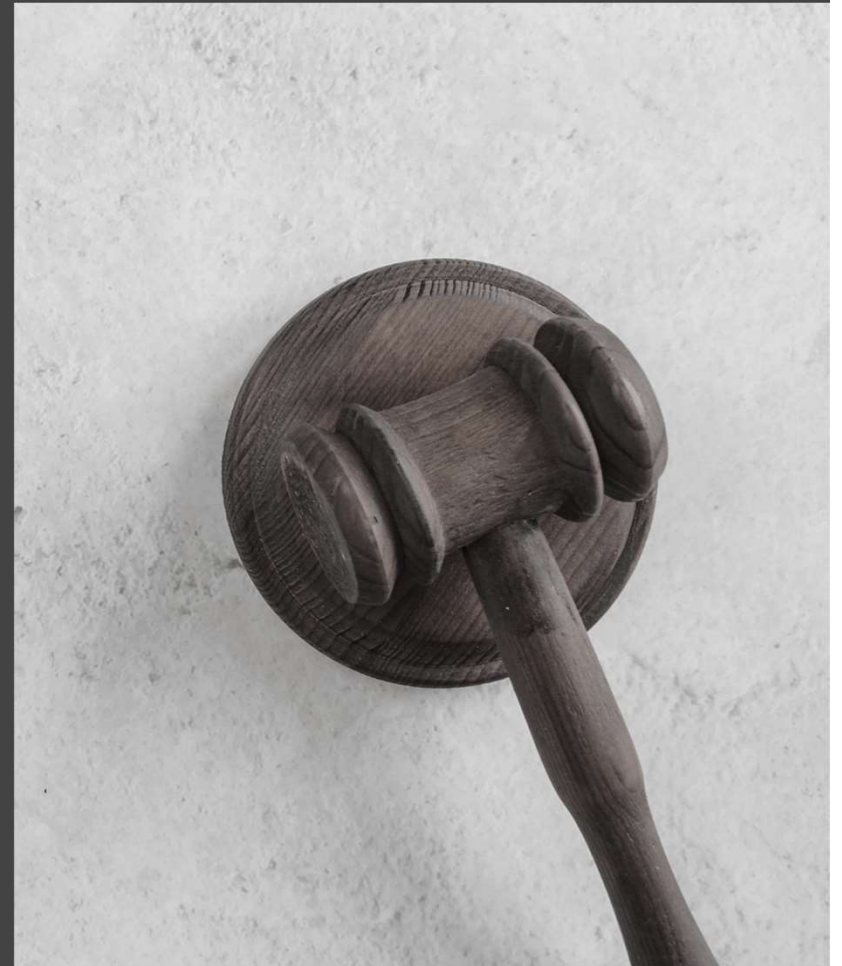


# PROPOSED NEW COOK COUNTY JUDICIAL SUBCIRCUITS MAP

Mapping a court system for  
the next generation

By Frank Calabrese





**Public Act 101-0477, signed into law last year, requires the General Assembly to “redraw the boundaries of the (Cook County) subcircuits to reflect the results of the 2020 federal decennial census.”**

**This is the first time the Cook County judicial subcircuits will be redistricted since they were created.**

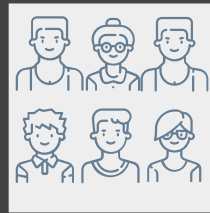
**The 15 judicial subcircuit districts of Cook County were created by law in 1991, and the population patterns of Cook County have changed significantly since 1991.**

# PROBLEMS WITH CURRENT SUBCIRCUIT MAP



## POPULATION

The population of the current subcircuits are greatly unbalanced



## DIVERSITY

Only 5 of 15 subcircuits are majority minority



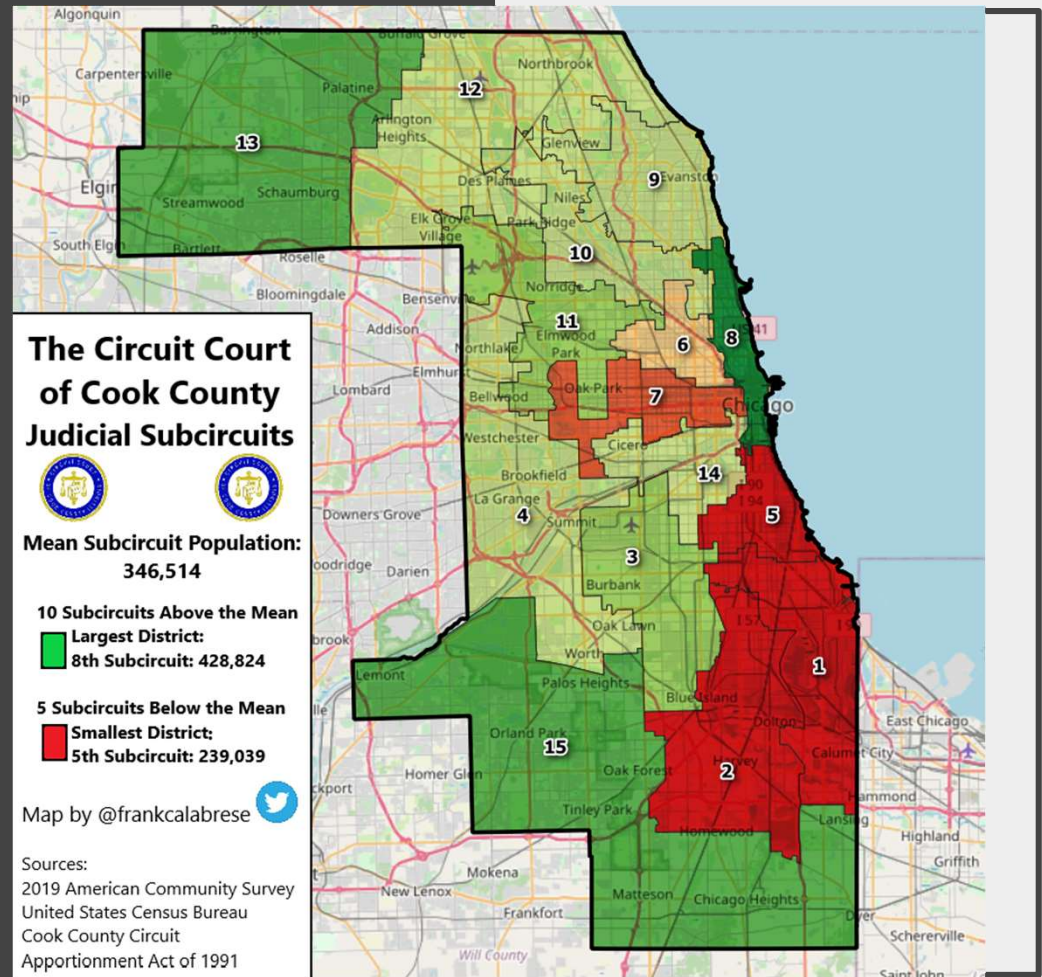
## COMMUNITY

The subcircuits do not reflect cohesive communities

# POPULATION PROBLEM

Public Act 101-0477 requires that “the subcircuits shall be compact, contiguous, and substantially equal in population.”

Currently, the subcircuits do not substantially have equal population. The current population range is 428,824 to 239,039, a difference of 189,87 people.

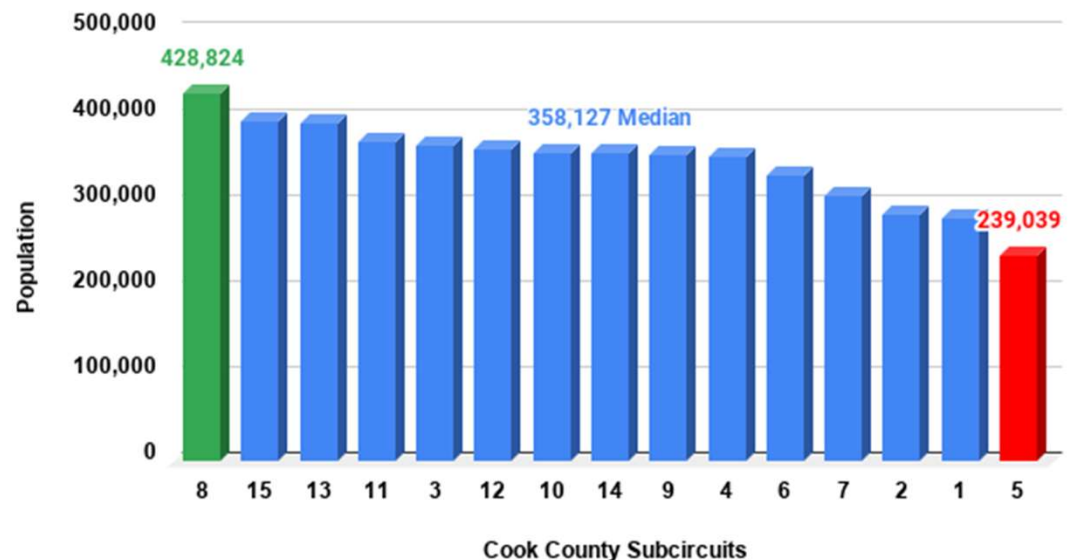


# POPULATION PROBLEM

The 8th Subcircuit has the most people with 428,824 and the 5th Subcircuit has the least with 239,039 people. The population mean of the 15 subcircuits is 346,514 and the median subcircuit is the 14th Subcircuit with 358,127 people.

The 5th Subcircuit is over 44% smaller than the 8th Subcircuit, much higher than the 10% population deviation tolerated by federal courts. *Karcher v. Daggett*, 462 U.S. 725, 730-31 (1983); *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1973).

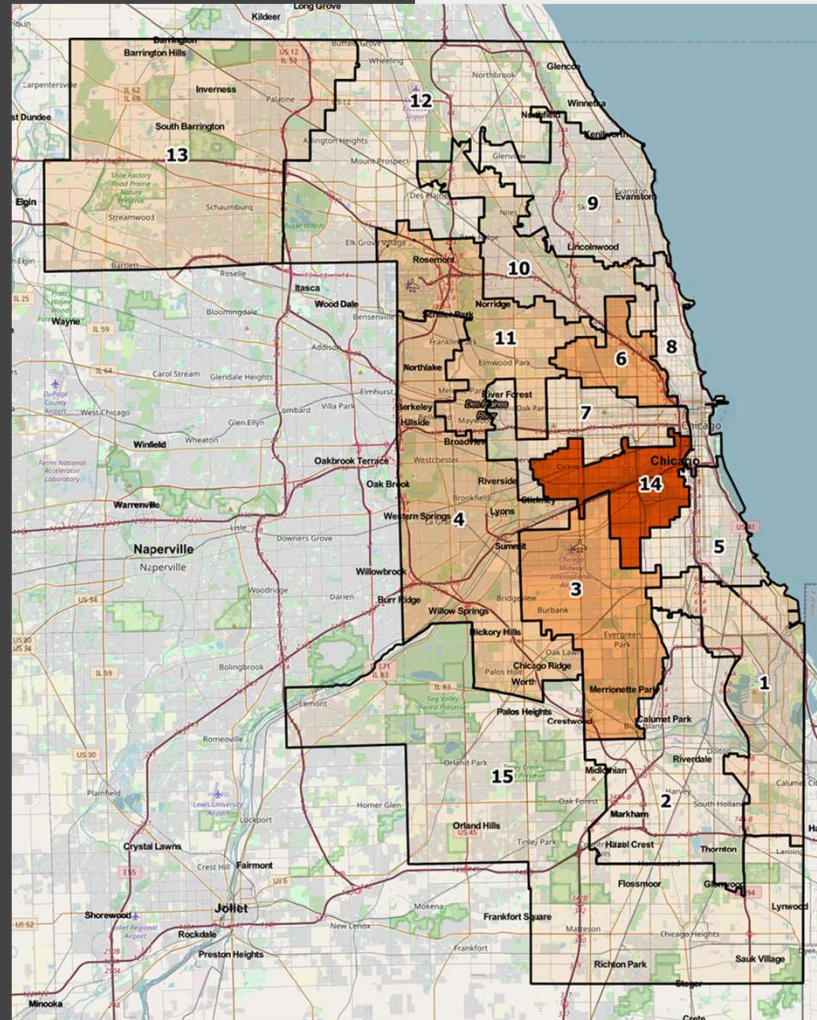
Cook County Judicial Subcircuits 2019 Population



# DIVERSITY PROBLEM

The current subcircuits only have one majority Latino subcircuit, even though the overall population of Cook County is over a quarter Latino.

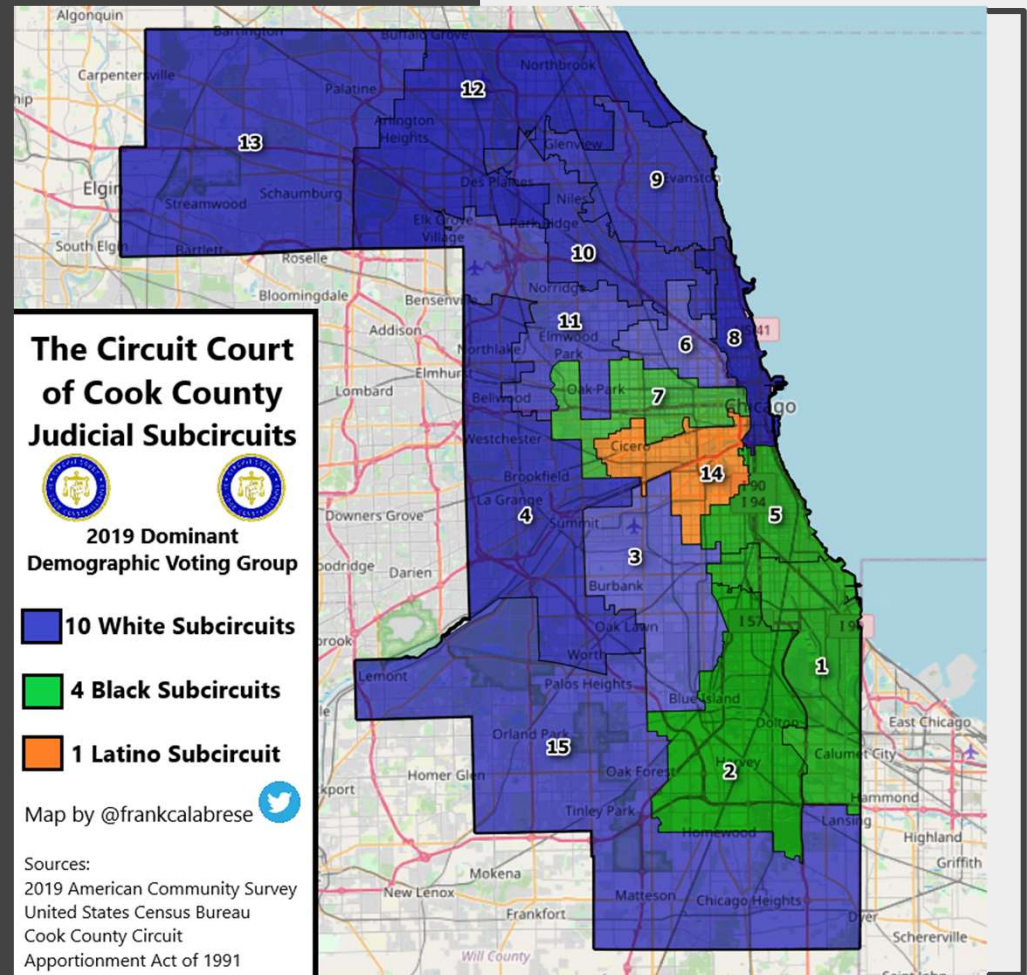
The 6th Subcircuit was drawn to be a Latino district, but it is now a majority white district by voting population. The current voting population of the 6th Subcircuit is 37% Latino and 50% white.



# DIVERSITY PROBLEM

Of the 15 subcircuits, 10 subcircuits have whites as the largest voting blocks, with nine subcircuits being majority white and the 3rd Subcircuit being plurality white. There are four majority Black subcircuits.

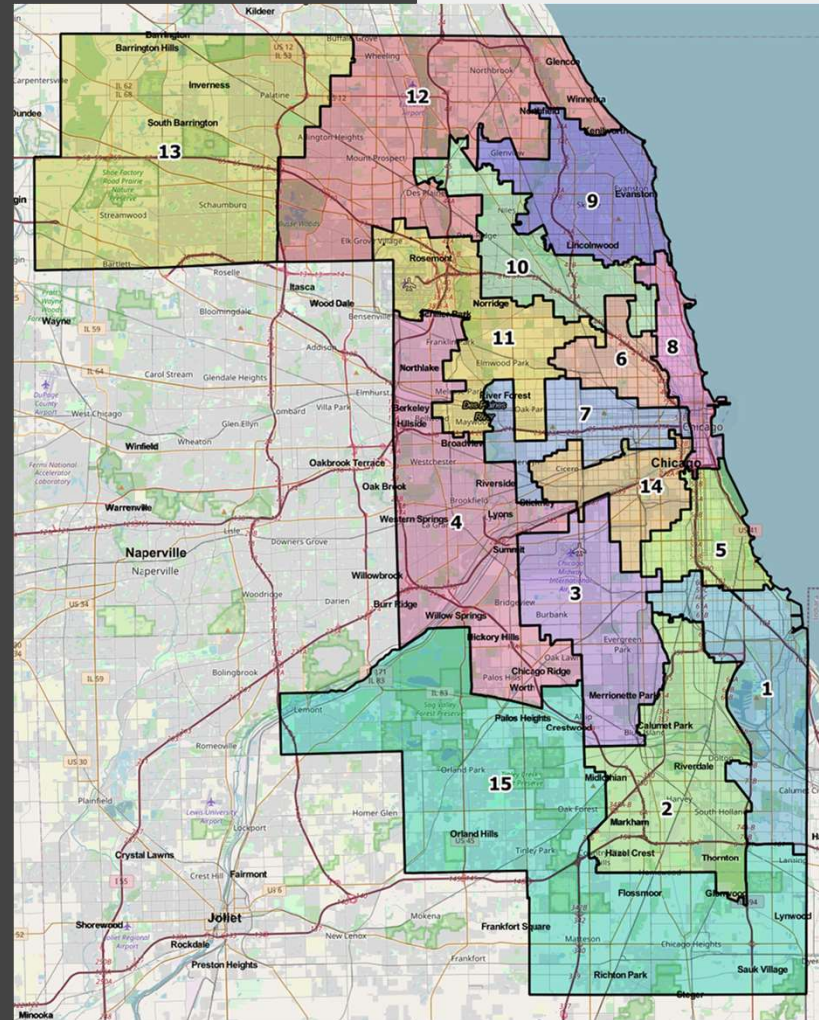
The 7th Subcircuit has seen its Black voting population diluted, but it is still a 57% Black district by voting population. There is only one majority Latino subcircuit, the 14th Subcircuit, which is 62% Latino.



# COMMUNITY PROBLEM

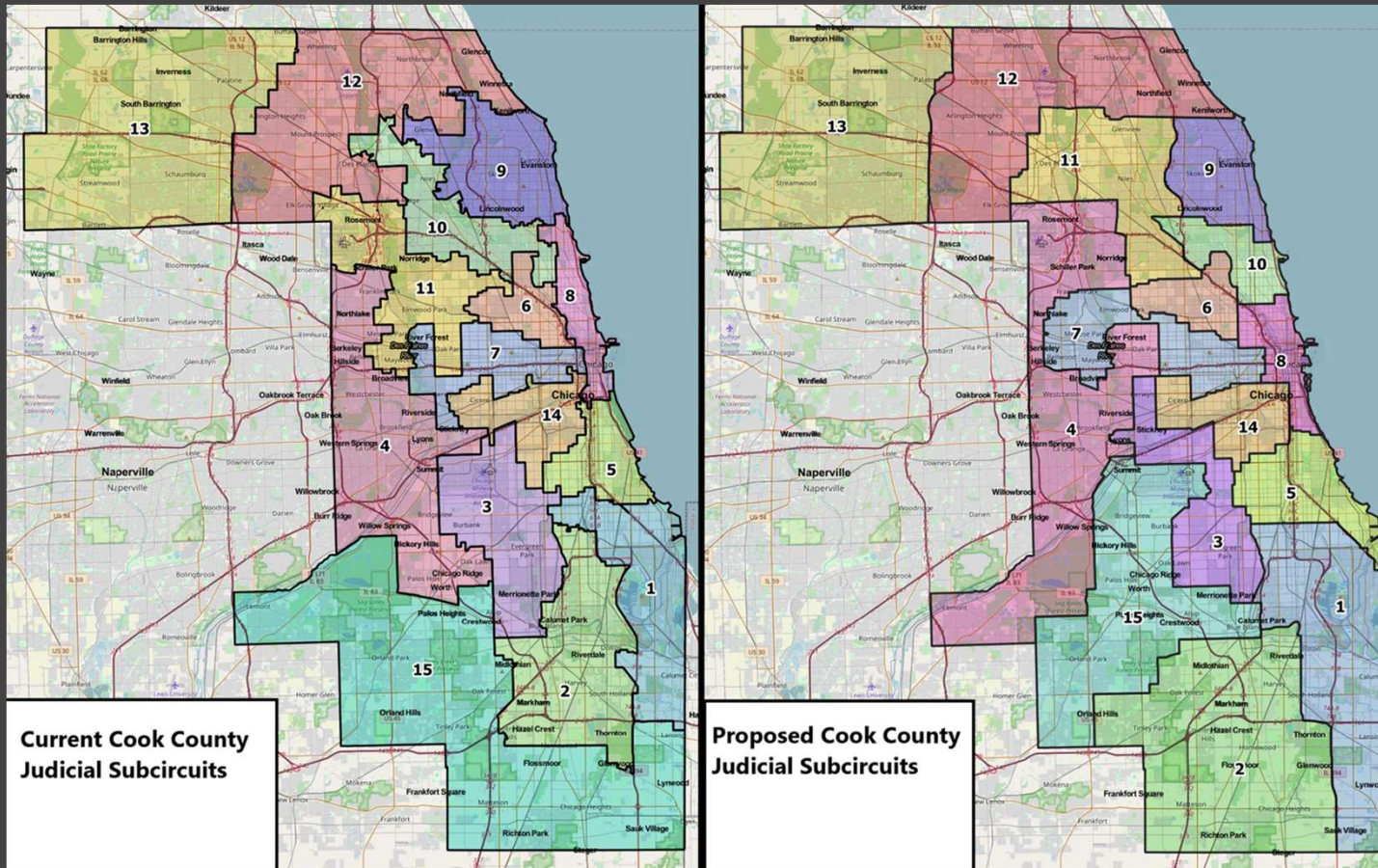
The current judicial subcircuits of Cook County have jagged edges and make little sense in terms of keeping communities together. Wealthy suburbs and neighborhoods are in the same districts as poor suburbs and neighborhoods.

For example, why is Berwyn, a Latino working class suburb, in the same subcircuit as River Forest, a wealthy white suburb, and the west side of Chicago, a largely poor African American area.

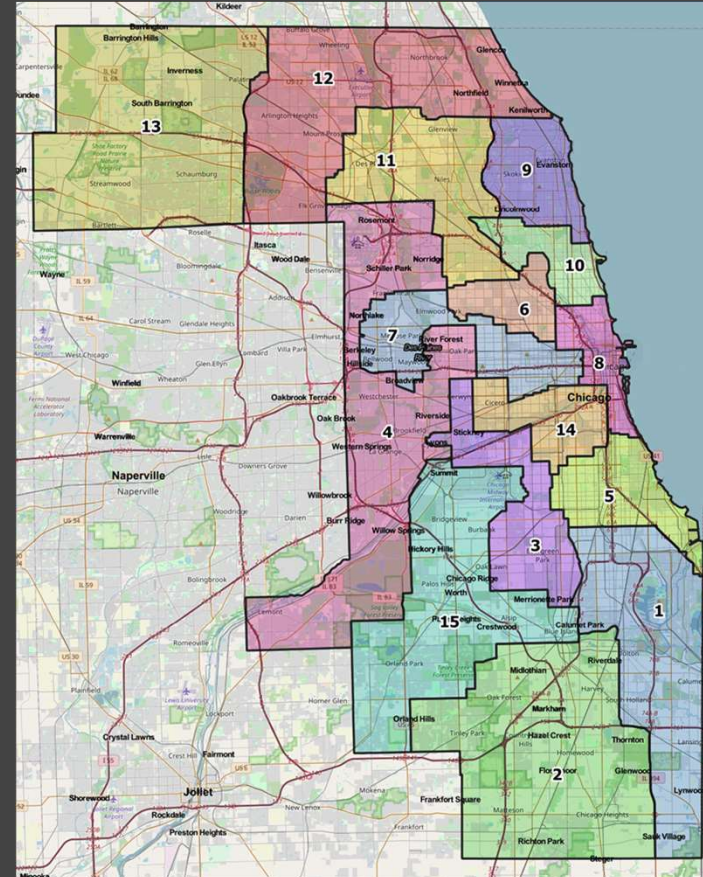
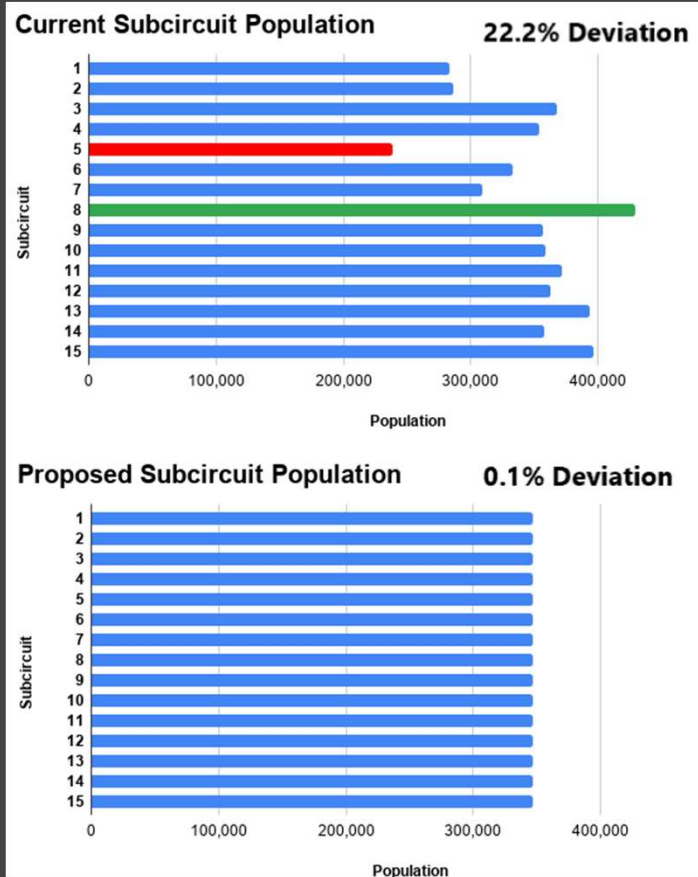




# THE PROPOSED NEW COOK COUNTY JUDICIAL SUBCIRCUIT SOLVES ALL THREE PROBLEMS



# POPULATION PROBLEM SOLVED

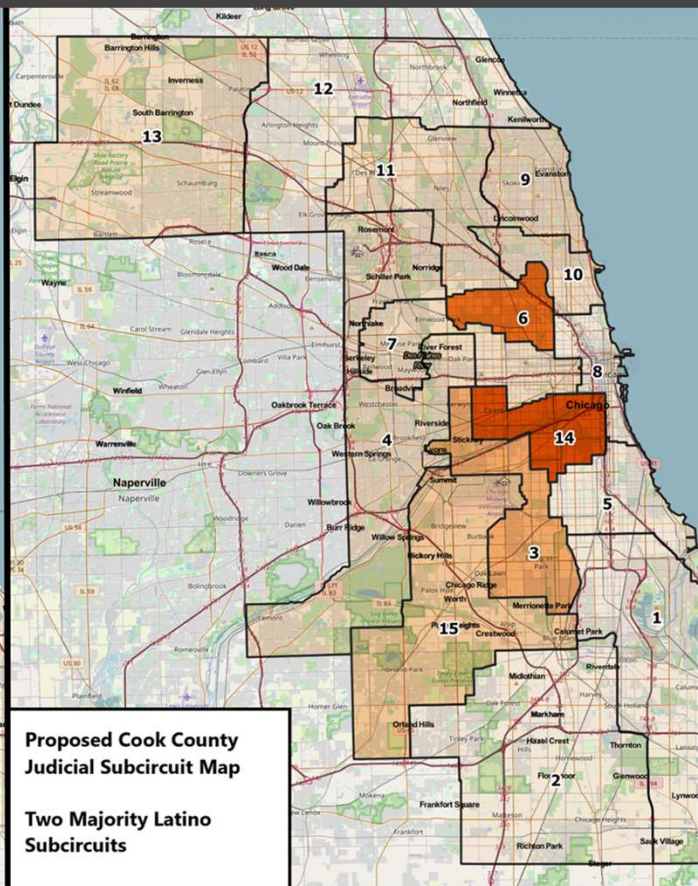
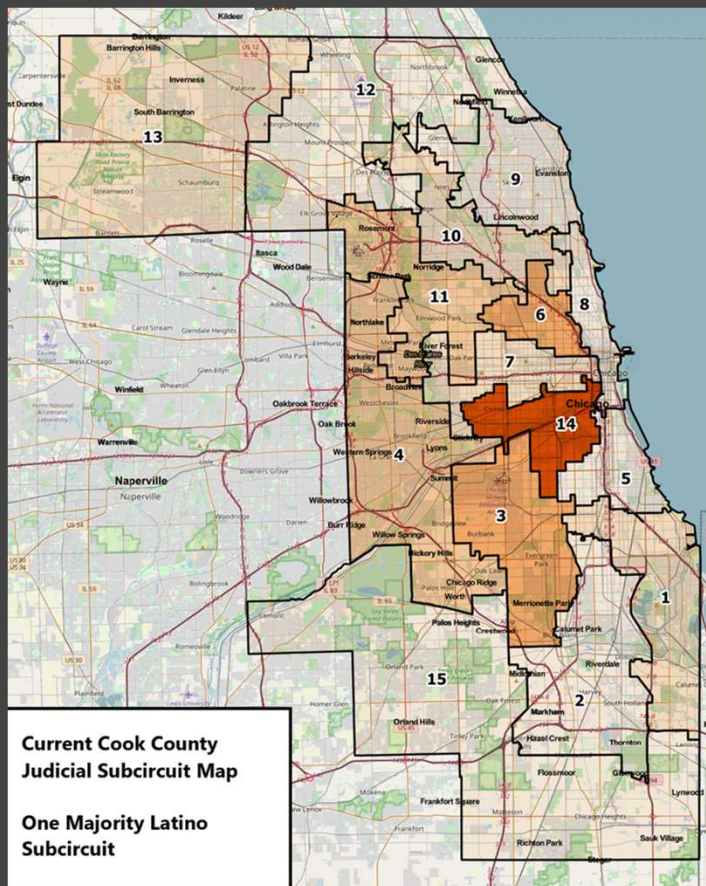


The proposed new Cook County Judicial Subcircuits have equal population, according to the 2019 American Community Survey

Each of the 15 subcircuits will have about 346,500 residents, with a 0.1% deviation

This is a significant improve upon the current 22.2% population deviation

# DIVERSITY PROBLEM SOLVED

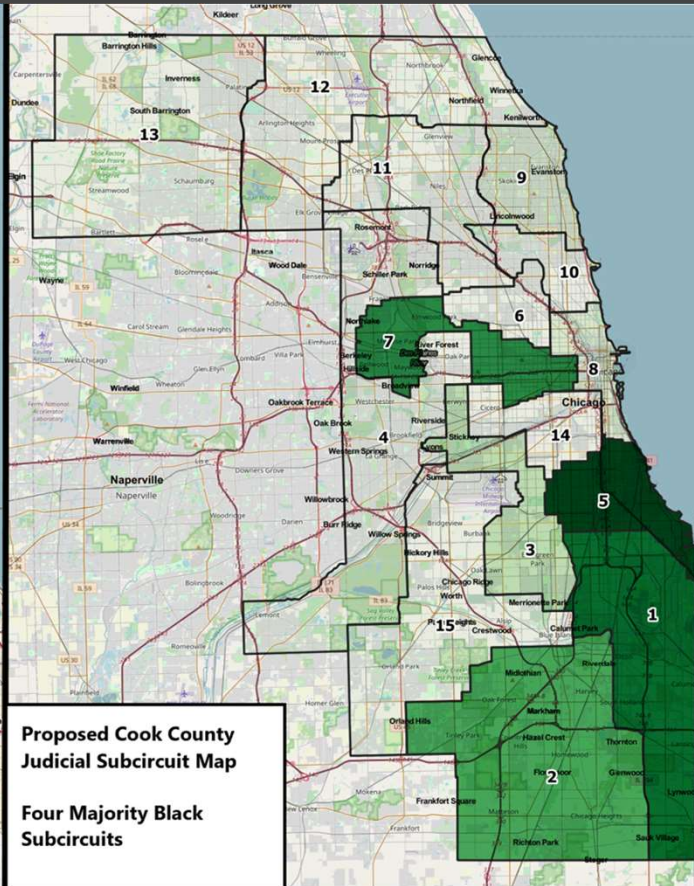
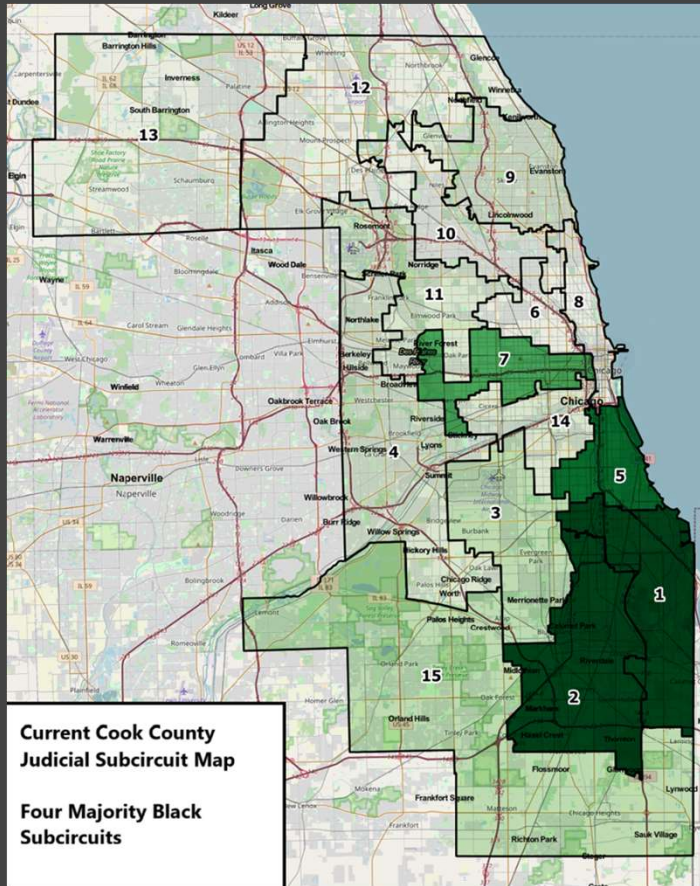


The proposed new Cook County subcircuits creates an addition Latino subcircuit

Currently, only the 14th subcircuit on the southwest side of Chicago is majority Latino.

In the proposed new map, the 6th subcircuit on the northwest side will also be majority Latino

# DIVERSITY PROBLEM SOLVED

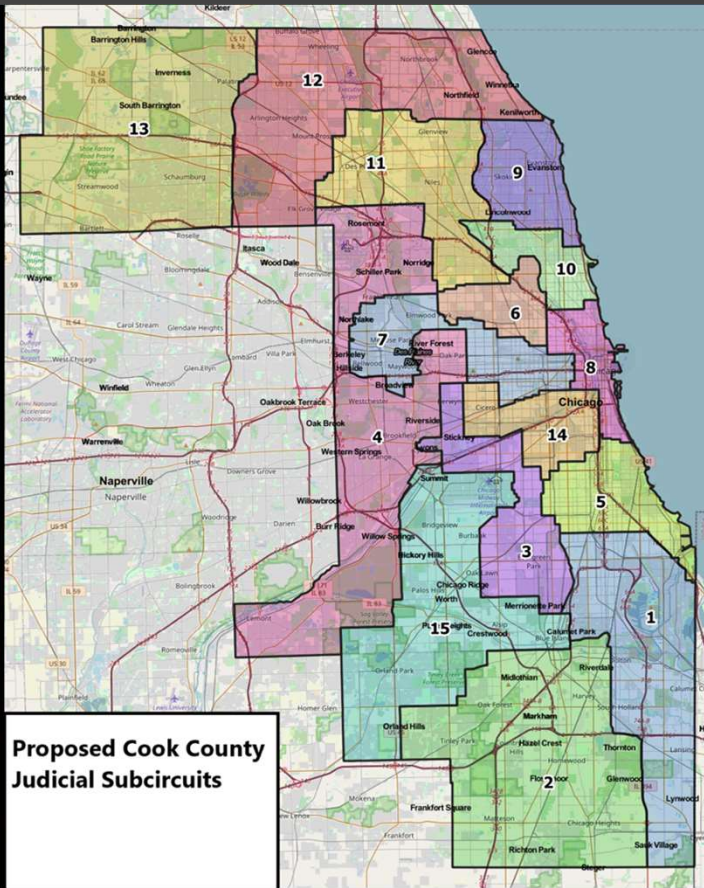
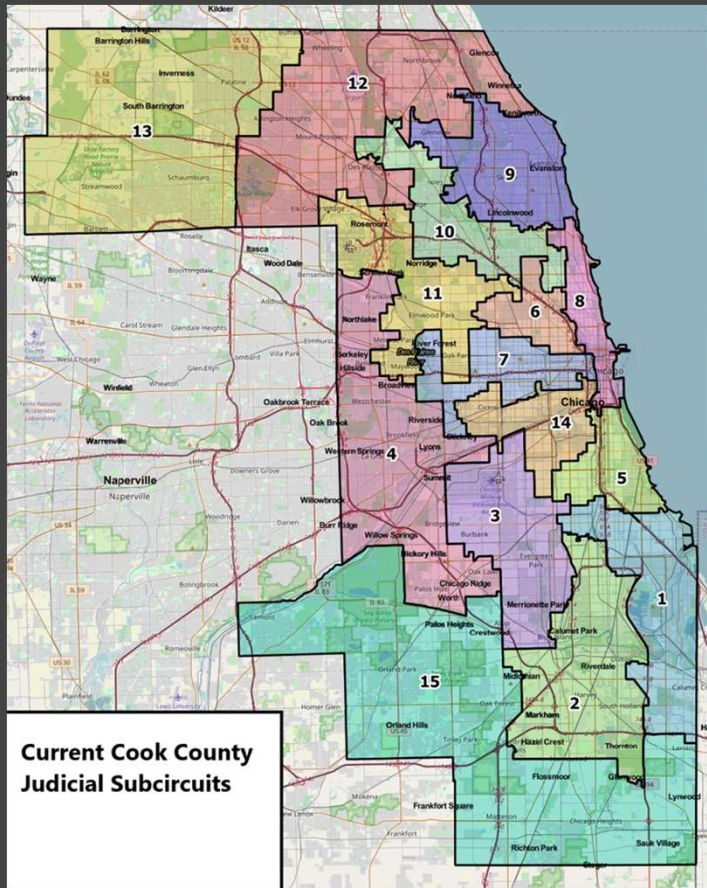


The proposed new Cook County subcircuits keeps four majority Black subcircuits.

In the new proposed map, Black suburbs in the western suburbs, such as Maywood, are incorporated into the 7th subcircuit.

Further, Black suburbs in the south suburbs, such as Matteson, as incorporated into the 2nd subcircuit

# COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVED

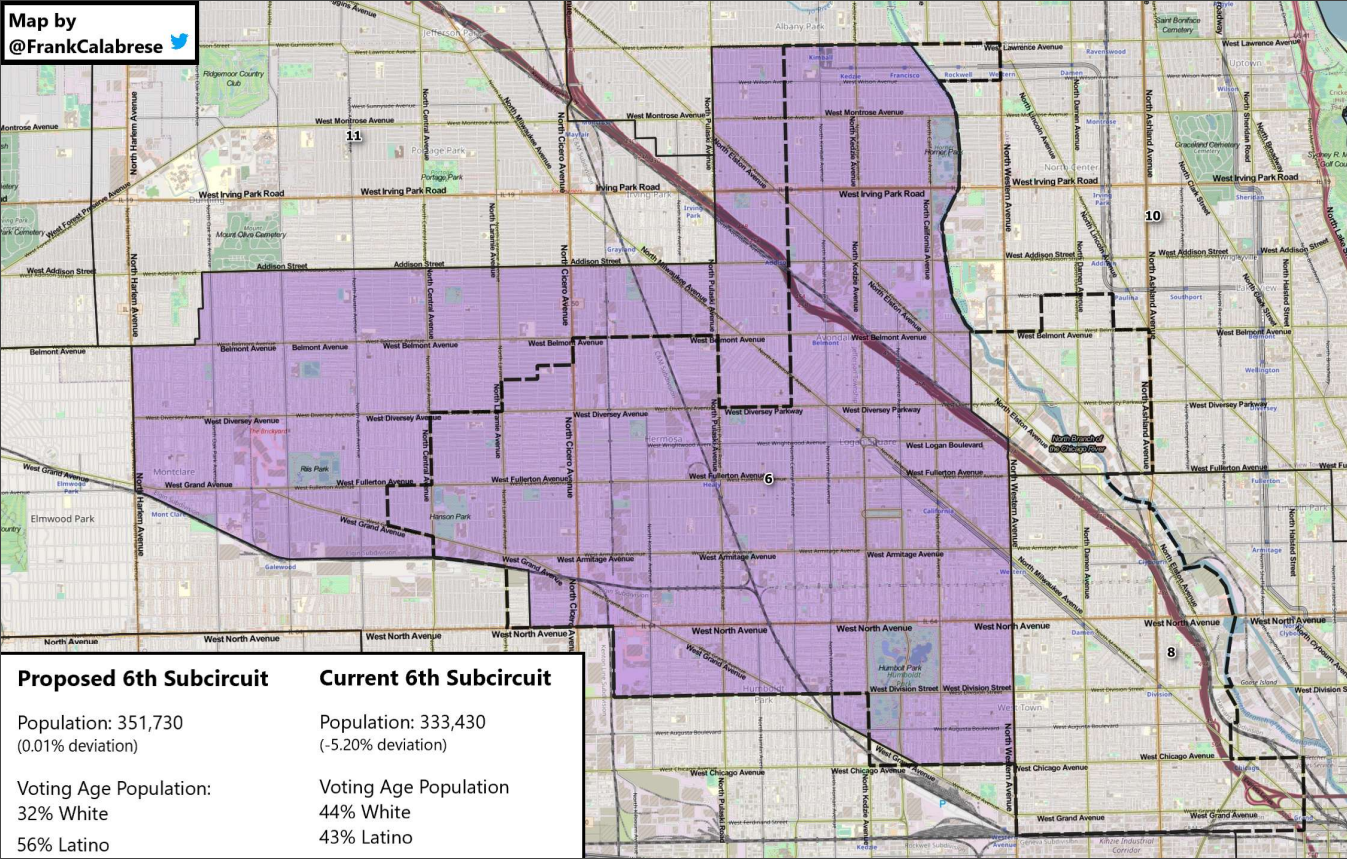


The proposed new Cook County subcircuits have easily understood boundaries so that the public can understand the district boundaries. Also the districts keep communities whole and cohesive.

Similar communities, such as River Forest and Oak Park, are now in the same subcircuit

# REMADE 6<sup>th</sup> SUBCIRUIT

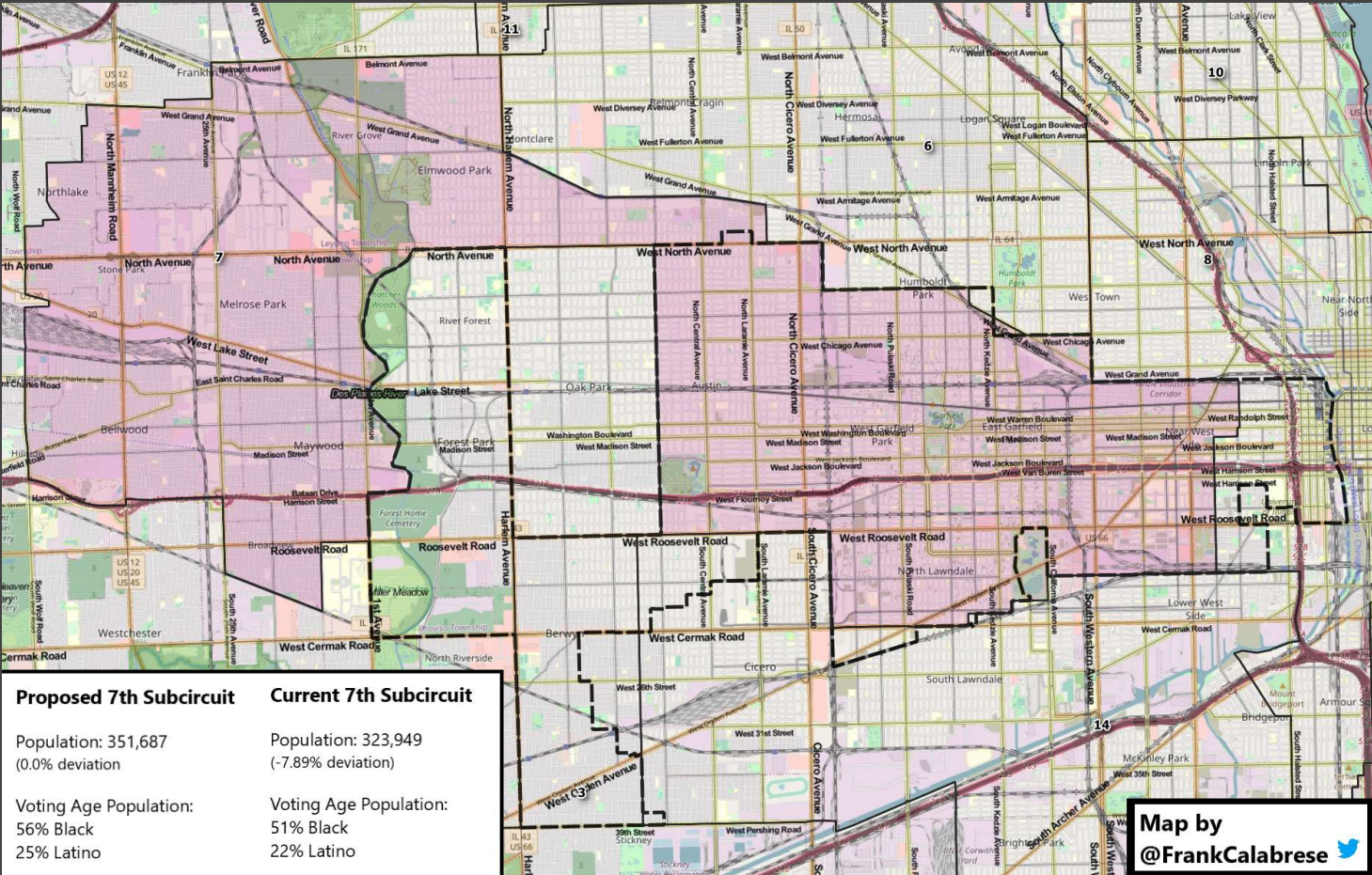
Map by  
@FrankCalabrese



In the proposal, the 6<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit is 56% Latino, a significant increase from the current 43% Latino. The 6<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit changes from a white plurality district to a Latino majority district.

Proposed 6th Subcircuit	Current 6th Subcircuit
Population: 351,730 (0.01% deviation)	Population: 333,430 (-5.20% deviation)
Voting Age Population: 32% White 56% Latino	Voting Age Population 44% White 43% Latino

# REMADE 7<sup>th</sup> SUBCIRCUIT



In the proposal, the 7<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit is 56% Black, an increase from the current 51% Black. The 7<sup>th</sup> Subcircuit now combines demographically similar communities, combining the west side of Chicago with Black western suburbs. Currently, the 7<sup>th</sup> subcircuit combines dissimilar communities such as River Forest, a wealthy suburb, and the west side of Chicago.

Map by  
@FrankCalabrese

# Adjusted for 2020 Census

