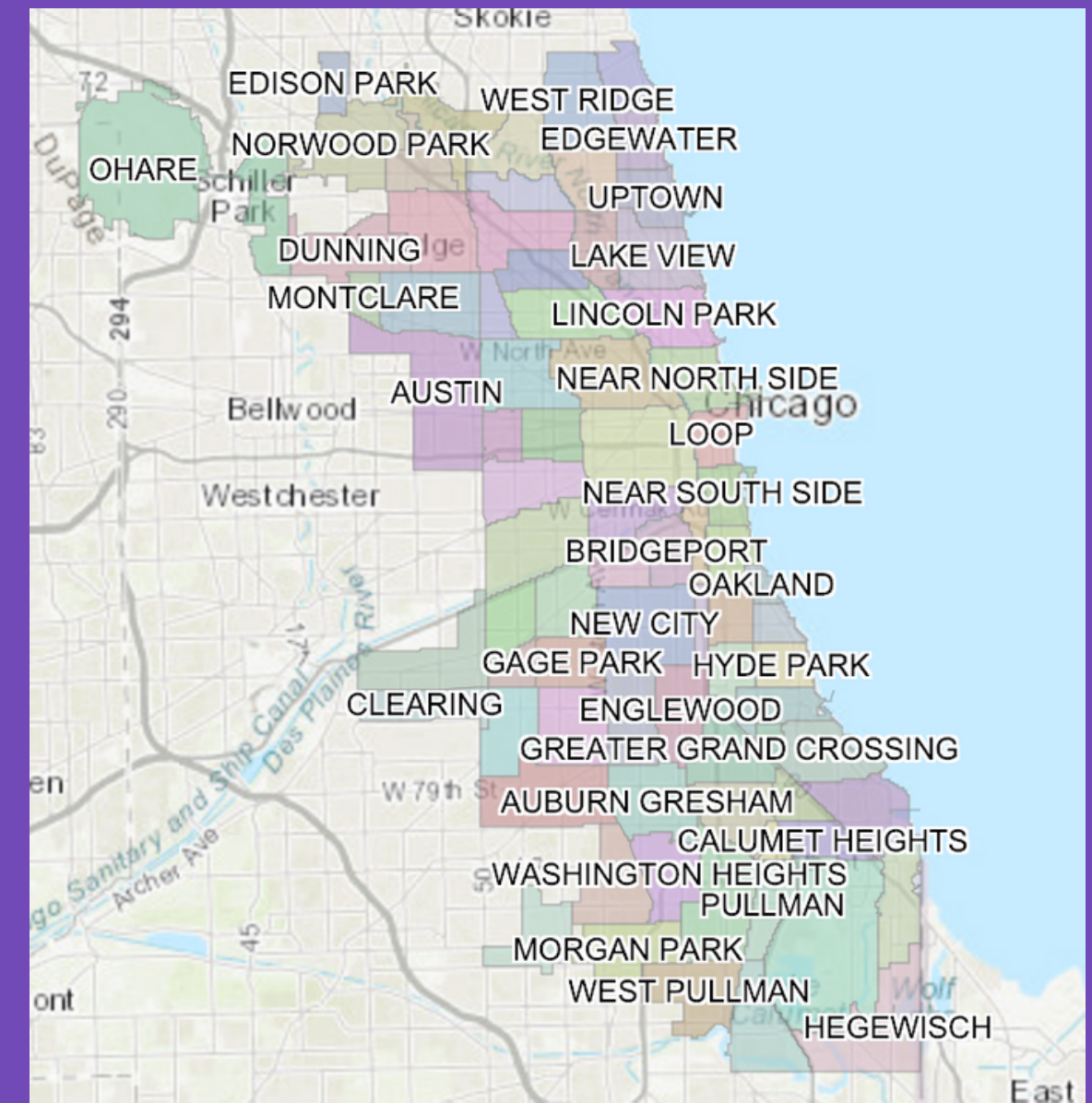- Should include community input

WHY NOW?

- The next Chicago remap will be next year, in 2021
- Opportunity to change the culture in Chicago city council
- Truly include the voices of the people

CAN CHICAGO WARDS BE MORE REFLECTIVE OF COMMUNITY AREAS?

50 WARDS

77 COMMUNITY AREAS

CHICAGO COMMUNITY AREAS NOW ARE SPLIT ACROSS MULTIPLE WARDS

89%
(69/77)

EXAMPLES OF SPLIT NEIGHBORHOODS

CHINATOWN: 2 WARDS
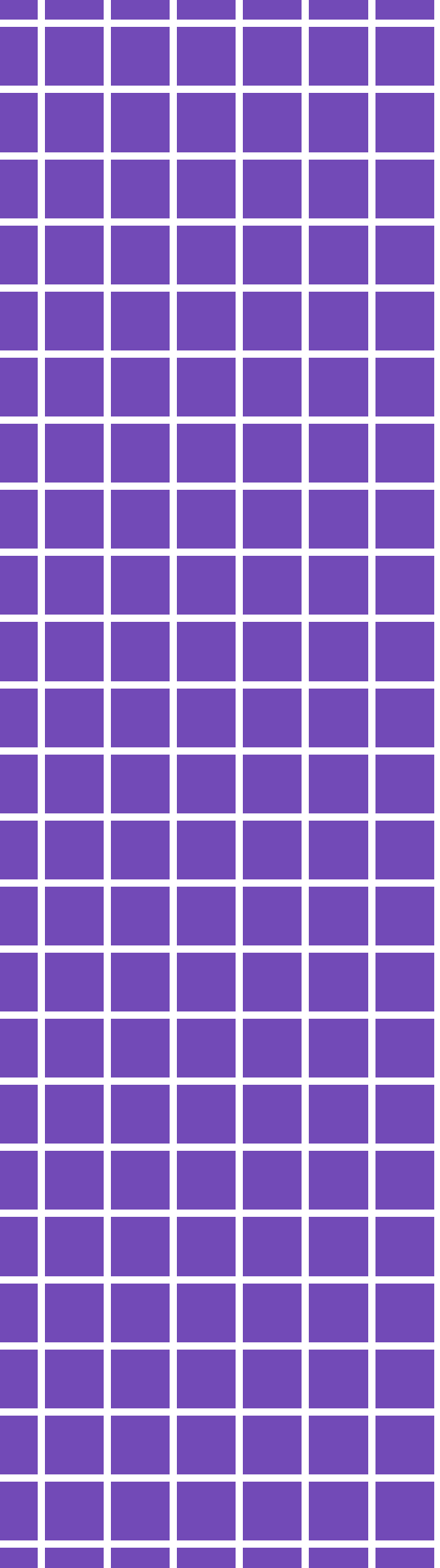UPTOWN: 3 WARDS
AVONDALE: 4 WARDS
LAKEVIEW: 4 WARDS
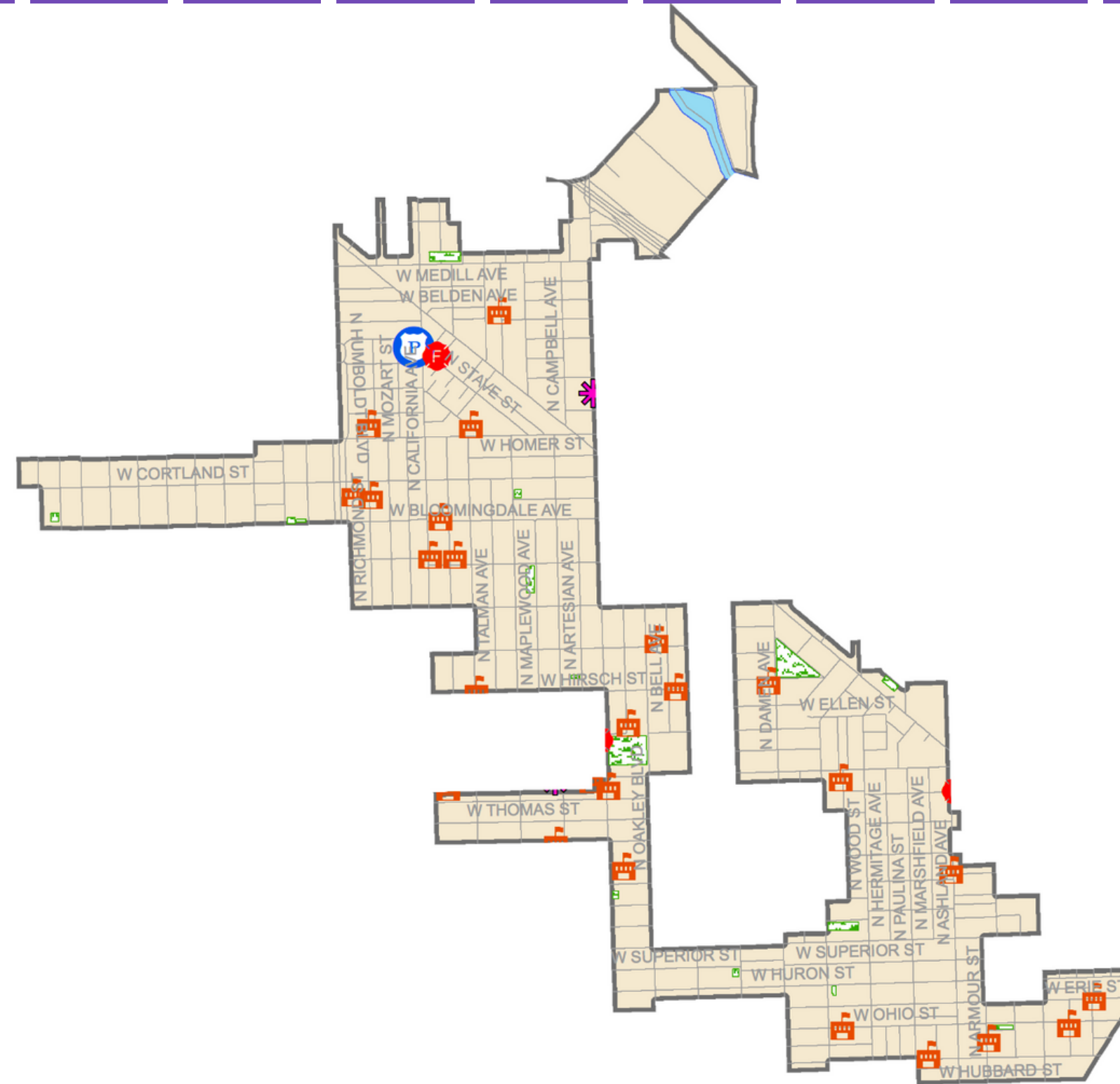AUSTIN: 5 WARDS
LITTLE VILLAGE: 5 WARDS
ENGLEWOOD: 5 WARDS
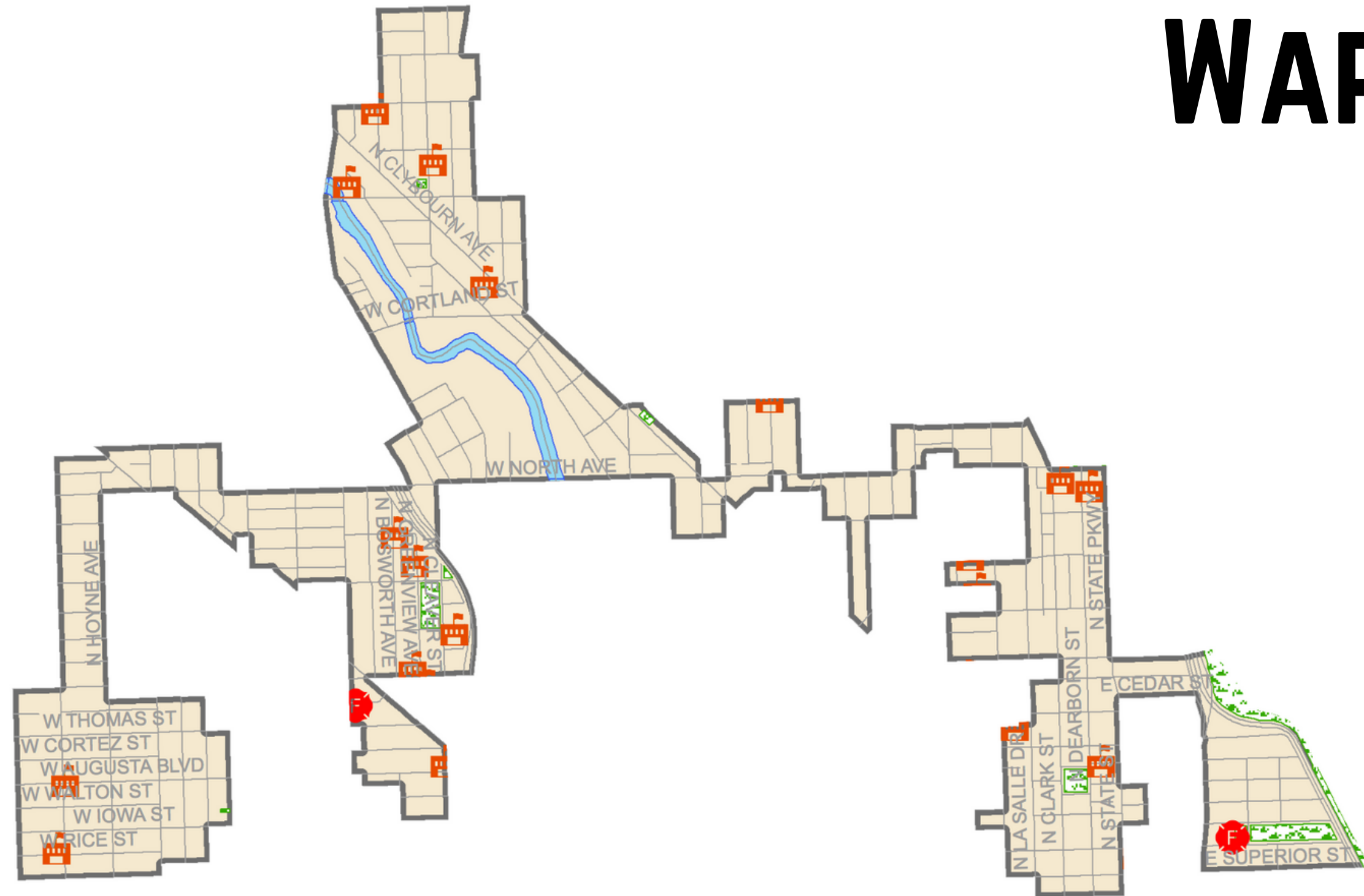BACK OF THE YARDS: 6 WARDS
LOGAN SQUARE: 7 WARDS

EXAMPLES OF GERRYMANDERED WARD MAPS DRAWN/APPROVED BY ALDERMEN
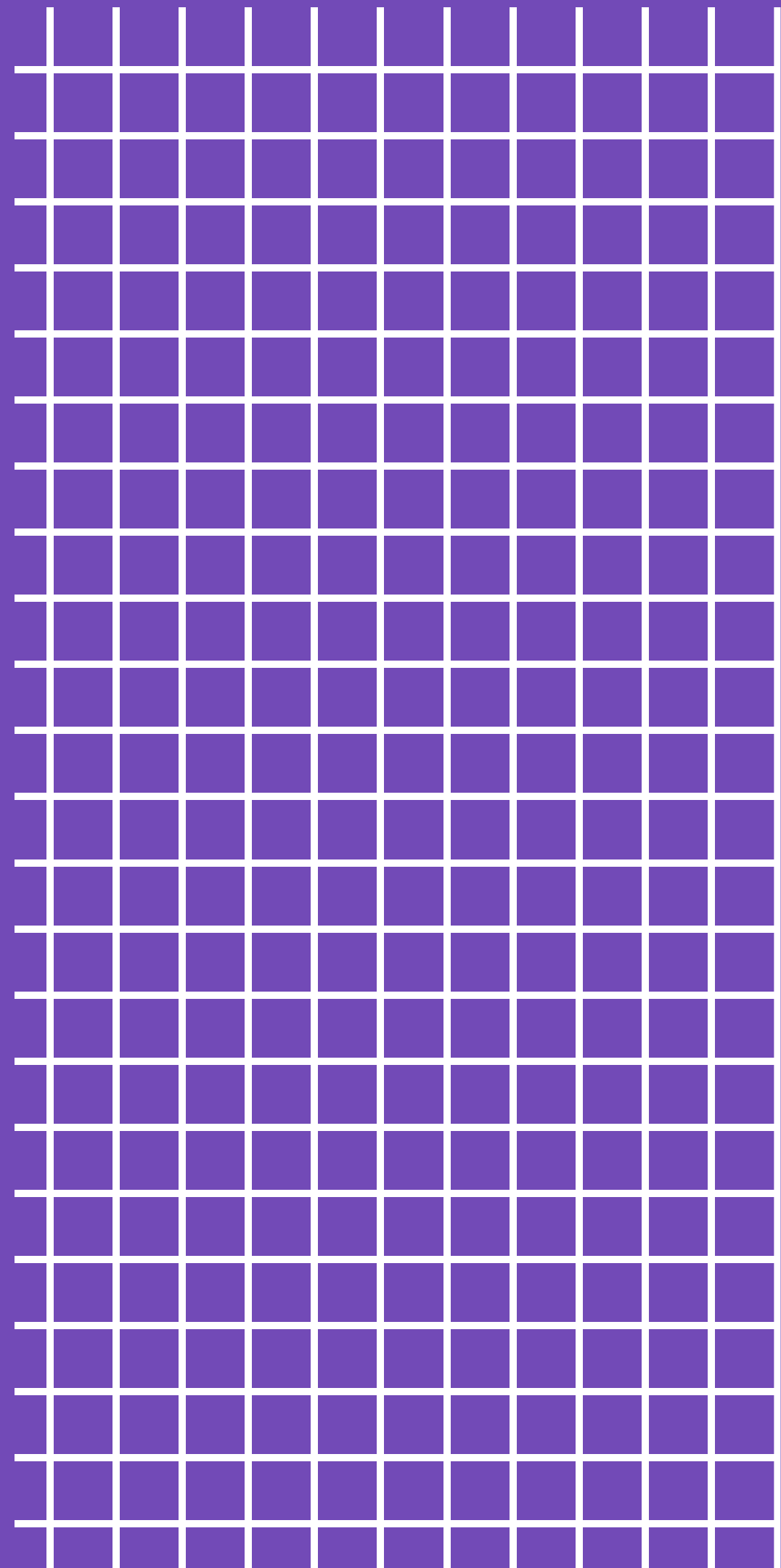
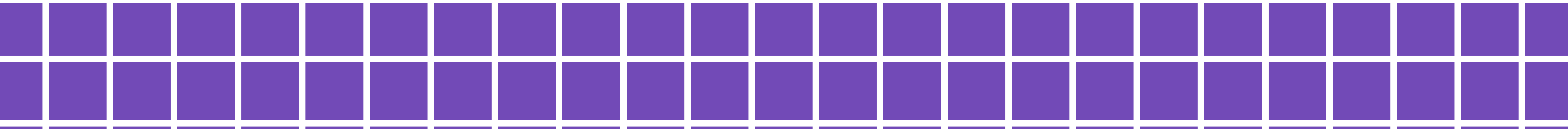Ward 1

Ward 2

SO WHAT CAN BE DONE?

IMPORTANT Steps to take for remap

PERFORM RACIAL EQUITY IMPACT ASSESTMENT

ENGAGE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY GROUPS FOR INPUT

DRAFT FAIR MAP CRITERIA TO USE IN DRAWING MAPS

CRITERIA CAN BE USED TO DRAFT DOZENS OF SAMPLE MAPS

WHY COMMUNITY INPUT?

- Remapping affects: education, safety, representation
- Gerrymandering hurts communities of color
- Lack of voter choice at the ballot box
- Culture of unaccountable electeds
- Politicians choosing their own voters
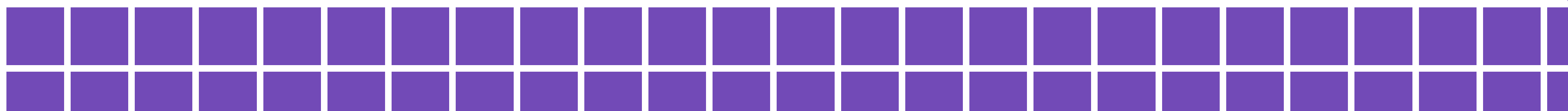
WHY A RACIAL EQUITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (REIA)?

A Racial Equity Impact Assessment is a tool that is used to evaluate a proposal to determine its benefits and burdens, before making a decision on a policy or practice.

Has ward redistricting gone through an REIA process? Why? Why not?

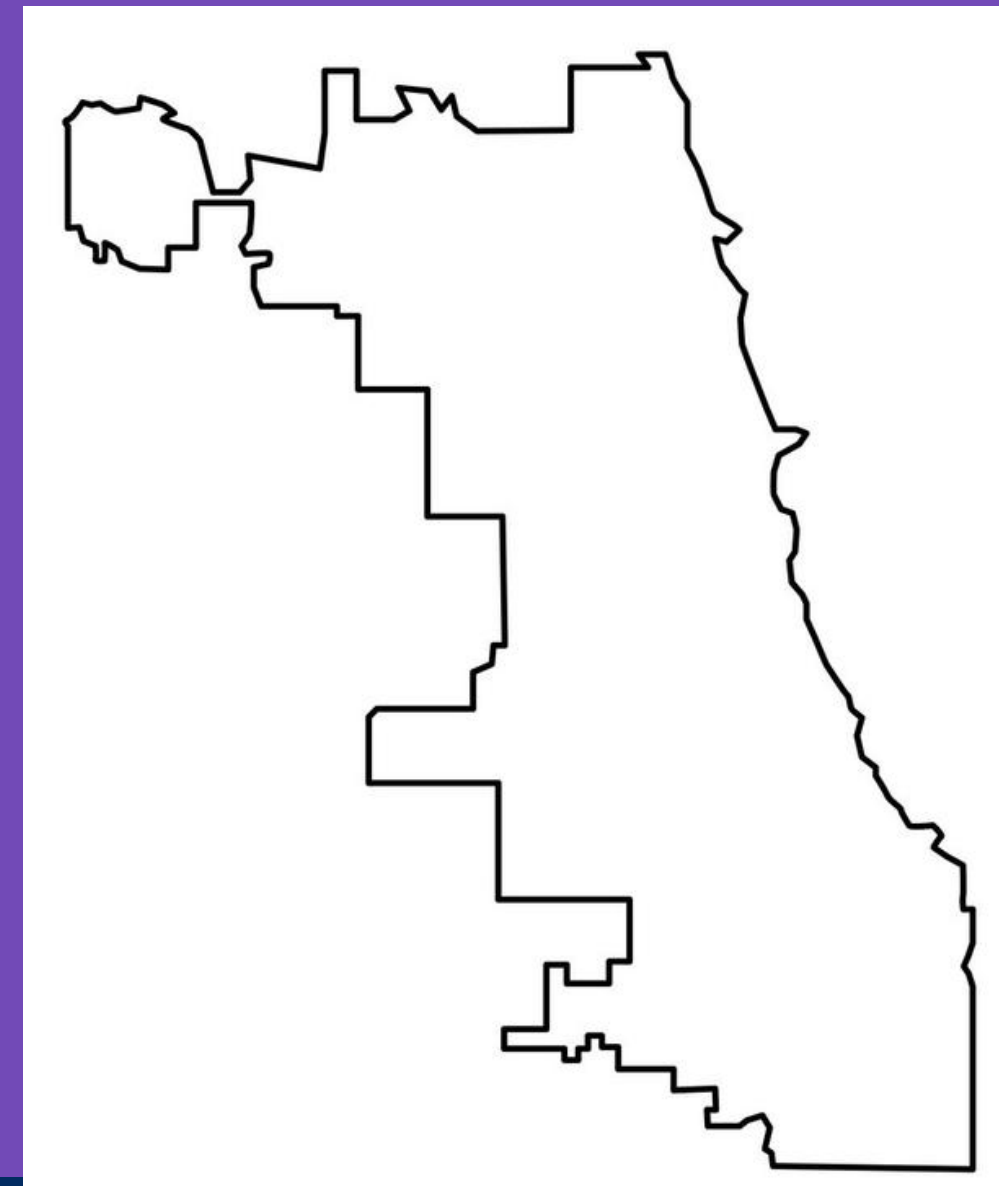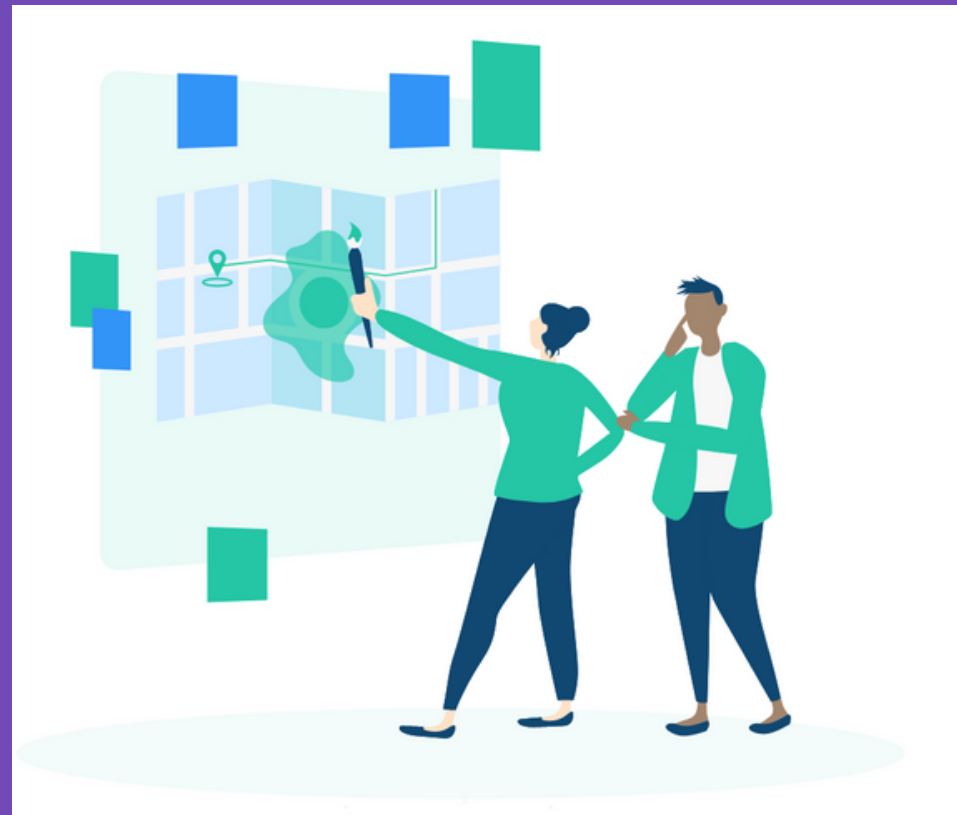# CHICAGO UNITED FOR EQUITY COMMUNITY INPUT FOR FAIR MAPS

- Engage with community orgs, neighborhood associations, etc. to gain input from groups in as many wards

- Invite Chicagoans to complete survey

  - Data will be used to provide a report on Chicago residents' preferred method of remapping

SAMPLE COMMUNITY-OF-INTEREST MAPS TO BE DRAWN BY USING REPRESENTABLE TOOL

WWW.REPRESENTABLE.ORG/DRIVE/WE-DRAW-THE-LINES/

R Representable.org

QUESTIONS?

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