

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

REQUEST: ASSIGNING WARDS AND PRECINCTS OF TWO ANNEXATIONS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Following an annexation, the City needs to assign the newly annexed territory to the appropriate ward and precinct for local election purposes as required by *Code of Iowa*, Section 49.8. In most instances, the territory is assigned to the immediately adjacent ward and precinct. However, state law also allows newly annexed territory to be designated its own precinct provided that there are no fewer than 50 registered voters. Neither of the two recently annexed territories yet contains that number of voters.

The two most recent annexations that now need to be assigned are noted below. See Attachment 1 for the map of the current wards and precincts with the new territories.

1. Territory annexed by Resolution #16-686 on 11/22/16 (East Industrial Annexation) is attached to Ward 1, Precinct 3;
2. Territory annexed by Resolution #17-126 on 03/07/17 (Trinitas) is attached to Ward 3, Precinct 4;

ALTERNATIVES:

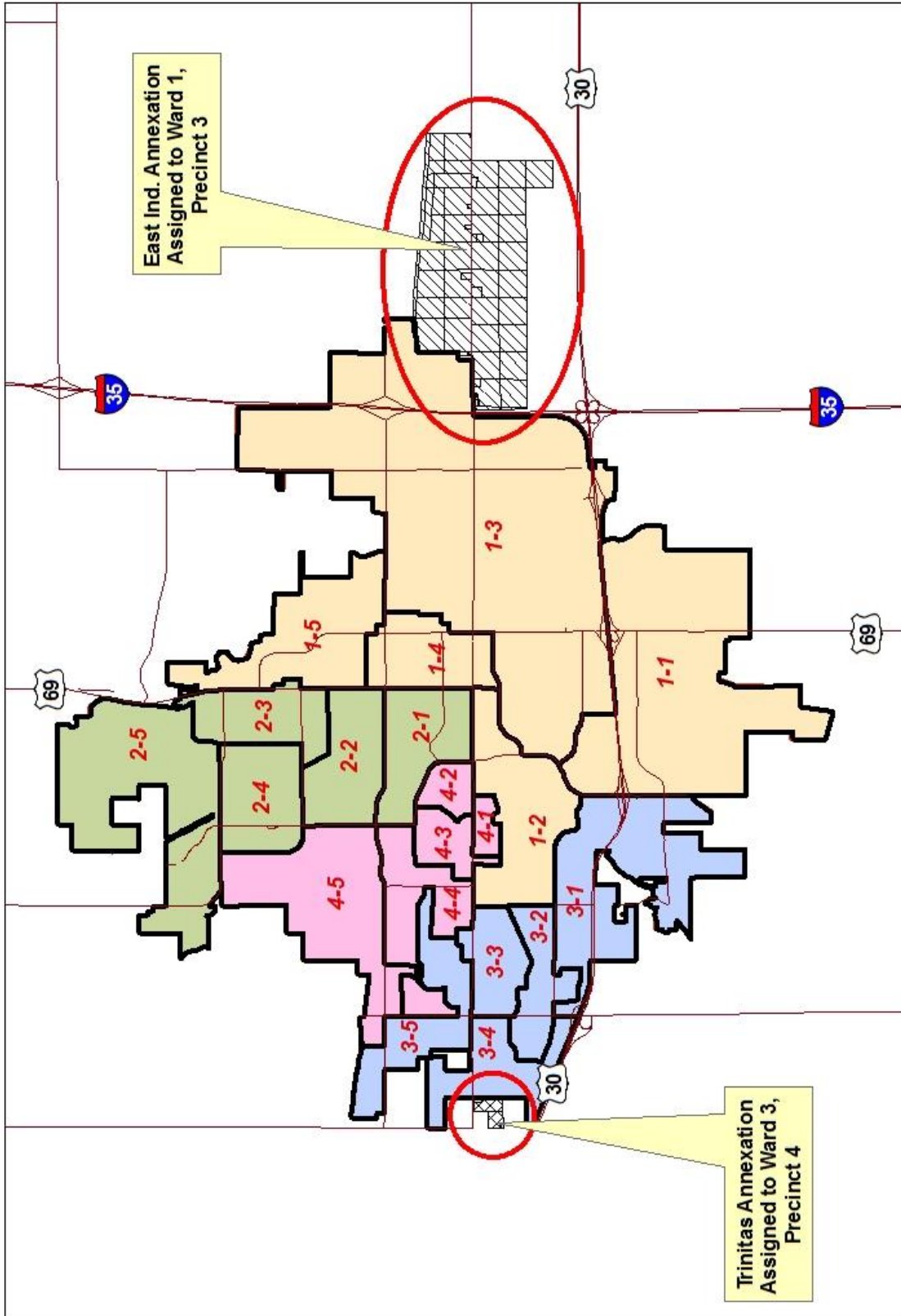
1. The City Council can approve the assignments of recently annexed territories to their appropriate ward and precinct.
2. The City Council can defer action on this request and refer it back to City staff with specific direction.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

A territory annexed by the City needs, by ordinance, to be assigned to the appropriate ward and precinct. There is little to no discretion in the assignments since the wards and precincts have to be contiguous. While some recently annexed areas are experiencing quick population growth with residential construction underway, the City will only be able to rebalance the populations of precincts following the 2020 decennial census.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council act in accordance with Alternative #1, which is to approve the assignments of two recently annexed territories to their appropriate ward and precinct. If approved, the ordinance will be recorded and the County Commissioner of Elections will notify the residents of their new voting locations.

**ATTACHMENT 1: CURRENT WARDS AND PRECINCTS WITH NEW TERRITORIES
[NORTH TO LEFT]**



ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF AMES, IOWA, BY ENACTING A NEW SUBSECTION 6.14 (8), (9), THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPDATING WARDS AND PRECINCTS; REPEALING ANY AND ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED, by the City Council for the City of Ames, Iowa, that:

Section One. The Municipal Code of the City of Ames, Iowa shall be and the same is hereby amended by enacting a new Section as follows:

“Sec. 6.14. ANNEXATIONS.

Pursuant to Section 49.8(2) Code of Iowa, territory annexed to the City of Ames is attached to established precincts that are contiguous to the annexed territory as follows:

...

(8) Territory annexed by Resolution #16-686, 11/22/16 (East Industrial Annexation) is attached to Ward 1, Precinct 3;

(9) Territory annexed by Resolution #17-126, 03/07/17 (Trinitas) is attached to Ward 3, Precinct 4.”

Section Two. All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, if any.

Section Three. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law.

Passed this _____ day of _____, _____.

Diane R. Voss, City Clerk

Ann H. Campbell, Mayor