2026 General Election

Proposed Early Voting Implementation Plan

Neggy Fox

Election Services

TIMELINE

May 19	May 21	June 19	June 23	July 14
Present Plan	Survey Opens	Survey Closes	Review Feedback	Board Votes

Plan must be submitted to the State Board of Elections by July 24.

Current Mandates

- Early voting dates: Oct. 15 - 31
- Weekdays: 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Last Saturday: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Uniform days and hours for all sites

Board Decides

- Number and Locations of Sites
- Weekend Days & Hours
- Unanimous Decision

Plan Considerations

Data

- Number of sites
- Turnout numbers
- Number of registered voters
- Population Density

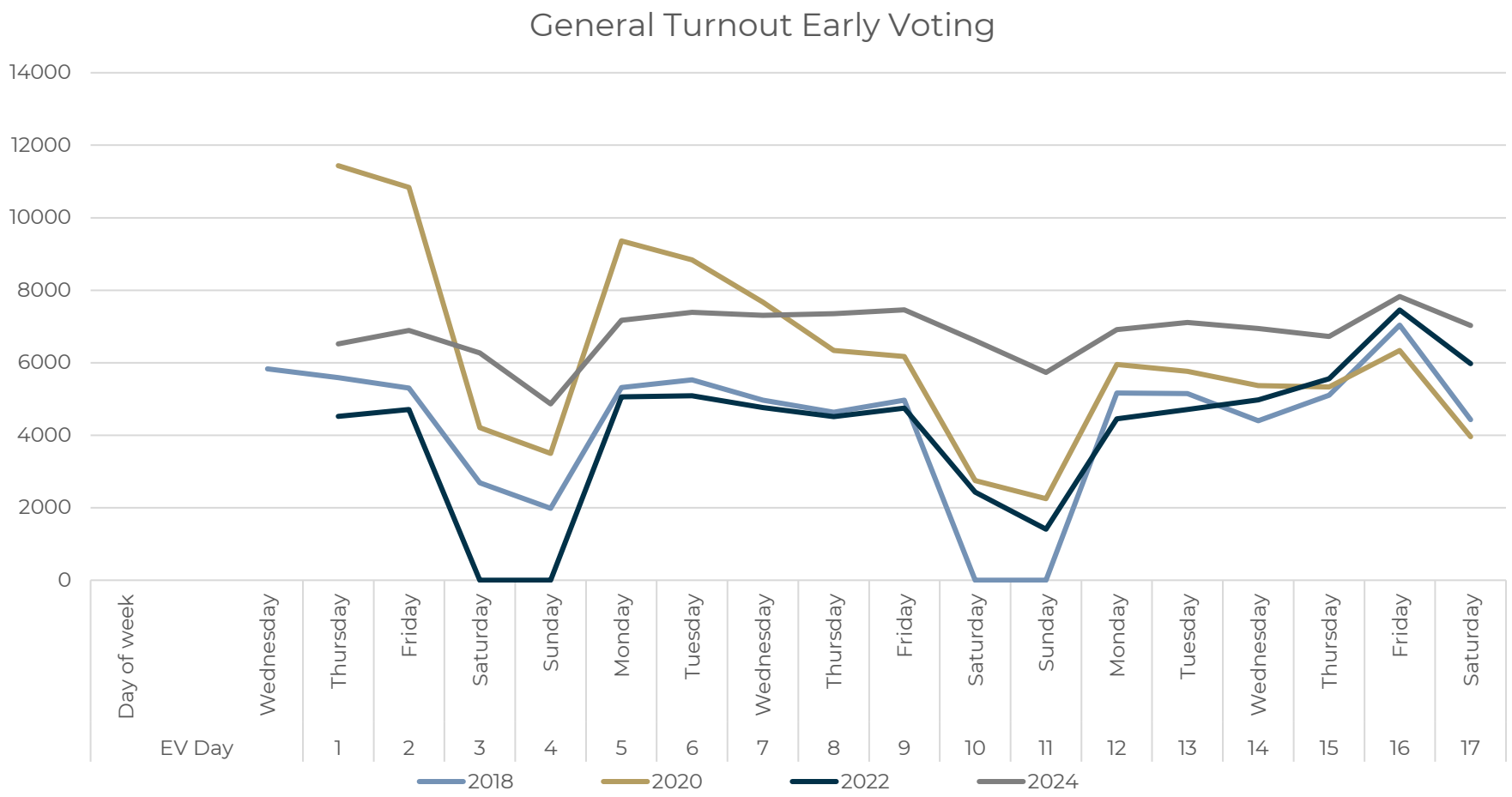
Suitability

- Convenience to voters (on main roads)
- Parking
- Square footage
- Room layout
- ADA compliant

Other Factors

- Budget
- Capacity of staff and facilities
- Available equipment
- Current laws
- Numbered memos
- Public input

Turnout Trends



Turnout Comparison

2018

- 11 Sites
- Early Voting Turnout = 77,803 (65%)
- Average Voters per Hour = 41
- Cumulative hours = 1,881*

2022

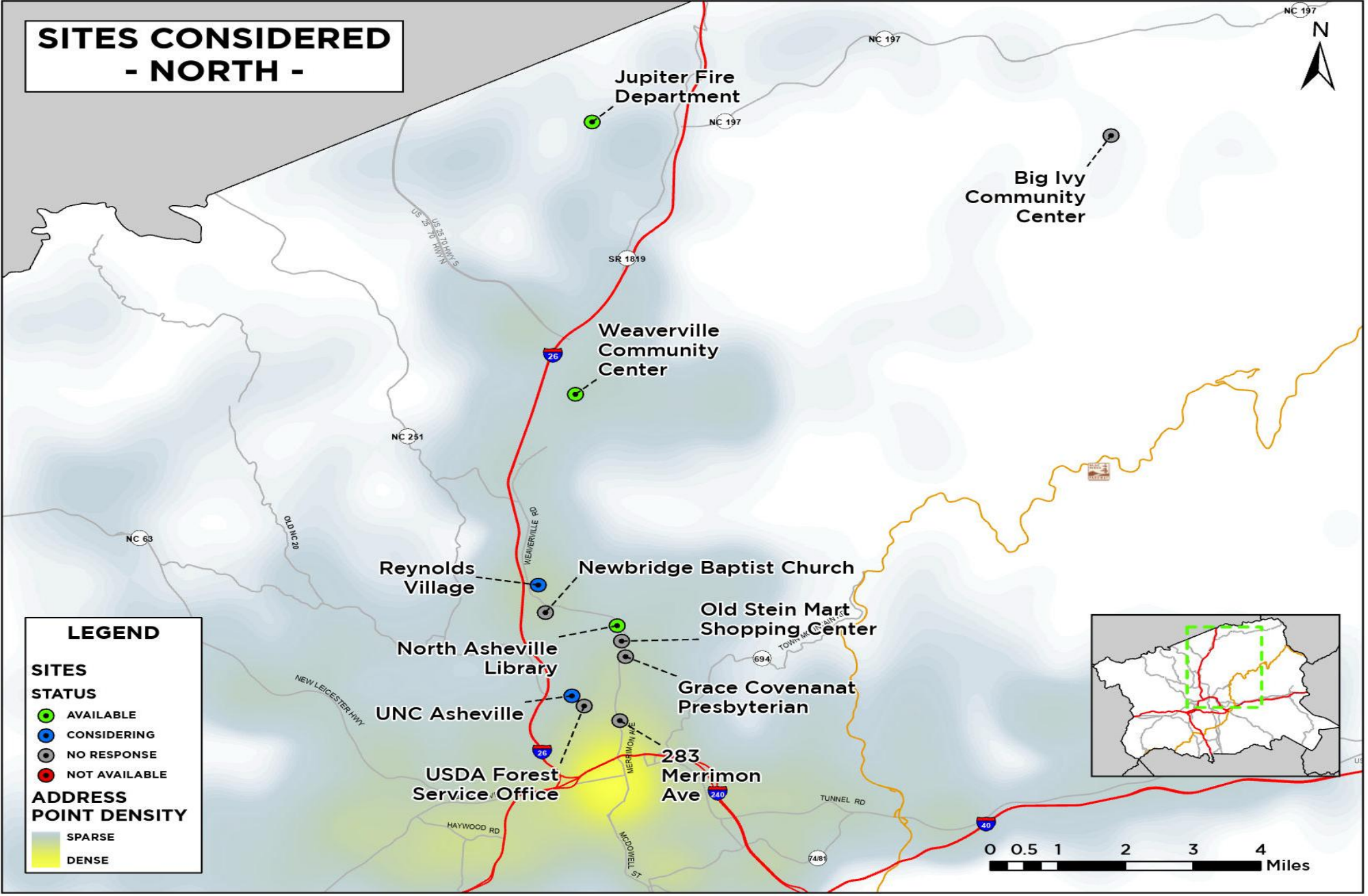
- 12 Sites
- Early Voting Turnout = 70,413 (58%)
- Average Voters per Hour = 37.86
- Cumulative hours = 1,860

*Opened on Wed. vs. Thurs, 12 hour days on weekdays vs. 11.5 hour days.

Sites Considered - North

LEGEND
= Available
= Considering
= Not Available
= No Response

- North Asheville Library
- Weaverville Community Ctr
- Jupiter Fire Department
- Reynolds Village
- UNC-Asheville
- #852, #848, #856 Merrimon Ave (Old Stein Mart Shopping Ctr)
- Big Ivy Community Ctr
- Newbridge Baptist Church
- Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
- USDA Forest Service (Supervisor's Office)
- 283 Merrimon Ave (old Merrimon Ave Baptist Church and Brookstone Church)



North

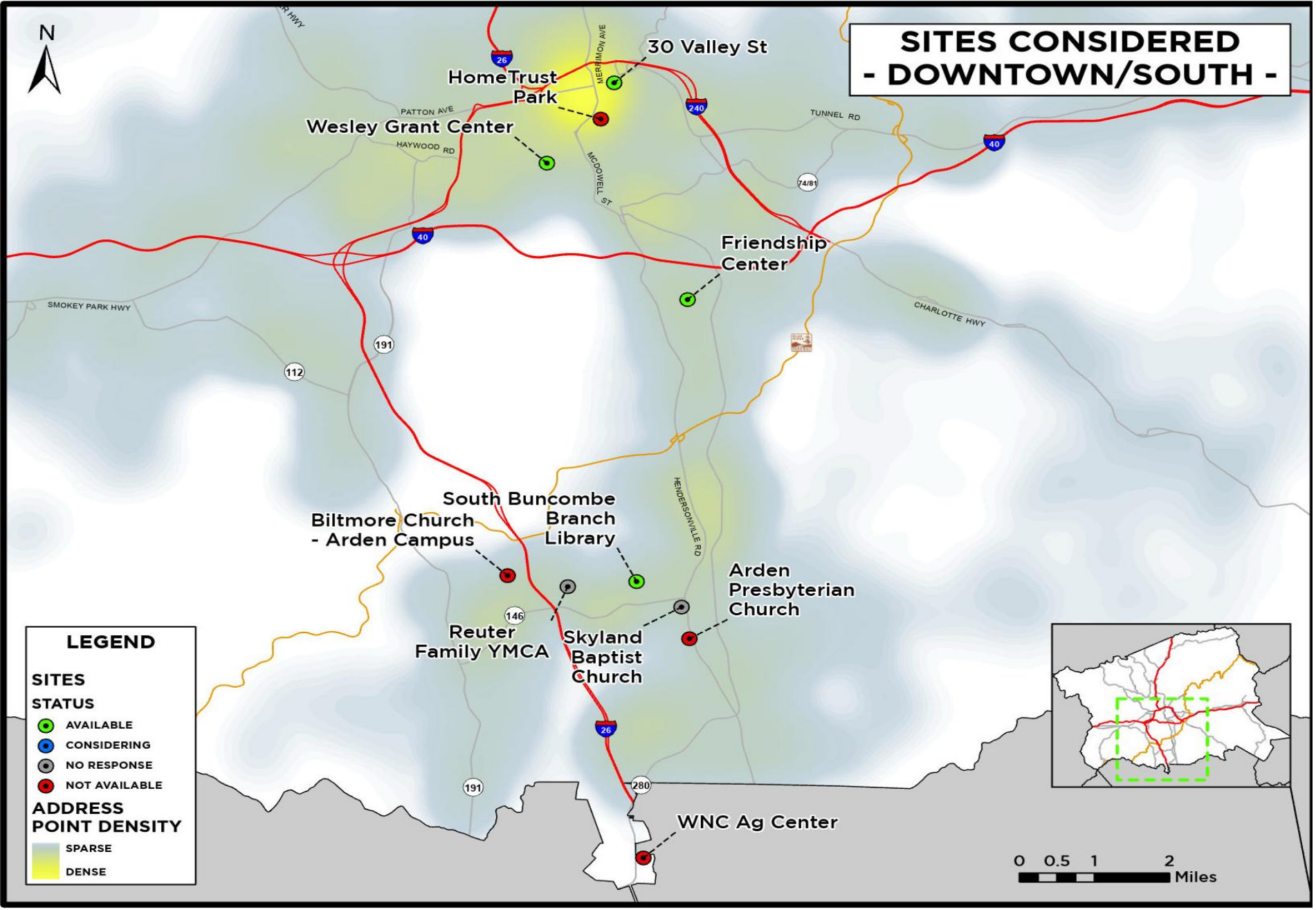
BUNCOMBE VOTES 2026

Sites Considered – Downtown/South

LEGEND
= Available
= Considering
= Not Available
= No Response

- Former County Permits & Inspections Office (in Downtown)
- Dr. Wesley Grant Sr. Southside Community Ctr
- Friendship Ctr
- South Buncombe Library

- Arden Presbyterian Church
- Biltmore Church (Arden campus)
- WNC Ag Center
- HomeTrust Park (McCormick Field)
- Skyland Baptist Church
- Reuter Family YMCA



Downtown & South

BUNCOMBE VOTES 2026

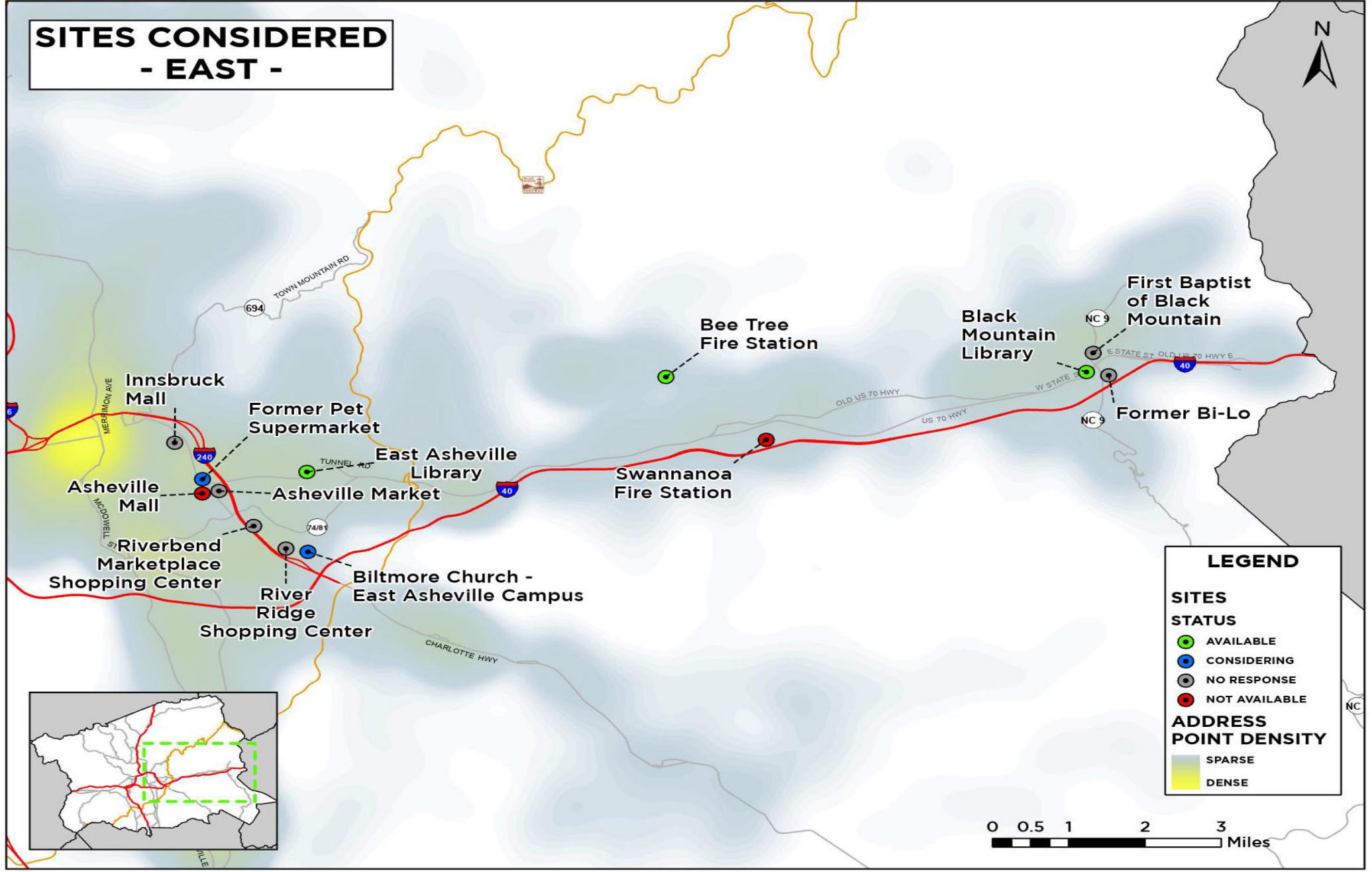
BUNCOMBE COUNTY

engage.buncombecounty.org/2026generalearlyvotingsurvey

Sites Considered - East

LEGEND
= Available
= Considering
= Not Available
= No Response

- Bee Tree Fire Station
- Black Mountain Library
- East Asheville Library
- Former Pet Supermarket (244 Tunnel Rd)
- Biltmore Church (E. AVL campus)
- Asheville Mall
- Swannanoa Fire Station
- First Baptist of Black Mtn
- Asheville Market (by Whole Foods on S. Tunnel Rd)
- Innsbruck Mall (old Big Lots Store)
- Riverbend Marketplace Shopping Ctr (by Walmart on Bleachery Blvd.)
- River Ridge Shopping Ctr
- Former BI-LO (Black Mtn)



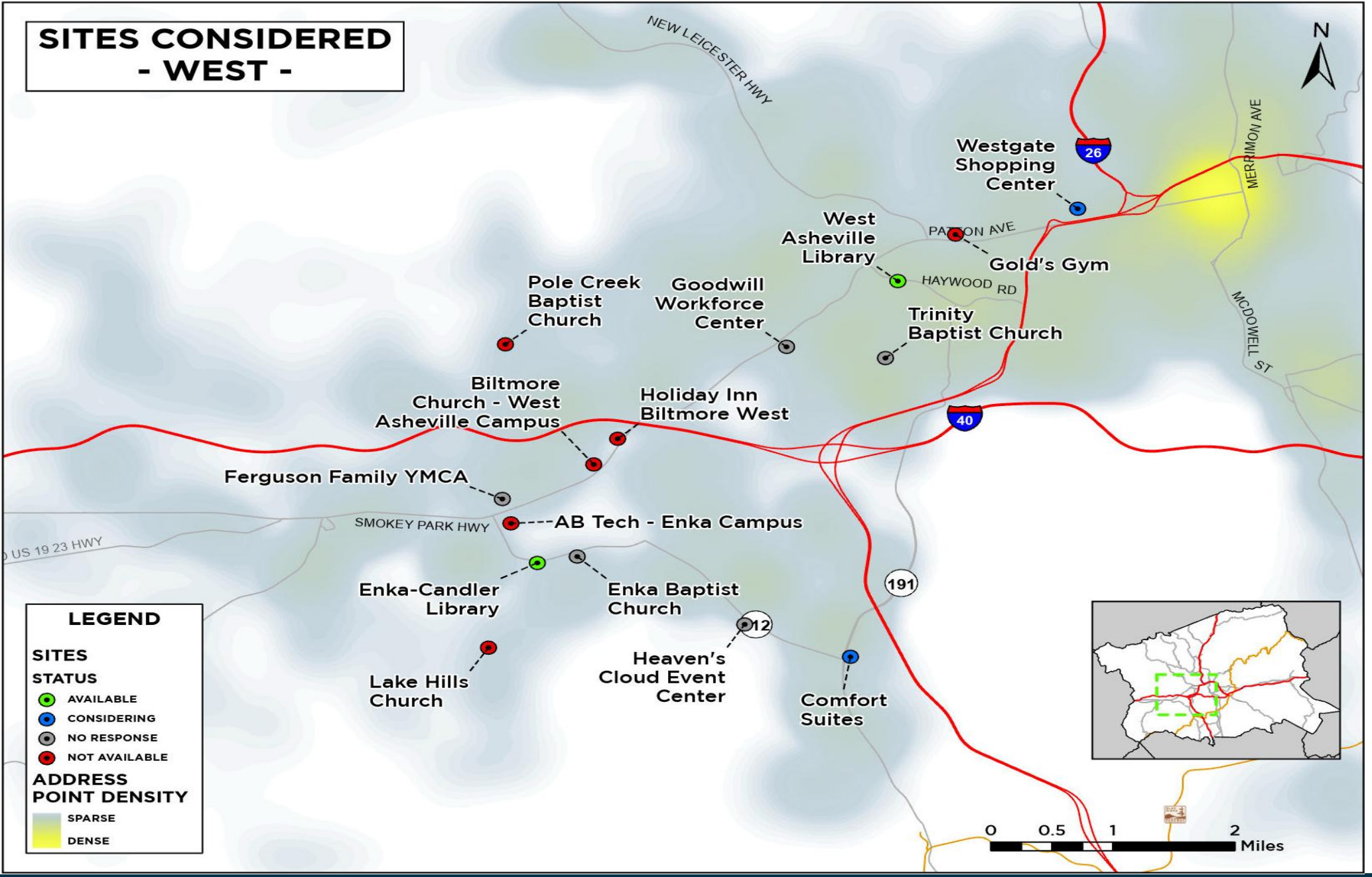
East

BUNCOMBE VOTES 2026

Sites Considered - West

LEGEND
= Available
= Considering
= Not Available
= No Response

- West Asheville Library
- Enka/Candler Library
- Westgate Shopping Ctr
- Comfort Suites (Brevard Rd)
- Biltmore Church (W. AVL campus)
- Holiday Inn Biltmore West
- Golds Gym
- Lake Hills Church
- Pole Creek Baptist Church
- AB-Tech (Enka campus)
- Goodwill Workforce Ctr
- Trinity Baptist Church
- Ferguson Family YMCA (Candler)
- Heaven's Cloud Event Ctr
- Enka Baptist Church



West

BUNCOMBE VOTES 2026

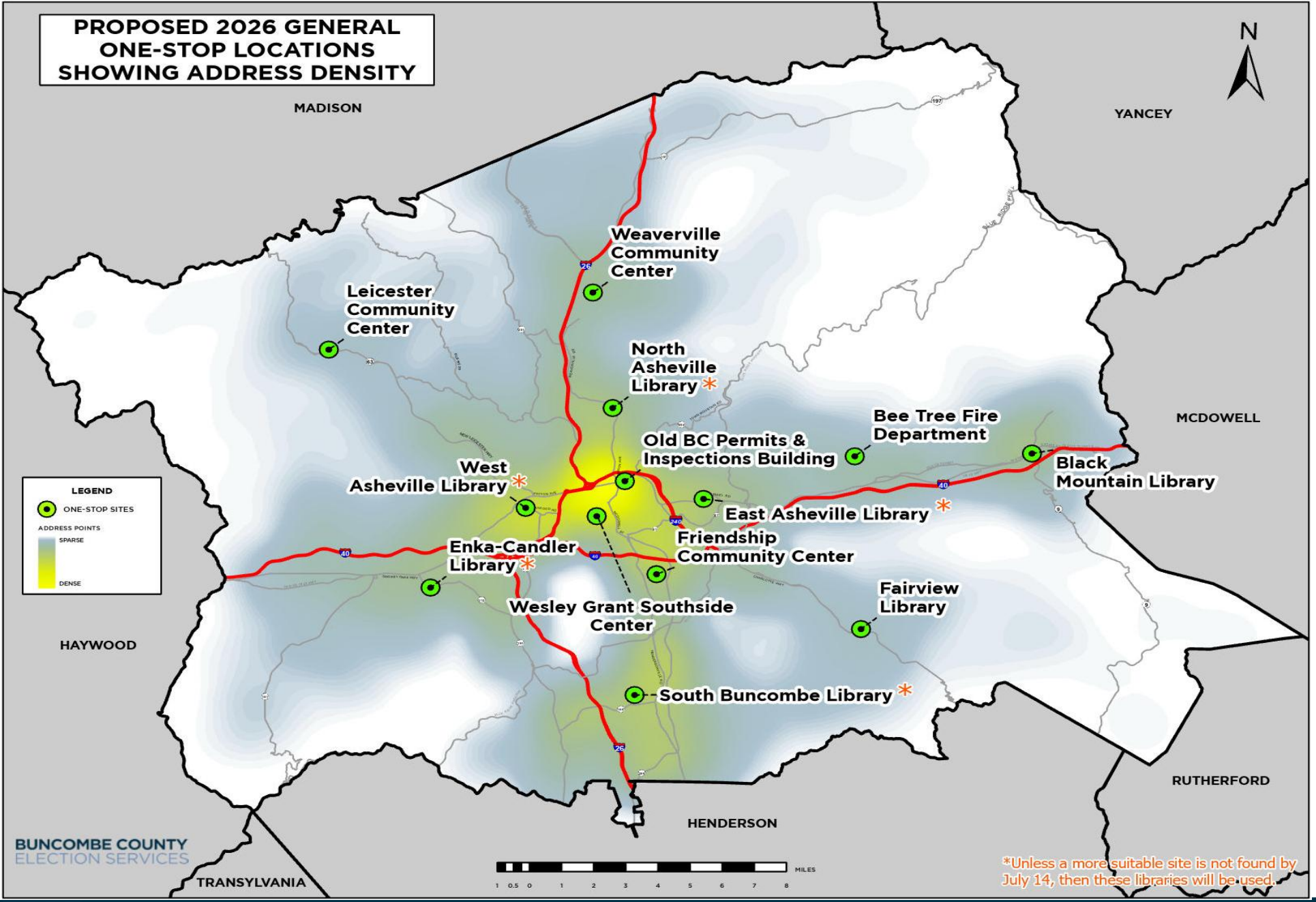
Proposed Plan

- 12 Early Voting Sites
- Closed First Weekend (Oct. 17-18)
- Open Second Weekend (Oct. 24 -25)
- Weekend Hours: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Proposed Sites

1. Bee Tree Fire Station
2. Black Mountain Library
3. E. Asheville Library*
4. Enka-Candler Library*
5. Fairview Library
6. Leicester Community Ctr
7. N. Asheville Library*
8. S. Buncombe Library*
9. Weaverville Community Ctr
10. Wesley Grant Center (in lieu of BOE)
11. W. Asheville Library*
12. Former Permits & Inspection Office **or** Friendship Ctr

*Unless a more suitable site is found by July 14, then these libraries will be used.



Proposed Sites

BUNCOMBE VOTES 2026

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Questions?

