

Merge Two Precincts

St. Anne's-Belfield should be merged with existing Jack Jouett precinct and polling place.

St. Anne's-Belfield is no longer available as a polling place.

Polling Place Requirements:

- Must be within the precinct or within one mile of the precinct boundary.
- Strictly meet Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for handicapped parking, curb cuts, reasonable alternatives to stairs.
- Provide adequate parking for Presidential Elections within reasonable distance of polling place entrance.
- Good access to polling place from street at a location easy for voters to find.
- Adequate facilities to conduct curbside voting and allow access to voters arriving by bus.
- Physical facilities that have enough space to conduct an election and appropriate space for voters to be sheltered out of the weather while waiting to vote.
- Ensure that the prime function of the site's normal use will not interfere with conducting an election.
- Ready access to tables and chairs.

We made an exhaustive search for another location which would meet our requirements within the existing precinct boundaries or within one mile thereof; such a location could not be found (we considered 14 other locations).

Merging Belfield into Jack Jouett is a common sense solution

- An Albemarle County public school is the 'Gold Standard' for a polling place because it can meet polling place requirements in every regard for a precinct the size of the new Jack Jouett.
- Growth trends for St. Anne's Belfield and Jack Jouett have trended slightly down since 2008.

	Registered Voters		
	Jack Jouett	St. Ann's Belfield	Total
2008	2478	1312	3790
2017	2370	1303	3673
%CHG.	-4.6%	-0.7%	-3.2%

- The area is largely built-out which would suggest no substantial new growth in the foreseeable future.
- Belfield was created from a portion of Jack Jouett in 2003 to correct a split precinct created by the 2001 General Assembly redistricting of House of Delegates districts, which drew a line through the Jack Jouett precinct. The 2011 General Assembly redistricting reunified both precincts into a single district, the 25th House of Delegates district, so the precinct line between Belfield and Jack Jouett precincts no longer has a purpose.
- Election Officers and scanner from Belfield will be deployed in the new Jack Jouett to enhance voter service.

Proposed Additional Precincts

Brownsville and Crozet

Divide these two precincts into three - Crozet, Brownsville and Mechums River.

	2017 Registered Voters		Development
	Existing Precincts	New Precincts	Units Proposed
Crozet	4135	3310	256
Brownsville	4807	2533	1908
Mechums River	N/A	3099	508
Total	8942	8942	

- New Mechums River precinct polling place will be located in Western Albemarle High School – it meets all the requirements for an excellent polling place.
- Makes a significant improvement in Brownsville line lengths; reduces congestion at Crozet Elementary parking area and will shorten line lengths there.
- Provides additional voter capacity in the near term, but an additional precinct may need to be added depending on final size of Old Trail build out.

Summary of proposed new boundaries

Crozet:

Northern, western, and eastern boundaries will remain the same as the current Crozet precinct, and most of the southern boundary would remain the same. At the intersection of Mechums River and Rte. 250, the southern boundary would follow Three Notched Road (Rte. 240) west to Crozet Avenue, then south on Crozet Avenue to Jarman's Gap Road, and follow Jarman's Gap Road west to the Augusta County line.

Brownsville:

Bounded on the north by Jarman's Gap Road, on the west by the Augusta and Nelson county lines, and on the south and southeast by Batesville Road over to Ortman Road to Rockfish Gap Turnpike, and bounded on the east by Crozet Avenue.

Mechums River:

Bounded on the south by Interstate 64, on the east by the Mechums River, and on the north by Three Notched Road as far west as Crozet Avenue where the boundary turns south to the Rockfish Gap Turnpike (Rte. 250), and then west along Rte. 250 to the Crozet exit on I-64.

Cale

Divide Cale Precinct into two precincts, Cale and Biscuit Run (western part of current Cale).

	2017 Registered Voters		Development
	Existing Precinct	New Precincts	Units
Cale	5105	2916	339
Biscuit Run	0	2189	300
Total	5105	5105	639

- New Biscuit Run polling place will be located at Auxiliary Gym at Monticello High School.
- Newly reconfigured Cale precinct polling place will continue to be Cale Elementary School.
- This split in the Cale precinct will significantly reduce waiting times, reduce congestion in the parking lot and allow for future population growth.

Summary of proposed new boundaries

Cale:

Bounded on the east by Route 20, on the south by an eastern branch of Biscuit Run, and on the east by Biscuit Run as far north as Interstate 64. The northern boundary from Biscuit Run follows I-64 east over to Avon Street, then heads north on Avon Street to the city limits, and follows the city/county boundary over to Rte. 20.

Biscuit Run:

Bounded on the north by the city of Charlottesville, on the northeast corner by Avon Street south to I-64, then heading along I-64 west to Biscuit Run, continuing south on Biscuit Run to a western branch of Biscuit Run near Forest Lodge Lane. The western boundary is Old Lynchburg Road, heading north to Sunset Avenue Extended, and taking Sunset Avenue Extended up to the city line.

Free Bridge

Divide the Free Bridge Precinct into two precincts – Free Bridge and Pantops.

	2017 Registered Voters		Development
	Existing Precinct	New Precincts	Units Proposed
Free Bridge	4384	2562	390
Pantops	0	1822	374
Total	4384	4384	764

- Elks Lodge will continue as the polling place for Free Bridge.
- Broadus Memorial Baptist Church, on Stony Point Rd., will serve as the Pantops polling place for the more northerly portion of the former Free Bridge precinct.
- Establish additional capacity to meet voter growth in both precincts.
- Reduce line length and parking congestion at the Elks Lodge Free Bridge polling place.

Summary of proposed new boundaries

Free Bridge:

Bounded on the south by interstate 64, on the west by the Rivanna River as far north as a high voltage powerline just north of the Elks Lodge, then heading southeast along the powerline to Shadwell Creek, the eastern boundary. The southeast corner of the precinct is bounded by Hansens Mountain Rd., down to Rte. 250, until it intersects with I-64.

Pantops:

The northern and eastern boundaries remain the same as for the current Free Bridge precinct, following various creeks and ridgelines, southwards to Interstate 64 at its intersection with Rte. 250. The boundary turns westward following I-64 to where it intersects with Rte. 250 again, and then follows Hansens Mountain Rd to Shadwell Creek, and north again to the intersection of the creek and the powerline, following the powerline northwest to the Rivanna River, turning north and following the Rivanna River up to Redbud Creek, the northern boundary.

Final Thoughts

- For all of these changes, all affected voters will continue to be in the same Magisterial district, state Senate district and same House of Delegates district.
- There is an urgency to complete these changes before the end of 2018 as we will be unable to make any precinct changes prior to the next Presidential Election in 2020 after January 1, 2019.
- Uppermost in our minds is the need to keep the size of Albemarle County precincts small enough to improve voter experience and large enough to provide efficiency in holding elections.
- The continuing urbanization of Albemarle County will require future additional precinct changes and additions. Our most recent experience in locating good polling locations demonstrates the need to consider future county construction to anticipate the need for new polling places. As new schools, fire stations, libraries or other county buildings are planned, the need for flexible space which could also serve as a polling place twice a year should be considered.