Population Projections

Assuming that the town does not annex a significant amount of new territory, it is possible to estimate the future population. However, projections for small populations (Blades) are very difficult to prepare accurately. The small size of the population makes it likely that slight inaccuracies or data errors in the current Census figures can become very large errors when projected into the future. *These projections should not be considered accurate or binding and should be relied upon with caution.*

We have prepared two very simple population projections for Blades. The first method is a conservative projection we have labeled the “Low Projection.” The University of Delaware’s Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research prepares a series of population projections for the Delaware Department of Transportation based on small geographic areas called “Modified Grids.” These projections are used for transportation planning purposes. We have selected a group of modified grids that correspond to the area surrounding the town that includes Blades, Seaford, and the surrounding areas. This area is shown on Map 2 which may be found below.

**Map 2. Blades and Seaford Area Modified Grid Study Area**

Source: Draft Population, Employment, and Household Projections for Sussex County prepared by the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research at the University of Delaware under contract with the Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001. Blades and Seaford Area delineated by IPA for purposes of this plan.