

# Maintain Election District Boundaries

Figure 16

## ▶ **Maintain Election District Boundaries**

**Districts can change for a variety of reasons, but if the district has associated elected offices or taxing authority, then the election office needs to track it.**



### 1.1.2.3 Determine district boundary

District boundaries are just polygons on a map. They tend to follow physical features, such as rivers, power lines, roads, etc. Election offices interpret and implement the district documentation given to them.



### 1.1.2.4 Determine if other districts are affected

Sometimes one district will affect another. For example, if a city annexes a nearby township, the city will need to provide representation to its new voters. That could mean extending a particular district's lines.



### 1.1.2.5 Maintain district boundaries

If other districts are affected, each one that is affected must be evaluated.



### 1.1.2.6 Modify or draw new lines

Lines are drawn, but they must follow other existing lines, usually coming from the census.



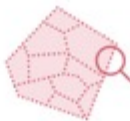
### 1.1.2.7 Validate spatial relationships

This is a "check your work" step. Election offices can use a geographic information system (GIS) or a thorough manual process of validation. This process is complete when all spatial relationships are valid.



### 1.1.2.8 Determine redistricting requirement

Depending on the jurisdiction and the district boundaries in question, a precinct may need to be redrawn. For example, some counties have rules that precincts cannot cross congressional districts.



### 1.1.2.9 Maintain precinct boundaries

If redistricting is required, the process for maintaining precinct boundaries (Process 1.1.3) is cued.

This process involves determining the geographic extent of change, developing alternatives, and validating these changes.

## 1.1.2.3

### Determine district boundary

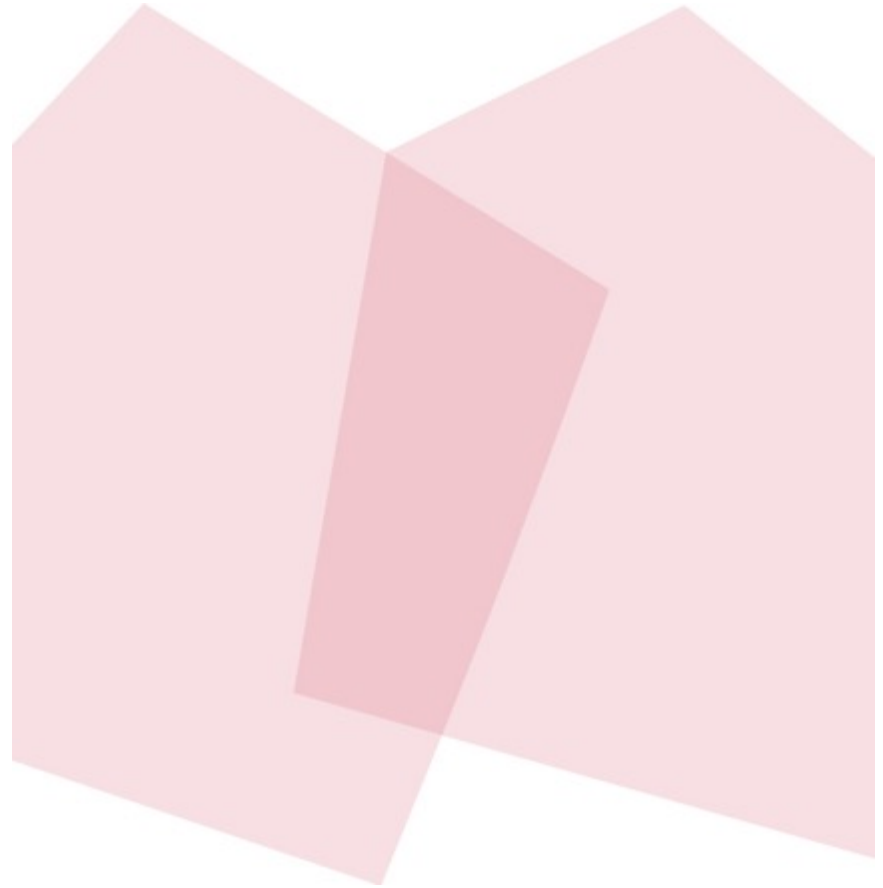
District boundaries are just polygons on a map. They tend to follow physical features, such as rivers, power lines, roads, etc. Election offices interpret and implement the district documentation given to them.



## 1.1.2.4

### Determine if other districts are affected

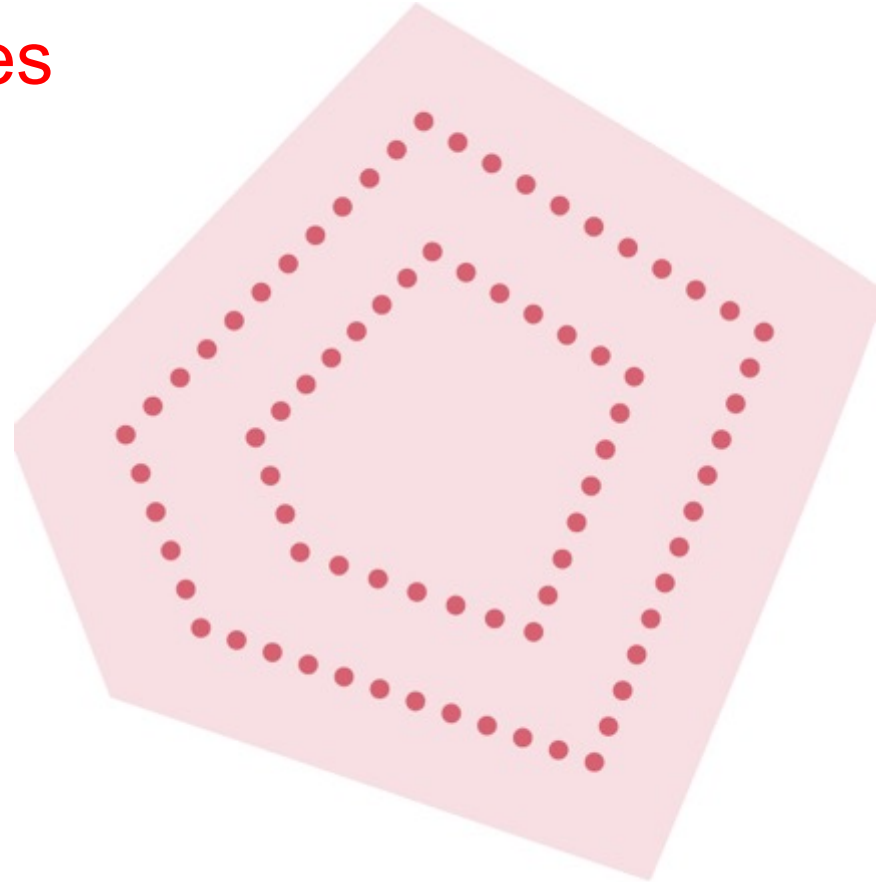
Sometimes one district will affect another. For example, if a city annexes a nearby township, the city will need to provide representation to its new voters. That could mean extending a particular district's lines.



## 1.1.2.5

### Maintain district boundaries

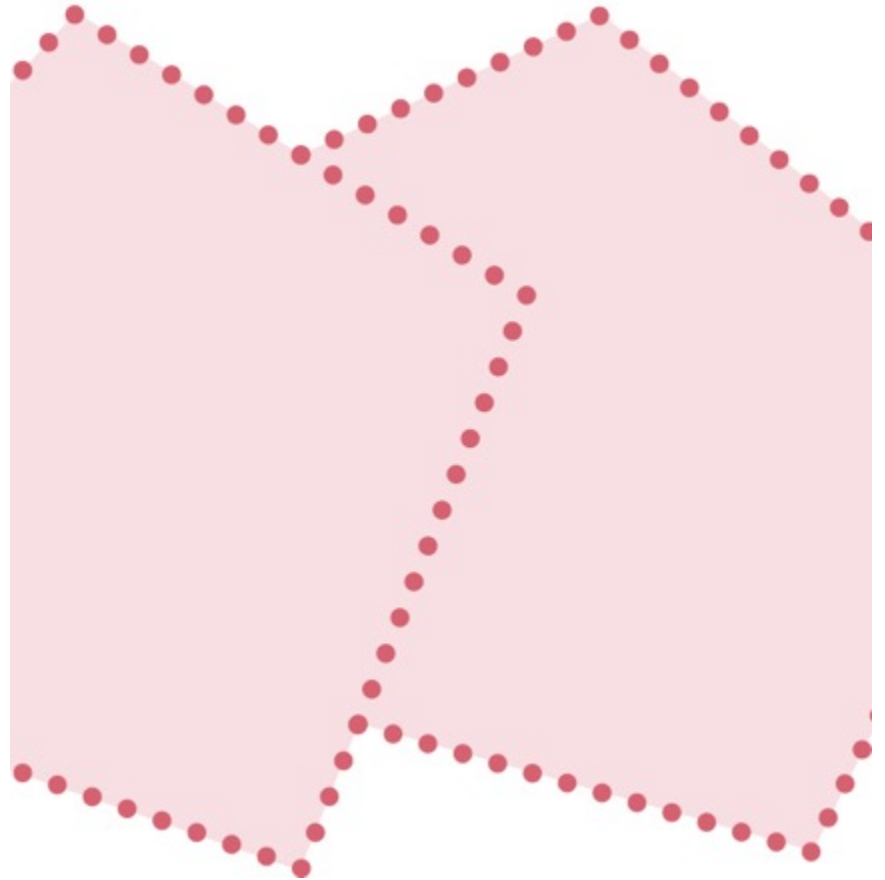
If other districts are affected, each one that is affected must be evaluated.



## 1.1.2.6

### Modify or draw new lines

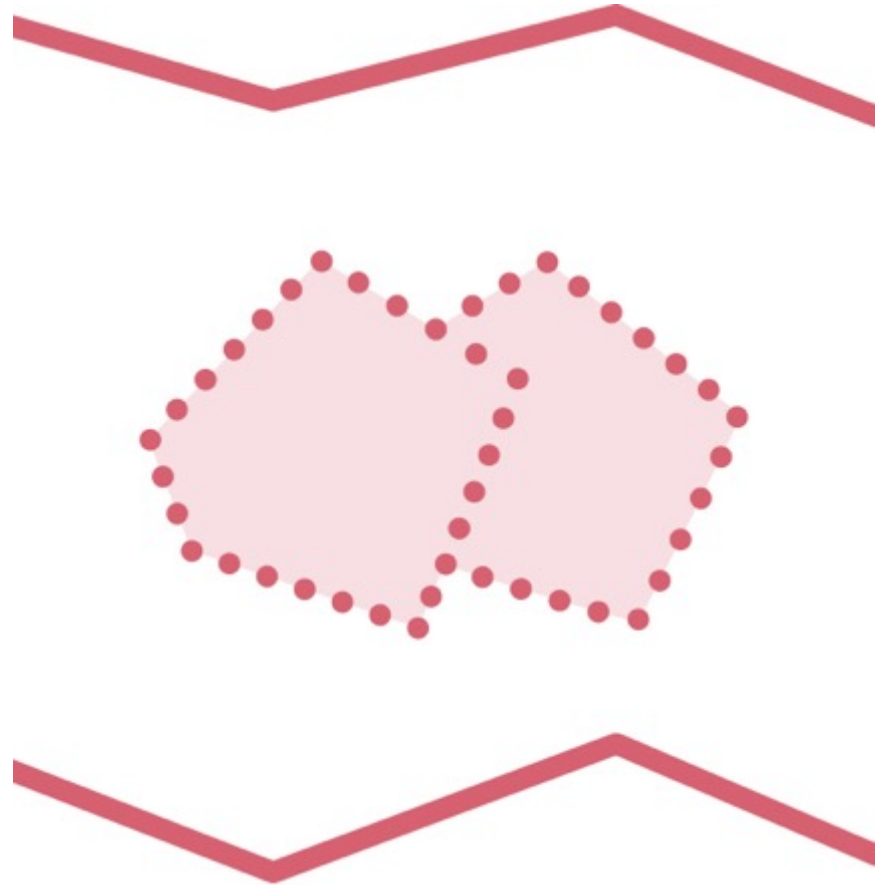
Lines are drawn, but they must follow other existing lines, usually coming from the census.



## 1.1.2.7

### Validate spatial relationships

This is a “check your work” step. Election offices can use a geographic information system (GIS) or a thorough manual process of validation. This process is complete when all spatial relationships are valid.

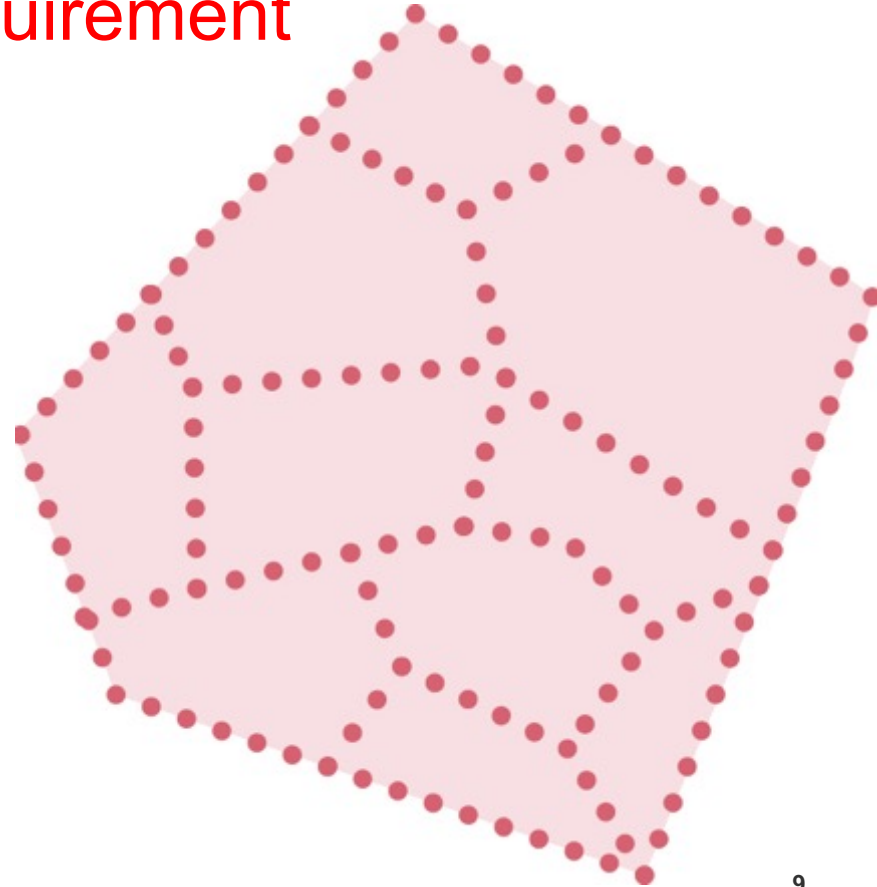




## 1.1.2.8

### Determine reprecincting requirement

Depending on the jurisdiction and the district boundaries in question, a precinct may need to be redrawn. For example, some counties have rules that precincts cannot cross congressional districts.

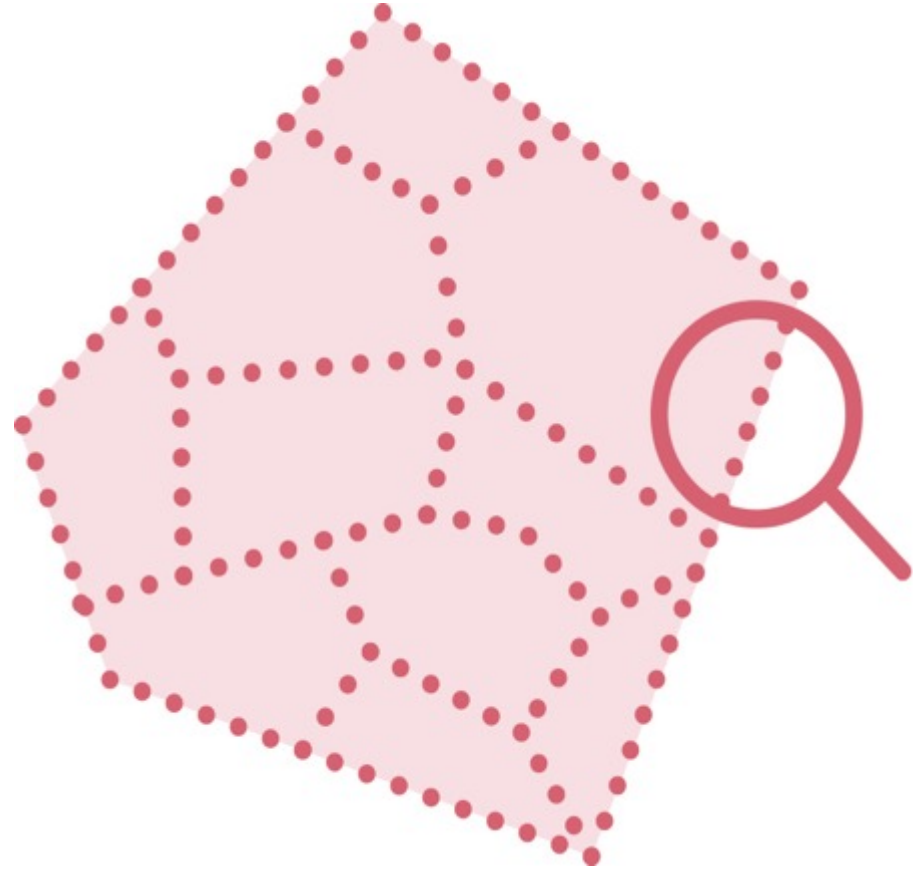


## 1.1.2.9

### Maintain precinct boundaries

If reprecinting is required, the process for maintaining precinct boundaries (Process 1.1.3) is cued.

This process involves determining the geographic extent of change, developing alternatives, and validating these changes.



# Acknowledgements

This work has been a collaborative effort of many over the years including, most recently, the NIST-EAC Interoperability Election Modeling Working Group under the tutelage of John Wack and the dedication of Kenneth Bennett, John Dziurlaj, and Katy Owens Hubler.

This slide deck was the work of Drew Davies & Mandy Mowers of Oxide Design.

The logo for the Democracy Fund features the words "democracy" and "fund" stacked vertically in a dark grey, sans-serif font. The text is partially overlaid by three overlapping circular arcs. A red arc is positioned at the top left, a blue arc is at the top center, and a red arc is at the bottom center. A light grey arc is also present on the right side, partially overlapping the blue and red arcs.

democracy  
fund