

From: Spec Bowers <specbowers@georgesmillscottages.com>
Subject: **Re: Redistricting Sullivan**
Date: December 2, 2011 9:37:23 PM EST
To: Paul Mirski <pmirski@mindspring.com>
▶ 4 Attachments, 175 KB

Here are two plans for Sullivan and my take on the pros and cons.

Sullivan was in a technical sense the most difficult of the ten counties. Claremont, Newport, and Sunapee split the northern towns from the southern towns. We had a plan that represented people fairly well but its deviation was deemed unacceptable. The obvious solution for lowering the deviation was to combine districts using a floterial. The terrible thing about that solution is that instead of making districts smaller as the 2006 amendment intended it created a very large district - much larger than ever before. The effort since then has been trying to find a plan with smaller districts.

Plan ClarPlainFloat:

The original Claremont district is floated with the original Plainfield district. This solved the deviation problem but created a district the size of 6 seats (population 20,344). Compared to the largest current district this is 40% larger in population and approx. 4 times larger geographically. This is the exact opposite of what was intended by the 2006 amendment. It would be very difficult for candidates to campaign and the constituents would be poorly represented. Even if the rest of the county is okay - more or less similar to today's districts - the new huge district in which three candidates would run is terrible.

Plan Gran-New:

Moves Grantham to the Newport district from the Plainfield district; extends the Claremont district into Unity and Lempster. There is now just one candidate, instead of 3, who has to run in a huge district. And while the population is almost as large (20,184), the geography is better, letting the representative and constituents be somewhat closer to each other. The underlying base districts are smaller geographically and in population. Newport is smaller geographically. Sunapee is larger but is just a 2-seat district with good geography. The Charlestown district is the same as today - which is what the Selectmen of all three towns prefer. (Letter from Selectmen to follow.)

Spec Bowers
State Representative
Sunapee, NH

Plan ClarPlainFloat:

Sullivan County Districts (Component Method)

Towns Dist# Seats Deviation

ClarW1
 ClarW2
 ClarW3 1 2 2.2%

Cornish
 Grantham
 Plainfield 3 1 4.6%

ClarW1
 ClarW2
 ClarW3
 Cornish
 Grantham
 Plainfield F2 3

Acworth
 Goshen
 Langdon
 Lempster
 Washington 4 1 -4.0%

Charlestown 5 1 2.0%

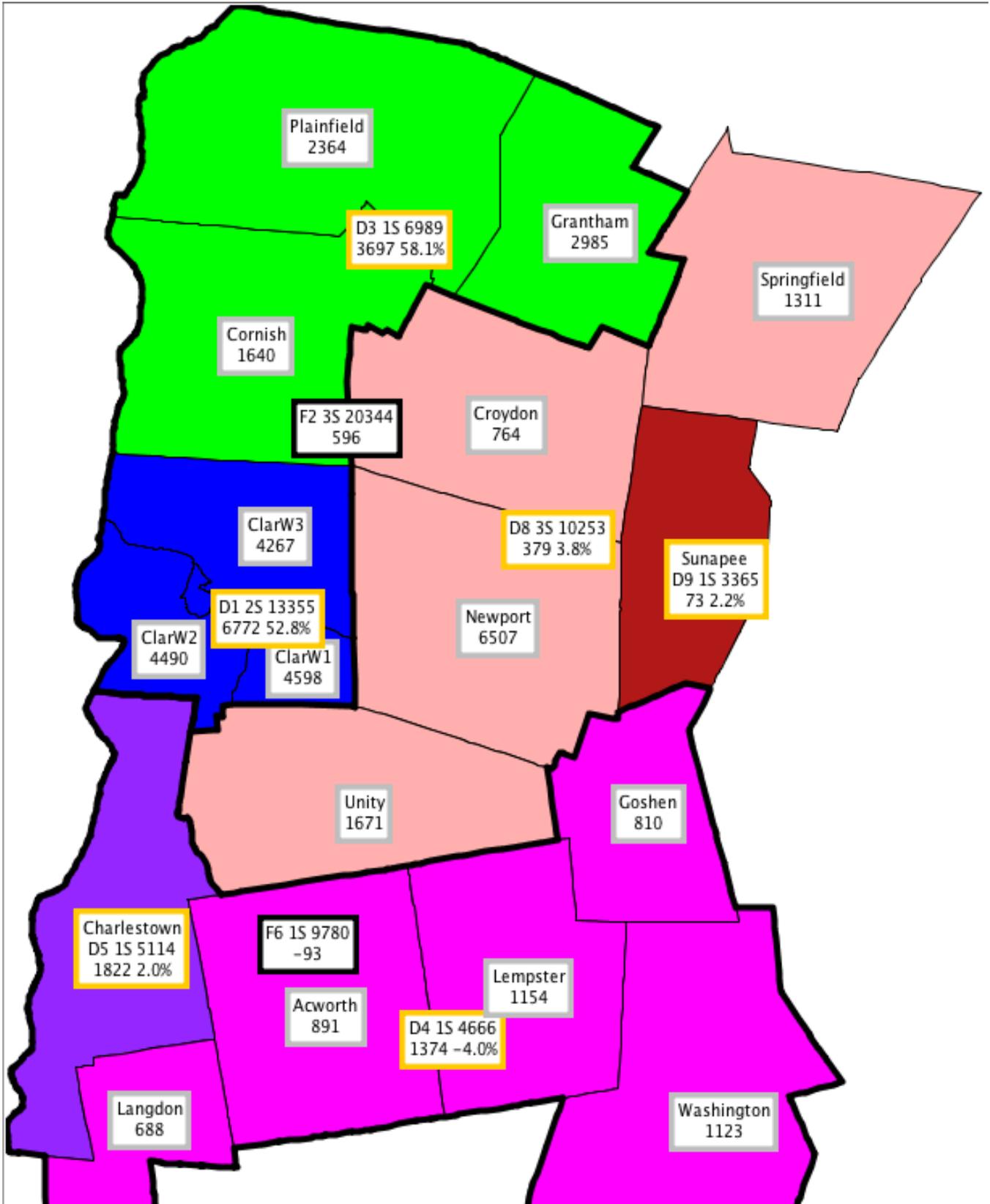
Acworth
 Charlestown
 Goshen
 Langdon
 Lempster
 Washington F6 1

Croydon
 Newport
 Springfield
 Unity 8 3 3.8%

Sunapee 9 1 2.2%

Total seats = 13 of 13 allotted

Deviation Range is -4.0% to 4.6% or 8.6% overall





[ClarPlainFloat.crp \(0.6 KB\)](#)

Plan Gran-New:

Sullivan County Districts (Component Method)

Towns Dist# Seats Deviation

Croydon
Grantham
Newport 1 3 3.9%

ClarW3
Cornish
Plainfield 2 2 4.3%

ClarW1
ClarW2
Lempster
Unity 5 3 0.8%

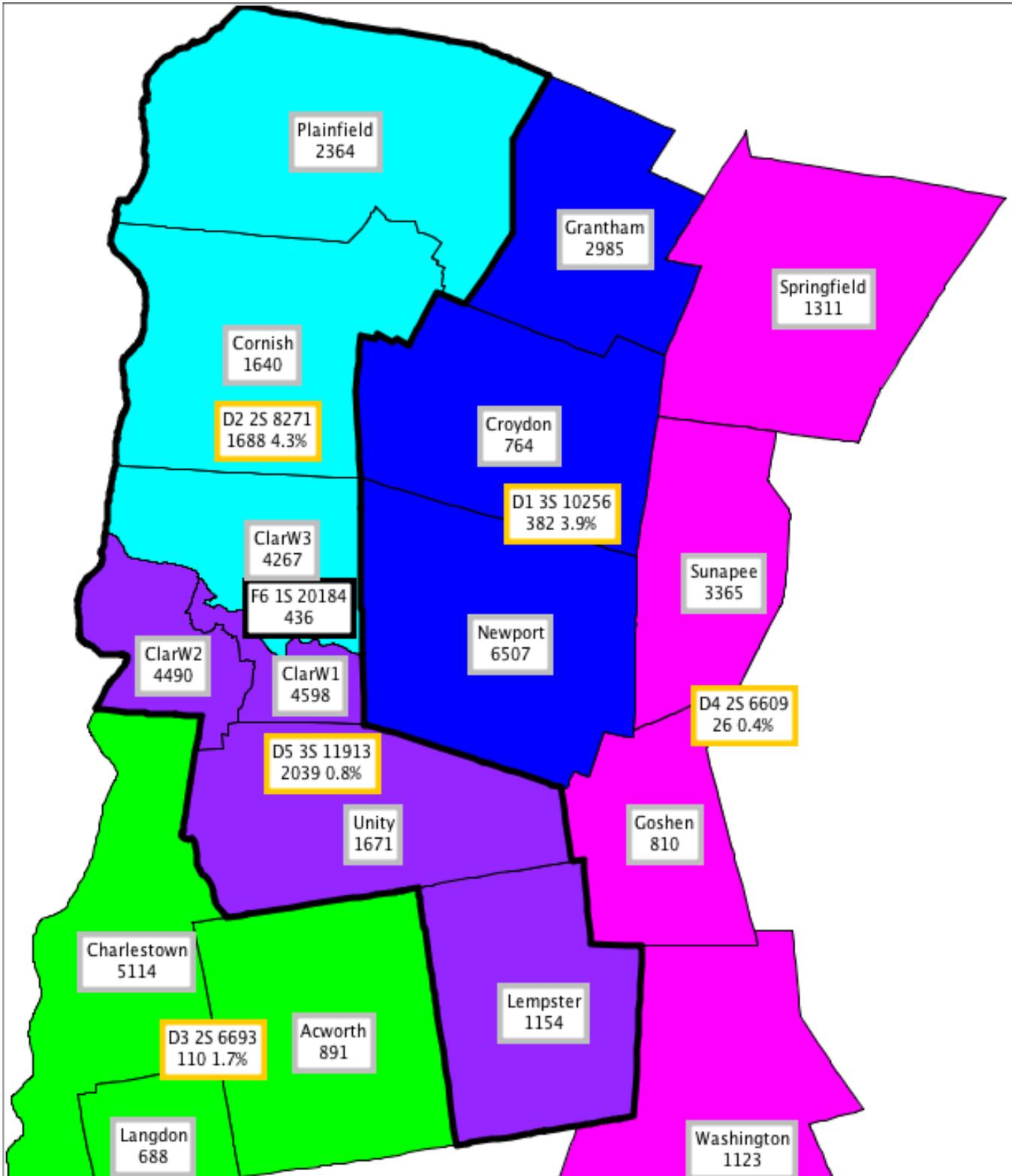
ClarW1
ClarW2
ClarW3
Cornish
Lempster
Plainfield
Unity F6 1

Acworth
Charlestown
Langdon 3 2 1.7%

Goshen
Springfield
Sunapee
Washington 4 2 0.4%

Total seats = 13 of 13 allotted

Deviation Range is 0.0% to 4.3% or 4.3% overall





[Gran-Newp.crp \(0.5 KB\)](#)