

Written Testimony to the House & Senate Redistricting Committees  
December 20, 2021  
Sherri Grogan  
Private Citizen

Re: KS House Districts 40 and 41 – Leavenworth and Lansing

Chairman and Committee Members:

Thank you for continuing to accept written testimony. I have lived in Leavenworth County for about 15 years and am active in my community. Below are concerns with the proposed changes in Steven Clay's testimony and details about Leavenworth demographics.

Steven Clay's November testimony proposes moving three northeast Leavenworth precincts from KS House District 41 to House District 40 and one precinct in House District 40 to House District 41. See Exhibit 1. The suggested northeast Leavenworth change is not good because it:

- separates the heart of the city, i.e., the business district and landmarks like Haymarket Square and Riverfront Community Center, from the Leavenworth citizens that shop and dine in the area. See Exhibit 1 and 2.
- creates a situation where there could be two Leavenworth City Representatives or a Lansing Representative who isn't familiar with northeast Leavenworth. See Exhibit 1.
- splits Hwy 73/92 that goes from Missouri to Atchison across multiple House districts. The Centennial Bridge connects Leavenworth to Platte City, MO and provides access to the Kansas City airport. See Exhibit 1.
- splits three historical districts – Downtown, Union Park, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. See Exhibit 2.
- splits three areas defined in Leavenworth's Downtown North Leavenworth Re-Development Area Master Plan - North Gateway Innovation and Business Campus, Downtown Core, and West Gateway. See Exhibit 3.
- splits an opportunity zone defined by the State of Kansas. See Exhibit 4.

Several prior testimonies mention demographics. It is hard to know what is factual. To ensure you have the facts readily available, I have compiled a visual that provides census data for household income, age, minorities, age, and renter occupied households by census block. See Exhibit 5.

- Three of the five census blocks with a Median Household Income <\$40,000 are on the east side of Leavenworth. See block #s highlighted in yellow.
- Five of twelve census blocks with 40% or more Renter Occupied Households are on the east side. See blocks circled in yellow.
- One or two out of five census blocks where 65+ Years of Age is <10% is on the east side. See red triangles.

Sherri Grogan Testimony, 12/20/2021

Care should be taken to draw boundaries so that Leavenworth is kept as whole as possible, representation is not diluted and our most vulnerable and economically challenged citizens are not negatively impacted. An east-west line north of the Leavenworth-Lansing line is cleaner and fairer than a north-south line that separates east and west Leavenworth. The citizens of Leavenworth should be the top priority when drawing the maps.

Thank you for reading my testimony. I appreciate the work you are doing and look forward to seeing the draft maps.

Sincerely,

Sherri Grogan  
Basehor, KS

Exhibit 1 – Steven Clays’s November testimony asked the Redistricting Committee to move the green highlighted precincts KS House District 40 and the blue highlighted precinct to KS House District 41. The yellow area was identified as the oldest area in Leavenworth.

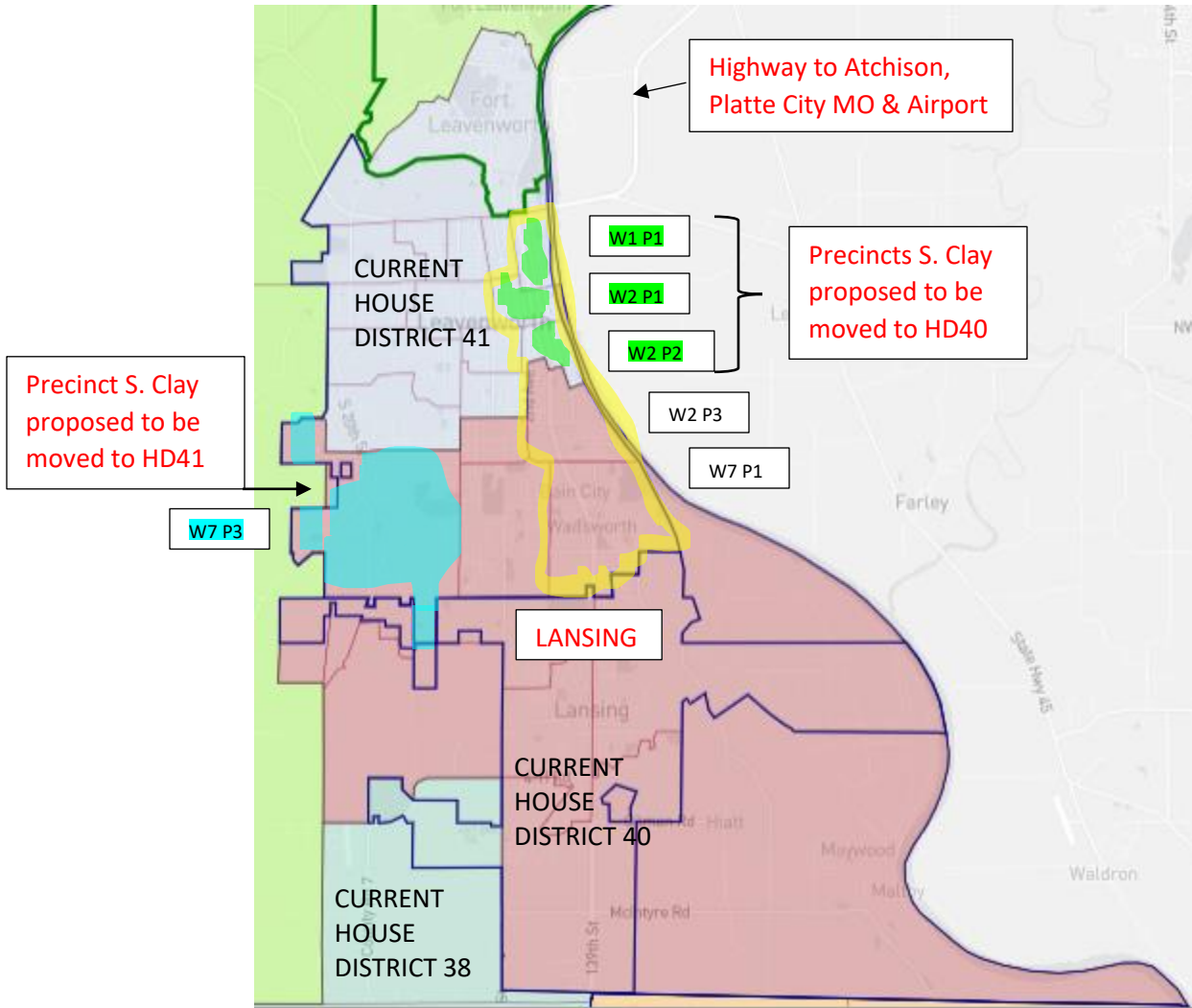
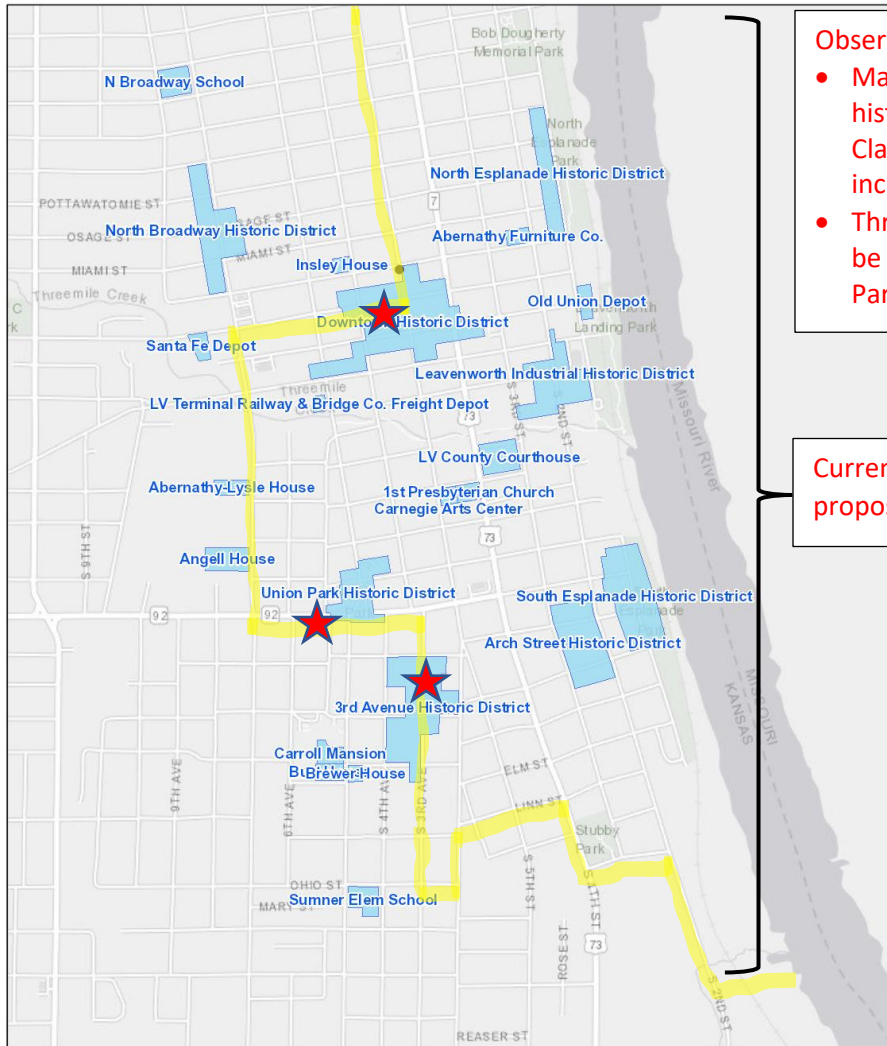


Exhibit 2 – Historic Districts of Leavenworth City (shown in blue)

ArcGIS Web Map



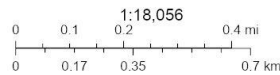
**Observations:**

- Majority of Leavenworth's historic districts are in S. Clay's proposed HD40 that includes Lansing
- Three historic districts would be split – Downtown, Union Park, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

**Current HD41 area S. Clay proposed to be moved to HD 40**

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Historic Districts

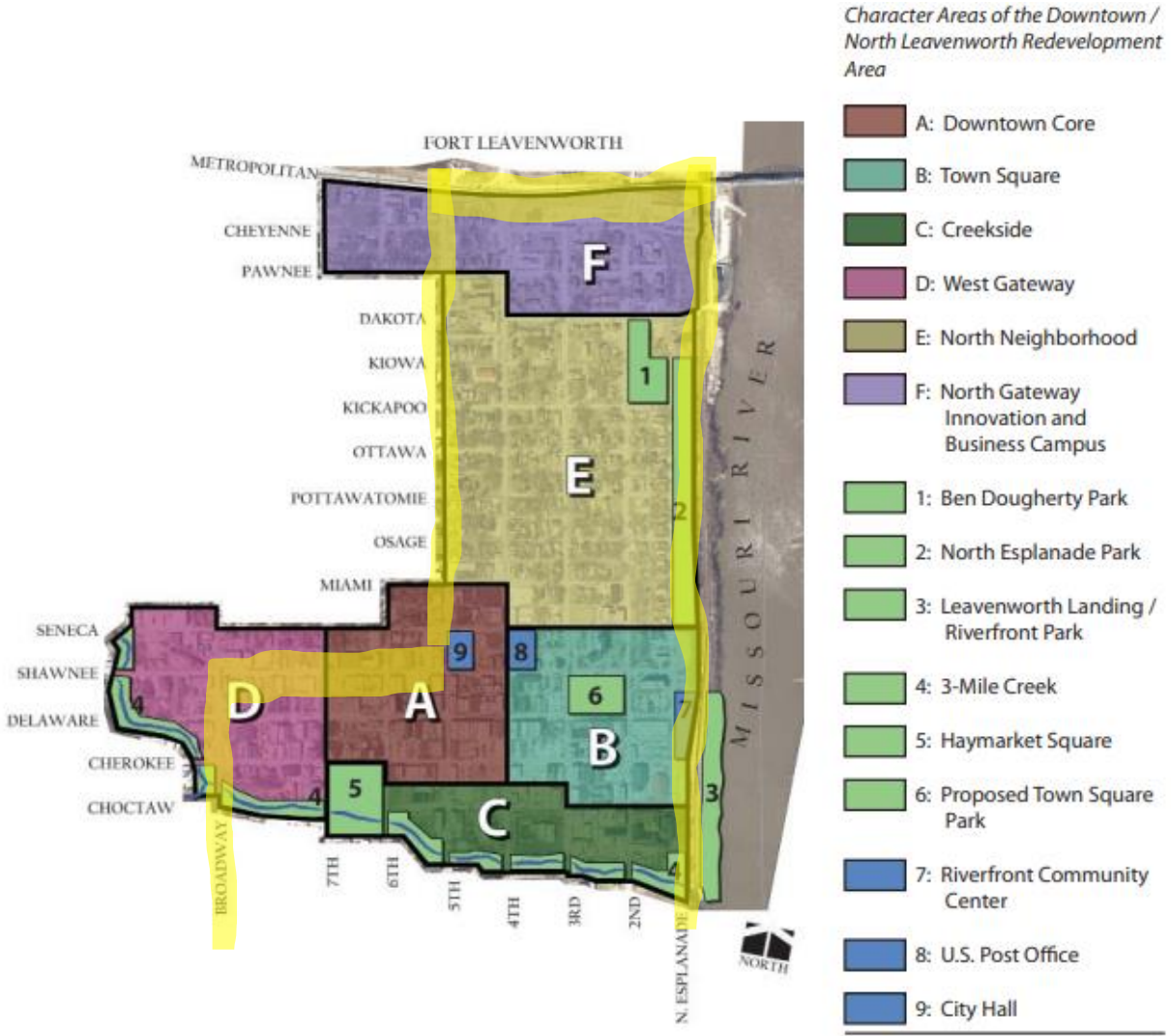


Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Web AppBuilder for ArcGIS  
Esri, HERE |

[https://www.leavenworthks.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning\\_amp\\_community\\_development/page/13951/leavenworth\\_historic\\_districts.jpg](https://www.leavenworthks.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/planning_amp_community_development/page/13951/leavenworth_historic_districts.jpg)

Exhibit 3 - Downtown North Leavenworth Redevelopment Area Plan

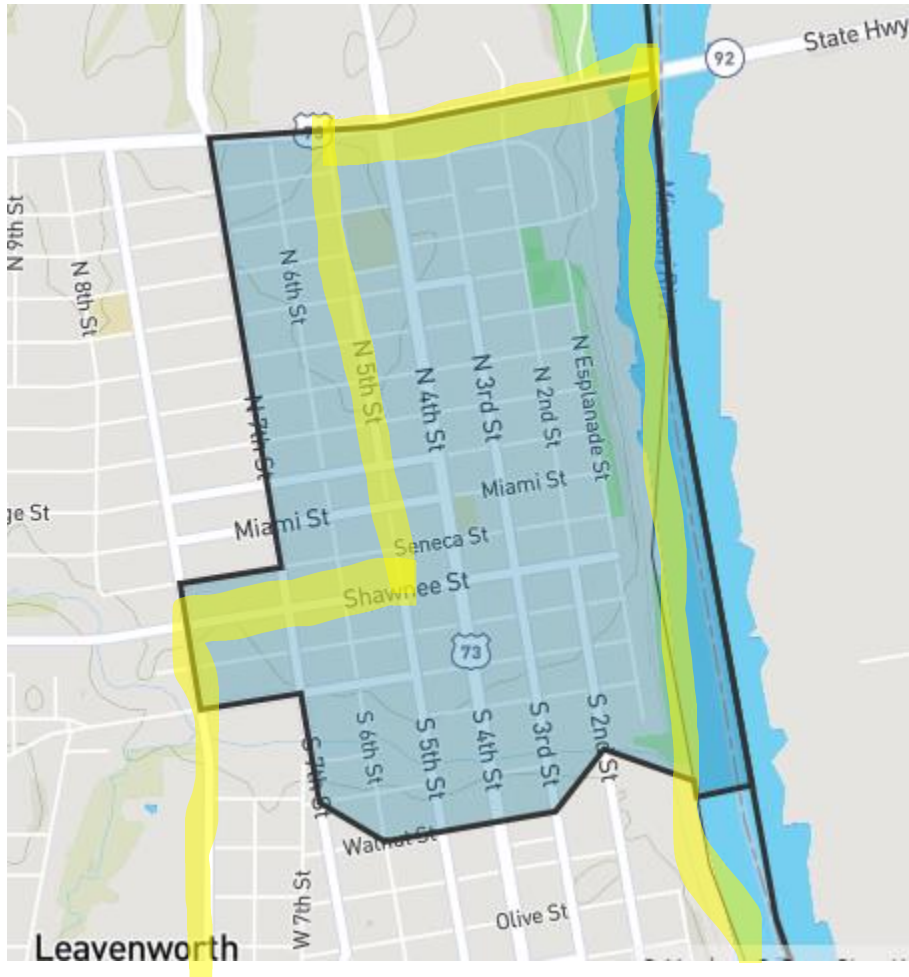


Source: Downtown North Leavenworth Redevelopment Area Plan

[https://www.leavenworthks.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/economic\\_development/page/3561/790191268863117.pdf](https://www.leavenworthks.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/economic_development/page/3561/790191268863117.pdf)

An action item in Leavenworth’s 2030 Comprehensive Plan is to “Evaluate and update the 2010 Downtown North Leavenworth Redevelopment Plan.”

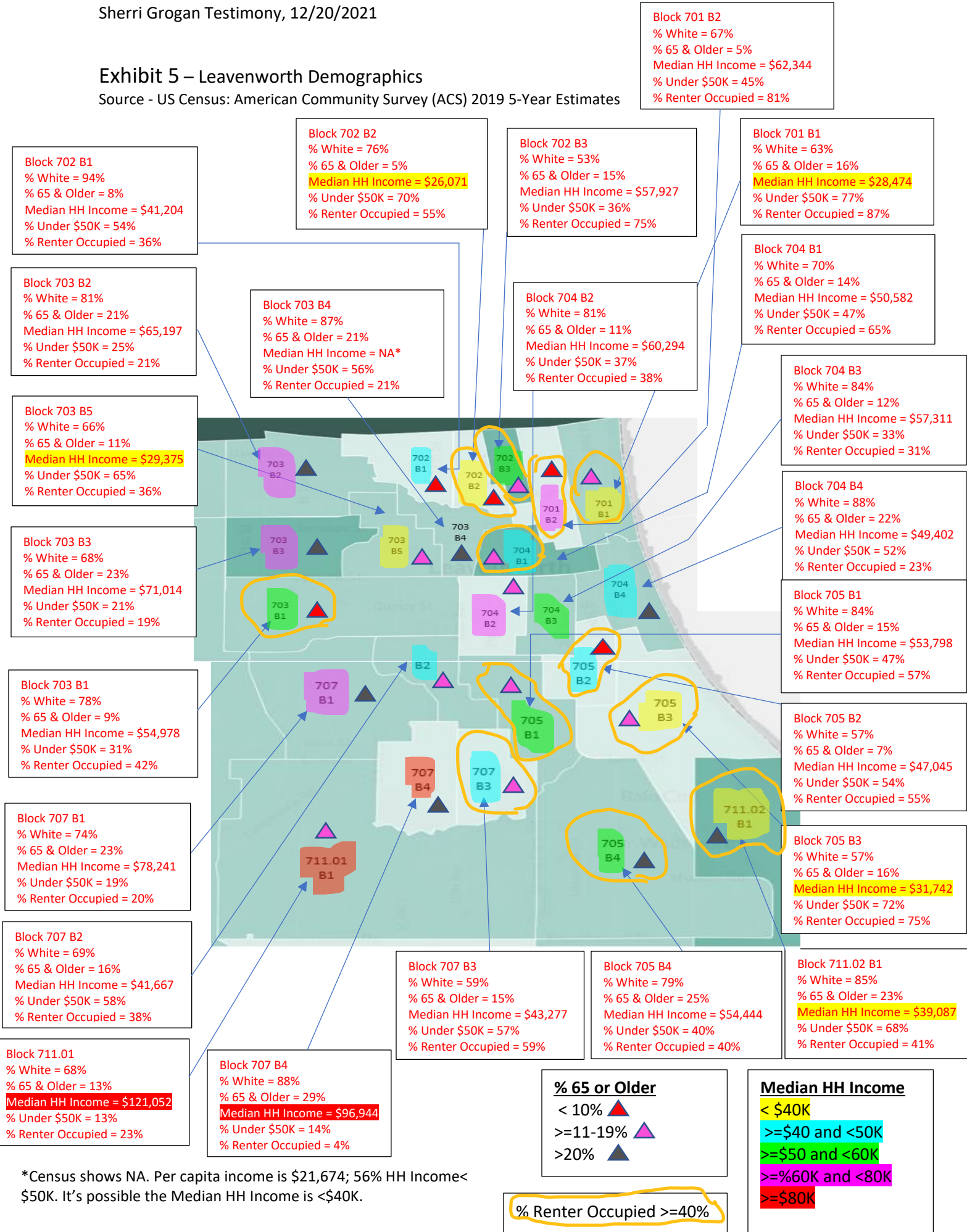
Exhibit 4 – Leavenworth Opportunity Zone in Northeast Leavenworth



<https://dashboards.mysidewalk.com/kansas-opportunity-zones/leavenworth-county>

### Exhibit 5 – Leavenworth Demographics

Source - US Census: American Community Survey (ACS) 2019 5-Year Estimates



\*Census shows NA. Per capita income is \$21,674; 56% HH Income < \$50K. It's possible the Median HH Income is <\$40K.