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Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

Census Data & Transportation Planning

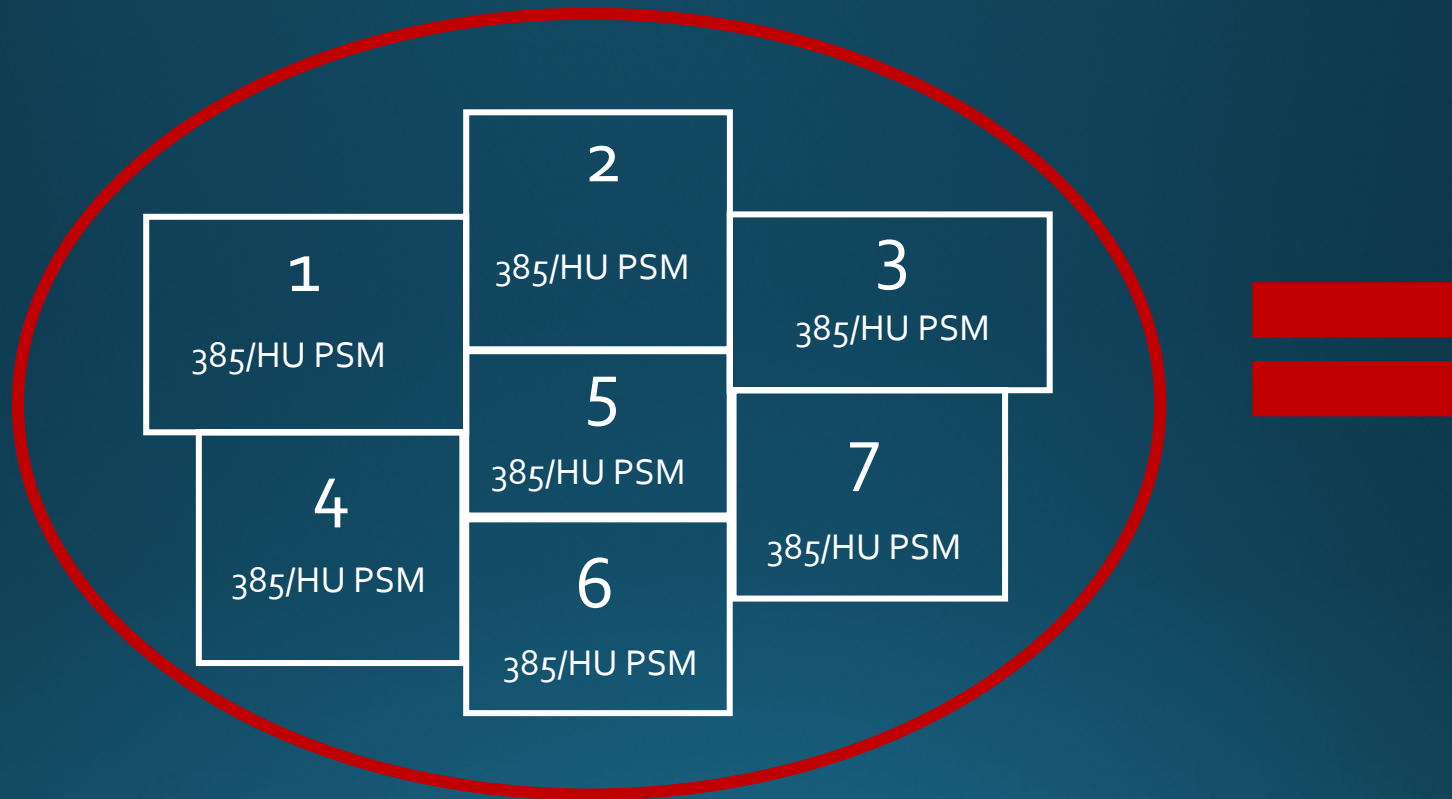


Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

Proposed Changes

- 1.) Adoption of housing unit metric
 - Currently use population
- 2.) Increase density requirement to 385 housing units/square mile
 - Census Block level
 - 385 housing units ~ 1,000 people
 - Currently 500 persons/square mile
- 3.) Increase minimum threshold to qualify urban areas
- 4.) Cease distinguishing different types of urban areas
- 5.) Maximum distance of “jumps”
- 6.) No longer include low density “hop” or “jump” corridor
- 7.) No longer include low density territory located within indentations formed during urban area delineation

Increase Urban Area Minimum Threshold



4,000 housing units or ~10,000 people

Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

Cease Distinguishing Different Types of Urban Areas

Current

- Urban Cluster: 2,500 – 49,999 people
- Urbanized Area: 50,000+

Proposed

- Urban Area: 10,000+

*Unclear how FHWA , DOT or enabling legislation will respond

Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

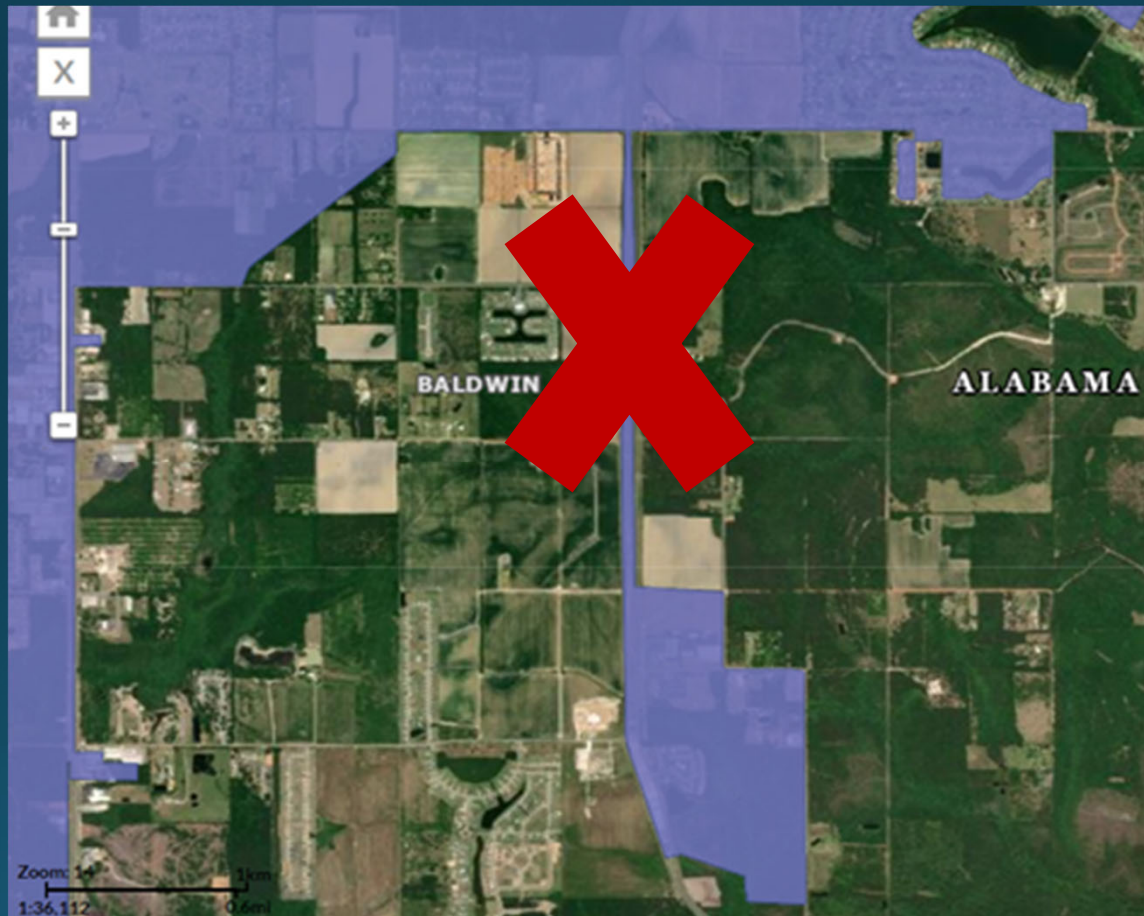
Maximum Distance of “Jumps”

- “Jump” refers to connecting of two urban clusters through a low-density area
- Currently 2.5 miles, proposed change to 1.5 miles



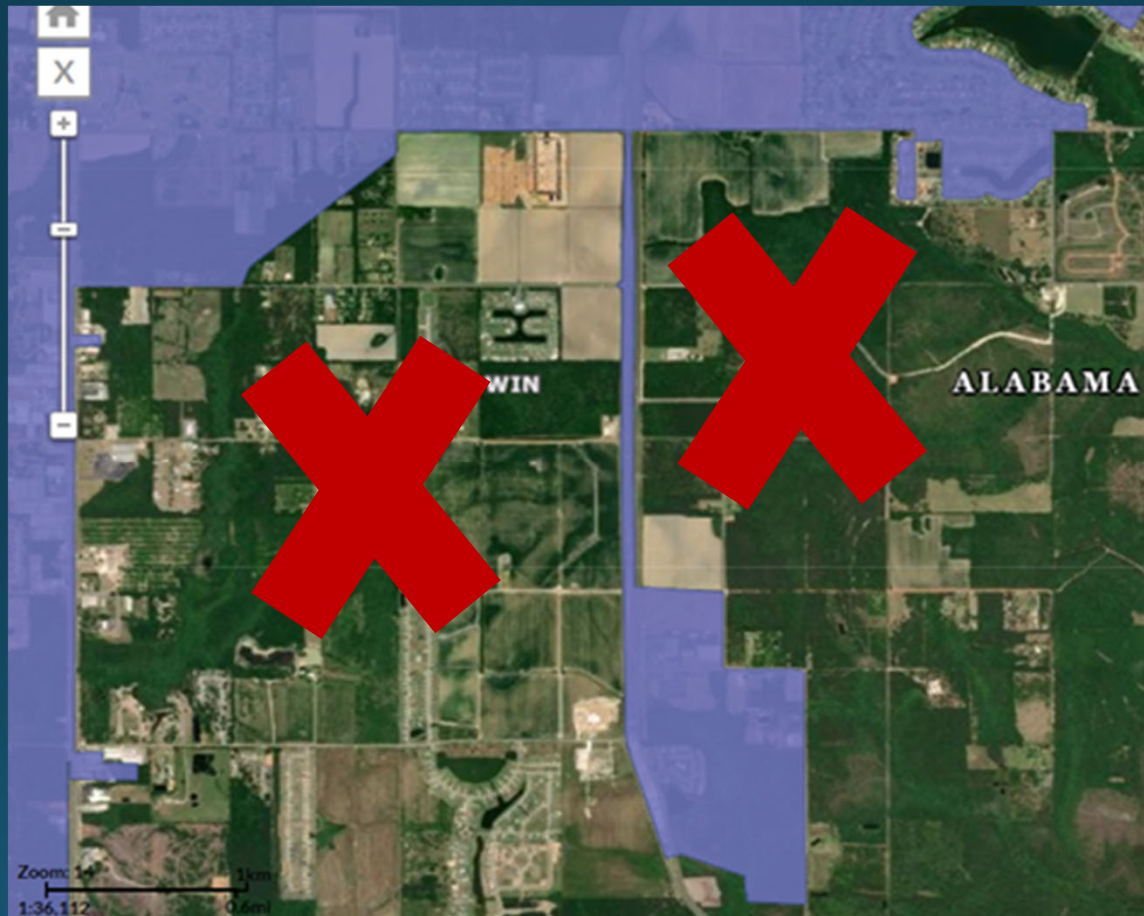
Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

Exclude Low-Density “hop or jump” Corridor



Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

Exclude Low-Density Territory Located within Indentations



Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

What's at Stake?

- **Funding**

- \$1,400,000/year in surface funds
- \$1,000,000/year in transit funds
- \$250,000/year in planning funds

- **Planning for the Future**

- **Collaboration**

- Mobile River Bridge
- Relationships
- Joint projects



Proposed Changes to Urban Area Designation Criteria

What's Next?

- **Comment Period**

- **May 19, 2021**
- **Submit comments to:**
Mr. Vincent Osier
geo.urban@census.gov

- **Resolution of Opposition**

- **Final Rule**

- **Expected Fall/Winter 2021**
- **Urbanized Areas published Spring/Summer 2022**