Community Redistricting Committee

Establishing Guidelines/Objectives for the Redistricting Decision

November 4, 2014

Objectives for Redistricting Decision
(Committee members could indicate their individual priorities which will then be compiled to form committee priorities.

Criteria	Priority (High, Medium, Low)
Keep neighborhoods together	
Impact on families and students-minimize moves during elementary school	
Impact on families and students-keep siblings together at same school	
Impact on families and students-allow voluntary early move to new school	
Balance class sizes at the elementary and middle schools	
Assign students to school closest to home	
Minimize transportation costs	
Develop redistricting boundaries that remain valid for 5 to 8 years with only minor adjustments	
Develop consistent feeder patterns from elementary to middle school to send 1/3 of students to Milford MS and 2/3 of students to Strayer MS	
Minimize the number of students transferred while rebalancing school enrollments	
Maintain diversity in the schools while minimizing the number of students transferred	

Primary Objective
Keep neighborhoods together

- This objective has been established by the School Board based on community input in January 2014.
- In ten Open Areas, students have been assigned to schools based on where space is available due to elementary class size.
- Some Open Areas serve all elementary schools in the QCSD.
- Some Open Areas have been selected based on new residential developments or high mobility of residents.

Possible Objectives:
Impact on Students and Families

- Several variations:
  - Minimize moves during elementary or middle school
  - Keep siblings together at the same school
  - Establish new boundaries to be implemented fully in five years and then allow students to move voluntarily to the new school sooner based on available classroom space
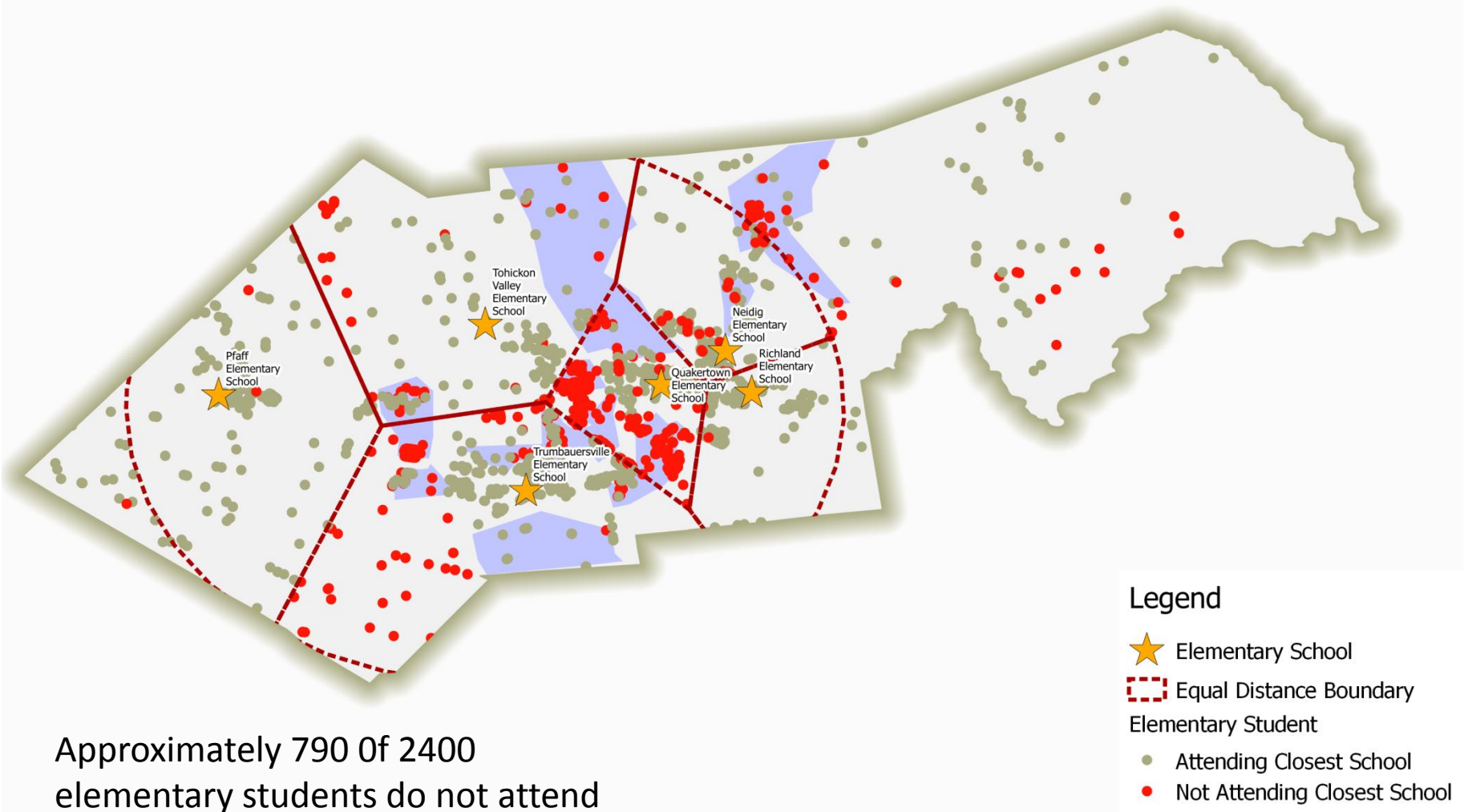
Possible Objective:
Balance class sizes

- The Open Areas have been used to balance class sizes, which is important for the following reasons:
  - Financial-unbalanced class size can require more teachers and classrooms
  - Teacher accountability for student achievement

Possible Objective: Assign students to school closest to home

- Assigning students to the school closest to their home is important for the following reasons:
  - Reduced time for students on buses and parents driving to schools for various functions

Elementary Student Attendance by School Proximity

Tohickon Valley Elementary School

Neidig Elementary School

Pfaff Elementary School

Quakertown Elementary School

Richland Elementary School

Trumbauersville Elementary School

Legend

⭐ Elementary School

▢ Equal Distance Boundary

Elementary Student

● Attending Closest School

● Not Attending Closest School

Approximately 790 0f 2400 elementary students do not attend closest school.

Possible Objective
Minimize transportation costs

- Redistricting should reduce ride times and distances for many students
- Redistricting should not increase transportation cost if:
  - Same number of bus riders at each school
  - Students added at a school can be accommodated by excess bus seating capacity
  - Buses needed at one school will be reduced thereby offsetting an increase at another school

Possible Objective: Develop redistricting option that remains valid for 5 to 8 years

- Birth rates have dropped significantly in recent years from 525 births in 2008 to 379 births in 2013. As these lower numbers progress through the system, the number of classrooms and teachers will be reduced at all grade levels.

- Residential development could offset these losses to some extent in the long-term. But, in the short-term, new students from new residential construction could cause more crowding at the eastern schools currently nearing capacity.

- Discuss limiting transfers to Open Areas vs more comprehensive redistricting
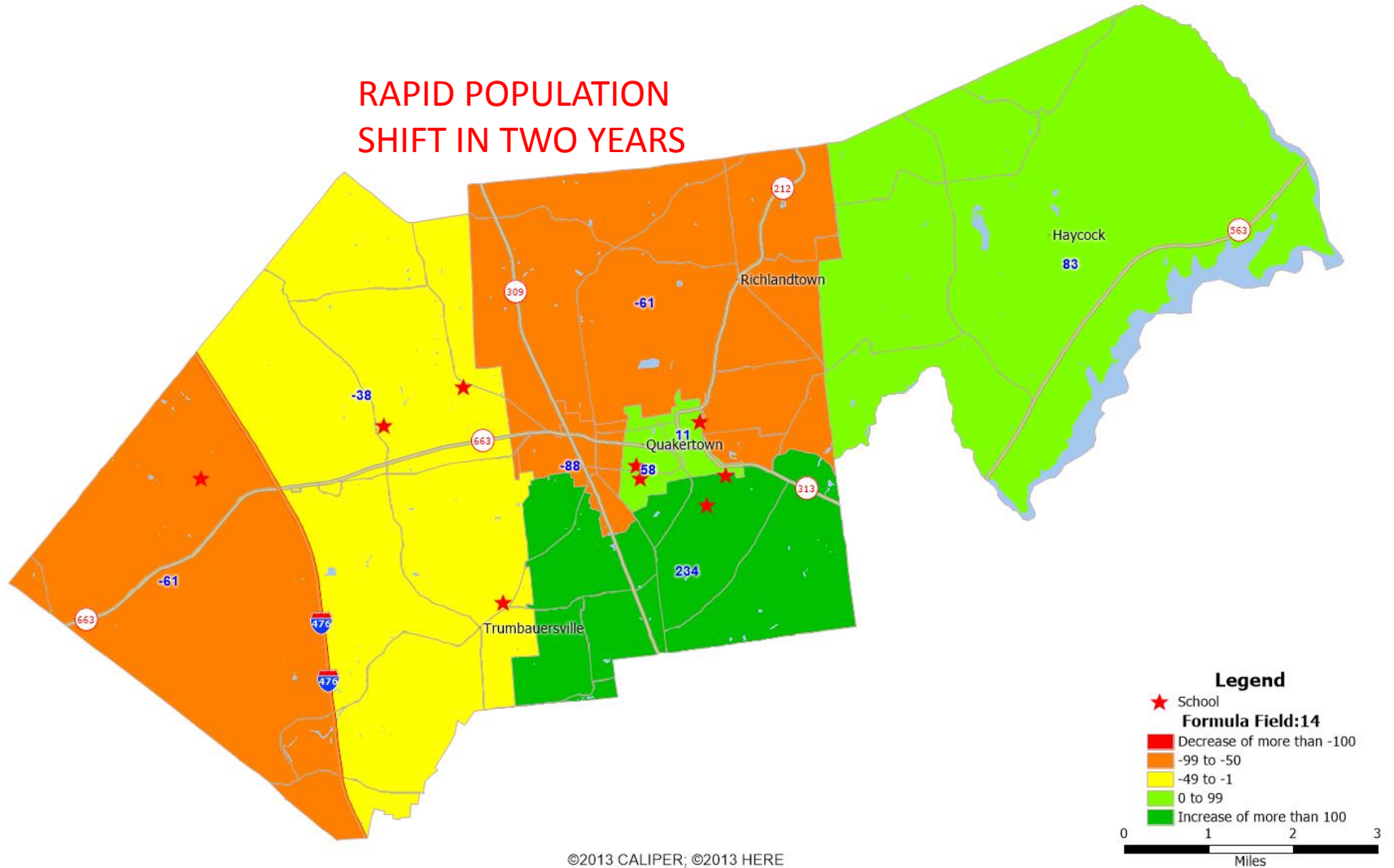
Elementary Enrollment / Capacity
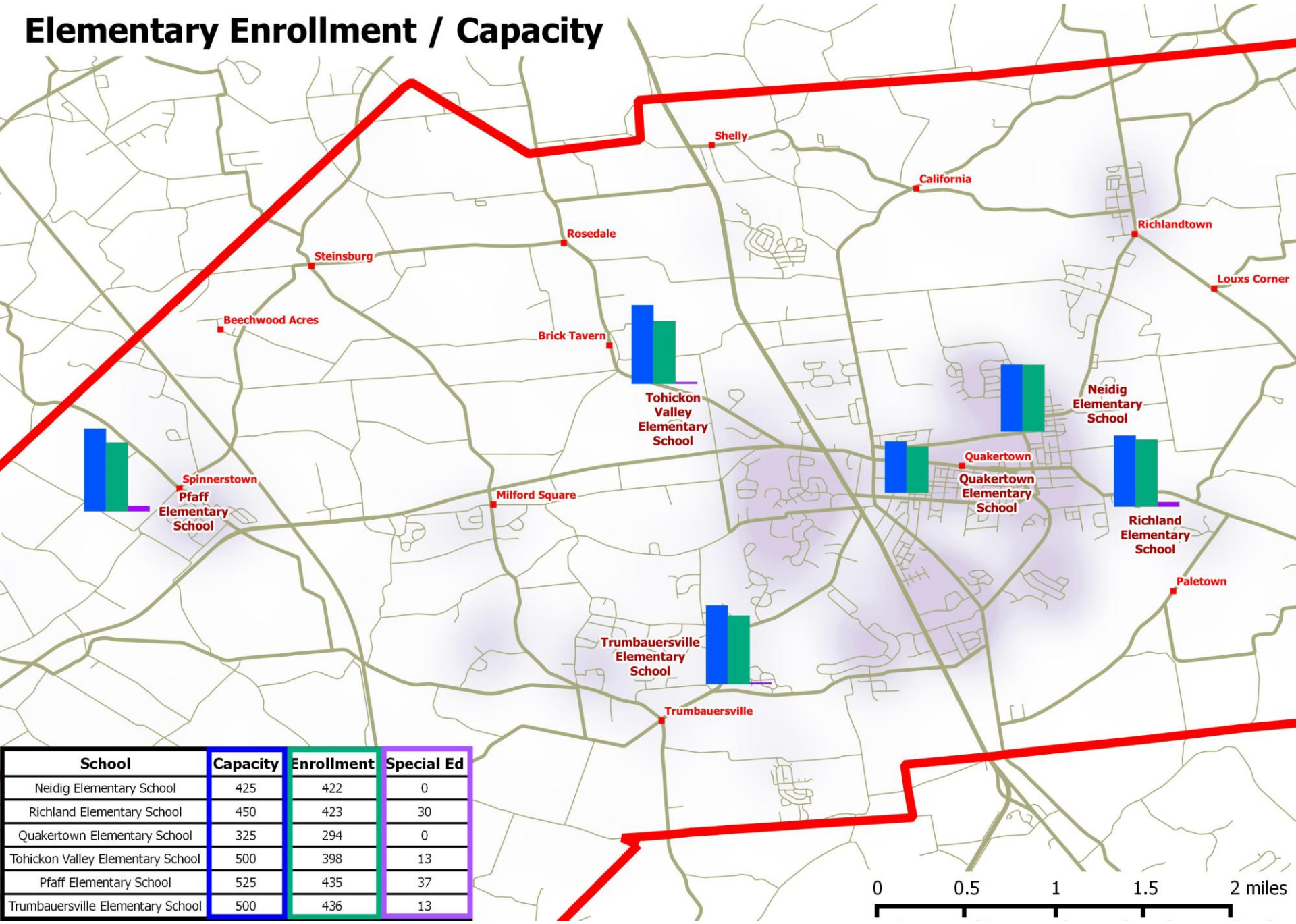
School	Capacity	Enrollment	Special Ed
Neidig Elementary School	425	422	0
Richland Elementary School	450	423	30
Quakertown Elementary School	325	294	0
Tohickon Valley Elementary School	500	398	13
Pfaff Elementary School	525	435	37
Trumbauersville Elementary School	500	436	13

Shelly

California

Richlandtown

Rosedale

Louxs Corner

Steinsburg

Beechwood Acres

Brick Tavern

Tohickon Valley Elementary School

Neidig Elementary School

Quakertown
Quakertown Elementary School

Spinnerstown
Pfaff Elementary School

Milford Square

Richland Elementary School

Paletown

Trumbauersville Elementary School

Trumbauersville

0   0.5   1   1.5   2 miles

Gain/Loss in Population
<5 Years Old, By Census Tract
2012 ACS vs 2010 Census

RAPID POPULATION
SHIFT IN TWO YEARS

Haycock
83

Richlandtown
-61

-38

11
Quakertown
-88   58

-61

234

Trumbauersville

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Legend
★ School
Formula Field:14
Decrease of more than -100
-99 to -50
-49 to -1
0 to 99
Increase of more than 100

0   1   2   3
Miles

Possible Objective: Develop consistent feeder patterns from elementary to middle school

- Currently, students from several schools are sent to each middle school
- Ideally, students from two elementary schools would be sent to Milford MS (1/3) and students from four elementary schools would be sent to Strayer MS (2/3)
- Maps to be provided
  - Elementary students shown in colored dots
  - Middle school students shown in colored squares

Possible Objective: Minimize number of students transferred while rebalancing school enrollments

- Although this seems like an obvious objective, even if all Open Areas are redistricted, a number of students in other areas will still go to schools that are not the closest school to their homes. But, fixing those will cause more students to be transferred in the redistricting.

Possible Objective: Maintain diversity in our schools while minimizing the number of students transferred

- This is a common objective in school redistricting efforts. Several of the Open Areas are in lower income neighborhoods which are now divided across several schools. Redistricting these Open Areas to a single school may conflict with the objective of maintaining diversity in all schools.
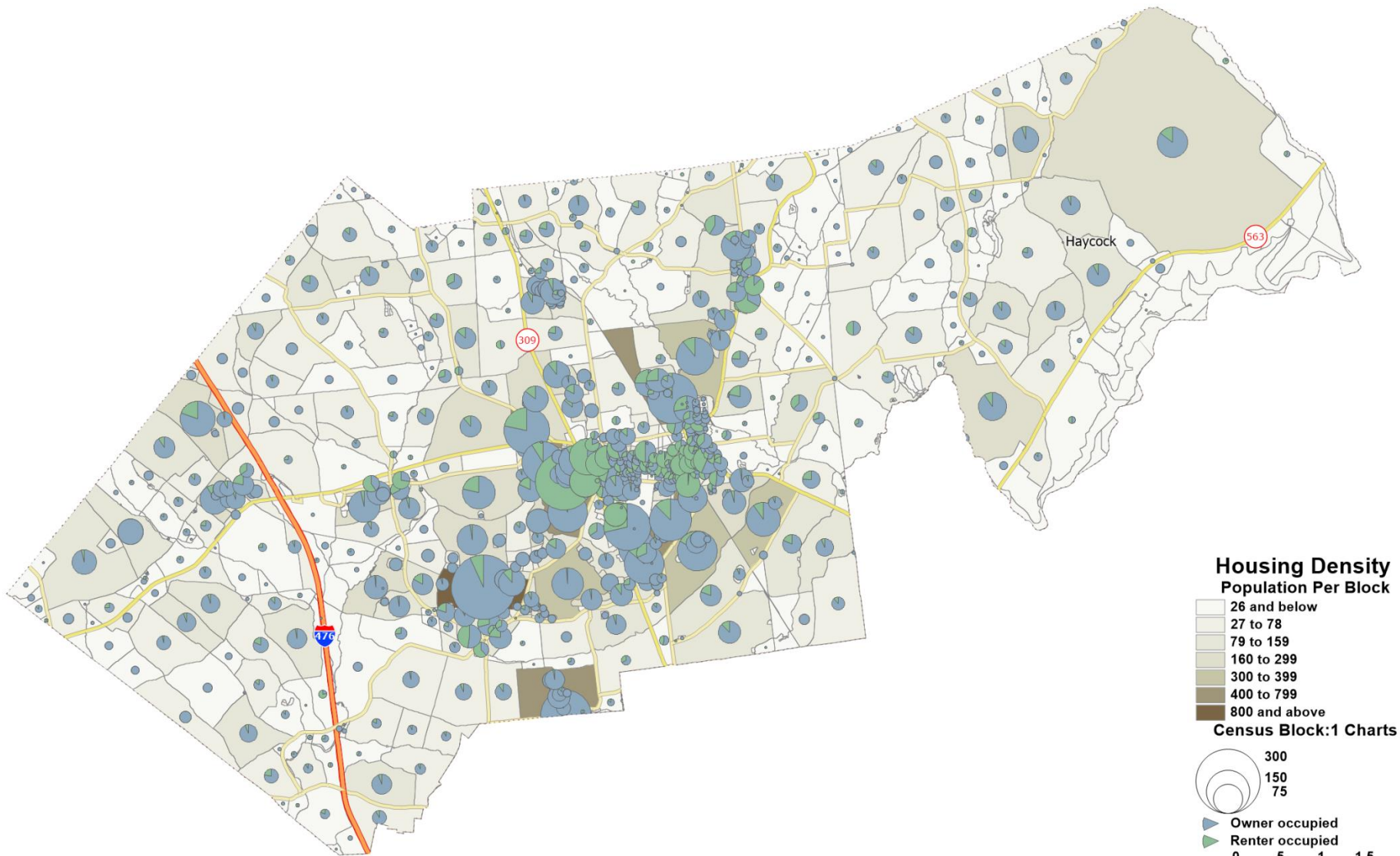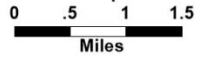
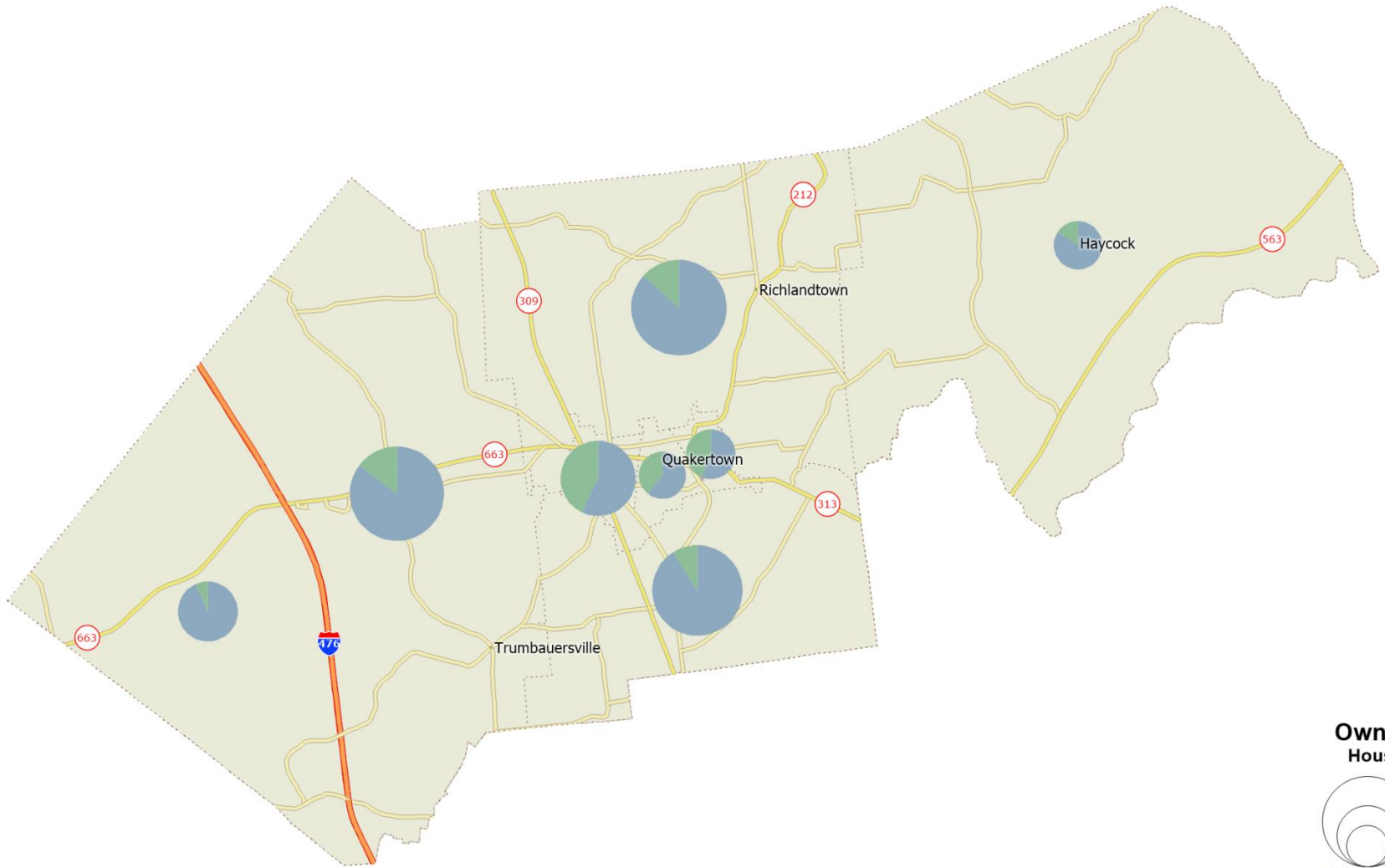**Housing Density**
Population Per Block

- 26 and below
- 27 to 78
- 79 to 159
- 160 to 299
- 300 to 399
- 400 to 799
- 800 and above

Census Block:1 Charts

300
150
75

▶ Owner occupied
▶ Renter occupied

0   .5   1   1.5
Miles

Haycock

309

476

563

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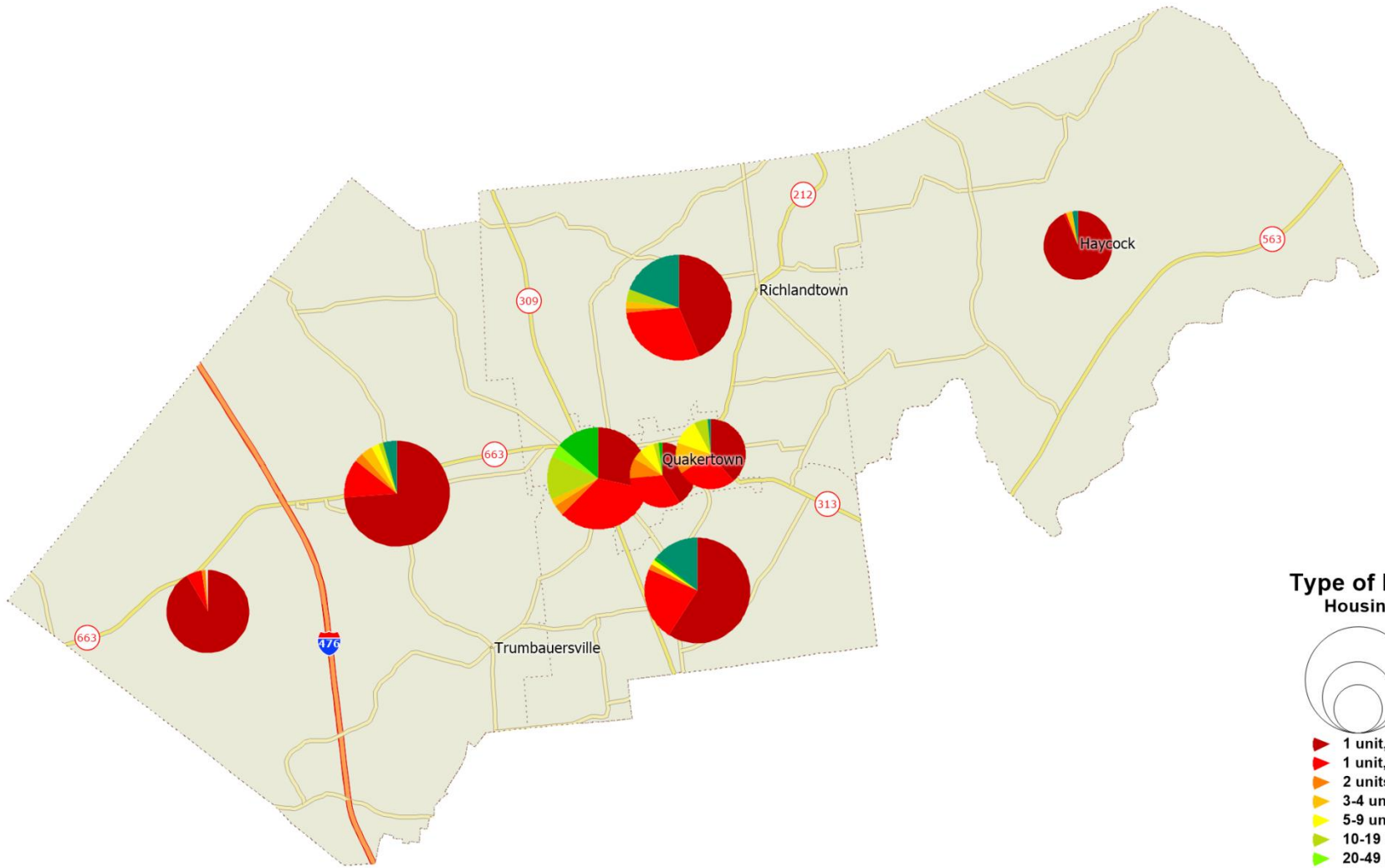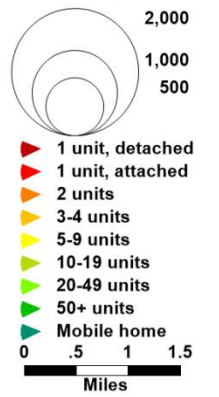Own / Rent
Households

2,500
1,250
625

Owner occupied
Renter occupied

0   .5   1   1.5
Miles

212
563
Haycock
309
Richlandtown
663
Quakertown
313
663
476
Trumbauersville

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Type of Housing

Housing Units

- 2,000
- 1,000
- 500

▶	1 unit, detached
▶	1 unit, attached
▶	2 units
▶	3-4 units
▶	5-9 units
▶	10-19 units
▶	20-49 units
▶	50+ units
▶	Mobile home

0   .5   1   1.5
Miles

Haycock

Richlandtown

Quakertown

Trumbauersville

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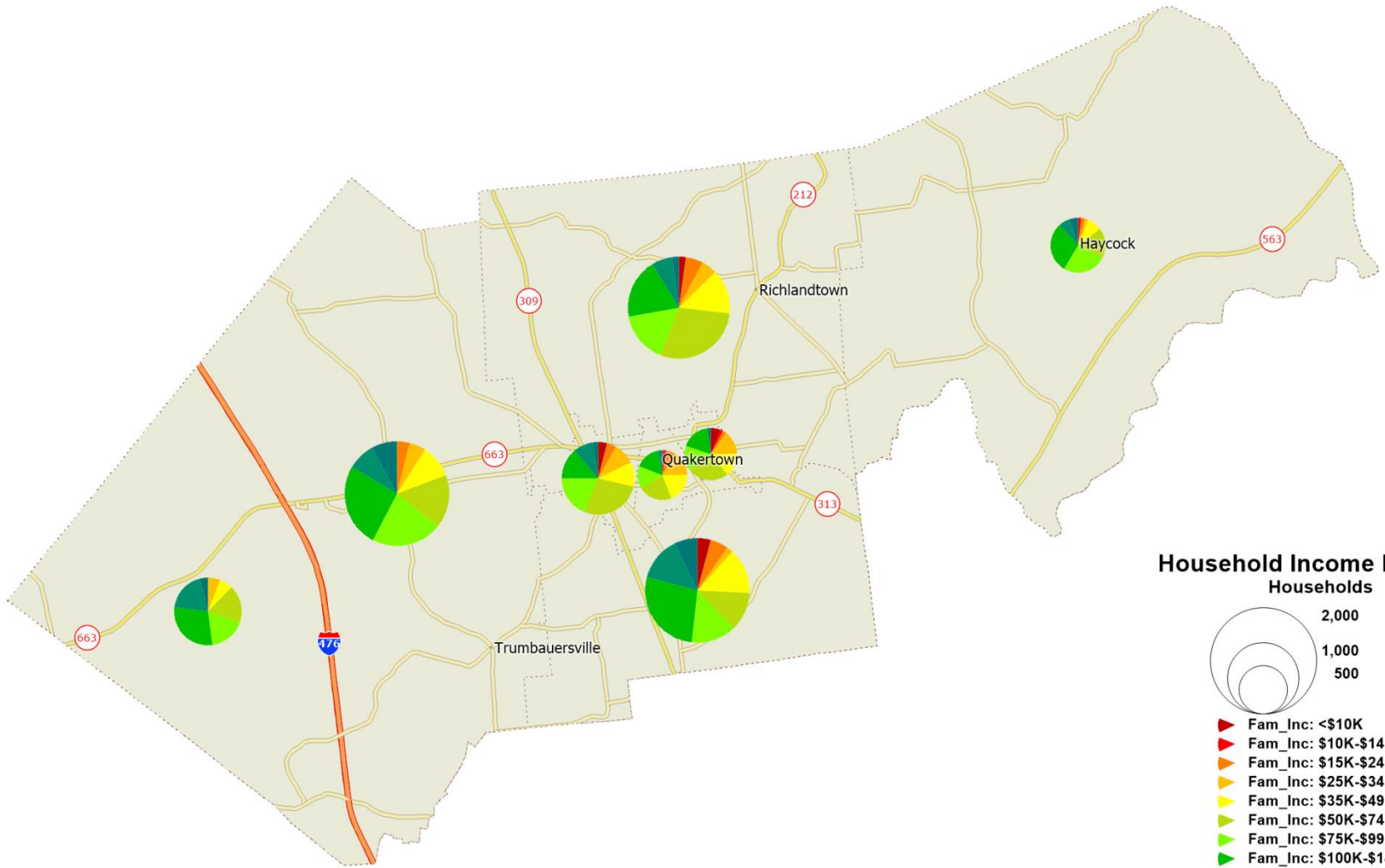
Household Income By Tract

Households

2,000

1,000

500
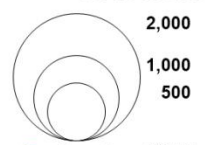
Fam_Inc: <$10K
Fam_Inc: $10K-$14,999
Fam_Inc: $15K-$24,999
Fam_Inc: $25K-$34,999
Fam_Inc: $35K-$49,999
Fam_Inc: $50K-$74,999
Fam_Inc: $75K-$99,999
Fam_Inc: $100K-$149,999
Fam_Inc: $150K-$199,999
Fam_Inc: $200K+

Richlandtown

Haycock

Quakertown

Trumbauersville

0   1   2   3
Miles

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Next Meeting

- Comparison of solutions under consideration based on Committee's priority objectives
- Evaluation of impacts of each solution on the guidelines/objectives
  - Class size
  - Transportation
  - Stability
  - Economic diversity
  - Close to home
- Direct administration to fine tune, develop new solutions, etc.