




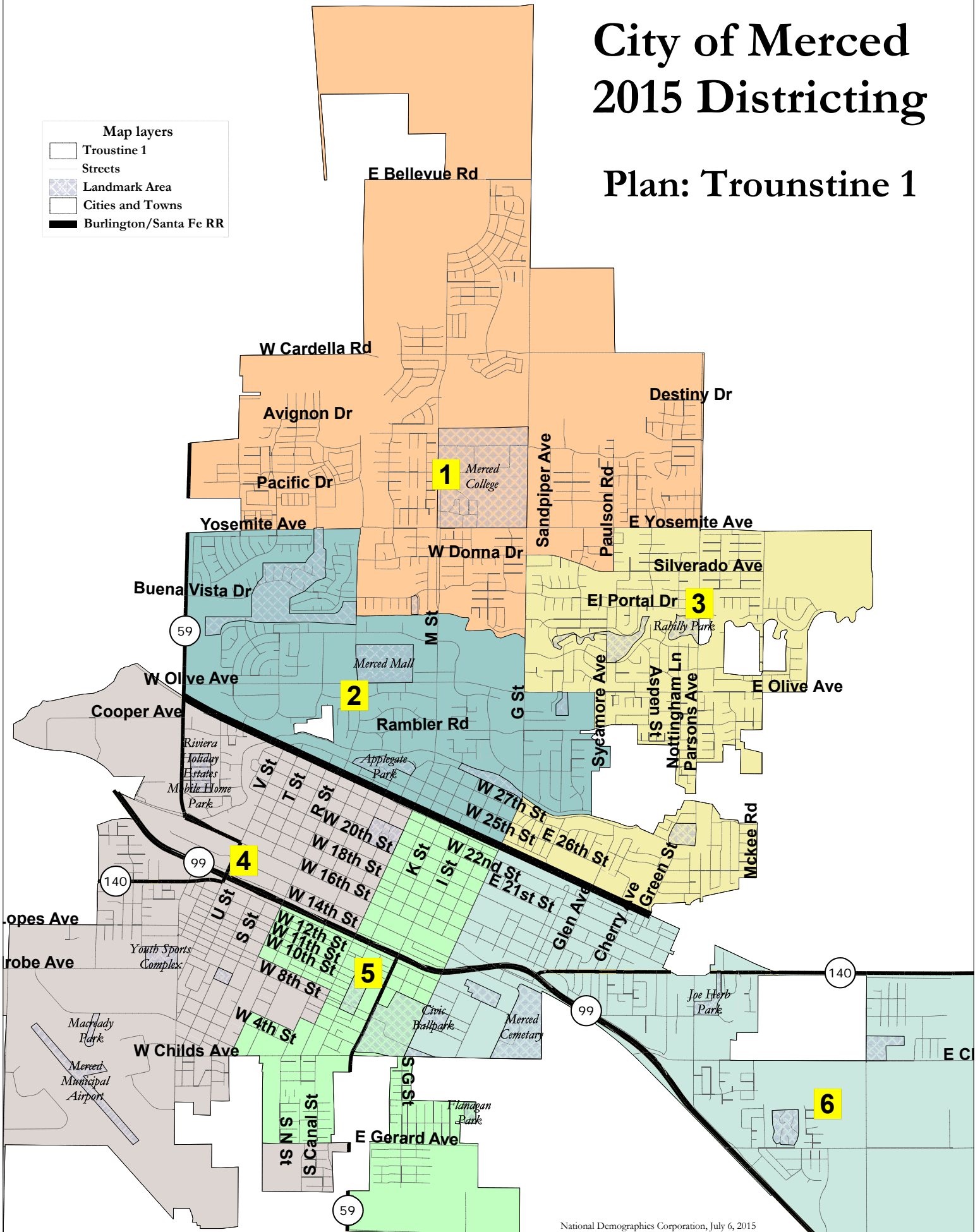


# City of Merced 2015 Districting

## Plan: Trounistine 1

- Map layers
-  Trounistine 1
  -  Streets
  -  Landmark Area
  -  Cities and Towns
  -  Burlington/Santa Fe RR



## City of Merced - Trounstein 1

District		1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
	Total Pop	13,362	13,094	13,206	13,377	12,972	12,947	78,958
	Deviation from ideal	202	-66	46	217	-188	-213	430
	% Deviation	1.53%	-0.50%	0.35%	1.65%	-1.43%	-1.62%	3.27%
Total Pop	% Hisp	33%	41%	37%	63%	69%	54%	50%
	% NH White	40%	35%	47%	19%	10%	28%	30%
	% NH Black	6%	10%	4%	6%	6%	6%	6%
	% Asian-American	19%	12%	9%	11%	13%	10%	12%
Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	29%	36%	32%	60%	67%	49%	45%
	% NH White	44%	41%	53%	24%	13%	34%	36%
	% NH Black	5%	9%	4%	6%	6%	6%	6%
	% Asian-American	19%	11%	8%	9%	13%	9%	12%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	% Hisp	32%	33%	26%	44%	53%	42%	37%
	% NH White	45%	48%	60%	31%	19%	42%	43%
	% NH Black	7%	8%	5%	8%	8%	6%	7%
	% Asian-American	15%	8%	6%	12%	17%	8%	11%
Voter Registration (Nov 2012)	% Latino	28%	32%	30%	55%	56%	43%	38%
	% Asian-Surnamed	5%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2012)	% Latino	25%	27%	25%	50%	52%	37%	32%
	% Asian-Surnamed	4%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Age	age0-19	35%	32%	27%	37%	41%	38%	35%
	age20-60	54%	52%	54%	50%	50%	49%	52%
	age60plus	11%	16%	19%	12%	10%	13%	13%
Immigration	immigrants	17%	15%	12%	28%	34%	21%	21%
Housing Stats	vacant	12%	10%	7%	9%	9%	13%	10%
	occupied	88%	90%	93%	91%	91%	87%	90%
	rented	42%	72%	46%	59%	72%	54%	57%
	owned	58%	28%	54%	41%	28%	46%	43%
	singlefamily	87%	45%	85%	67%	61%	72%	70%
	multifamily	13%	55%	15%	33%	39%	28%	30%
Language spoken at home	english	60%	64%	73%	40%	31%	51%	53%
	spanish	21%	27%	19%	46%	54%	39%	34%
	asian-lang	14%	7%	5%	12%	14%	7%	10%
	other lang	5%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Children at Home	child-under18	40%	35%	31%	41%	48%	43%	39%
Work (percent of pop age 16+)	employed	51%	48%	54%	46%	46%	47%	49%
	Commute on Public Transit	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Household Income	hhincome0-25k	17%	39%	25%	39%	43%	41%	33%
	hhincome25-50k	21%	26%	19%	32%	36%	31%	27%
	hhincome50-75k	20%	17%	19%	14%	13%	13%	16%
	hhincome75-200k	40%	17%	34%	14%	8%	15%	22%
	hhincome200k-plus	3%	1%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	62%	61%	59%	49%	44%	57%	56%
	bachelor	17%	11%	16%	5%	5%	6%	10%
	graduatedegree	9%	6%	10%	2%	2%	3%	5%
Total and Voting Age population data from the 2010 Decennial Census.								
Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database, Nov. 2012 data.								
Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-year data.								



*Associate Professor of Political Science*  
School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts  
5200 North Lake Road  
Merced, California 95343  
TEL (209) 228-4870  
FAX (209) 228-4017  
Jessica@trounstine.com

Dear Merced Independent Districting Advisory Committee,

Enclosed with this letter you will find my proposal for 6 city council districts for the city of Merced. As the settlement requires, 3 of these districts are north of the BN Santa Fe Railroad and 3 are to the south. To determine the boundaries of these proposed districts I attended to a number of different considerations. First, and above all else, I sought to generate equal population counts to comply with the Constitutional mandate of one person-one vote. You will find that the districts do not deviate more than 2% from the ideal total population count of 13,160. I also strove to create compact, contiguous districts that attend to major landmarks and divisions. I strove to keep districts from crossing major thoroughfares and I also consulted the newly released Merced City School District Boundary map. I sought to keep school catchment areas in the same council district where practicable. While the Merced City Council does not have authority over Merced City Schools, school catchment areas can foster a sense of community that may be useful for enhancing community organization and voter participation.

Both the Voting Rights Act and California Voting Rights Act assert that minority votes may not be diluted or packed in districting plans; and that districts should fairly reflect minority voting strength. To define potential communities of interest in Merced, I drew on the Citizen Voting Age Population as a primary guide. Overall, Merced is 37% Latino, 43% White, and 11% Asian American. On a 6 district city council descriptive representation would entail the election of 2 Latino councilors, 3 white councilors, and 1 Asian councilor. Drawing districts to ensure this exact representation would be both impossible and most likely unconstitutional. However, it is possible to substantially dilute the Latino and Asian vote depending on how the district lines are drawn. I sought to create at least one district in which Latinos comprised a majority of the citizen voting age population (district 5 in my map). Given that Asians are only slightly more than a tenth of the city population, it is not feasible to draw a majority Asian district. In my map the largest block of potential Asian voters also resides in district 5. I found this overlap in communities of interest to be unavoidable. However, I also sought to ensure that each of the major demographic groups in the city retained substantial population representation in each district. Political scientists have shown that large voting blocks, even when not a majority, can achieve substantive representation from legislatures.

I did not take current council incumbents into consideration in the drawing of this map.

Note district 6 does not populate correctly in the “assignments” page of the spreadsheet.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about my map or this process. I am happy to speak to the Committee at any time. I am also happy to work with the Committee to adjust the lines of my proposed map if the Committee receives feedback that would indicate a better division of the population.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica Trounstine'.

Jessica Trounstine