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MICRC

10/04/21 10:00 am Meeting

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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good morning. As Vice Chair of the Commission, we will bring the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 10:00 a.m.

This Zoom webinar is being live streamed on YouTube at Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission YouTube channel.

For anyone in the public watching who would prefer to watch via a different platform than they are currently using, please visit our social media at Redistricting MI to find the link for viewing on YouTube.

Our live stream today includes closed captioning. Closed captioning, ASL interpretation, and Spanish and Arabic and Bengali translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. Please E-mail us at [Redistricting@Michigan.Gov](mailto:Redistricting@Michigan.Gov) for additional viewing options or details on accessing language translation services for this meeting.

People with disabilities or needing other specific accommodations should also contact Redistricting at [Michigan.gov](http://Michigan.gov).

This meeting is also being recorded and will be available at [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC) for viewing at a later date and this meeting also is being transcribed and those closed captioned transcriptions will be made available and posted on [Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://Michigan.gov/MICRC) along with the written public comment submissions.

There is also a public comment portal that may be accessed by visiting [Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://Michigan.gov/MICRC), this portal can be utilized to post maps and comments which can be viewed by both the Commission and the public.

Members of the media who may have questions before, during or after the meeting should direct those questions to Edward Woods III, our Communications and Outreach Director for the Commission at [WoodsE3@Michigan.gov](mailto:WoodsE3@Michigan.gov) or 517-331-6309.

For the purposes of the public watching and for the public record I will now turn to the Department of State staff to take note of the Commissioners present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Good morning, Commissioners. Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose your physical location as well. We will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present; attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

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>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present; attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Present; attending remotely from Eaton County, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 11 Commissioners are present.

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. You can view the agenda at [Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://Michigan.gov/MICRC).

I would now entertain a motion to approve the meeting agenda. So moved. Motion made by Commissioner Witjes. Seconded by Lett. Is there any discussion or debate on the motion? Hearing none we will now vote all in favor please raise your hand and say aye. All opposed please raise your hand. Same sign.

The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

Without objection we will now begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of our meeting. Hearing no objection, we will now proceed with the public comment pertaining to agenda topics.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide in person public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your number. You will have one minute to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer. First in line to provide public comment is number one.

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It appears we do not have any in person public comment therefore we will move immediately to remote public commentary.

So individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide live, remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you. If you are on a computer you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone, a voice will say that the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute. I will call on you by your name. Or the last four digits of your phone number.

If you experience technical or audio issues and we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and then return to you after they are done speaking. If your audio still does not work, you can e-mail [redistricting@Michigan.gov](mailto:redistricting@Michigan.gov) and we will help you troubleshoot so you can participate during the next public comment period at a later hearing or meeting.

You will have one minute to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line to provide public comment is James Gallant. Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Hello. This is James Gallant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition, and these are my opinions. And when did this all turn to one minute? And, you know, this is supposed to be reasonable.

You know, you just did that on the fly and you're supposed to do that what at every meeting or did you change the rules of procedures? I tuned out last Friday and didn't really get to the part about rules of procedure. But do you know what? It's completely inappropriate because this motion to discuss, that's just institutionalized bullying. And I got to tell you, this big power grab and do you know what see you guys in Court. That's all you got.

This is what you will go to the mat and double down on all this, right?

It's bullying. And I think it's adult, vulnerable adult abuse.

I think Commissioner Lett is being abused here because he didn't really have much to say about anything. And he was confused. And he didn't really have anything to say about anything. And he was waiting for everybody to make the decision and Commissioner Curry, too.

You folks will have to decide for yourselves if you want to do that reiteration thing. You know, the Voters Not Politicians can't have it both ways because you have to be able to have a revived iteration or have it change the Constitution, remember.

They -- we only won this ballot proposal because it did not change the Constitution. It just revived a reiteration of what this Commission of what you already had.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Your one minute has expired. Thank you, Mr. Gallant.

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Next in line to address the Commission is Anthony S.  
You will have one minute to address the Commission.  
Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

>> Good morning, Commission thank you so much.

I'm commenting today to talk about your Congressional map.

I'm not too happy with what it does to my community of interest which is Down River in Wayne County and I like you know what you have done with the State Senate, State House with the Down River area, but I don't know for the U.S. Congress you know you split it three ways.

And three districts, districts 1, 2 and 7 and put it with some really far flung communities that really has no affiliation with any of them community or civic.

And districts 1 and 7.

So I'm hoping you know adjustments could be made to the Congressional map.

Or other ones could be submitted.

Because as I recall almost no adjustments have been made to the Detroit area on Congressional map, so thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line to address the Commission is art Reyes you will have one minute to address the Commission and please conclude when you hear the timer.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Next in line is Ratna-Rao.

>> I have two comments to make to the Commission.

First, I'd like to, hey, there I am.

First, I would like to ask...tell the Commission that I really like what they have done with the Federal Congressional districts, map in 187 I really like how that information has been curated.

Second one more importantly I would like to ask you to consider Madison Heights to be included as a part of the Troy Rochester Hills State Senate District.

And this is in line to keep the communities of interest together and I'm speaking of the Asian communities.

I'm with a group called Somosa. And I've done work statewide in organizing the Asian communities, south Asian community in particular, those are my comments thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. .

We will now move on to Robert Dindhoffer.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Mr. Chair we have one individual who has signed up for in person public comment.

So our process would be that we pause remote public comment and allow this individual to speak and then resume remote public comment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Absolutely.

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So we will now return to in person public comment.

Individuals who have signed up and would like to provide public comment will have one minute to do so.

Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your number.

You will have one minute to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

Number one in person comment.

>> Good morning my name is Sarah Howard.

I'm the attorney for the AFLCIO's fair maps project.

Just about every square inch of Michigan is covered by multiple communities of interest.

In the public testimony.

As you know we have been here for much of it as well.

There is no way to honor every single community of interest given that they contradict and they overlap.

You are obligated by the Constitution to pick the communities of interest that help you meet the other six criteria including partisan fairness.

On Wednesday Commissioners Eid and Szetela agreed with this approach.

Think critically about the public comment you have gotten around communities of interest.

Does it apply to a significant number of people? Is it communities advocating for themselves and their public policy needs? Or is it an attempt to preserve existing districts? Communities of interest are not a valid excuse to unconstitutionally pick pack voters of another race into another District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Your allotted one minute has expired.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Seeing no other in person public comment we will return to the remote live in person public commentary.

And I believe we are on to number five, Robert Dindhoffer.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can thank you.

>> Thanks.

So I'm someone whose community of interest was split up in an attempt to comply with the Voting Rights Act.

And I understand that it feels bad.

But I get it because A the Voting Rights Act is important.

And B the Constitution makes it a higher priority than communities of interest.

But what I would implore you all to do as you are making adjustments to reflect partisan fairness a little bit better in your maps is to not split up or miss align any communities of interest that are out there.

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You all have painstakingly gone through District by District and identified communities of interest as you were creating districts.

And I think it would be a shame if you know what happened to say Livonia for example ended up happening to other communities, not because of VRA concerns but because of partisanship concerns.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number six, Joe Bush.

You will have one minute to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

>> Good morning.

Thank you to the Commission my name is Joe Bush I'm from Muskegon County and I wanted to let you know I'm in favor of map 187.

As an attorney who has lived and worked in Muskegon my entire life, I appreciate the fact that you're keeping within that map a predominant amount of the Counties in terms of the structure.

I'm in favor of that because if you look back go being all the way back to 1850 and when we were originally surveyed as a Michigan territory back when base line was base line and before it was 8 mile, the backbone of the structure which our state was built around was Counties Townships and cities.

And those municipal structures are really how we developed.

So when you look at County good evening and state and City or and City and Township Government, those have collective interests that go beyond just voting rights.

They also have philanthropic and not just the tax base.

Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. That concludes our public comment for the day however I would like to mention all e-mailed and mailed.

Public comment is provided to the Commission before each meeting. And Commissioners also review the public comment portal on our [www.Michigan.gov/MICRC](http://www.Michigan.gov/MICRC) website on a regular basis. We appreciate everyone who provides public comment in whatever way you choose and invite you to keep sharing your thoughts communities of interests and maps.

Next, I'd like to move to unfinished business agenda item 5A.

And without objection continue draft mapping including adjustments of previously adjusted maps and consideration of alternative maps and allow me to suggest I believe we are in compliance phase and not necessarily mapping but in compliance so according to our mapping process and procedures we will consider State Senate draft maps first for adjustments and assessments and alternative maps.



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We ended the last mapping session with Szetela so it's Commissioner Vallette's turn to instruct the line drawer and proceed with our compliance.

Without objection, no, sorry, so it's Commissioner Vallette's turn and I heard Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I felt like we got a little off track last week in that we started assessing individuals maps they had done at home and they brought in and so forth.

So I would encourage us to focus on the three most updated maps that we have, the Congressional, the house, and the Senate.

And when I say the three most current, the three most current that we did as a group.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can you give us maybe the numbers on the portal.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The numbers I have, and let me start with the Congressional.

I know we did a few after that but that was some alternative looks at Muskegon.

And how we dealt with Muskegon and Grand Rapids.

I have 180 as the Congressional.

And this is the number that's off the website.

It's 920, 21 version 3 are.

For the house I have 194 that is 10121RASVRAHD.

And that one we got my feeling was we got a little off base, but we did that and Rebecca had done some work at home and brought it in but we did that and I think we all agreed on it because it was all focused towards Detroit and how we are going to make Detroit VRA compliant so I felt that was the most current.

For the Senate number 165 which is 9-15-21.

The 16ASD.

So I would encourage that we just focus on these three and if we all agree that's the most current.

And move forward on these three.

Because we've got a deliverable we have to produce.

Actually three deliverables.

And we can set aside the work that people do at home and if we have time, we can discuss it but they also have the right to submit those and as part of the public hearing.

So I would suggest that these are the three most updated maps and we can -- let's make sure that we all agree on that at this point and then we move forward.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Clark.

What I heard you say you would like us all to sort of agree on that but I'm challenged by that because it is Commissioner Vallette's turn and we have a process right now.

So I'm wondering are you open to just having Commissioner Vallette take her turn?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I am but we will bring up a map on the screen and we got to make sure we bring up the right one that we can continue to work on.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay and I do see our General Counsel has her hand raised and she may be able to help us with this.

I'm going to try to get it back to you Commissioner Vallette.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Good morning, Commissioners.

It's very nice to see everyone remotely this morning.

I'll be there in person this afternoon.

I wanted to suggest with the -- that the Commission has six days left with which to perform its compliance activities and vote on the draft proposed maps to publish.

You have Monday through Friday this week as well as Monday of next week with the vote needing to happen by Tuesday, the 12th at the latest.

I would suggest as part of the compliance activities that Commissioner Rothorn has mentioned and focusing on the collaborative maps that Dr. Handley's analysis clearly identified the Senate plan as needing some adjustments relative to the partisan fairness.

And identifying those districts.

And that may be a productive place to start with that.

I would also like to highlight, I didn't get a chance to on Friday to make those partisan fairness adjustments that it is appropriate for the Commission to look at the partisan data for the adjustments.

Again the lopsided margins test will identify what districts we're at issue or should be looked at more closely and the Commission can move forward from there.

So that would just be another suggestion relative to moving forward.

But again the Commission has five days to conduct its compliance activities on the collaborative maps that it intends to post.

The individual Commissioner maps do not need to go through the Commission vetting process.

Those need to be verified for constitutional compliance with the criteria and posted to the website.

So I'm happy to answer any questions and I look forward to the work of the day.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you General Counsel.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Just real quick before Janice goes, I agree with what Doug was saying.

If I understand correctly and I think Julianne was seconding this as well.

That we need to spend our time making sure that our collaborative maps are compliant. So that we can take those to the public hearings.

And the individual maps come after we spend our time doing that because those don't have to be -- they have to be compliant but we don't have to go over them in our meeting.



Is that correct?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Mr. Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, General Counsel please.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Yes, that's correct through the Chair to Commissioner Orton that is correct.

And again the goal mapping adjustments or map drawing or the activities that the Commission has been engaged in the last period of time can really be done for indeterminate amount of time.

You can always make those adjustments.

Really my advice and my recommendation is that the Commission again shift over to compliance analysis so that the draft proposed maps can be published, those must be published in order to start the second round of public hearings so that is why and with the timeframe I know that the public hearings were adjusted, but it really only gave the Commission a few more days.

It did not result in a significant amount of time.

So the work my recommendation again would be to shift to compliance rather than map drawing.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you General Counsel.

I want to try to recap some of the changes because I do hear that we, you know, for example the Senate districts, District excuse me map 165 what I think I heard from General Counsel is that if we are going to begin excuse me, Commissioner Clark, you were talking about map 165 as the Senate and sort of the most recent.

But I do believe that many Commissioners who have submitted changes have worked from those collaborative maps.

Is that inaccurate? Commissioners that have submitted changes? That is accurate? Am I seeing a nodding head it's accurate? Okay, so what I'm trying to establish for us because I think it is useful what Commissioner Clark was trying to bring up is which is the most accurate collaborative map right that may have been tested either, you know, last we met, which was on Friday.

Right and maybe we just need to sort of review, I think Commissioner Clark did it as a service and said okay he thinks that Congress 180 for example, but I do think that we want to try to get with the Senate.

So if we can maybe just focus on the Senate and understand the versions that we've got.

Which ones do we feel are the collaborative ones and which ones to our understanding let's say reflect the most like say work towards partisan fairness towards VRA compliance does any Commissioner have a sense of yes, I'll offer it as a collaborative map even though that individual may have adjusted a collaborative map and helped us understand it, is there a map that is let's say more recent or more up to date or has

gone through more compliance measures than 165 or should we start with Senate map is 165 as Commissioner Clark suggested? Any Commissioner.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you give a full name of that we have version one and two is that what we're referring to.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The Senate maps 9-15-21V16ASD.  
I would suggest maybe we check with our consultants on what they felt.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: There were two Senate maps there was like a 16A version one and 16A version two and those were the two most recent.

If I remember correctly without looking at them the difference was Battle Creek and Kalamazoo together or were they separated.

That was our last collaborative Senate map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Before I turn it over to Commissioner Vallette that is what I think our challenge is right now is to understand is there a place we want to say we want it right and we believe this is the most VRA compliant, this is the most partisan fair, which map should we start with? Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That's real easy all the maps are time stamped so figure out which has the most recent time stamp and start there.

That is the most recent collaborative map because they are stamped when you open them.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What I'm hearing you say you don't believe there are any maps time stamped any way that are personal maps not sort of started from a let's say.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Not that I'm aware of not on the Senate any way.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton did you want to weigh in on that?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I agree and the ones that are like these the three that are complete are all version 16 so that is the version 16 that we worked on, I believe.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And the reason I felt 165 was the correct one because if you go to my Districting website and look at 165 it says complete state it's the only one that says complete state on it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I thought there were three under the Senate that said complete, yeah.

And.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me go to the next Page.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: To be clear I think there are three listed.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: That is correct I stand corrected.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I thought the first one didn't have Monroe assigned.

So there is like this very first one we did then there is the version one and two, versions one and two are truly complete.

I'm going to open it up in a second and thought the very first one that is listed as complete is not actually complete.

Because it did not have Monroe assigned.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think the problem is that we had a map and then somebody wanted to make a clone of it.

And we made some adjustments to take a look at things and study things and so forth. So I think we've got a map and two clones so it's a matter of which one we are going to accept.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right and what we are trying to do I suppose is help Commissioner Vallette know or understand is there a map we all agree that to help her sort of know where to begin.

Or and Commissioner Vallette I want to offer too do you have a sense? Do you know where you want to start if we do -- if you do start with the Senate towards compliance.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: The Senate is fine but I don't know which one is current.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can we continue this process.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Absolutely.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see Commissioner Eid but thinking if we have or ask our consultant Mr. Morgan to bring up just the state or the my Districting site and maybe we as a Commission with the public so they can see it we can walk through some of the things that we may be talking about.

Yeah, so Commissioner or Mr. Morgan would you please help us do that then Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I believe it's map 165.

Or 164.

They are both the same map with that one change.

I think we could start with 165 and that would be a good starting point because that is the one that was tested on Friday.

As well.

So we kind of know where to move from there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay just to confirm you did say map 165.

Okay that was the same one Commissioner Clark said.

Okay very good.

Mr. Morgan are you able to help us with the me Districting site and help us look at those three different versions, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, I will bring that up.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would start with 163 because that is the one, I'm talking about that is not actually complete.

It says it's complete but it's not complete.

Because we can just easily eliminate that one.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is from the site.

And then I think that you're talking about the one that has no designator after the version 16.

So that's 163.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes please.

>> MR. MORGAN: As you were saying this area has some unassigned or this plan has some unassigned areas in Monroe and Wayne County and I think maybe one of the other districts was also out of population alignment.

So if that satisfies your request, this definitely has Monroe unassigned and some of Wayne unassigned.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Janice did you want to continue looking at this or are you okay it's not a complete map?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: If that is what everyone on the Commission thinks we should start I'm fine with it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm saying not start with.

>> MR. MORGAN: It's incomplete.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay I think we should start with one that is done.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is 165 and that is the one that is done.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, so there is 165 and then 164 version 16A and 16B and the difference between those two is one has Battle Creek and Kalamazoo together the other has it split but other than that they are identical so I think either one of those is a fine choice to start with.

So we just pick which one you want to start with.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Let's start with 165.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay I've loaded that into the software.

So what I did is I made a copy of the version A that is 165.

And then I just put the tag that it's for today's date so this is a fully editable plan.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Janice did you get a sense what I heard from General Counsel and trying to summarize for all of us so we might try to work on the same Page what I heard from General Counsel if we looked at this, I'm saying we but I'm really asking you to help guide us through this start with the lopsided margins test.

To understand which districts might be most out of compliance.

Is that what you heard too? No.

So I got it wrong.

Commissioner Witjes will you help us?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't think I'm pretty sure that is not what the lopsided margin test shows, that has nothing to do with VRA compliance does it?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: General Counsel how do we help each other know where to begin in this compliance area so we get a list or something some way to work methodically through the process of compliance.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Relative if we are looking at partisan fairness because the map that was run by Dr. Handley and Mr. Morgan through the software last week identified that there could be adjustments made regarding partisan fairness. And the lopsided margins will identify the districts in which we can -- the Commission can look at and focus in on and decide if there need to be adjustments made. Mr. Adelson will be here just after the lunch recess at 1:00 or 1:30 so he will be able to have the benefit of his expertise at that time.

But the comments were directed towards partisan fairness not Voting Rights Act.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So that's where we need to start. So we need to start by looking at VRA compliance even though Dr. Adelson is not here we know what we are looking for and before looking at communities of interest or beyond the VRA we need to make sure we are in compliance with the V RA or it will be an endless circle we are in.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay let's start where Dustin said.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Would you like some help?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I would like a lot of help.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are there Commissioners here who understand where the adjustments to the VRA to get us towards VRA compliance are there Commissioners here who have suggestions or can help Commissioner Vallette?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would start with Metro Detroit because that is where we know we will have an issue.

So those districts that are in Metro Detroit 17, 19, 13, 8, 6, 7, 9, maybe 10 and 12 as well.

Hold on.

And I would look at what their voting population is.

Because the range we were suggested by in this area by Dr. Handley and Mr. Adelson was between 35% and 40% voting age population African/American.

So I would look where we don't have that and those are areas where we would need to make adjustments.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I thought last time we worked on this when we because this was the first one we completed I thought that Mr. Adelson said that it was VRA compliant for the Metro Detroit area.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm seeing some nodding heads.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Last week we gave us slightly modified directions and remember he said if you can give the African/American population the ability to elect

with 35% why would you go with 50, why would you go with 60 so that was why the House District was redrawn was based on that guidance that he had given. Because Dr. Handley's report says that the ability to elect in the Metro Detroit area because there is so much cross over voting 35 to 40% is really the threshold where you have a voting rights compliant District because the people in that area can vote to elect and have a candidate of choice with only 35% because there is so much cross over voting.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay so then in order to understand that so if we sort of scroll through and look at the racial demographics as percentage of voting population and non-Hispanic Black column and walk down that column it's District 6 it looks like is the first District that is 47 that maybe that we might that you may want to work on Janice, District 6 and then yeah, the other ones that were.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 6.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 8 and 9.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 8 and 9 although 8 is pretty close but may adjust between are 8 and 9 bordering? No, they are not.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 6 and 8 are bordering.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 6 and 8 are bordering.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Nine and 13 are the highest it looks like.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah so, I mean but you could also look at 7 and move some of 6 into 7 that would reduce your 6.

And then just a little shifting operation, right? You're shifting maybe.

So 9 is 50%.

6 is 47%.

8 is 43.25%.

And then we have 13, which is 57.3.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay well let's start with six.

And then John I want to look north of six to see if we can take some from there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Maybe the theme for voting age Black population would help.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The dots, yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Is that what you like?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, this is the theme on the voting precincts.

One moment.

Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can you turn your mic on.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I wanted to take from the corner there on Sterling Heights.



>> MR. MORGAN: This into District 6?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: North.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: In District 5 you would take.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, can I just take the corner and not the one that has a dot in it?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, certainly.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: Let me undo that.

I'm not sure it actually took.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to Zoom in so we can see the population for that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, could you review what metrics we are trying to get towards? You indicated that Bruce gave us some different direction.

I agreed with what Anthony said that I thought he felt that this map was okay, so what is our target.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you remember Dr. Handley's report where she broke down for Wayne County for the racial polarized voting and gave a chart with percentages that is what Bruce was mentioning last week and that's what I'm referring to.

The very last Page where she listed the percentage of voters in that particular demographic that you needed in order for it to be an opportunity to elect District. And for Metro Detroit region it was 35%.

So that is what Bruce was saying to us last week and said it repeatedly we should aim between 35-40% African/American because those numbers it is VRA compliant, they can elect their candidate of choice and his point that he mentioned was why would you put 50 or 60% African/American in a population if you can achieve compliance with 35 so that was kind of his point.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: You are trying to reduce the African/American population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: To 35-40 for VRA purposes per the direction of Bruce Adelson.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to just back up one here.

It looks like the program is not actually assigning the population.

So I'm going to rebuild that plan.

It will just take a moment.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Is it locked by any chance or just being.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is a possibility I'll look at that too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I guess we can't get clarification from Mr. Adelson until 1:00.

But I remember also that he was happy with this.

And I do remember that he said you could work on it more and get it better but I feel like there is no end.

We could always work on it and get it more.

So I don't know how.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel can you weigh in here?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You're muted General Counsel.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're on mute.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I most certainly am I apologize.

That through the Chair to Commission Orton and yes that's correct.

Mr. Adelson is in transit right now so he is not available unfortunately.

That and you are also correct that the adjustments can be made again as often as the Commission wanted.

This was the map that Mr. Adelson indicated was compliant.

And of course further adjustments can always be made at the Commission's discretion.

But your recollection is accurate.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So then just leave it if you want to.

Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Well if this map is compliant with the V RA let's move on to another map that's not compliant with the V RA.

Before you even start tinkering for other reasons in the Senate map.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I apologize for the interruption Madam Chair.

Again the District that you are focusing on in the Detroit area I believe Commissioner Curry had got the District down almost 16% when she was working on the map.

So I believe Mr. Adelson did say if the effort was to be made to get those Metro Detroit districts closer to the 30 to 40% range that would be an excellent use of time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, Juanita did you work on the Senate map last week or was it a house map? I thought you were working on a house map.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Madam Chair I'm not really sure.

Which one it was.

I can't remember.

But I know I did work on a couple of them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, all right, and then to Commissioner Witjes' point we do have other I mean even if we say we're not going to change VRA we still have partisan fairness we can look at for this map as well.

So before we move on maybe we want to do that too.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would agree with maybe looking at other areas for now maybe until Bruce gets here to try to achieve partisan fairness.

We are going to keep hitting this issue of what we as a Commission are going to call VRA compliant based on the advice of our attorneys.

We need to make a decision here on what is VRA compliance.

This is a question I asked last week.

I asked what is the highest number we can have that can still be defended in Court.

Because I don't think any of us want to be breaking up these communities as much as we are.

But we might have to because of VRA, right? The question is how much.

And I think we as a Commission might just need to make that decision.

Is that number 40%.

Is that number 45%.

Is that number 30%.

I don't know but we have to come up with a decision on what it's going to be otherwise we will just keep hitting this arbitrary number this looks good but can always get better until we you know decide like what is VRA compliance to us.

Again us as Commissioners here drawing the maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I agree with what Dustin said.

If Bruce has already said we are compliant we should probably keep it that way.

What we're going to do here if we want to make it noncompliant go further north further north until we get it down to 40 percentage or further west.

And it's the geography that puts us in a bind in doing that.

So I would recommend we stay under Bruce's original recommendations that this is compliant and keep it that way.

The Detroit area at this point.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes I'm sorry then Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: And to your point that there is other things we can look at for compliance, keep in mind ranked or so let's make sure we get the first two things done and compliant before we move on to other things.

I mean we are just going to get down in one map and get further into a bind later on this week.

So Commissioner Curry then General Counsel.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, I'm agreeing with what Dustin Commissioner Dustin and Douglas, Doug said.

And I think we ought to wait until Bruce comes and go to something else and work on it and make it compliance, get it to comply with what we need to be doing.

This one is pretty much in order.

Let's just go somewhere else and work on something else and stop this wasting a lot of time just talking, talking, talking.

And we have to talk.

And I know that.

But we can move on to another one until Bruce comes in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's a great idea Commissioner Curry.

General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Extent idea for the Senate map in particular again I think those districts that were up around and over 50% Mr. Adelson's direction was to try to get those lower, to make the effort to get those lower.

Particularly in the Metro Detroit area.

And I again cannot speak for him but I remember that day we were doing the Senate maps and the Congressional maps.

And I believe the Senate maps was the one where he indicated the districts were still packed at the percentage, they are in that they are currently in and that the effort should be made to make those percentages lower.

Because again based only the racial bloc voting analysis, those the percentages of minority voters does not need to be that high in those areas.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so it sounds like we do still have some VRA work to do with this map specifically districts 13, which is that 57%, 9 which is at 50 and 6 which is at 47.

I certainly I feel like 8 is at 43%.

And I think that's pretty good but we can certainly work on that a little bit but I don't see that as being high priority.

So 13, 9 and 6 are the ones we need to work on to try to bring down those percentages a bit.

Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It might help Commissioners if you are looking at Lisa Handley's presentation Page 20 the map that shows the State House districts and the State Senate districts for the 2010 maps what she shows on that Page 20 is the areas that are packed and what she describes as the most packed is 50% to 70% meaning if we are in 50%, we are not unpacked it if we are 40%, we have not unpacked it.

The map shows where we should target.

All those districts 6, 8, 9 and 13 are all in the area if we are 50% range it's just as packed as it was in 2010.

That's kind of the map that I'm reading here.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: John, can you show the population in District 16 in that square.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry we were looking here at District 6 and District 5.

And this was the area you were talking about.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Well, just show me the population of one of those.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure so District 5 which is adjacent is currently 6600 under, so the population is 258542 the District 16 is under by 2900. It's 262228.

And just to clarify I was having trouble with the spreadsheet updating and now that's been resolved.

So we should be able to click anywhere you want now.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay so this is current right now.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, this is current, I took it back to the original state, the border between 5 and 6 is the same.

And then you were talking about taking this one precinct in and I did that and it did update.

So would you like me to do that or do something else?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So can you take, continue up, yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is 2714, I'll just point the attention here to District 6 is 3100 under.

So if we take the 2700 it should be about 400 under so let's see that.

It's 485 under so the software is updating properly.

Then it also changed the demographics slightly.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Not very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'll offer one of the strategies that Mr. Adelson said is legitimate to under populate.

To keep that percentage of voting rights down so as you're shifting remember that you don't have to get that exact population if it serves you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: As I look at the numbers in the active matrix, I'm looking at the percent of voting population.

And on District 6 we are 47%.

Which is below that 50 margin, 50% margin.

Now know they want it lower but sometimes you just can't do that because of the distribution of the people.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think what the challenge is that we have to interpret our legal counsel's they are not precise because we are the ones that have to do it. But I think what we can interpret from their advice is if we don't try to get to 35%, we have not done our due diligence and therefore we may be exposing ourselves to a legal risk we might be able to defend ourselves against but can't guaranty that.

I don't think they are suggesting it's a legal risk.

There is so many unknowns and I think that is why we are trying.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So Richard did you have a comment? Okay, Mr. Morgan.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, if I may address MC's point about under population, just from the theoretical point of view if you had under populated an area with a certain percentage of minority and let's say hypothetically it's right on the money and if you under populated it then the minority percentage might go up a little bit in the sense that it favors the minority community because you have the same amount of minority population but a lower population threshold therefore that same number of people is slightly more effective.

And I think that's what Bruce Adelson was talking about.

So in this circumstance if you under populate it a District, you actually may be not decreasing the minority percentage which is what you seem to be warning to do.

So you want to be -- does that make sense? I'm hypothetically explaining that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: As Janice adds population and potentially in with African/American districts unless they are not African/American districts, if she is adding African/American population she is decreasing, no I got it wrong.

>> MR. MORGAN: If you add nonminority population then you are decreasing the relative percentage of the Black or minority population.

So if you add a nonminority precinct of say 2000 people, then 3,000 whatever it is it's going to lower the minority percentage a little bit which is I think what you're trying to do. But the opposite is if you were to leave it under populated then it sort of it increases the effective percentage of the minority community.

I think that's what Mr. Adelson was alluding to

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Janice, I hope you got that.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So I want to continue to add the southern part, you know, in Sterling Heights.

So can you add that one, that, yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel did you have a comment too?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Yes, thank you Madam Chair.

So Mr. Adelson has confirmed that he didn't sign off on either the Senate or the Congressional plan.

And I wanted to also address again the narrative that 50% minority is the -- that is not the courts have not supported that wholesale adoption of 50% or 51%.

What Dr. Handley's racial bloc voting analysis has given the Commission is the benchmarks and the guide rails for each of the Counties that need to be adjusted.

It's Wayne County is 35-40%.

Genesee is 35-40.

Saginaw is 40-45%.

And Oakland County is 42, 43%.

Again that would provide the opportunity to elect.

So you don't need districts with 60% minority voting age population in any of those four Counties to achieve compliance.



Hopefully that clarifies it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: General Counsel I need those numbers one more time please because I think yeah, I just assumed 35% was for each one but there is a different threshold for each County is what I'm hearing you say so I'm going to write those down.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Correct and those are supported by the charts in Dr. Handley's presentation for each of the Counties, Wayne and Genesee County the recommendation is 35-40%.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Wayne and Genesee.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Uh-huh.

35 to 40 got it.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Saginaw County Mr. Vice Chair is 35-45% and Oakland County is 42-43 and I wrote ish which is a legal term.

So the range is not 40 was too low and 45 Mr. Adelson expressed which too high or could be too high.

So those were the goals identified again by your racial bloc voting analysis.

And the interpretation by your Voting Rights Act counsel.

>> KIM BRACE: The reason why the numbers change with each County is because the voting patterns change within the County.

If you remember my earlier discussion early on was the fact those steppingstones will change with geography, will change with time, all of those factors come into play.

And that's why Lisa always looks at the local patterns that you see and you can tell that by the different Counties.

And that's why she calculated those as separate.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: John I'm trying to take some of the area from north and hopefully try to get some removed from either south or west.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so at this point you're in Oakland County and Sterling Heights with this District 6 so it's Warren, Sterling Heights.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Right I still want to go back up north.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I want to add some more of that.

See that the giggly line is that the river? So south of that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this one that says 3866.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Just pay attention what you're doing to the total population in District 5 as you're taking from it.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I am, I'm going to try and remove some of the population south or east.

So do is that 3472?

>> MR. MORGAN: 3172.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Got that.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: 3796 and then I want to look south.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

So those were part of Sterling Heights and Oakland County and now you're looking south, this District goes into Detroit and it looks like it has part of Grosse Pointe park as well.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay, so I want to take some of that, sorry I want to take some of that population and move it into 5.

So can you go north?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes so.

>> MR. MORGAN: This into 5 potentially.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Take the first three, yep.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 5 is 13,000 under and you have taken the top tier from Eastpointe.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Go ahead and take the next ones.

The 994 and the I'm sorry, yes, you had it.

And take that one too.

>> MR. MORGAN: Splitting east point now you have taken the population so that District 5 is 4300 under and District 6 is 5400 under and then these are the demographics for those two seats.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So I'm at 45.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Looks like District 6 has reduced from 47.3 to 45.8 so you are definitely heading in the right direction, Janice.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Take the next row.

>> MR. MORGAN: Know District 6 is under populated by 12,983.

So you might be able to take additional population to the north if you wanted to.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Can you back out so I can see what that looks like? Thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to turn off the theme for just a moment.

Okay so at this point you have most of Eastpointe in 5.

And then you basically traded population in Oakland County and Sterling Heights for Oakland County and Eastpointe so if you were to take more of Sterling Heights there is you could take population there from 5 if you wanted to.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay let's do that then so take 1919.

And take that one too.

>> MR. MORGAN: So now you are at District 6 is 9,000 under and District 5 is 800 under.

So both of them are within plus or minus 5% and these are the demographics for the districts as they are now.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Can I see south? In District 5 that blue line.

>> MR. MORGAN: Boundary of Eastpointe and there is looks like four precincts left in east point that are in 6, not 5.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Will you take those and put them in 5 so we are not breaking up Eastpointe?

>> MR. MORGAN: That leaves District 6 under populated and here is the current state of District 6.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: How about bringing it up to the top of Sterling Heights?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I'm sorry Commissioner, what did you say.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: How about bringing 6 up to the top of Sterling Heights, you are trying to add to 6 right.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Right.

So are you saying the one that is 2324.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just start going northward until you get what you need population wise.

>> MR. MORGAN: Would you like me to select this one?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, please.

And then take the next one.

>> MR. MORGAN: The 2896 or 2154?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: The 2896.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now you are back in population it's minus 4.8.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: The 2714, the one at the very top.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: So the 2154.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay now you're at within 3% deviation on District 6 and this is the demographics.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Again Janice for context you started 47.83 non-Hispanic Black age population so you are definitely working in the right direction.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay take the 2711, the 2949 and the 2698.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay, I think that's -- you think I can go more?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm saying you are almost there.

Keep going.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay, so but I can I see south again.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see Commissioner Curry raising your hand saying go up is that what you're saying? If you are speaking, we cannot hear you Commissioner Curry you are on mute.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah, you are on the right track.  
Just take those two right there and see what it does.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Then could are keeping Sterling heights in two districts instead of three.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: 1834 and 4540.  
And can I go south?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, that is now District five is under populated by 15,000.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: And go west.  
And go south between 5 and 6 south.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm thinking maybe the theme dots would help again because you're trying to find African/American population to move into -- move out of 6 I believe to balance the numbers.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay can you put those up, John?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioners from Detroit area what do you think of adding Harper Woods? There was something about District 7 the way it's drawn and Harper Woods doesn't really belong there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Harper Woods can go there.  
It's not going to hurt it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay, I guess what I'm also asking Commissioner Curry I know there are it is an African/American population there and it's -- does it fit better with the District? I know we are looking at Voting Rights Act primarily and holding a lot of complexity but I think if you see that District Warren, Sterling Heights, does Harper and the northeast side of Detroit, does Harper Woods fit in better also there?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah, because Harper Woods is on the west side of Woodward so it would fit.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see is Harper Woods I may have said the wrong one. Harper Woods is on the east side of Woodward and just west of the Grosse Pointes. That is the Harper Woods I meant to say.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, well.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Can I see south just a little.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes did you have a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Don't worry if Harper Woods wants to be there or community of interest where Harper Woods should be.  
That should be not something we're looking at.

We should be going into looking at just complying with the Voting Rights Act.

And if we have to go in there don't let that be a reason as to why because you're thinking about public comment, go straight off the numbers to get where we need to be on with VAR stuff.

And then go look at communities of interest.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I hear that Commissioner Witjes.

I really did think because she was heading south and thought maybe that would work but wasn't sure if there was another reason to maybe go there because it's in 7 and may be balancing 7 out.

I appreciate that very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Morgan?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so at this point I would just say if you like how District 6 is configured then at this point you're only looking at adjusting District 5's population. So perhaps you could look at adjacent District to 5 to take population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I think you accomplished VRA with 6.

You are just a hair over 40% and we are supposed to be between 35-40 so you are good there.

And honestly the population is within deviation so I would just focus on trying to fix 5 at this point.

Or you could move over to 8 and start working on 8 too but whichever you prefer, Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So we are within deviation on 6.

But it is still almost 7,000 high.

So if you took some a little more of the higher Black population in 6 and put it in 5 that's going to decrease the population over all and it will make it under 40% probably.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I agree that is smart thinking but where are you going to pull it from? I mean you could pull a little bit into Detroit.

I mean take 5 into Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Down, right there.

Right where you have your cursor.

>> MR. MORGAN: You could take a portion of Oakland County precincts into District 5 here, okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Or just south of there, that is the Detroit border 2001, 2279, 1690 like that is all Detroit that you could pull up.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay, the 2001.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay let's do that one.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's the very upper it's at 8 mile basically just south of 8 mile in Detroit.

Just west of Harper Woods.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: But that works too.

But that doesn't help District 6.

If we take that one that's just over the County line 5049 if we put that in 5 maybe that would help the number 6.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Doesn't 6 go into Detroit? Yeah, that is 6, that is 6 too, 6 goes down into Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I thought it was a different color.

>> MR. MORGAN: Did you want me to revert the 2001 and look at these to up here?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: No, take the 2279.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

Now both districts are within plus or minus 5%.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I think I'm good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, you are.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And you helped make us good.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Brought your African/American below 40%.

So now you are perfectly in the sweet spot of 35-40.

All right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Vallette, so what we did is we have District 6 completed.

Did you also help us with 8? Okay so we still have 8 to go.

So we moved from 6 we moved from 47.8% voting age non-Hispanic Black voting age population to 39.8.

So a good 10%.

Well almost.

And I guess 8%.

So we are moving now to District 8 or 9 or 13? I'll turn it back over to you Chair Szetela.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So at this point we will move on to Richard Weiss for your turn. Department of State staff did you have any questions for Commissioner Vallette? Thank you very much.

So Commissioner Weiss it's your turn.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I believe you skipped over Erin.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: She has requested not to have a turn today.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: All right, I guess I'm looking here and are we going to try to do something with District 8? If possible.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

We are currently at 43.25 so you want to try to get it to 35-40 .

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, I don't think my eraser is big enough.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you want me to leave this here for you?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just for the public listening MC Rothorn was discussing with Commissioner Weiss the populations we are looking at, which is District 8, 43.25 and District 9 which has 50% and 13 which has 57.3. And just directing him those are the districts we are attempting to remedy and bring into compliance.



>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: All right my suggestions from anybody? I guess I need some help on this one.

Looking at District 17.

You could take a little out of there.

But I don't know if that would help.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would say 17 will probably not help.

Because I mean you might all the way down near core City which you know where everything meets all the spokes meet.

There are some more white populations along there so you could Zoom in there and look and see if you can pick up there because you are pretty close.

I think your best bet is going to look up along the border into Oakland County.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Since you are a little more familiar with the area would you help out with that?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I can help too.

One of the things that might help is I believe that District 8 is where again we are not focusing on COI so I want to offer this as a way to increase non-Hispanic excuse me decrease the non-Hispanic Black but the Asian American dots District 8 and if we move into Troy 16, I think we also have an Asian American population and we may have that may help us justify keeping that District together.

And increasing our VRA compliance.

Mr. Morgan do you have a question?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, I would just point out the population of District 8 right now is almost 11,000 under.

So this may be an opportunity where only adding population may do what you are wanting to do.

And then also this District is in Oakland County and Wayne Counties.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What is 17 at? I can't see the population for 17 just curious.

>> MR. MORGAN:

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: 812 over.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: VRA.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: 33.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, yeah, I was going to say that lived divot that comes out under 17 from 8 is only 30% African/American and it's 1500 people so that might help too if you want to pull the 16 but I definitely think MC's suggestion probably makes the most sense because of the Asian population.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think what you are suggesting is going in 16; is that correct Commissioner Szetela? I think Commissioner Weiss was looking for some help.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think 16 going into 16 makes sense.

Yes, those are the neighborhoods.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Weiss do you want Mr. Morgan to put the themes up?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, if you would, please.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is the Black population.

Which may help.

>> MR. MORGAN: Numbers are total population, the size of the circles indicates the African/American percentage.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It looks like we have a pretty close color, we have a light orange and then a light yellow next to it.

But those are two distinct districts at this point and if I'm not mistaken 8 does also include the Yemeni not just the Bengali but the Yemeni population we heard from recently.

So again going north Richard into.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Looks like it might be a better choice.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Go ahead sorry Commissioner Weiss go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: John if you can go north of 8 and let's see what we have up there that we can borrow from.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is Troy and this is Sterling Heights are in 16.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think what may be misleading at this point we have theme for African/American but I think it's the Asian American, the Asian population totals that are going to help you sort of choose districts in 16.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want me to change the theme?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Try it and see what that will do.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's worth noting there are few dots in 16 for the African/American.

>> MR. MORGAN: This theme is Asian American voting age population.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Let's take in 16, the very bottom, yeah, 679 right there, let's try that.

Put that into 8.

And then I'm looking in 14.

Let's try taking 3364.

And let's try taking the one 1956.

All right.

Where are we at here?

>> MR. MORGAN: You are within 2% deviation it's 4879 under and this is the demographics at the moment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Weiss you went from 43.25 to 43.22.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: That is fair.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is fair absolutely.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Add a little more of Clawson and that should get you there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: As you move into District 14 that is where fewer Asians are.

Again I think it's your choice.

I don't want to direct you but I do want to acknowledge the Asian theme would help keep that District 8 as a let's say.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: You think going west would be a little better.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Going north instead of west in 16 instead of 14.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The problem with that though is like as you into go that 3321, it still, well, it's about 5% African/American as well

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 10% is Asian approximately.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Want to try that one, and see? What do you think? All right Commissioner Lett said let's try it.

So put that in there.

Carry on.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's better.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: We are down a little bit more.

16 is 6,000 under.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What's the target for Macomb? Oakland.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Oakland County the target is 42 to 43ish.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: We are kind of splitting the difference right now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: With District 16 is that what you're referring to? Or which.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: If I go this route, it's Troy.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And start breaking up Troy.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: What do you think?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark did you have a comment or? Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Any other suggestions? I guess I don't think it's -- I don't know where else I can go without making a problem here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think it's good.

I think you brought it down so as Steve said you are right in the sweet spot at this point.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: All right I guess I will stick with that then.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Weiss.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes it's on to you so we are looking at 9 and 13, 9 is 50% and 57.3 is 13.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 9 and 13, where is 13.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right next to 9 to the east of it.

Do you want him to change the color?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: No, it's fine.

Trying to figure out where to even start.

Hold on a minute.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I was whispering to MC you could go up on 13 and bring 14 down and 9 over into Farmington Hills.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Well that was my thing too.

9 I was going to into Farmington Hills and figuring out where to start and 13 going north does make some sense so let's start there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You can do them both at the same time Dustin too.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm sure you would like that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No one is going to stop you from doing that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: To acknowledge Commissioner Witjes you helped us with many districts and we are doing well.

We are almost totally VRA compliant and it's still before lunch.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So you know Dustin this is not as easy as your usual ones.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Thanks appreciate it.

Want to though me your eraser Commissioner Weiss?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Weiss that was caught on camera.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Start with 13 and go north into Birmingham.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If you remove your hands.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Clawson I apologize take the Townships and precincts bordering 8 up into 16.

Yes, start there.

>> MR. MORGAN: Taking from District 14 into District 13.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is the balance of Clawson, I think.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, do you also want these?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's go -- let's keep going north on 13.

Go as far into Birmingham.

Anyone have a thought?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm sorry could you repeat that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 13 extending north into Birmingham.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Why not.

We got to get the VRA right and that is number one so.

>> MR. MORGAN: Birmingham not Troy?

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>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: When you go into Birmingham, we are stretching this thing all the way from mid-Detroit all the way up there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What other way is it to get VRA.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That is okay.

You can do that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I know we can do it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm talking about it's contiguous too Doug because we travel all through there all the time, those areas.

Southfield Birmingham, Farmington even Farmington.

It would be contiguous I now, excuse me.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Grab some precinct in Birmingham.

Let's grab the Township Birmingham.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: What about the ones to the west 119 1046, 1575?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Beverly Hills and north of Beverly Hills? I mean, sure.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Franklin and Bingham farms.

I don't know it's up to.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm looking at shapes and don't want it to look like we are reaching somewhere with a District.

If I need to go north in a cone it will look better than me drawing a shoot that goes out to the west.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Got you.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's do that and grab the Township of Birmingham, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right so you're currently with 13 you are 23,000 over and the entire Township is 22000.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, well let's grab that any way and go adjust something down.

And go to the south.

>> MR. MORGAN: Highland is in District 13 and then a portion of Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yep.

Let's try putting Highland into 8.

>> MR. MORGAN: 8 or 17?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Actually hold on.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You will slow back off 8.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 17 I apologize.

>> MR. MORGAN: You are 36,000 over in 13 and 48,000 under in 14.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you want to share that Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No it never fully developed.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I could see it, her gears turning.

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>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So 13, 48% Black voting age population so it's going down.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes it's better if we don't hear you muffled through your hand.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Apologize.

>> MR. MORGAN: At the moment it's 36,000 overpopulated and the demographics are 48% non-Hispanic Black.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I want to acknowledge Commissioner Curry was trying to get in too.

Did you want to say something Commissioner Curry?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't think we should touch what was done this morning if possible.

We need to find some places west, north or south to deal with.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think you need to take Black population at this point. What you can do by bringing 9 down.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That is where I was going next.

Take the little piece of 13 that is between 9 and 19 right,000.

Yep.

Right by it.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want to put this into 9.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so this area is between.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct you got it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Keeps that neighborhood together too.

I think that is the Brightmoor neighborhood so that is a nice choice.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 13 is 30,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Grab the northern Section right where your mouse is. Those two, well, the diagonal 1506 right here take that area all the way up to 1673.

>> MR. MORGAN: 13 is 23,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay let's grab the ones right next to that to the east.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this square here?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You got it.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is all in the City of Detroit?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Grab that little yellow piece that is hanging out.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 9 is 22000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That is fine I will worry about that later.

>> MR. MORGAN: 13 is 15,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Just keep going.

Let's grab those other two.

Square 9 off into 13 there.



>> MR. MORGAN: One moment.

All right so do you want to take the western extremity first.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All the way down to 19.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, including 788 like that? And District 13 is within the population tolerance of plus or minus 5% and this is the demographics at the moment.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: And what was the percentage that 13 should go down.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Started 57.32 now we are 44.13 nice work

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: What does it need to go down to?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Wayne is 40 ideally.

35-40%.

>> MR. MORGAN: Oakland Counties.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Grab the other Section that is right there all the way down to District 19, square it off.

And 1162 as well.

And that is about as far as I want to take away or go down with 9 so go back up to 13 here.

13 is negative 2000 so let's go add the bottom Section of 14.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: South Section where it says Birmingham where District 14 is jutting up.

>> MR. MORGAN: 13 is currently 2000 under.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct let's see what the precincts will do.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is about 3500.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid did you have a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Just that change you just made, made the voting age Black population of nine go back up to higher than where it was at previously before you made that change.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You are going to rebalance it so.

>> MR. MORGAN: 14 and 9 are the two districts that are out of population alignment and they are adjacent.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We will have to go into Farmington Hills to balance it reality. We are going to have to bring 14 down.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I want to bring that Section under Birmingham.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: 14 and 9 if you switch them will bring you back into balance, I think.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm sorry what.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 14 and 9 will bring you back into balance to readjust it.

>> MR. MORGAN: If you take for example population from 9 and put it in 14 and I think that Southfield is predominately African/American.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It is.

>> MR. MORGAN: So I think that would be in favor of what you're trying to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I still want to grab those four precincts that are on the edge of 13 right there sandwiched by 9 or on the north side of 9 right there.

You got it.

And let's grab the other three that are right next to it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That pop up is Bloomfield Hills and may give you a hard time, that right there.

>> MR. MORGAN: Do you want to split that one instead of taking it all in?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I can't see the population at 13 and deviation.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I was going to say it says R.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: That little thing made 13 go back above 41 it was below 40.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: It was then let's take that piece out that was added in. Right there.

You got it.

Let's grab the other ones we added be Beverly Hills and see where we are at.

The four you are at we are fine.

Those two there take those out so 14 goes back to being 41.77 any other thoughts.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think you are going the right way going into Beverly Hills Franklin Bingham farms which is where you are going the top of Southfield but might be helpful in addition to adding that taking off a little African/American population down near nine because that will sort of balance what you are trying to do.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well from what I think 9 is overpopulated by a lot and 14 is under populated by a lot.

So and we are and nine is we want to reduce the African/American population in 9 so what if we took all of Southfield and put it up into 14, wouldn't that possibly take care of all those problems?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think that is what Commissioner Lett was suggesting too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right.

So you will bring 14 down and probably when you do that might have to take 9 into Farmington a little bit.

It's like you are working at a puzzle here.

Shifting things around.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Well I'm still trying to work on 13.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So 13 I think you are going the right way.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 41.77 might be a good place to stop on that one right now and fix 9 and 14 to get into.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes for what it's worth we did stop with District 8 right at 41.77.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: There we go.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We reduced it from District 8 from 43 to 41. And District 13 at the one you're working on reduced from 57 to that 41.77 so it's not a bad place to stop.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So let's grab the southern Section of 14 right where your mouse is and let's start adding in precincts down into Southfield.

>> MR. MORGAN: Adding into 14 which is currently under populated from 9, correct?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Grab that entire line, see the line that is stretching from Farmington Hills to Southfield I can't remember what road that is. Got it.

Then we will go all the way straight over to 13 and 14 is under populated. What is nine at now? Actually that is at 53. Percentage.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want to take more from 9?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: No.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think that will go in favor of what you are trying to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, balance out 9 and then you're going to bring it into Farmington and that will reduce your African/American population.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: But which side? Southfield.

So the east side all the way down to the red line.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is northwestern.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I don't know what you are asking Commissioner Witjes Southfield is a particular area is that what you're trying to do is stay within the Township?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Uh-huh.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is it possible to just select the Township at this point?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's the whole thing though.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: The whole thing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Southfield is Lathrup in the center and the northern is Bingham Franklin and Beverly Hills so he is in Southfield Township right now. So if he were to.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 9 would have to go in Farmington Hills I would imagine.

So let's start going.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want to continue to put more into 14?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't think so.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay because nine is only slightly under populated at the moment.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Curry did you have a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well, I was liking the way he had it without moving.

But it's his choice.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Which way do you mean without moving it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Southfield and Lathrup village they are so together.

They are so they are touching.

I mean you can't hardly split them up because they go together.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are you suggesting so it looks like Lathrup village and north is in District 14 now it's the southern part of Southfield is in District 9 so it's you know it seems like it's together in District 14.

Is that what you're suggesting that is not such a good fit?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Farmington is closer to Southfield and Lathrup village than what is in 14? Where I can't see any more of it?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Wixom.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: West Bloomfield, Sylvan Lake, Keego Harbor.

Part of Commerce.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I just know that Lathrup village and Southfield and portions of Farmington Hills they are all very contiguous.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think Commissioner Witjes is heading with District 9 into Farmington Hills.

So does that jive with what you are thinking? That is a good place to go with District 9?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I would.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay Commissioner Witjes take it away.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That is where I would be going take 9 into District 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES:

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Dustin keep a check on your numbers.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I can run the numbers we got so far and Dustin you're working on 9 start at 50% and I don't think we are done and 13 started 57 and you reduced it to 41.7.

And that's where we are at right now with District 13.

So now you are still working on District 9.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yep.

So let's see the 1925 and 2694 all the way down south to the 3553.

Skirting Farmington.

I suppose keep going and Farmington and all the way down to the Farmington Hills right there.

You got it.

>> MR. MORGAN: So taking the precincts on the southern edge of District 9 including Farmington?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You got it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now you are 37,000 over on District 9.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's grab the remainder of Farmington Hills to the north there and skirt it out.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think that okay you're talking these two?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Those.

>> MR. MORGAN: So 2810 and 2322.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All the way over to the 3525.

Then I want to hopefully stop there.

Now.

>> MR. MORGAN: 9 is 54,000 over for District 9.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 4605.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So 9 is a lot over.

19, District 19 is I'm thinking if we if you remove some of the area that has the higher Black population than it will balance out the number in 9.

And it is touching 19.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: From where.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Where is 19? Below I see it.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: And 19 is if I'm looking at the right line, it's only 26% so it could use some.

Maybe that will balance it out.

But then it's a big circle so.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Going down into 9.

I'm lost.

Going down into 19.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Take Farmington Hills back out again?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm going to try to repeat what you are saying Commissioner Orton unless you speak in the mic.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think right here you need to take some of the area that is the higher Black population so if that could go into 19, you're going to have to come full circle.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Bring 19 up.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No because 9 is overpopulated.

So you're going to have to do the circle this way, clockwise.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Then I would not add on to.

Hold on.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think Commissioner Orton is saying two different things.

One is you could add some population of 9 into 19 and that's one move.

The other move that you're contemplating is that 11 and 9 are now the two districts that are out of alignment.

So you could circle population around in this area as well.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I was thinking circle population 9, 19, 10 and 11.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't understand what the term circle population.

>> MR. MORGAN: Could I explain if you like? So the idea is if you have two districts that are out of alignment and they are not adjacent then you would pass the population through a middle District.

So in this case you might be passing population rather than go directly back and forth between 11 and 9 where you just made that adjustment, that put it out of alignment you might move the population through 14 so for example hypothetically 14 could take in more of 9 and then shed into 11 and then between the three districts you've aligned the population.

So it's a three District process instead of a one to one.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And I think what she is suggesting is take that part of Detroit that's in 9, put it into the Dearborn with District and then you're going to have to shift part of the Dearborn District over to 10 and then you might have to shift into 11 so it's like a circle.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is right but in that case Commissioner Szetela you would be adding into 19 if you added too much then you would have to take off from Dearborn Heights or Detroit.

>> KIM BRACE: This is a highly technical term only used by redirectors so be aware of that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: A swirling toilet bowl trying to figure it out.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Which direction do you want to go? Do you want to go this way or this way?

>> MR. MORGAN: I think again there are possibly two separate things you can do a little bit of adjusting to the south and then you probably would look at bigger adjustments between 9, 11 and 14.

Because those are impacted most by what could have been doing.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I need someone to tell me do you want me to put population right now from 9 to where?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sounds like Commissioner Orton may have an idea.



Do you want to try Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I cannot see it.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: It would help me if the theme if the voting age Black population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And if you can back out it would be helpful too.

It's okay we are about to take lunch.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for bringing us to this point Commissioner Witjes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're doing a great job.

These are hard, these adjustments are hard.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: And I'll point out too because 9 is mostly in Oakland County we can probably get away with that 43% instead of going down to the 40% number.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's true.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Dustin what I was saying.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Just tell him.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You just direct him.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I just think we would what we need to do in 9 it's overpopulated.

We need to take population out.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 19 up to 9.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: 19 to 9.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Ms. Reinhardt?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies.

Bruce is not here to say this so hopefully I will say something similar to what he would say to Commissioner Eid's point regarding the threshold I would recommend examining election results to determine that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's not bring in another lovely variable to look at, at this particular point in time until I get percentage done.

So 788, 1925 right are your mouse is let's go up to where that diagonal voting precinct is next to 1055 just up to that diagonal line.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and again if you take a small amount then you won't have to remove something from 19 if you take a large amount then you might.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Just a rectangle from 1243 up.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: 788.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 1521, 1630, 920.

>> MR. MORGAN: Population on 19 is now 8500 over and you are adding to it.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Well yeah but it's going to keep on happening, right, either way.

>> MR. MORGAN: Well the population surplus is actually to the north so at some point if you add too much to 19 then you potentially would have to take something out of 19.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, but and Commissioner Orton I see you so to Commissioner Orton's point we can sort of move population around a little bit too. If we need to do that.

And I think we can.

Particularly grabbing from that southern part of Dearborn Heights that's an area we could pull from and put it in the next District over and then go up.

So because Dearborn Heights has a strange configuration rag with northern Dearborn Heights and a sliver and a southern and that part could easily go in District 10 the sliver part similar to that.

All right Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm just thinking as we are going precinct by precinct, we could maybe John could click on the dots so we can see what the African/American percentage is.

Because we don't need to move white population in.

We need it balanced.

>> MR. MORGAN: 90%.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You are not moving white population into that area. That is Detroit and it's very concentrated African/American right along there so...Dustin do you want to break for lunch and think about it? That would be a good idea.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I need a copy of this man so I can play with it otherwise it's not going to do me any good.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: John can you save a copy of this for us and submit it to Sue to circulate then we can over lunch break take some plays with it go ahead.

>> MR. MORGAN: I was going to say you know it's a partial plan at this point so you want me to save it in its current state? And partial plan some of the Districts are out of alignment at the moment.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do we want to rename it?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You can save it as or clone it, I don't care. I just need this what we are working on right now so I can look at it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just to you or publish it or what is the instruction.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: It can be published.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You can publish it then everybody can grab it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right so without objections we will pause for a recess. For 60 minutes.

Hearing no objections it is currently 11:57 we are going to take a recess and we will be back here at 1:00 p.m.

Thank you everybody.

[ Lunch recess ]

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It is time.

I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 1:01 p.m. will the secretary please call the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely Madam Chair.

Commissioners. Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose your physical location as well.

We will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present; attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present; attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> VICE COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Just one moment.

Katie confirming you can hear us?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Doesn't seem like she can.

Thank you.

Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Present; attending remotely from Eaton County, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 12 Commissioners are present.

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you. Ms. Reinhardt.

At this point -- we are going to continue working on our State Senate draft mapping including adjustments of previous maps and I'm going to ask my Vice Chair MC Rothhorn to facilitate this discussion.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Madam Chair.

Just perhaps an acknowledgment for the public watching and Commissioners, Mr. Morgan did up load the morning session which is under 10421 version 1 and it does list HD which refers to House District.

It should read SD.

And just for what it's worth it says it's a temporary file just for our morning session, at the end of the day that temporary file will come down and the complete file which is our first full day of this week so for this Monday will replace it so again it is a temporary file and we are aware it's named somewhat misleadingly.

So it is a Senate District.

So with that, we are back to Commissioner Witjes to continue our compliance on the Senate District and we are working with again the map version on the website any way 165 number 165 and it's version 16A.

Commissioner Witjes take it away.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: He is just grabbing his eraser he said.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, so now I need to I'll look at this real quick.

Can I see -- go ahead and take the dots off.

That just clutters my view.

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is the plan and the end state of the plan was District 9 is over by 48,000.

District 11 is under by 59 and you made adjustments to 19 was the last portion.

That's over by 4.41, 11,700.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All right, can you bring the active matrix down a little bit for me so I can see more of the map? Excellent now can you center so 9 is perfect good enough for me right now.

On the west side of where it says Farmington Hills, the very top corner to the left, it's right there, right where the big giant exchange is put that into a District 11 for me, please.

And once that's assigned, you can scroll down or bring the map down a little bit.

Or we are probably going to be working on the precinct level the whole time just FYI.

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Okay, now where that red line is that squiggly line, the very top portion of it, yep, that area and then the precincts that are directly 2304, 2303, 2255 and 2544 we are going to put that all, wait a minute, hold on.

We are going to put that all into District 9.

>> MR. MORGAN: So these four precincts?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You got it.

Okay now let's go over to the bottom southwest corner of District 11 and 10.

Okay, so the precincts I'm going to be working here is, okay, the part of District 10 that butts up to District 27 put that into District 11 for me, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: This town?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: And the popular moves we are going to split Canton in half.

The west side of the Township, the top three if you look at the top three precincts right there.

Follow that middle line straight all the way down and assign everything into 11 for me, please.

You got it.

Okay, now we are going to go over to District 19.

All right, how am I going to do this here? Let's go back into 9.

Straight north.

All right now Zoom in right in the Redford area for me, please.

All right, now let me take a look at how I want to explain this part to you.

All right where it says Redford Township the little 90 degree blue line for the Township itself, right there, that precinct that you are hovering on right now assign that to District 19.

Everything south of that area can go into District 19, please.

Yep.

Then we are going to take the right still where we were, all right, 2596 we are going to put that into District 19 as well.

Then we are going to fill in everything over following that line so 563, 1013, all the way over.

There you go.

All right, now we are going to go look at the District 19 and District 10 area and I'm going to have to look at this again real fast.

Can you Zoom in to the precincts on the Districts 19 and 10 border for me? All right on the north side, 2226 we are going to assign that to District 10.

2309 also goes to District 10.

3112 goes to District 10.

Okay, 2286 goes to District 10.

South.

That's fine.

We are going to fill that in, in a second.

2057 goes to District 10.

1541 goes to District 10.

And fill that entire in for me please all into District 10.

Scroll down and go south.

>> MR. MORGAN: 1868 want to include that?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Scroll down some and then we are going to fill in the two there of 19 that are on the south that is squared off 1906 and 2501.

And actually we are going to add 2582, 2268 and 2121 as well.

All right, that is all for now we should all be in the green I hope and everything in the highest number should be 41% or around that for Black population and we can also run a partisan fairness but I don't think it's going to mat all that much.

It's not going to change from what we ran.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What I think you are saying the Black voting age population.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Black voting age population I think we have the districts in question are at 40 or below 40.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct so district 9 went from 50 to 40.7 so that is excellent.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: District 6 is 39.86.  
13 is 41.77.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: The same as District 8 which is the other one, we wanted to do.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yep, perfect.

So I think I'm done at this particular point then for rationale for these adjustments this is taking into account the Voting Rights Act and looking at the voting age population and the Black voting age population to make them so that they...so the districts are able to elect candidates of choice and by definition of doing that we are taking into account diverse population of the State of Michigan.

Erasers down.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Witjes Chair Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Wondering if we can do this a different way without splitting Canton because it has the highly concentrated Asian population trying to preserve its own voting rights concern and community of interest.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Feel free to give it a shot.

I could not do it easily.

I tried to go north adding Farmington Hills in District 9 and then adding Canton back in and it didn't really quite work.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we create a clone?



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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Curry did you have your hand?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, I had my hand up.

I was trying to figure out where is Detroit now.

It is the little yellow spot or the beige spot or the blue spot?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think it's all of the above.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All of the above.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will trace the outline of Detroit so this is the Wayne County line right here so District 9 has a portion of Detroit.

Portion of Southfield, a portion of Livonia, a portion of Farmington Hills.

District 13 has a portion of Detroit, up towards Royal Oak and Birmingham.

District 8 has Detroit, part of Warren and part of Royal Oak.

District 6 has a part of Detroit and Warren and Sterling Heights.

District 7 has the gross most of the Grosse Pointes St. Clair shores up towards mount Clemens and the St. Clair area.

And then District 19 has a portion of Detroit.

District 17 has a portion of Detroit.

To the south.

Towards Allen Park.

So those are all the districts that have a portion of Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, that portion of Detroit that is going up to 8, what area is that?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so as a reference this is Hamtramck right here so District 8 is mostly around Hamtramck.

To belle isle.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Hamtramck to Belle Isle.

>> MR. MORGAN: Looks that way and it goes north into Royal Oak.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay is this John I'm speaking with?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, it is hello.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Hi, my dad and my brother's name.

Okay, what is this right down here about the lakeshore? I'm just trying to find myself so I know what I'm hooked up to down here.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay looks like I think that District 6 has a portion of Grosse Pointe park.

I think so.

It looks like that.

Or maybe not.

I can't quite tell from here.

Maybe not.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: District 6 have a portion of Grosse Pointe park.

>> MR. MORGAN: Maybe I can't quite tell from here.

I can make a quick adjustment.

Hang on.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

I'm going to turn off the precincts for just a moment so we can see.

The answer is District 6 does not have a portion of Grosse Pointe park.

This is the City of Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay the green is the City of Detroit.

>> MR. MORGAN: All this portion of 6 is in the City of Detroit, yes.

And then this portion of 8.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Is Dearborn.

>> MR. MORGAN: No District 8 is Detroit and Hamtramck and then it goes north into Warren and Madison Heights then District 6 goes north into Warren and Sterling Heights.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, so if I was right near Lincoln Park and River Rouge, what number am I in? What district am I in?

>> MR. MORGAN: District 17 is Lincoln Park, Ecorse, Allen Park, and Taylor. And it has this portion of Detroit.

Is it Delray?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Delray has no houses in it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Right.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The historic name Delray.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: Then the Dearborn District 19 has all of Dearborn, a small portion of Dearborn Heights, a portion of Redford and a portion of Detroit to the north of Dearborn.

So that's 19.

17 has Lincoln Park like you talked about.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: So what are we going to Cobo Hall? Or when? Madam Chair? To show the final maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's the 20th, October 20th does that sound right when we are at TCF.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay can we make sure we take this map here that we worked so diligently on? And so that the people when we go there can see it?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Absolutely Commissioner Curry you see something you appreciate in this map is that accurate?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Or don't appreciate one of the two.

But it is what it is.

And I think everybody has done a fine job trying to put it together because it was very complicated.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay thanks Commissioner Curry I think Commissioner Clark has something and I want to give it back to Commissioner Witjes to finish this off.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I don't like splitting Canton at all. And if we have to, I wouldn't do it from a north south perspective. I would do it from an east west perspective. I just want to make that comment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can he tell us why.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You want to say why.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Minorities in the southern part of the Canton area and then the Asians I believe.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Why don't we get the theme to see if we can confirm that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You still have a lot of Blacks in Canton too though. We still have a lot.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think we can redraw this without splitting Canton. I think it can be done and why I'm asking to make a clone.

>> MR. MORGAN: Do you want me to make a clone before Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: The final this year.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: From what Commissioner Witjes did we will have his map and what I'm going to suggest will be a separate map.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What would be the number of this map here?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is map well it was 165 we were working from map 165 Commissioner Curry but I don't know what it will be when it's posted today because we are I think we are still working on it so it's sort of in progress but we are working from map 165 on the website.

And I just to help us sort of orient I think what we are doing potentially is Commissioner Szetela is going to try to modify what was done in District 10.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And Doug do you want to try to do that, Doug? Do you want to do that together?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I'll do it together.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So Commissioner Szetela and Commissioner Clark are going to try to fix not fix but like just modify District 10.

Morgan Mr. Morgan please.

>> MR. MORGAN: So to Commissioner Clark's point, did he want to start with the districts right now that Commissioner Szetela is starting with? Or did he want to go back to what it was before Commissioner Witjes finished?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: No continue on with what Commissioner Witjes did but yeah, I'd like to do that.

And if we could bring -- can you bring up the Asian population just to satisfy what Juanita asked for?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is a good point.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Thank you, Doug, but I'm for what is right and how it looks, you know.

We can only do it the way we can do it so.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It feels like we are at the end of this after these two Commissioners try to wrap us up.

What I would like to do and I'm seeing this also because I am not sure if we want to look at -- what numbers do we want to look at now to make a comparison? Essentially this is about communities of interest.

I guess what I'm trying to do is how do we evaluate between the whatever it's going to be, whatever we have right now and what we will shift.

What do we want to record for ourselves right now as a Commission to understand these two collaborative maps? What is it we are looking for the differences? Is it mostly about not splitting Canton or are there numbers we want to look at before we move?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I guess that is to Doug, right?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Right now let's look at not splitting Canton let's focus on that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good that is the difference.

And now we understand why we have a difference, okay very good take it away.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK:

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid wants to get in here too.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, we split up Farmington from Farmington Hills as well.

Which you know I don't like splitting up Canton I don't like splitting up Farmington from Farmington Hills and splitting that in half.

You know if we have to split both of them, we have to split it but I would rather them be whole, you know, if possible.

But you know, if y'all can keep that in consideration while working on this Canton area that would be great.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And looks like some parts of 9 can go into Novi and into 11.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Curry and Commissioner Witjes and get back to Commissioner Clark and Szetela.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You can go back and forth and argue where we will have to make a split for a City or Township so on and so forth but we will have to split

somewhere else at that point and I guaranty I can find another reason why not to split that particular one that we are splitting in the future.

So what it comes down to we need to make a decision and stick to it and not going back and forth with trying to tinker where we are going to be splitting a Township or City.

Because where one is going to have to be split and someone is going to have to give and whoever's town is split is not going to like the fact their town is split.

That is my actual thought on the whole situation here.

I think it's VRA compliant.

This is what we have been tasked to do here today for this particular map.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I agree.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's not beat a dead horse when it doesn't need to be beat at this particular point.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think we can make this VRA compliant and do it better.

That is my thought without splitting Canton and Dearborn and Dearborn Heights breaking up two other VRA communities is what I would suggest.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think that right there is probably the most accurate reason why we are trying just to see if you can do it so we are not splitting up those other -- so, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: But do you know what.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Vice Chair thank you if you look and see how crazy 17 looks it looks terrible.

I mean there is nothing rectangular about that at all hardly.

I mean it just looks like somebody just said well we don't care about Detroit.

We are just going to do it any kind of way and make it look triangle or rectangle and Detroit can look like somebody put a cap and gown on and his mouth stuck out sitting down.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It is challenging I agree.

I don't think any of us are.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't think we should do that either so if we do one, we will have to do others and constantly be doing things so that is just you know does not want to be split.

We are really not in Detroit by itself is whole much where we don't even have to be with River Rouge or Ecorse.

You know.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think the reason it's drawn if my understanding is correct Commissioner Curry it's related to the VRA.

Right where the white and Black populations are balanced so yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It may be balanced but it looks too crazy.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Absolutely appreciate that perspective so Commissioners sometimes we talk a lot and I know this is important but I do want to say is it okay if we turn it over to Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Szetela just to try? Okay so I'm seeing some nodding heads.

Please Commissioner Szetela and Commissioner Clark are there any other comments before they take off? And Secretary of State staff Sarah Reinhardt please.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you Commissioner Curry certainly appreciate your input in how the districts are drawn.

I would just remind the Commission generally that the final ranked criteria, the lowest ranked criteria states districts shall be reasonably compact which essentially addresses the shape of the District.

So just addressing that that is your lowest ranked criteria, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Sarah Reinhardt so Commissioner Clark and Commissioner Szetela you are up off and running take it away.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Can we get population numbers up and look at those.

>> MR. MORGAN: By Township or precinct?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's do it by Township right now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Are you looking for just total or specific? Are you looking for Asian? Or.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Oh, I want to get the Asian done.

Those circles up as well just to follow-up on Juanita's concern.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You are all going to move to Canton or Rochester Hills after all this.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: What is that?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It's a joke.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is Canton in the District area 10 and 11 and thematic is Asian population.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: If I were to split Canton, I would split it down at the bottom precincts, but I'd prefer not to split it at all.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You don't have to.

You can redraw it.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: No so John let's eliminate everything we have in the Canton Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Put it back into ten.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: It's in 10 it was in 11 wasn't it.

>> MR. MORGAN: It was in ten.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It was in ten.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Put it back in ten.



>> MR. MORGAN: You are doing it from this map rather than backing up to before Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct okay so now the problem is going to be to look at 11 and see where we are going to get the population 11.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you want to see if Commissioner Szetela has a way to do it? Okay 32 go ahead.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Take off the areas of Dearborn Heights and Dearborn that are in 10 and put them back to 19.

>> MR. MORGAN: Closer to where we started then.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: The balance of Dearborn and this is Dearborn Heights and take 19 close to where it was except for the Redford issue.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you want to put Redford back in 9 which is where it was.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, put Redford back in nine P.

>> MR. MORGAN: If I'm not mistaken, all of Redford was in nine. So I will click on Township.

So it is how it is and has a little bit more population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we will make a few tweaks to the top of 19 so I want you to -- see where just at the top of 19 so let's go to the top of 19 that is helpful.

So I think the area from 9 into 19 so if you were to take this out 19 would be in the state.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Follow the curved line where you were at the precinct there down in the curved line and assign that back to nine so bring it down to the curved line.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Everyone is doing I spent my whole lunch working on this thing and you are undoing everything that I did.

It would have been nice to go eat.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm not undoing everything you did.

This is an alternate map.

I also worked on this over the lunch hour so, okay, Mr. Morgan.

>> MR. MORGAN: Which curved line did Szetela you see the parts jutting out on Redford can you put them back into nine just the two.

It looks like you will grasp three.

So we are going to go a little further along the curved line coming down and take the precincts above it and put it into nine.

So 788, 1839, like that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can you walk us through are these sort of the Arab population or is it clear in your mind.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Not all of that stop.

>> MR. MORGAN: One moment.

Roth to help the rest of the Commissioners to understand your thought process as you are talking out loud.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I was trying to balance moving multiple districts and I think it will become clear when I'm done so go back to where you were John and I will explain everything I did and why I did it.

We will keep 1925 and 1243 in the Dearborn District but 1521, 920, not down to 1630 I done want that to 1521 put that into 9.

And then 1162 take off and put 9, please scroll back over to Livonia.

So Zoom in a little bit there so I can see the numbers there and the shapes.

Okay so 2594 we are going to put into ten so just to the right there.

2594.

And Zoom down or pull it up so I can see underneath so you should have if you see that so 2248 can you put into 10 now let's go back to the upper edge of 9 along the Detroit borrower so I want you to Zoom in along there.

Actually the entire southern portion of Southfield I want you to put into 14.

So now we are going to Zoom in because we need to take a little bit of Detroit out of 9 so Zoom back in the 8 mile line you were just at.

Okay so we are just going to start along that border there.

And we are just going to start taking off the first 1234567 precincts across going up to 1161.

So you see where we just saw 1161 so 1389, 1654, 1662, just keep taking those across and put them into 14.

That's good, thank you.

Okay keep going across and I want you to grab 2042 so keep going.

Yep, right there.

That is perfect do 1764.

And 1116.

Those to.

Okay go back over to the right and we will pull a little from the yellow 1357 just that little bit there.

1360.

>> MR. MORGAN: Did you mean 15.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 1537 and 1360 and then the 712.

Now I need you to Zoom out a little bit so I can see what we have left to change.

Okay so now we are going to go over to Farmington Hills.

Zoom in there so that one big precinct sitting to the left we will assign that into 9.

Can you Zoom out again so we can see what we have and we may need more adjustments so scroll down to Livonia area.

The line for Livonia we will need to bring it up a bit and we need to change it to ten.

Assign 2544, 2003, 2255, and 2304.

So those four precincts right along there.

2304.

Okay.

And then let's Zoom out again so I can see where we are at.

Just a little further.

So now we need to go above to the top of 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: Also I think you had a Township here that was previously in ten. I don't know if you were contemplating that or not.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No, that is fine.

That is superior so it's fine going where it's at.

So I want you to assign Wixom and Walled Lake into 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Then I need you to Zoom in a bit and we will take off the bottom precincts so the one that surrounds Walled Lake we will take all those off around it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Is that what you intended.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, so go on either side and take those precincts off as well, the Jaggy one and then on the what would be your right.

So 3515.

Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would actually leave 3083 and go up more.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 3083 or 3083 Eid aye the one on the east side of Commerce.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You would go further into Wolverine.

Go ahead and suggest what you want to suggest.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think you should move further north into Commerce instead of taking the east side of Commerce.

because the east side of Commerce is more associated with like West Bloomfield Orchard Lake than the west side is.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So then let's go on the right side put back in that one you just took out 3083 per Commissioner Eid's suggestion.

Then take the northern areas and put them into 11 or the west end northern side, does that make sense? So, yes, start going that way.

So Lake Sherwood.

2903 and 2742.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want this one?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, please include in 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: 11 is right on the population at the moment.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Except one dis-contiguity.

Can we put that back in 14? Okay I think that's it.

So now 9 is at 38.64.

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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Instead of 40.74 which is where we were.  
I'm going to write it down what is 9 at now 38.64.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 38.64.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And then we didn't break up Canton.

We put Dearborn back the way it was and not breaking up the Arab American community there as much.

Yeah so, it's just an alternate way.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 13 that remains unchanged.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 13 remains unchanged at 41%.

15 is at or 13 is at 41, 14 is at 34.

6 is at 39.

8 is at 41 so I think they are all in compliance with this.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right so and number nine District 9 is two points lower more in compliance with the V RA.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And what is 10 at?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I don't have the old numbers, but.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: It's low.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's low and it wasn't one of the ones we were focusing on.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Asian though.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm concerned what the change was we are talking about.

Is it a positive or not a positive change.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: At this point it's a positive change if I understand it correctly the difference between what we were drawing before the break right and just after the break and what was just done right the difference here is that ten keeps together a the Arab American which potentially is a VRA District and an Asian District again in ten so 19 and 10 are more complete and not as divided just to break you know bring the voting the Black voting age population into alignment so that was the attempt here.

And so and it is District 9 is lower so it's even more compliant with 38.6% so I think it's positive with the numbers.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Not splitting the Asian population in Canton and not splitting Dearborn.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see Commissioner Curry and Commissioner Eid please.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'll tell you my opinion.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And Commissioner Clark after that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I would like to see that the edge of Detroit see the names of the Townships or streets or something so I can get some a better understanding of what Detroit looks like.

Because so far.

>> MR. MORGAN: One moment I will put up some streets.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Curry are you taking us to 17?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I want to see Detroit and the Townships there, the voting districts or whatever that they makeup.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay before we go too far, I want to make sure we stay on track here.

May I suggest that Commissioner Eid then Commissioner because Commissioner Clark wanted to sort of evaluate what was just done.

So before we go to something new is that okay if we come back to you Commissioner Curry and what you want to do is that okay?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid then Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: The only thing I would potentially change I quite like this configuration but the only thing I would potentially change is that area that's on the south end of District 14 and that it borders with district 9 the areas of Detroit below Southfield.

Or maybe try to include just a couple more precincts with District 9.

It's at 38.64%.

I say let's get it let's just add precincts until we are right on 40% which is where we need to be 40 or below and that way that 14 District doesn't stretch quite as far south as it you know as it is right now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I think that both Commissioner Witjes and Rebecca and myself did a good job Rebecca more than me.

To be honest with you.

Did a good job and they are both acceptable.

I think the one we are looking at right now is more advantageous to us meaning the Voting Rights Act and it keeps Canton in place.

It keeps the Asian group in place together.

It reduces our numbers.

To where we want.

So I would tend to go with that as good of job as Dustin did, I tend to go with this.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And for Juanita's benefit as soon as I'm finished you are next up so.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Fantastic. And, Commissioner Szetela, you did you want to walk us through sort of how you did this or why you did this is that something you want to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I can explain what my thought process is part of the problem with 9 we had so much Southfield. And Southfield is highly concentrated and Redford and the western edge of Detroit.

And so we knew we were going to have to go in Farmington Hills. So I figured putting that Southfield area up into 14, we now have the two VRA districts.

And that way we didn't have to go into Dearborn as much because we have already looked pretty extensively at Dearborn and wanting to preserve the other VRA District of Arab American vote so by shifting things around a little bit and moving Southfield up into 14 we are able to create a strong District there, a strong District 9 without having anybody diluted and also preserve Canton which has that high Asian American population and then also simultaneously take care of keeping the Arab population in Dearborn and Dearborn Heights together.

A balancing act between those four different communities I was trying to sort out in a way to not diminish the vote of any particular population.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent looks like Mr. Morgan has highlighted District 14 at 34.4% so it may be additional opportunity to elect with the Black voting age population almost 35 but not quite there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would say to Commissioner Eid's point about putting a little more in Southfield if we do that, we will take out of 14.

I put those into pump that up as close to 35 as I could.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What I think you are saying we would Commissioner the Black voting age population and reduce it even further in 14, okay.

So that helps justify.

And it also I think say it again Commissioner Curry, please?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't think that is so good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You think that is so good is that what you said?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm not sure whether that is so good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: For Detroit and the surrounding.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is it okay if Mr. Adelson just arrived and Commissioner Curry, I want to get back to you and your District 17.

And I want to help us understand where we may be.

But again because Mr. Adelson just arrived, we have been trying to achieve voting rights compliance with go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That's fine.

But can I do it before he -- can I look at it before he makes it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You want to look at District 17; is that correct?



>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I want to look at Detroit is Detroit District 17?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Detroit is a number of different districts.

All the districts we have been moving around are in the Detroit area.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So help us know exactly or Mr. Morgan know.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm trying to understand mapping so the whole point is to dilute a large population a minority population, right? Is that the point.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: For the Senate District so we are only going 265,000. Yes, this is the Senate District we are drawing.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can I see just some names of the Townships or the districts or whatever it is that I can tell what is connected?

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure so I'm just going to Zoom in on Hamtramck because I think it's a good marker of point where we can use as a reference point.

So this is Hamtramck District 8 is the area of Detroit around Hamtramck.

And goes up north into Warren and then the area of District 17 we talked about, it has the Central part of Detroit and then it goes down into Lincoln Park and Allen Park.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can I see what are some of the Townships up in here? Above Delray what is that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Here is Michigan avenue, it's straight east west. And then here is Fisher freeway down here.

And then this is 75.

So here is Delray.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can you put some more John, can you put some more names of the areas that is near Delray, that is near the Fisher freeway on the left side and.

>> MR. MORGAN: Are you looking for neighborhood names or are you looking For Street names.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Street names or Townships one of the two

>> MR. MORGAN: Here is Dearborn Township.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I know where Dearborn is.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay Wayne state is in District 8.

And then here is Michigan avenue Fishers.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Michigan avenue is predominately white on the north side.

You took us all the way up to 17 Detroit?

>> MR. MORGAN: District 17 has Highland Park, and this portion of Detroit all the way down here and it goes to Lincoln Park.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What is right there under by Windsor on the left hand side of Windsor the name, what is right there?

>> MR. MORGAN: I don't know if someone else can help me with the name of the road here.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: The name of the.

>> MR. MORGAN: Jefferson right here is Jefferson.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What is the here John the grayish blue strip that goes up is that water too?

>> MR. MORGAN: This is water.

This is the border with Canada I think if that's what you're referring to.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay yeah right behind the left hand side of the border to Canada in this little area right above that border.

>> MR. MORGAN: Above the blue border.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Kind of in the middle.

Closer, go up some more, go up some more to the right, to the right.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay to the right kind of up in there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What is that part?

>> MR. MORGAN: Fort.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I need some streets who are we connected to there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's Fort Street does that help.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Nobody lives on Fort Street and nobody lives on in Delray.

So how did you get the minority for Detroit if you split, I mean the different precincts? Because some part of the precinct is not going to have enough to do nothing for.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm not sure Juanita but I think what happened we were trying to balance Highland Park which is heavily African/American.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No, it's not.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Highland Park is not.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No Highland Park is full of.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You're getting lots of nods.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I can't pronounce them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Bangladesh.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Full of Bangladesh.

They are mostly non-African/Americans.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so I think I have a Better Street map as a background.

So I think this covers what you need with some Better Street names.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, Lafayette is just A Street and the houses are, where are the houses? Can you put the Black population up in there for me so I can see?

>> MR. MORGAN: You mean the theme?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: The little dots for the African/American people.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure one moment.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm only saying this because I know when all of this is said and done, they are going to say to me people in Detroit you didn't fight for Detroit so I'm trying to see what is going on so I will have something to say when all this is past. I guess it just appears to me everything stays whole if it's white minority or Bangladesh or non-Hispanic, Blacks everybody stayed together. But looked like Detroit got chopped up and it's a lot of African/Americans there.

So I'm just trying to see where you put everybody.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right and I think.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: The dots are those the dots.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Those are the dots.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to use a pointer and put a little information on here.

So this precinct here is 35% African/American.

That's what that dot is.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can you tell me What Street John?

>> MR. MORGAN: This is Lafayette right off of 75.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay that is not.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is Lafayette boulevard here and then up north this area here is 87% African/American.

And that's temple, Martin Luther king right up in this area.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: So Lincoln Park, River Rouge.

I don't live in either of the three, but couldn't you kind of spread those dots around to the right? To the south side? More south.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are you asking we -- what I'm hearing you say.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't know I'm just saying I made a statement I wish we could have but no.

I'm just trying to see what the population is and who we are going to be voting with when we get ready to vote.

Because I know that all of the different nationalities have been kept together more or less and look like Detroit got a little bomb and split us every kind of way it was.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, and what I hear you saying is you also want to understand why we did it this way is that accurate?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I do understand why it was done that way.

It didn't have to be done that way.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So alternatives.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: But it was done that way.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Want to explore alternatives and we are still at that point Commissioner Curry.

But and I think as we explore and try to get better alternatives, because.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: My thing is I want it in my mind to say that it was drawn fairly.

I know why you kept Canton together.

They are predominately all white.

I know why Birmingham, Bloomfield all those places are predominately white and very wealthy.

I know all of that.

That is what they probably have in contiguous to be together.

But looked like Detroit was along with a few I don't know if they are poor folks or what because.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If you look at.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Split it all kinds of ways.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: The reason I think we are trying to split it is we are trying to get the numbers that we were given from Dr. Handley at 35% with the Black voting age population that is 35% so we did our best to try to draw that with that kind of understanding that the Black voting age population can elect a candidate of choice. I don't think there are any districts even though they may not look like it. And it looks like it's splintered. But there is no District in here with a Black community cannot elect its candidate of choice.

And sometimes we are.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What I'm saying is you got some all kind of people, some may vote and some are not caring about voting.

And I'm trying to see where you put all the people who don't really participate in voting, are they in 13 or.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If you can help us identify where we need to have a higher Black voting age population that would be very helpful is that what you are trying to help us do.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah absolutely.

>> MR. MORGAN: Commissioner Curry this is John Morgan and this is the area you were wondering about, there are a lot of these dots up here in the Central part of District 17.

In the southern part there is fewer dots.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, so you couldn't bring -- John to me it looks like those dots should be more circulated because we are the main Detroit is, it looks like it's where possibly I live and a lot of other people live.

That there is nothing but water and Lafayette big streets and Jefferson which is a Huge Street and not businesses really operating on those streets.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think it might be useful at this point since we have Mr. Adelson and the districts were based on his consultation and advice into these well it might be useful to have him look at these districts and tell us what his thoughts are with respect to voting rights compliance since he is here and we did redraw these to reduce the percentages.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm fighting too I want it to show a good effort was put in for Detroit because Detroit stays in Detroit most of the time and we look out for people.

People are very contiguous in Detroit and have a lot of things in common.

But the you break them up I might walk across the street and don't know nobody or go down the street and be out of my neighborhood.

And don't know the neighborhood that's there.

That's what I'm saying.

I just want to see the names of what people had.

Because.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't see anything else that is broke up like that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You are helping us get oriented to the area you care about and we are trying to use our time today because we are going to be working until 8:00 p.m. and we have this Senate map and we've done some work today to improve voting rights compliance and we have Mr. Adelson and we also recognize that it's not just voting rights that we want to get to today with this map.

We also want to look at partisan fairness and we want to look at other partisan excuse me other compliance issues so Mr. Adelson do you need an orientation about what we have done today or do you want to sort of dive in how can we assist you assisting us?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Good afternoon and yeah, I think an orientation might be good because just in the time that I've been here there have been a lot of adjustments. But I also have a couple of things to say before we do that.

You know as you know it's very important if not essential that Dr. Handley's analysis be followed for compliance.

And there are different forms of that analysis depending on what County we are looking at whether it's Oakland, Wayne, Genesee, and Saginaw and election results tell the story.

A District can be created with whatever the population is unless the election results prove out that minority voters can elbow select their candidates of choice.

The other consideration fall by the wayside.

As we've discussed the adherence of Dr. Handley's analysis the importance of understanding racial bloc voting and I also just as a coincidence I spent a better part of the weekend discussing racial bloc voting in lots of different configurations.

And it is the Supreme Court has made it very clear that if you pack voters, if voters are put in a District in access of what racial bloc voting analysis shows, that's an issue.

And I know we have talked about that.

And we are going to continue to adhere to it, yes, Commissioner Rothorn.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I want to acknowledge that means anything in Genesee County over 35 to 45% is that true?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: A couple things remember these are estimates. These are based on districts that have never operated in an election. So we are...have election results that in the whole matrix have been dis-aggregated to deal with different geographic areas. So I think as Dr. Handley and I had said previously since they are estimates they are not adhering to an absolute 35%, 45% is not something that in my cautious preference that I necessarily would recommend. Having a range, 35-40%, 40-45%, yeah, I think that's more advisable. And I think two as we talked about last week one of the things that you all with doing or the Commission is doing is that much different than other jurisdictions that I'm familiar with or that I've worked with or dealt with. Remember you are unpacking the districts. You are not concentrating minority voters on the basis of race or color. Beyond the level at which Dr. Handley determined. Which is exactly what the Supreme Court says. So what you are doing is very well it is the effort is compliant but you also have to realize too that typically throughout the United States when noncitizen Redistricting Commissions are drawn, there is a lot of packing. A lot of finagling and I will mention just as an aside. One of the areas I was asked to look at over the weekend involves not Michigan and not a state in this part of the country, where politicians from both major parties basically agreed as if changes as possible and the priority is to keep elected officials in office. So that means packing minority voters at 70, 75, 80 percentage and were ready to go. Needless to say this is drawing a lot of attention but that is completely different from what we are talking about here. And the effort that you are making to deal with the issues that we've discussed. So what I would suggest and request, yes, if I could get some kind of introduction to where things have gone this morning and then also, I suggest that we go down the list of districts, with districts starting potentially in the mid-30s with BVAP and see what the election results tell us. How does that sound?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very possible.

Would you like us.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can I say something.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, please I think everybody is doing a great job doing these maps and trying to be as fair and honest as we can. I'm just trying to see if Detroit got a fair -- some people that are not going to ever do anything but drink or play outside, they are not going to go and vote nowhere.



And I was trying to make sure that this area that I know is used to voting don't get split up even though the voting age is the same.

The people don't have a desire to vote you might as well not have the people in the place.

So that is what I'm saying.

That is why I wanted to see.

I know there are people in every nationality that is not going to go around the corner and vote for anybody.

I didn't want to leave Detroit.

I wanted to see where everything is so I know where that area is.

And I don't want to be put in the area where people don't care about voting.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So before we go and look at the election results, I just have something that I'd like to get clarity on.

That might help the rest of the Commissioners too who I believe might be struggling with this.

Mr. Adelson, I appreciate all of the advice that you give us but I got to be honest I'm becoming increasingly uncomfortable with this direction that we're going under.

Because while it is unpacking the districts you know we don't have any District that is close to 90%, 70% or even 60%.

But you know the numbers that we are hitting it just makes me question how is that going to work with actually electing a candidate of choice.

And I think part of the problem I have with this understanding is the analysis did not include primary election results.

So like if we look at District 17 here.

We have it at 35.14% Black voting age population.

If you have a primary election where there is two Black candidates and a white candidate how is it that you know the candidate of choice is actually going to get elected? I understand that in the general election, yes.

All of these districts that we draw are going to be democratic districts.

But that's not where the choice actually happens in these areas.

So I don't know if that helps.

I don't know if I'm being clear on the question I'm asking.

But it's just making me a little uncomfortable having to hit these percentages that are low I would be more comfortable with 45% but 35% thank you Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Absolutely I'm in full agreement with you.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I know that is a message relayed to me by other Commissioners as well so I think just some clarity on that would really help me.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioners just as a reminder to not speak over each other.

It makes the interpretation very difficult so please do not speak over each other.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Eid I heard Commissioner Curry did you want to say something more?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I just wanted to say one more thing Anthony touched on what my sentiments were because I know that if the voting population is so low 25, 30, 35 and not even have of those people vote you might as well not have a population hardly at all.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Curry.  
I know Commissioner Clark but I want Mr. Adelson to respond to what has been asked of him.

Commissioner Clark do you want to go first or should I have Mr. Adelson.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Quick comment.  
Personally I think we have done a commendable job unpacking Detroit.  
It's a difficult thing to do.

And there is going to be some pros and cons to how we did it.

And as would be with anybody.

But it's a heck of a lot better than what we had ten years ago.

So I think we are headed in the right direction.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes or Mr. Adelson first which one would you prefer.

Go ahead then Mr. Adelson.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So I also agree.

I think we have a commendable map here as well.

With unpacking Detroit.

But I also agree that that I share Commissioner Eid's concern with almost the exact same question he asked you.

So I really want to hear that.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: And I have to stress and Commissioner Curry were talking about in areas vote or do not vote and we don't have data that I'm aware of or analysis.

I really have to stress this is a data driven legal process.

It's not an anecdotal process it's not a process where we look at something and make conclusive decisions because of that.

The racial bloc voting is dispositive.

The Supreme Court and Federal courts regularly adhere to and expect the parties to comply with.

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Racial bloc voting analysis, now, I can't tell just by looking at numbers without looking at election results whether or not these are ability to elect districts.

The point about primary elections Michigan has a very interesting has some interesting processes.

One of them is you select Attorney General candidates in conventions.

You don't hold primary elections for Attorney General.

So that is one primary election that there are no primary elections.

From what I understand from the Secretary of State's office and my own research there are no more contested primary elections statewide in Michigan than what you have.

And you only have there has only been one the 2018 gubernatorial primary which as we have talked about is quite revealing.

And has been quite helpful in crafting some of the districts and making some of the decisions.

So primary elections if you had them statewide primary elections would be helpful.

But we have to work with what we have.

And the election results that I've seen are the one primary election from 2018 statewide.

And the general election.

So I think that it's important to remember that.

That is something that is a little different for me.

I really have not been in a situation where so few contested primary elections are on the table.

At least statewide primary elections.

As far as the numbers we talked about that I've always recommended having a cushion that 35% is an estimate.

Building in a cushion is something that I would recommend since these are estimates but I have to strong there can't be any determinations about Voting Rights Act compliance without looking at election results.

So election results tell all.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Seems like that is where we want to go and I see Commissioner Curry is it important to respond or should we go to election results.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I would like to respond because I will forget my thoughts.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Please go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't mean to be the odd ball or the trying to tear down the whole map because I know what we are shooting for and have to do.

But I also know that if you put me in Canton, you put me in Bloomfield Hills Birmingham, Royal Oak and all those places just about 100% of the people that live in those places will vote.

But when you come to Detroit, this I know for a fact, you put some people everybody in Detroit don't vote.

That is probably why they needed all the help they could get.

Because they don't vote.

Half of Detroit right now do not even know what redistricting is.

And it's not our fall.

I know that.

But some people just don't care.

You got that kind of crowd mixed in with Detroit.

That they don't care what happens.

But when you go to a wealthier place, Southfield, all those places, even Dearborn, whatever people are concerned.

They are concerned.

And when you just put a few people that are concerned that is why I wanted to see where the lines were.

When you see just a few people that a block or two that may vote and you got a whole half of a community that won't even go out their door to vote because they think already they have lost, then you got a problem there.

So I don't think the voting, the voting thing with the nationalities I have a problem with that with Detroit.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Curry I think you are helping us give language to the idea we have not looked at socioeconomics, that we don't we have not addressed that yet and we also haven't looked at that sense of engagement or disenfranchisement is this population disenfranchised and maybe because of socioeconomics and you are helping give language to that so thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You're welcome.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is it okay if -- what I want to do is pin that.

I want to hold on to that and see if we can get to it after we get to in the election results and trying to understand somehow where we are because I don't unfortunately at this point, we don't have socioeconomics or disenfranchisement as part of the legal criteria that will lead us to better compliance.

Is that accurate Mr. Adelson?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Well, as we know Commissioner Rothorn and we talked about having more data is better than not having enough data.

I'm not aware of any data that addresses that issue.

Dr. Handley didn't include that in her analysis.

So if there are data that speak to that, great.

But I'm not aware of any and we certainly don't have it available from what I understand.

So we do have the election results which although we don't have more statewide primary results, we have what we have.

And that plus Dr. Handley's analysis are both very instructive and essential to compliance.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Adelson go ahead Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm still going to stand on my thesis that Detroit have although they are African mostly black African/Americans you have the voting population that votes I'm going to stick to that.

People do know.

Bruce you should know because I know it and Dr. Allen whatever she knows it.

What I'm trying to say is the whole politician area knows it.

People know it and know the areas where some people about going to vote.

They already know that and do it at every election and don't look for some people to come out.

That is what I'm saying.

We got to keep some of the places where we know people are not going to get up probably even in those rural neighborhoods.

There may be some people that is not even going to go there but it's going to be to their disadvantage.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are going to build a cushion, Commissioner Curry, because what I hear you saying we need more like 50% more than 35% to justify that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It needs to be higher.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We will try our best. Mr. Adelson will you help us with the election results, please?

I would offer we need 6, 7, 8, 17, 19, 13. And we deliberately tried to unpack 6, 8, 9 and 13 because those are the highest percentages. And we brought them down significantly. And if you would like those numbers, I can give those to you.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 8 not District 17 that Commissioner Curry was talking about.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I want 17 too.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: We talked about a systematic approach to compliance and that is very important for the record and record keeping in general so I would like to start let's start with 6 and work our way down the list.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay here is District 6.

So Zooming in on District 6 it is a portion of Detroit, and then it's Warren then up to Sterling Heights in Oakland County and the current information here is 39.9 non-Hispanic Black and election results is what you want to see.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Please.

>> MR. MORGAN: So District 6 is 65% for Biden, 35 for Trump in 2020. Clinton 66 Trump 34.

In 2012 Obama is 73, Romney is 27.

In the Senate race Peters is 66 and James is 34.

In 2018 Stabenow 66 James 34.

In 2014 Peters is 74, and land is 26.

And then I've got in 2012 Stabenow is 79 and Hoekstra is 21.

For Governor Whitmer is 67.

And Schuette is 33.

For Governor in 2014 shower is 64.

And Snyder is 36.

For Attorney General Nessel 65.

And Leonard is 35.

For Attorney General in 2014 Totten is 63 and Schuette is 37.

And then for Secretary of State 68 for Benson or 69 and 31 for Lange and Dillard is 62 and Johnson is 38 and then for the Governor's race in the primary El-Sayed is 26.

Thanedar is 26.

And Whitmer is 48.

And again that is District 6 election results.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Okay thank you.

I also want to comment about the primary election results and what the gubernatorial. I spoke to Dr. Handley about the whether there is what the primary results what they reveal of Black voting patterns and included in her analysis they are not statistically reliable for to determine the Black voting patterns because it's somewhat of a lack of cohesiveness.

The cohesiveness is part of the Thornburg versus Gingles requirements. So if there is no cohesiveness among a given minority group, then it's difficult to make valid assumptions and conclusions so we talked about that before and I wanted to add that.

So looking at the results 36 shows I believe across the board that candidates of choice prevail.

The elections are relatively close.

But this is not a District where minority candidates lose.

It's a District where minority candidates of choice win including the bellwether elections that involve minority candidates.

Either at the top of the ticket or as Lieutenant Governor nominee or vice Presidential nominee.

So this District based on the results seems to play out meaning seems to perform in the language of the voting rights act to elect candidates of choice.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That's good I'm glad it does currently but it would have done the same thing before we lowered the Black voting age population to what we lowered it.



So I'm trying to figure out what are we comparing this to? Should we compare it to what it was before we made these changes?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Let me speak to something else before I address that I think it's important to remember the U.S. Supreme Court has been absolutely clear that if you put additional minority voters into a District beyond what is needed to elect candidates of choice that's an issue.

So how many there is no bright line figure that over 10%, 20%, 30% but in the Cooper case versus Harris which we have talked about, the there was an African/American community that had for 20 years been electing candidates of choice.

They we below 50% voting age.

46%, 47%.

And they had substantial cross over support.

From white voters which Dr. Handley has also concluded exists in parts of Michigan. Certainly in Wayne County.

So the Court was threw out the districts and threw out the map and said that by including voters minority voters beyond what is necessary that was packing and you have one more voter or 5% voters that is a bright line number.

And in concentrated areas like urban centers you will have an issue that because the population is very concentrated.

It is not always possible to get to mathematical certainty and as I said that I realized that these are estimates so there is no mathematical certainty but what is certain if you pack voters beyond what is needed to elect candies of choice to give voters an opportunity to elect which is why the voting right requires then you run some -- may have some issues. So I don't know if that completely addresses the point but if as I said before if you want to build in an extra cushion, I think I recommend that.

I think that is important because remember you are not building districts unlike what has happened in the state previously or unlike what has happened in some Court cases of 60, 70, 55, 80% minority population.

You are creating districts where you are diversifying population while retaining, protecting the ability to elect candidates of choice.

So I'm all in favor of and support having a cushion.

I would caution that that's not endless.

A cushion does not mean 60%, 55% certainly in a County like Wayne County where there is cross over support and Dr. Handley's analysis is clear.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioners I'm seeing a couple of Commissioners that need a break.

Commissioner Curry do you want to speak to it now or do you want to try to do it after the break?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I won't be long.  
I will be short.

And if they need to go to the rest room you can excuse them, please.

But I just want to say I'm not even thinking about races when I speak of this.

I'm only speaking from what I know.

I know Canton doesn't have a bunch of slouches in their City.

I know Birmingham, Bloomfield, Rochester Hills, Royal Oak I know those places do not have the burden that Detroit has.

You know, and something and it's not any of our faults.

But what I do know is there is a portion, a large portion and it's probably in other places too.

I'm just not familiar with them.

I'm only speaking and Detroit and not because of one way or the other but I'm just putting my two cents in for the City that I live in.

There is more slouches just about in Detroit it's probably half and half.

So when we do 35 or 40 or 39 or 35 it's really going to be half of that.

Because when I say some people don't participate in anything year in year out day in, day out and it's because of social problems.

And so that's automatically knocking Detroit all the way down when that should not be one of them voting rights for Detroit or any other City that has a poor turn out.

And I do know that the politicians, the people that do the voting they know the cities that have a poor turn out. When you are dealing with a whole 265,000 people and you only get 60 of them voting you know that is a poor turn out and it happens every time the voting area takes place, it always happens like that.

That is why Detroit is so concentrated and so big because we needed the extra bunch to get anything done but to each his own.

I'm just throwing that in there.

It's not only for Detroit.

I will feel that way about Canton or any other place in the state.

When you know that that's happening there should be some kind of something to rectify it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Curry.

It is 2:25.

Let's take a ten-minute recess.

I'm going to call it 15.

Hearing no objections let's stand in recess for 15 minutes until 2:40, please.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can someone take this black spot off my -- thank you.  
[ Recess ]

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: As Vice Chair of the Commission I'm going to call the recall the meeting back to order Secretary of State would you please call the roll?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Good afternoon, Commissioners and welcome back from your break.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: When I call your name if you are attending remotely, please announce where you are attending remotely from you can use your County City Township or village.

I'll begin the roll call with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present; attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present; attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothorn?

>> VICE COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Present; attending remotely from Eaton County, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 12 Commissioners are present.

And ready to rumble.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Secretary of State staff we are still working with Senate map 165 making adjustments I believe we are going to return to Mr. Adelson and working towards compliance and trying to use some methodology to get through all of the districts that are required today with our Senate map. I believe Mr. Adelson you were just walking us through the election results and did help us understand District 6 as drawn was relatively okay opportunity to elect so we were going to move on.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Yes, please all election results show that it is a performing District.

So my suggestion is as we did on Friday that we go down the list and if it's appropriate for me to do so just mention districts, look at the election results, see what they show and then just keep going.

If there are districts that need attention, we can just make a note of that and come back later.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Adelson Secretary of State?

>> Can we hold just a second, I think our interpreters froze.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Of course.

Okay Toi are you with us? We are good to go.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So Mr. Adelson it is appropriate, I think we would that, yeah, I think without objection I'm just going to suggest Mr. Adelson if you help us sort of be methodical and get towards a more compliant Senate map before the next recess that would be we would all be grateful.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Okay then let's do it so let's go next to District 8, please and look at the election results.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so looking at Senate District 8 which is Hamtramck a portion of Detroit, Warren and Madison Heights, the election results.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We need a moment while the Secretary of State brings the Zoom meeting back up.

Okay so Mr. Adelson can continue please continue Mr. Adelson.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 8 is Biden is 78, Trump is 22.

For Presidential 16 Clinton is 80, Trump is 20.

For 2012 Obama is 84, and Romney is 16.

For Senate it's 79 for Peters 21 for James.

For U.S. Senate 18 and 78 Stabenow.

And 22 James.

Senate 14 is 85 Peters and 15 land.

For Senate in 2012, 87 Stabenow and 13 Hoekstra.

For Governor it's Whitmer 80.

And Schuette 20.

Then showers 76.

And Snyder is 24.

Then for Secretary of State sorry Attorney General Nessel is 78.

And Leonard is 22.

And 2014 Totten is 77 and Schuette is 23.

For Secretary of State Benson is 20 sorry is 80.

Benson is 80.

And Lange is 20.

And then Dillard is 76 Johnson is 24.

And then for the primary election for Governor in 2018 El-Sayed is 37, 26 for Thanedar and 36 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you all reveals candidates of choice being elected.

Across the board so I think for now let's put an okay and go to our next District, which is let's say 13 please.

>> MR. MORGAN: You are skipping over nine?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Did we do.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 9 identified and worked on and for clarity I'm trying to keep track of the districts we want to return to thus far there are no districts we need to return to.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: No districts where minority of choice are losing. They have won in all of them.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So we are moving from District 1 now we are on district 9 and so far, so good no redistrict.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Absolutely.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 9 here which is a portion of Detroit, all of Redford Township, a substantial portion of Livonia and then Farmington and Farmington Hills a portion of Farmington Hills.

As configured now the non-Hispanic Black voting age population is 38.6.

And the election results will follow.

So this is District 9 so for president in 2020 it is it's going to be sorry let me go back here to nine so 69 for Biden, and 31 for Trump.

Clinton is 68 and Trump is 32.

Obama is 68 and Romney is 32.

Peters is 70 for U.S. Senate and James is 30.

For Stabenow in 2018 for Senate it's 67 for Stabenow.

And James is 33.

Senate 14 is Peters 70 and land 30.

Stabenow in 12 is 73.

And 26 for Hoekstra.

In the Governor's race 69 for Whitmer and 31 for Schuette.

And then in 2014 it's 60 for shower and 40 for Snyder.

And Attorney General in 2018, 67 for Nessel and 33 for Leonard.

And then in 2014 it's 61Totten and 39 Schuette.

For Secretary of State it's 70 for Benson and 30 for Lange.

For 2014 it's 58 for Dillard and 42 for Johnson.

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And the gubernatorial primary in 18 it's 29.5 for El-Sayed, 22.5 for Thanedar and then we have 48 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you.

Which of the districts that please remind me have the larger Arab American population?  
19.

Is this just one or is there another one? Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: In the Senate the populations are larger so there is probably just one Senate District.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Okay thank you.

So same all the election results prove out and does appear to be a performing District based on election results.

All the bellwether elections indicate that minority candidates of choice prevail.

So now let's go to 8, please.

Did we already do 8?

>> MR. MORGAN: We have done 8 and 9.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: 13.

>> MR. MORGAN: 13 as drawn is portion of Detroit with Oak Park and Royal Oak and all the way up to Birmingham in Oakland County and it's 41% non-Hispanic Black voting age population.

And this is District 13 so the election results for District 13 are 78 for Biden, 22 for Trump.

Clinton 78, Trump 22.

Obama is 77.

One moment.

Just get the right one again.

Okay 77 for Obama.

And 23 for Romney.

And then for U.S. Senate Peters 76 and James is 24.

Stabenow is 75 in 2018 and James 25.

For U.S. Senate in 14 it's Peters 79 and land 21.

In Senate 2012 it's Stabenow is 80 and Hoekstra is 20.

The Governor's race is 2018 is 77 for Whitmer, and 23 for Schuette.

And then Governor 2014 is 66 shower and 34 Snyder.

Attorney General Nessel 77 and Leonard is sorry, let me back up.

76 and 24 for Leonard.

Then in Attorney General 2014 is 70 for Totten and 30 for Schuette.

Secretary of State is Benson 77%.

And Lange 23.

Dillard is 65.5 to 34.5 for Johnson.

And gubernatorial primary 34 El-Sayed, 19 for Thanedar and 46 for Whitmer.



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>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Also in this District all the elections indicate performance particularly in the bellwether elections, all of the minority candidates of choice prevail so based on the election results I would say let's also put a checkmark here and this does appear to be a performing District where minorities can elect candidates of choice. So now let's go to 14, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay currently as drawn District 14 has a small portion of Detroit, all of Southfield, it's Bloomfield, Bloomfield Hills, Orchard Lake and Wolverine over here, one of these is Commerce Township, I think. Sorry yeah.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: John one moment I have a question. Is most of the District is in Oakland County? Okay, Dr. Handley in her analysis referenced Oakland County as having a 40% approximately threshold, not 35%.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We had 42-43%.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: That is a good kind of benchmark guidepost. This would be the only District I've been looking at today that is below her threshold for Black voters being able to elect candidates of choice by voting age population. So we will look at the election results as well of course. But this is 6% below what she recommended. So I would say offhand that this would be something that I would recommend reexamining.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: In other words increasing the Black voting age population in that District in particular.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Right in her analysis she concluded that for Black voters to elect candidates of choice in Oakland County 40% threshold should be, would be the minimum because there was at least one bellwether election as I recall where the minority candidate of choice lost.

So we haven't seen that in going down the list so far.

So that number does raise some concerns.

That is why I would suggest it deserves reexamination.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I have noted it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Election results as currently drawn in District 14 are 67 for Biden, 33 for Trump.

Clinton 66, Trump 34.

In 2016.

In 2012 Obama is 64.

Romney 36.

Peters is 65 and James is 35 for U.S. Senate.

In 2018 Stabenow is 66.5.

And James is 33.5.

And then for U.S. Senate in 2014 it's 68 for Peters.

And 32 for land.

In 2012 Senate it's Stabenow 68 and Hoekstra 32.

And then for Governor Whitmer is 68 and Schuette is 32.

In 2014 shower is only 54 and then Snyder is 46.

And then for Attorney General Nessel is 66 in 2018.

And 34 for Leonard in sorry 2018.

And then in 2014 it's 58 for Totten and 42 for Schuette.

And then for Secretary of State it's 68 Benson and 32 Lange.

Then for Secretary of State 2014 it's 54 Dillard and 46 Johnson.

For the gubernatorial primary it's 28% for El-Sayed, 18 for Thanedar and 53 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: So election results also prove out here, but the percentage being below what Dr. Handley recommended, that's why I'm suggesting reexamining this to as we proceed, after we proceed down our list.

>> MR. MORGAN: Next District that was discussed looks like it was 17; is that correct?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We did for in the morning when we were reviewing, we did have just 6, 8, 9 and 13 identified.

I do believe we have talked about District 17 so it's appropriate to absolutely go there.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Yes, great point let's do that.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 17 as we've discussed before it has Highland Park, part of Central Detroit, and then it has the towns to the south Ecorse, Allen Park, River Rouge, Melvindale, Lincoln Park, and Taylor.

And the current African/American population is 35.1 African/American voting age non-Hispanic.

And the election results for District 17, 70 Biden, 30 for Trump.

In 2016 it's 72 Clinton and 28 Trump.

For president in 2012 it's Obama 80 Romney 20.

For U.S. Senate it's 70.5 for Peters and 29.5 for James.

In 2018 U.S. Senate it's 72 for Stabenow and 28 for James.

In 2014, 81 for Peters and 19 for land.

Stabenow is 84 and Hoekstra is 16 in the 2012 Senate.

For Governor in 2018 it is Whitmer 73 and Schuette 27.

And then for Governor 2014 shower is 73 and Snyder is 27.

Attorney General Nessel is 72 and Leonard is 28. And 2014 Attorney General is 73 Totten and 27 for Schuette. Secretary of State in 2018 is Benson 74, Lange 26.

2014 is 72 for Dillard and 28 for Johnson.

For the gubernatorial primary it's 28 for El-Sayed, 29.6 for Thanedar and then 42 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you.

So here as well the election results indicate it's a performing District for minority voters. One inference I will make because we don't have that about this, this has a 16% BVAP Hispanic age population and it's possible it may help the margins in this District but because we don't have data yet on cohesiveness among different minority groups that is not something I would conclude.

It's just an inference because there is somewhat of a different in performance in this District and that's just something I am inferring.

But as we've talked about, please don't make determinations of based on total minority population because we simply don't have analysis that shows cohesiveness across groups.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and then I think you had talked about District 19 and you talked about an Arab American District and then otherwise that covers all the Senate districts in the Detroit area.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Let's look at that.

I'd also like to see the Senate districts please in the Flint Saginaw areas as well. But let's look at 19.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay 19 the demographics of 19 as drawn right now are 27% African/American and just under 8% Hispanic.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: If I could make a suggestion before when we go to the election results let's look at the El-Sayed race first because this does have a significant Arab American population as we have seen before and that election result should be revealed.

>> MR. MORGAN: Senate District 19 as drawn going directly to the gubernatorial primary.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: It's 49 for El-Sayed.

One moment I lost my thread.

Okay so repeating again District 17 is 49 El-Sayed, 19 for Thanedar and 32 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Okay so let's look at that.

When we had we've looked at this before.

El-Sayed is a strong marker for Arab American support and the fact that this is the only District we've looked at just in our recitation now where he has either won or if he won by such a large margin.

So I'm pretty comfortable with considering this District being a performance District for Arab Americans and I would suggest we look, we can let's run the panoply of results just to confirm other conclusions.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Before we do that it was interesting there was another 48% in the gubernatorial was that for District 20?

>> MR. MORGAN: That was not District 20 that is District 16 in Oakland County this is Troy and Rochester Hills I think that was District 16 but let me double check because it skips around because I'm doing show districts in the view so one moment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I did not want to get us off track and wanted you to continue but felt it was worth noting a very high District that we may have drawn and, yeah.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Anecdotally do you have information about Arab American community in that District?

>> MR. MORGAN: I want to be clear it's District 27 I think is the one that was showing that way.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's Ann Arbor.  
I believe El-Sayed is actually from Ann Arbor.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm sorry about the confusion, it was not adjacent number and I had the spreadsheet to show Districts in the view.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid do you have a comment.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Sterling Heights does have a large Chaldean American population which is Arab American.  
But I don't think it's size, I don't think it's as sizable as some of the other populations there.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you and back to you Mr. Adelson please help us continue.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON:

>> MR. MORGAN: Other election results in 19.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Yes please, thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: So District 19 is here and again I shouldn't have drawn attention to that because it wasn't a District hit was just the District in the view, not adjacent okay so District 19 for Biden is 75.

And for Trump is 25.

And 2016 Clinton 75, Trump 25.

2012 is Obama 77 and Romney 23.

For Senate it's Peters 76 and James 24.

And in 18 it's Stabenow 76 and James is 24%.

In 2014 Peters is 77 and land is 23.

Stabenow is 81 and 19 for Hoekstra.

For Governor it is 77 Whitmer and 23 for Schuette.

For 2014 Governor shows 66, 34 for Snyder.

Attorney General Nessel 75 and Leonard 25.

Then Totten is 67 and 33 for Schuette in 2014.

Secretary of State Benson is 77 and Lange is 23.

Secretary of State 14 is 65 for Dillard and 35 for Johnson and El-Sayed for this District we talked about already 49, 19 Thanedar and 32 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you.

And just so I can keep track of the -- this is 19.

So the bellwether election results on all the statewide election results indicate this is a performing District for minority candidates.

I think they sweep the chosen election results so this does based on the election results this is a District where minorities can elect candidates of choice.

Now, I had a question about approach.

Were you focusing only on the Detroit districts right now or do you want to look at districts elsewhere in the state?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Well I think what we are doing to do is be methodical which you advised us and would be helpful if you could help us be as methodical as possible and get closer, help us be methodical.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Let's be methodical Flynt Saginaw.

>> MR. MORGAN: I have District 1 that includes Saginaw Senate District one has Saab thank you Midland and Bay City and some surrounding Townships.

The minority population for African/American is a non-Hispanic Black voting age of 11.3 in District 1.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: And is 15 the District with Flint?

>> MR. MORGAN: District 4 has Clint and contains all of Flint and the surrounding Townships to the south and southwest and that is 26.6 non-Hispanic Black voting age population.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Let's look at the election results please

>> MR. MORGAN: Flint or Bay City Saginaw?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Flint.

>> MR. MORGAN: Election results for District 4 as drawn District 4 is 62 for Biden and 38 for Trump.

62 for Clinton and 38 for Trump in 16.

In 2012 Obama 70 and Romney 30.

For U.S. Senate it's 63 Peters and 37 James in 2020.

In 2018 it's Stabenow 65 and James is 35.

Then Peters is 73 and land is 26 in 2014.

In 2012 Stabenow is 75 and Hoekstra is 25.

Then Governor Whitmer is 67 and 33 for Schuette.

Governor 2014 is 67 shower and 33 Snyder.

Attorney General is Nessel is 63 and Leonard is 37.

And Attorney General 2014 is 63Totten and 37 Schuette.

For Secretary of State it's Benson 67 and Lange 33.

Dillard is 64 and Johnson is 36.

And El-Sayed for Governor is 23%, 26 for Thanedar and 50 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Okay thank you so District for the election results are similar that the candidates of choice the minority population the Black population are all elected including all the bellwether elections.

So you'll note that even though the BVAP here is 27% don't be fooled by numbers in the sense that it must be 55% or 50% or 42%.

Voters in districts sometimes can be quite surprising.

I learned in my career.

So the fact that this has 27% non-Hispanic Black voting age population may at first blush indicate there may be some difficulty in electing in the presence of racial bloc voting.

But the election results answer that question and that is why it's so essential assumptions in this context are best put on hold until the election results are looked at.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is this an opportunity just to clarify it is for is basically overpopulated.

We could under populate to try to attempt that 35 to 40% with I is in Genesee County that is what Dr. Lisa Handley gave us we are 27%.

What I'm hearing you very clearly, we don't right the voting results help us understand this is an opportunity to elect.

And if we want to respect that idea that we need a cushion and that maybe even the voters especially the Black voters want a cushion we could attempt to do that.

So I'm just going to put that in my notes we could under populate it and achieve some more parody potentially is that also accurate?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Commissioner Rothorn that is a great point. Under remember this is not a Congressional plan so you have a lot more leeway under populating and over populating.

The Supreme Court has been clear that compliance with the Voting Rights Act as well as the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment are legitimate state interests in redistricting, that do permit some level of under or over population.

It is really important to stress that because this is not a Congressional plan you are not required to have absolute in your absolute population equality.

A buffer can always be good and I know having lived in Flint and been there many times over the years that once you get out of the City there are populations in the rural area that don't have the same demographics as the City.

So as we've seen elsewhere that may have a dilutive impact and that is something to keep in mind too if this is a District you would like to reexamine.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you and to be clear so far, we are within compliance.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Yeah, all of the districts we have seen from election results indicate performance, indicate that minority candidates of choice win.



>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Except for 14.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Remember 14 was the, was that the 34%?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And it needed to be at a minimum of 40% because it was in Oakland County.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: To that point even though the election results were positive, the fact it's 6 percentage points below Dr. Handley's analysis concerns me. And remembering that her analysis, is an estimate. No elections have been run of course in these districts. So it is an estimate.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Let me bring it back to District Four which is also 27% and it's significantly under the 35% minimum that Dr. Handley said for Genesee County which brings me back to the idea we could under populate so it sounds like we should be consistent and try to get to that area that Dr. Handley says is a minimum.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I think that is a good point and it's something to look at. Right now the deviation is 1%.

So I'm certainly very mindful of the requirement that if you do over or under populate state legislative districts you must have a state policy justification that can be, for example, Voting Rights Act compliance.

It can be other aspects of your criteria.

But excuse me, that when you do under or overpopulate you just have to explain well, we did it because of XY and Z.

And if that is a legitimate state policy justification like Voting Rights Act compliance is, then that's good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

Keep on going or are we done?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Well, keeping with our systematic approach let's go to the Ann Arbor area, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Ann Arbor is contained in one District so that is District 27.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can we maybe help with the colors? Because there is an unfortunate number of districts seem to have the same colors sometimes but this is 29 okays 29 and 27 are different, okay.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I appreciate your comment about color because there are times that I look at these maps and I'm convinced that I need another visual check because some of these colors just run together for me so I appreciate that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: In Flint, it also had two purple districts. Commissioner Eid.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is 27.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid then Mr. Adelson.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Looking at Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti there are a few things we talked about previously that we should keep in mind.

The first being the high Asian population I believe it was in northern Ann Arbor. And then the second is the partisan fairness analysis that was run on Friday which showed this map to republican and I think that this would be a primary area to look at to maybe separating Ann Arbor from Ypsilanti somehow many order to get partisan fairness numbers closer to 0.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thanks Commissioner Eid and back to you Mr. Adelson.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: For now we are just hop scotching around the state to look at potential voting rights issues.

Certainly the partisan fairness issue is one of the criteria so and I do remember that there being a sizable Asian population here.

So let's just see what this District reveals.

Yes, a we are seeing 12% Asian, VAP and 12% BVAP so about 24% combined.

But again we have no analysis about cohesiveness so I'm not going to draw any conclusions from that.

But I am curious let's see what the election results reveal.

>> MR. MORGAN: For Senate District 27.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Please.

>> MR. MORGAN: So Senate District 27 is Ann Arbor, Ann Arbor Township over to Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township down to Salem. So for President in 2020 it's Biden 82, Trump 18. In 2016 it's Clinton 80, Trump 20.

Obama is 75 and Romney is 25.

For U.S. Senate it's 79 Peters and 21 for James.

Stabenow is 80 and James 20 in 2018.

In 2014 you have Peters 77 and land 23.

In 2012 it's 78 Stabenow and 22 the Hoekstra.

For Governor it's 81 Whitmer and 19 for Schuette.

Then for 2014 it's 65 shower and 35 Snyder.

For Attorney General it's Nessel 80 and Leonard 20.

Then Totten69 and 31 for Schuette in 2014.

Secretary of State is 81 Benson and 19 Lange.

And Dillard is 65 to Johnson 35 in 2014.

And then the Governor's race is 49 sorry 48.6 El-Sayed and 8% for Thanedar and 43 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you.

This is not a minority plurality District.

It is perhaps could be described as an influenced District where minority voters can influence the outcome but they can't they are not determinative.

And I was curious what the results are.

My last suggestion is if we could go to Grand Rapids and then there may be some other as we look at the map more broadly there may be some other places we look at.

But as I recall there were a couple of districts in the Grand Rapids area that had significant minority voting age population.

So I guess that's 23.

Let's go with 23.

>> MR. MORGAN: Grand Rapids you have one District is a portion of Grand Rapids to the north and the other is a portion of Grand Rapids with Kentwood to the south.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Let's look at the results for 23 please.

>> MR. MORGAN: 23 is the it's 15% African/American and non-Hispanic then it's 15% Hispanic.

District 23 you want election results.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Please.

>> MR. MORGAN: 2020 it's 64 Biden and 36 for Trump.

And in 2016, 60 Clinton and 40 for Trump.

Obama 56 and Romney 44 in 2012 for U.S. Senate it's Peters 61 and James 39.

Stabenow is 60 and James is 40.

In 2014 it's Peters 54 and land 46.

2012 Stabenow 57 and Hoekstra is 43.

And then for Governor Whitmer is 62 and Schuette is 38.

And then in 2014 it's shower 45 and Snyder 55.

And then Nessel in Attorney General is 59 and 41 for Leonard and for 2014 it's 45 for Totten and 55 for Schuette.

For Secretary of State it's Benson 62, to Lange 38.

And then Secretary of State 14 is 44 Dillard and 56 for Johnson.

For Governor primary it's 44 for El-Sayed, 15 for Thanedar and 40 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Okay thank you.

So this District is similar in that there is no one minority plurality and the election results are not consistent including one of the bellwether election.

Minority candidate of choice lost.

I was just my recollection is as I saw about 30% minority VAP so I was curious about the results.

I think it's similar to what we have looked at previously.

There is no one minority as a plurality here.

And we don't have information or analysis about voting patterns.

So clearly this District is much different than the Wayne County, Oakland County, Detroit districts we looked at where all of the elections proved out that's not true here.

As I said I think we have gone through all of the districts that on the surface with population are suggestive of examination.

There may be some other places that we looked at as you move forward.

But my suggestion for now is to look at 14 and the Flint District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Which is number four.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: And seeing what how you wish to proceed.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good.

And if we so what I'm also hearing you say if we try to fix those right now that would be your suggestion rather than moving on to let's say more compliance with partisan fairness for example.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Well my suggestion is that we are on the VRA topic and we.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Stick with it.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Let's do those two districts.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: See what the will of the body is and after we have the VRA issues with a check, then I think partisan fairness is the next topic to move on to.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good thank you Mr. Adelson so I believe we are on to Commissioner Clark and I wonder Commissioner Clark if you are willing to tackle 14 or 4.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes 14 is great.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Fantastic.

>> MR. MORGAN: 14 in Oakland County.

Here it is.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm going to try to deal with increasing what we need to do.

Let's take Pontiac and assign to 14

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Did you want to say something Commissioner Eid or do you want him to go first? Keep going Commissioner Clark.

>> MR. MORGAN: So all of the City of Pontiac into 14?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so 14 is currently 10,000 over and so with Pontiac now it will be 71,000 over but I have to put it in the correct District one moment.

So that is into 14 now 14 is overpopulated by 72000.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go west a little bit.

Yeah, let's take over near Wolverine Lake on 43058 let's take the rest of that.

>> MR. MORGAN: The rest of the Township.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And put it into 18.

>> MR. MORGAN: The Township is split so I have to do this by precinct.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: Balance of Commerce Township into 18.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yep.

>> MR. MORGAN: There is a contiguity issue we will address here in a moment.  
Did you want this precinct from 11 or do you want to hold off on that?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me look at what I've done here, hold on.  
No I think I want to hold off at the moment.

>> MR. MORGAN: So I'm going to take this out.  
I will split that into 11.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Sure.  
>> MR. MORGAN: Just a moment let me catch up.  
And I'm going to save when I work with the blocks I tend to want to save more because that is when the program likes to crash occasionally.  
Okay so 18 is currently 23,000 over and 14 is 36,000, sorry, 18 is under by 24 and 14 is over by 36.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 14 is over but I 36.  
So where you got your pointer let's take that whole Township.  
>> MR. MORGAN: The entire Township?  
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.  
>> MR. MORGAN: Putting that in which District?  
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Put it in with you will have to put it in with 18.  
>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.  
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And we will reduce 18.  
>> MR. MORGAN: I got Orchard Lake first all of West Bloomfield including Orchard Lake.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.  
>> MR. MORGAN: Keego Harbor and Sylvan Lake "Yes" or "No."  
>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, they wanted to be together.  
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I want to try to keep them together.

Would you agree Anthony?  
>> MR. MORGAN: Sylvan Lake, Keego Harbor Orchard Lake and West Bloomfield and now District 18 is over by 48,000 and District 14 is under by 36.  
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: District 14 is under.  
>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, so you need to look at taking something from 18 or another District.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, let's take Auburn Hills.  
>> MR. MORGAN: Into 14.  
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Into 14, yeah.  
Okay and let me and the colors we are green, green, and green this is Kermit the frog plan.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Please do.  
So 14 is a little low but it's still less than 5%.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just a moment let me do this District two a different color or yeah, I think District two will work.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It looks like you are within deviation.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 35 to 46 that is why I took this approach, so now 18 is high.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is right. And adjacent Districts 2 is a little over, 11 is right on.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, so if 18 is let's 18 is high.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I don't see the number.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm sorry, one moment, okay I'm just going to adjust to showing the districts in the view which collapses us a little bit in the spreadsheet.

So 18 is over by 24,000.

And then you've got District 11 which is here which could take.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 18 is over District 11 can take some.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is right so you have here you have Wixom, Walled Lake and looks like about two precincts of Commerce but you're looking to take into 11 out of 18 or you have West Bloomfield here as well.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, let's take those out of 18 and see where we are at.

>> MR. MORGAN: So we are taking portions of Commerce, precincts into 11.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, hate to break that up but so be it.

I got to break something else.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid has some thoughts.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Please Zoom out a little bit.

>> MR. MORGAN: Did you want to take the precincts or Zoom out first?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go ahead and take them out then we will get them in.

>> MR. MORGAN: All right so into 11 and then let me get the let met turn off the precinct numbers and just put the population on so that is my labeling.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: So let's get.

>> MR. MORGAN: Looking at taking looks like you're probably going to need up to 12000 maybe a little less than that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go ahead and do that.

>> MR. MORGAN: This one at 3,000.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Take that one and 3107, those two.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's see where that puts us and make sure 11 is in sync.

Put those into 11.

I think we took them out at one point. I'm not sure.

>> MR. MORGAN: At this point 14 is, not 14, 11 is 4.1 over and 18 is 5.1 over.



>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go north.

>> MR. MORGAN: To remove something 31 is under by a lot.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You have 14.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 31 is under.

>> MR. MORGAN: 31 is under by 13,000 and adjacent to 18.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Hold on before you add Holly.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark, you still have you know you're on target for the minimum voting age population for 14 and you're still under populated so you could still move you know you can move more population from 18 into 14 to reduce 18 and that is a direct.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me look at 18.

So let's take.

>> MR. MORGAN: Springfield would be close to the total number and 31 would be again that's about the right number if you were looking to equalize between those two.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 14.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If you have a pattern with 31, I apologize I don't want to get you off track.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: That is okay.

See I don't want to move something in 14.

I don't want to break up Waterford or orchard or Sylvan Lake.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent head back to 31.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go back to 31 so 31 is over.

>> MR. MORGAN: 31 is under populated by 13,000 and 18 is currently overpopulated by 13 and Springfield is about 14.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Move Springfield over.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid did you have a thought?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I think we are probably going this route we are probably going to have to reexamine 11 and take a look at it.

Which I don't want to do but I think we are going to have to at this point.

And do you know what before I say anything else we finish up what you're doing because I think you're doing a great job especially with 14 but we shook look at election results of 14 to see if it made a difference.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay we will do that in a minute.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay I'm just going to adjust the color of now we are up in the north I have yellow on yellow.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Please do and I want to look at the districts we changed which are 14 and 18 and I think.

>> MR. MORGAN: I adjusted the color of 18 so you adjusted 14 and 18 primarily and a little bit of 11.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 18 is in sync14 is in sync.

>> MR. MORGAN: 11 is what little over.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 11 is a little over.

Let's look at 11 and I may pass that on to somebody else.

>> MR. MORGAN: So because you adjusted 18 on the north side with District 31 now 18 is under populated by 1100 and then 11 is over by 10,000.

So if you wanted to do that there is now room in 18.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think above 18, 11 is above District 18.

I think 11 wraps around if I'm not mistaken or is that 31.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is 31.

Let me do one more adjustment if I may so we can see it better.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I hate moving or splitting Commerce up but.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm just adjusting 31 to be a different color.

So again you were looking down here in the Commerce area.

You have Wixom, Walled and a portion of Commerce and here you have West Bloomfield.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: So let's go up and take the upper Townships in Commerce.

>> MR. MORGAN: Take more of Commerce.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Taking Commerce out.

>> MR. MORGAN: It's currently split so you would be adding into 18 if you add it.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Adding into 18.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark we are in a compliance phase and want to offer before too much gets in you were considering handing this off and wanted to acknowledge.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 11.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What your adjustments are you mentioned that and wanted to acknowledge this is where Commissioner Vallette and Commissioner Eid had done a lot of drawing before and so if they want to weigh in, I want to just create an opportunity just in case that we, yeah, make sure we use our time well.

People who are familiar with the area that they may want to, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Which one did you just change.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry I took the one for 2900 into 11 and there is still sorry into 18 so we brought 11 down to 7700 over if you wanted to take more you could.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's just stop it there and let somebody else analyze 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want to look at 14.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I want to look at 14 and have Bruce comment on what we've done as far as the stats on that.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Excuse me, the numbers have certainly changed.

And we can look at the election results.

I mean the changes appear to be positive.

But let's look at the bellwether election results for 14.

>> MR. MORGAN: For District 14.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: And 14 is in Oakland and Wayne County.

>> MR. MORGAN: It has a very small portion of Detroit up here.  
It's primarily in Oakland.

>> MR. MORGAN: The election results were good before.

Let's just look at the bellwether election results.

And that should be I think that would be enough for now.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so for District 14 it's Biden 76 and Trump is 24.

And Clinton is 76 and Trump is 24.

Obama is 76 and Romney is 26.

Peters is 74 and James is 26.

And then Stabenow is 74 and James is 26 in 2018.

In 2014 it's 75 for Peters and 25 for land.

In 2012 it's Stabenow 77 and Hoekstra 23.

In 2018 Governor 75 for Whitmer and 25 for Schuette.

For Governor in 2014 it's showers 65 and Snyder 35.

And then 74 Nessel and 26 for Leonard for tone general.

67 for Totten and 33 for Schuette.

And then for Secretary of State Benson 76 and Lange 24.

And then Secretary of State 2014 is 65 to Johnson's 35.

And then for the gubernatorial primary it's 28 El-Sayed, 24 Thanedar and 48 for Whitmer.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: So as I thought the District is a highly performing District. The minority population based on the election results clearly has an opportunity to elect and so I think that the changes Commissioner Clark I think the changes are good.

They are not impacting anything, the Federal criteria negatively.

They give that cushion that Commissioner Rothhorn referred to and that I certainly endorsed so I think those are very positive changes.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think we accomplished our objective on that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Clark and took 14 off our list and we have four to go and we do have because of this changes that may have happened I think Commissioner Eid wanted to say something, I wanted to open up the floor to Commissioner Vallette if there were thoughts but Commissioner Eid first.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, I'm going to be honest I don't like the changes at all.

I mean I understand why we did it to become VRA compliant but it doesn't seem like it had a significant change on the election results.

But it does have a significant change on communities of interest.

I mean we were just in Oakland County at OU and the thing we heard from our in person live public comment was that this is one of the areas that we got right.

And now we changed it and I understand why we changed it but it doesn't really to me seem to have any significant effect because the election results were the same before.

I mean to me it just seems like we put Southfield and Pontiac together which are two communities that don't have much to do with each other, other than the color of their skin.

So I don't know.

I think it's I think while it's better for or it might be better for VRA reasons it's really much worse for community of interest reasons.

So I don't know if maybe we can get some advice on how the election results impact this.

Because that's what is confusing me here.

If this election results are the same as it was before the changes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think you are speaking to many of us who are challenged by it and if we refer back to criteria number one as VRA and we are trying to achieve compliance and we've drawn communities of interest, drawn with communities of interest in mind and trying to get voting rights compliance which is number one not number three so I think unfortunately that is the shortest and quickest answer to your question.

I know it hurts believe me.

And I think Commissioner Vallette had another thought.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I think this is definitely better.

I think this is a good map.

I think that I read public comments that the people of Pontiac said they did have things in common with Southfield.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: All right yeah so and that I'm seeing some nodding heads so just acknowledging that we each that is why we are all 13 because each of us sees something else and yeah, we are all part of the whole.

So just before we move on to District 4 and I guess Commissioner Curry you're on deck to be the next Commissioner to draw before we do that are there places that we want to adjust in 11 or 31 or are we they are all in line.

Any strong feelings Commissioners who live in this area? Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Do you say for 11 or 18?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: As things were adjusted, I just remember seeing hands coming up, and since I know you live in the area before we move on, I wanted to

see are there small changes you feel are significant or can we move on to District 4 with Commissioner Curry?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: There are changes I would like to see.

Can we scroll down further into 18 and 11? So I think you know we are going to have to look at this and do something with it.

And you know we are right to the east of Ypsilanti as well so we might want to look at that too somehow incorporating that into 11 and maybe putting Novi and Farmington Hills into 18 and then taking off that top portion of 18 which has you know Waterford and the more northern Oakland County Townships.

So I mean yeah, we can look at doing it now.

It's going to mess up 11 but I think we might have to do that in order to maintain some sort of community balance with this.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Because you're going to be right after Commissioner Curry may I suggest we move to Commissioner Curry and she can potentially work in District 4 and then you can try to play with the ideas that you have.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Sure.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: All right Commissioner Curry how you feeling? We can't see you on the screen.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well they cut me off but I guess it's back on.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay we can hear you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I know.

Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: There you are.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can you turn it up where I can see the words in it? John?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I'm going to put the Township names on so that should help. So we are looking now at the Flint area, okay, so the center of the District is Flint which is 81,000 people.

And there is three large Townships immediately around Flint mount Morris, Flint Township and Burton and to the south there is a large Township named Grand Blanc and then on the west side there is smaller Townships.

And I think that the contemplation here according to Commissioner Rothorn was to lower the deviation some; is that right Commissioner Rothorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, to lower the deviation from or excuse me to increase the Black voting age population percentage by under populating.

That was my theory.

But again I don't know that that will, right, I sometimes think I know what I'm talking about and I say it and then yeah.

>> MR. MORGAN: So the current status of District 4 is the non-Hispanic Black population is voting age Black population is 26.6 and the deviation is positive 1% or 2700 over.

And then this is kind of the maximum deviation here that not quite maximum but this is not a District that's adjacent but just as an example this is 11,000 under and it's negative 4% so you could go towards the lower end of the deviation by taking out up to 14,000 people.

But then it will affect the other districts nearby of course.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 15 has lower deviation.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Is there any way you can turn your letters up so I can read it a little better and the numbers? Okay I can see it now, thank you, John.

Seems like a hard one here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is a hard one Commissioner Curry you're absolutely right.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Should have left with the big boys.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you want some help Commissioner Szetela may be able to help if you want.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What I will do is start it and Commissioners feel free to jump in and give me some advice one way or the other.

Flint has or is that 8152, 81, 8,000 what is that.

>> MR. MORGAN: 81,000 and this is an area that has substantial minority population here in Flint proper.

And also Burton.

I don't think Grand Blanc has as much minority population.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: They don't and the goal is to take out some of the minority in Flint possibly and put it in another District.

>> MR. MORGAN: No the goal was to leave minority population in Flint and take out some nonminority population so yeah so with that in mine you might look at mount Morris or Grand Blanc or possibly part of Burton.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm kind of familiar with Grand Blanc and Burton. So let's do Flint.

81,000.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want to keep Flint in this District.

I think that is what the idea was.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We have been tearing them apart and trying to put them back together so if anybody chooses to, they can do it if I don't get it halfway right. Flint the 81252.

>> MR. MORGAN: That stays in the District, right.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay that is and give me Burton.



I need the other Flint, the other Flint can I do that? 31,000.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, those are combined.

Yeah, sorry these are already in a District.

So I think you're looking at keeping those in and then taking something out like Grand Blanc.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Would it help if you had the themes the dots Commissioner Curry to see the African/American population would that help?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, it would very much.

Thanks MC.

Wow.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm just going to confirm this is what we think it is.

So this is the African/American population.

In the area.

So like we were saying Flint has a lot of African/American population but the outside of Burton does not.

And then some of Grand Blanc does not.

And it looks like it's less in some of mount Morris as well.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's go back to Flint so we can take some out.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry I thought you wanted to keep it in Flint.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well I kind of do but.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So what we could offer Commissioner Curry is if you add so 15 if you add Lapeer Heights, for example, to 15, you would increase by taking Lapeer Heights out because it doesn't have as many of the dots 15 can accept that number because it's under.

And I think you would increase the Black voting population in four which is the goal. Is that making sense?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, it makes a lot of sense so let's do Lapeer and put it in 15.

>> MR. MORGAN: So I'm going to take some of the precincts here in Lapeer heights which is in Burton Township.

So this is about 5,000 that we moved.

So now 15 can still take more and four can continue to lose more so we take this one.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: And this one.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Uh-huh, take some of Burton.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so now the non-Hispanic Black population has gone up if I'm not mistaken.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: ; is that correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: Population deviation you are down 10,000 so you could take one or two more precincts or you could stop here pretty soon.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay let's take Burton.

>> MR. MORGAN: So take a little more of Burton this is 1200 now the deviation is 11,000 down and.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can you make the screen a little smaller so I can see where that fit in at? Okay, you took Burton from the south side.

>> MR. MORGAN: I took another portion of Burton that's right.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now you're pretty close to the maximum amount you can take out from 4.

You could take maybe one or two of these and that's probably all.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's try to do the one or two and kind of keep the lines not so Zigzagged, 2533 and 1936.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is too much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Mr. Morgan, one of the things, and I'm looking at Mr. Adelson if we decide to keep it the courts substantiated somebody within 10%.

>> MR. MORGAN: The range is 10% so basically you are plus 5 and minus 5 and since you have other Districts in the state that are overpopulated while you could under populate below 5% as long as you have those ones on the higher the range is difficult. So I think you might look at maybe one precinct or stopping there or taking something out of 15 if you need to.

But I think you're probably almost done here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You helped us a good deal Commissioner Curry. Keep going.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can I get that one little piece up in there and see what it looks like.

I don't want to leave it there 1936.

>> MR. MORGAN: All of it will look like this.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Will it be too much.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think it will be okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: It's very close to the end of deviation.

It's negative 4.9.

And now you're at non-Hispanic Black is 27.95.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: They wanted it at what 30 and 40?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right but what other Commissioners have acknowledged in the room here Commissioner Curry is you are doing a hard job. It's not easy to get it to that number so this may be the very best and you helped us achieve, yeah, what we can do.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, that sounds good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: All right thank you Commissioner Curry.

I think Mr. Adelson is busy at the moment.

Are you able Mr. Adelson?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: What can I do.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Curry has helped with adjustments in District 4 and non-Hispanic Black population significantly increased and I'm using the term significant that is your job to help us understand is it significant, yeah.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: My view Commissioner Rothorn is almost any increase can be interpreted and I would interpret it as significant but I think here that when you have 28% BVAP with potential again I can only infer Hispanic cohesion with Black voters but that is just an inference.

Don't rely upon that.

And removing and jurisdictions in Genesee County that are more rural, significantly different as far as diversity that all of that could have the effect of strengthening a District.

So 28%.

I don't recall what the number was before but I think is it's a few points isn't it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That's correct I think it was at least 5%.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I think that is very positive gain.

And I would with the Commissioner Curry made that adjustment?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Commissioner Curry thank you very much.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You are quite welcome.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: My pleasure.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Good, good, good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: With that, Commissioners, I believe we have checked off the two VRA districts we identified during our methodical not VRA compliant and we adjusted them and increasingly VRA compliant do we want to, yeah, I'm looking at Mr. Adelson because I think we want to be methodical as we do this and you are helping us understand what is the next step when we fixed the VRA do we want to move on to something else?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I appreciate that and I think yes just as you saw on Friday and as we saw today taking that systematic approach which is crucial for purposes of the record, it's crucial for moving through these maps with compliance analysis, as given the calendar, so for now I think that let's put a check on the issues we have been discussing with and I would respectfully suggest it may be time to move on to a different criterion concerning this map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good so are we ready to run partisan fairness analysis?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: To me, if you all are ready, I'm ready.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: All right Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I'm not ready yet.

I would like to look at reconfiguring those other Oakland County suburbs since we changed 14 to be more VRA compliant I think we can do better to reconfigure those, to have you know now that we are VRA compliant before when the partisan fairness let's change them up a little bit and then run the compliance test.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay Mr. Morgan, please.

>> MR. MORGAN: So should we save this as is before we move on? Is that helpful.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, please.

And Chair Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we don't have to look at the partisan fairness right now but if we are going to make changes, we should at least just run it and save it and that way when he makes his changes then we can run the partisan analysis on that and we have something to compare it to.

>> MR. MORGAN: He was asking specifically not to run it now but I don't know.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Save it first and run partisan fairness and then we will review it and then we will get back to Commissioner Eid who is next in line.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm not suggesting we review it now.

I'm saying while you have the plan open just run it, save it and then when he is done with what he is changing then we will do the same thing with his plan and have it ran to compare it.

>> MR. MORGAN: With that in mind you want me to save this as a different name from whatever we are going to do moving forward? Is that helpful like a version?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think he is going to make some changes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Don't run it until he makes the changes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No run it now so we have something to compare it to.

>> MR. MORGAN: I leave this plan open and make changes we are not able to get back to the plan but if I save it as another name, we can run it and it stays with that plan and then we make a new version with Commissioner Eid's version.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right that is what I'm contemplating yes thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: One moment to do that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: My changes will be on here not a separate map.

We changed a lot of Oakland County so we need to reconfigure the rest of it because of those changes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Szetela? Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: But I like it the way it is.

So if you want to do something drastically different, we should make a copy and you can make changes on that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is that okay Commissioner Eid?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I concur.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I don't think the changes I'm going to be looking to make are drastic.

It's figuring out where best to put West Bloomfield Orchard Lake.

I think right now they are in 18.

I think they would be better suited in 11 with Novi and part of Farmington Hills.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What I'm hearing other Commissioners are saying they like it the way it is so those changes may be significant enough that we make a copy and run the partisan fairness then we will get to your change.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just for purposes of summarizing all that I'm going to save this as version two as is, leave it there and I'm going to copy it and it will be version three. That is kind of reflecting what we have done today.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right but I would like you to run the partisan analysis on it now before you close it and rename it just so we have it so we don't have to go back and reopen it to run it later.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: For efficiency sake is what I'm hearing Chair Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Exactly.

>> MR. MORGAN: I ran that.

It's saved now I'm going to copy the plan and make additional edits as version three.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Morgan.

>> MR. MORGAN: Commissioner Eid you are talking about 11 and 18 in Oakland County because I made this a new plan, I have to reset the labels. So here is the Township information.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's take West Bloomfield Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake, Keego Harbor and let's put it with 11.

>> MR. MORGAN: You are talking all of West Bloomfield Sylvan Lake Keego harbor and/or charred Lake with 11.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

Originally, we had this area with Bloomfield, Bloomfield Hills Birmingham Royal Oak Berkeley for community of interest reasons I think that is clearly not possible now because we made a District 14 to be a VRA District.

Which is fine.

But then I think the next logical place to put this area is with Farmington Hills, Novi and Commerce.

So we could figure out a way to do that while you know I mean that is what I'm going to draw so.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Keep on drawing.

>> MR. EID: Now with 11 as well, let's include the rest of Commerce Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: So 11 is picking up all of Commerce?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: So 11 is 108,000 over and 18 is 98,000 under.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Right. So for 18 see this is the hard part about this, right, because we need to take some off of 11 and syphon off of 18 and making a different Ann Arbor configuration.

So you know I could probably use some help on this.

But for let's start with 18 getting some down, getting some population up on that and out of 11.

Let's start with taking Lyon and putting it into 18.

And South Lyon as well.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay I'm going to confirm I did not miss anything here so Lyon and South Lyon into 18 so 18 is 63 under and 11 is 73,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: What if we continue going south with that strip.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want Salem.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Salem and superior.

>> MR. MORGAN: And superior.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: The other option which probably would be better but I can't really see it right now would be to go on 18 go north and incorporate like a different District in this area.

We probably have to like move 29 over a little bit and then have 27 be in that area and then move 18 north into 2 and move kind of everything north because of the changes we made to 14.

But right now we are still short about 40,000 between these two.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are there any other Commissioners that can help Commissioner Eid with this? I'm looking for nodding heads or anything like that.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We can take Plymouth there are about that many people in Plymouth and Plymouth Township and Northville.

Making a weirdly shaped District here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Because I hear your hesitation Commissioner Eid and what I'm going to offer I wonder if we come back tomorrow for this because this is more about your intuition and right it's not directly related to compliance.

So what I'm offering is because like you said it's complex what you're trying to do.

It sounds like you have not been able to work it out totally on your map so wondering if we want to put a pin in this for today.

We can return for it tomorrow after you worked on it in the evening and come back to us to help us finish it out, does that seem like a good use of time.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I can't work on it until it's uploaded on the website.

For now let's take those two Townships and put them into 18.

>> MR. MORGAN: So Northfield, Plymouth and Plymouth and Northville.

I think that will put you over.



Let me do Plymouth and Plymouth City first.

And Northville okay so right now you're at 4,000 under in 18 and you're over by 14 in 11 so you want to take Northville and Northville.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark has a thought Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Just a question as we are moving forward, what was the logic behind taking Commerce out?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well Commerce originally it was with and some of our other plans we have seen this.

Kind of an east west split and Wixom and walled Lake are put with Novi and sometimes the western part is put with more of the Milford area.

I think that it is more similar in both the communities of interest and the proximal location to Novi and Orchard Lake and West Bloomfield...we have it going in northern Waterford. And that just doesn't make any sense to me to have it like that.

Also this 18 doesn't really make much sense to me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So I'm going to come back to this idea that because we are not dealing with compliance issues at the moment, I'm going to ask that we try to put a pin in this and come back to this tomorrow after you are able to sort of help us with this.

Because it's not related to compliance directly and we are in the compliance phase and we acknowledged we will go back and forth and back and forth if we keep doing this.

E you have the opportunity to draw on this and help us understand because it's complex so with that Commissioner Eid if you are open to that what I'd like to suggest is that we look at the partisan fairness, it's still your turn right so we can, yeah, let you come back tomorrow or the next day and help us understand your thoughts on this.

But at the moment I'd like to stick with our compliance piece.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay well let's look at the partisan fairness numbers then.

So for other one that you already ran.

>> MR. MORGAN: We will back up to the version two and then show the information on that; is that right?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Sure.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay so I brought up the version two where we stopped before Commissioner Eid looked at 18 and 11 and I have the partisan fairness report from that as well.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's look at the four numbers.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: General Counsel wonder if you can help read this and see if we are doing okay? I think we can do it ourselves but want to make sure we have a systematic approach and checking the boxes off so continue with our compliance for the Senate review, please.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Yes Mr. Chair let me pull it's not letting me back in the Zoom meeting so let me pull up the map so I can see the data.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: John let's maximize the excel spreadsheet.

I think we all know what we are looking at so for lopsided margins we have 5.8% plus republican and we can see the districts that are that have the highest amount.

I think most of them are probably going to be in Metro Detroit.

Are there any that are outside of Metro Detroit I think is the question that we should look at?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is sort of above 55% is that what you're thinking 55% being the threshold.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This is only one measure so and I think we should look at all of them you know.

I think District number 24 was that Ann Arbor District I have been speaking about if my memory serves me correctly, we can look there.

There are a lot of places we can look but we might want to look.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Ann Arbor was 27 and I see Commissioner, sorry, Mr. Morgan

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, so in this lopsided margin what you are comparing this to is the average winning margin of the democratic districts and the average winning margin of the republican districts.

So again if you were to average all of these numbers, the average wins for the democrats would be 64% and the average wins for republican would be 58.

So that's what this metric is doing.

It's comparing these two averages together.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is lopsided in favor of the democrats at this point.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, and so when you mentioned 55%, I'm not sure how that figures in exactly.

I'm just telling you what this reports.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I appreciate that.

Thank you.

General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Mr. Chair.

So the building on what Mr. Morgan has said so if you go through and, again, down the districts, the -- and you would have to reference back at least to get oriented where they are.

For instance District number 8 is 80%. Districts 13 and 14 are in the mid-70s.

So these should be examined again to see whether they are -- if they are VRA.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Those are VRA districts in the Detroit area the ones you mentioned to now.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Perfect then we have 65 is 22.

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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 65.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: 65% is District 22.

We have a 68% is District 9 which I believe is in the Metro Detroit area as well.

62 is 65% and I don't know if Mr. Morgan can scroll down just a bit.

And then 19 and 17 those mid-70s as well, are those also in the.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 19 is the Arab American community.

What was the other one.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: 17.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 17 is also in the Detroit area VRA District potentially.

I can't remember exactly but it is Detroit area.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: The Latino community.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Latino community, okay.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Let's work your way through the four numbers and see.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Got it there is no list we should be generating totally with this right now at this point; is that correct? And I want to get to Commissioner Orton after you.

But so we are not generating a list yet understood.

Okay Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Before we move on, I just wondered where District 34 is because it's 50/50 I think that is pretty awesome.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Look at that it's right on 50/50 District 34 I will just note that so we can go back and yeah.

34 equals 50/50 got it.

So we are moving on to the mean median difference; is that correct General Counsel?

Again we are trying to be systematic so when you can help us sort of be systematic that is much appreciated.

So the mean median difference please, John.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is look agree at -- looking at a percentage and I'm going to reference back one sheet just to clarify.

These are the total votes for those partisan index numbers that sort of conglomerate numbers and here are the percentages so again they are the same as these percentages here but we are looking at a different test which is comparing the mean median.

So the statewide mean median is this based on your plan and the District performance is that.

And then the difference is that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay is there anything we should note or can we move at this point General Counsel or should we move to the efficiency gap? Let move to the efficiency gap thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: Efficiency gap showing here and there is a large number of wasted votes which is a calculation above or below the needed number to win a District which is 50% so anything over 50 is considered one way and then that is how these numbers are done.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Anything we should note here General Counsel or move on to the next one? Okay seats vote ratio please.

>> MR. MORGAN: The seats share the vote share here, this is again the statewide based on these averages, and this is going to be constant in this area.

So every time you look at any plan for this metric on the seats vote ratio these percentages will not change.

What changes is these are the numbers based on your plan.

So based on the plan as drawn, it's a 50/50 proportionality.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So it's pretty amazing looking at the efficiency gap because it led me to believe we are pretty lopsided now I see this and do we need to explain this counsel or move on? How should we proceed in order to be as efficient and systemic or systematic as possible?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I think the seat vote ratio is very impressive as Commissioner Orton pointed out the other District.

That is very good as well.

I thought the efficiency gap I thought the efficiency gap that was 6.5.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I know for the lopsided margins towards 7 is high and the Commission is at 6. So if there were some districts that the Commission wanted to try and adjust, that would be appropriate.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: At this point we see is it Commissioner Lett please.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well remember all of these do not have to agree.

So we got two out of three.

I don't think we are not looking for 100% across the board on these measures.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Duly noted Commissioner thank you.

I just want to be clear if we are adjusting or working it looks like at this point, we have two out of the three or several or one or two I can't remember do we have a democratic advantage in two of them we have a 50/50 we have no advantage in the seats ratio. And the lopsided margin mean median and efficiency gap all lean democratic is that accurate my summary right there?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think it's actually the opposite of that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Looks like we have the lopsided margins test and the efficiency gap that both lean a positive number on those numbers how we have it calculated is an advantage for the republican party in this case.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Mr. Morgan?

>> MR. MORGAN: So to clarify on the positive number I think Dr. Handley explained this, in this calculation the party gives you the plus-minus sign.

There is no plus-minus sign.

It's always going to be positive and then you would look towards whichever party is in this box.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is where the advantage is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So when General Counsel was talking about some Court cases there was a positive, negative reference there.

But in this case these numbers will always be positive and then you just look for the additional marker to be party in the box.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I agree with what John said.

Going back to the efficiency gap, I've got a note that Bruce Adelson had indicated that there is no legal benchmark for this.

So that's something to keep in mind as we go forward.

I know we want to get it low.

But we don't want it 16%.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Agreed.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I don't see anything wrong with 5.8 or whatever we have.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: We are dealing with the election votes and these are based on past election results so there is a definite distinction there and certainly and the seats vote ratio that the Commission has achieved is very close as well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You can say impressive it's okay.

[ Laughter ]

It's very close I'm sorry I did not mean to pat us on the back I'm sorry.

And.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Remember the Constitution language is disproportionate advantage.

So.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are not disproportionate.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: You get a lot of advocacy for 0 and no and even and competitiveness and proportionality and all these things that are not relevant in Michigan.

So aside from the partisan fairness the fourth criteria so it's appropriate to move on if the Commission desires.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We have run official analysis on partisan fairness on this map and I think what just to summarize what I think Commissioner Eid was saying that is what you wanted to look at the Ann Arbor District right to sort of achieve more partisan fairness.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: And community of interest and it ranks above in the constitutional requirements.

We are at a situation a where the party is getting the votes are not winning majority of the seats so we can do better there and will bring the other numbers closer to 0 as well. So you know I think there is a difference between what is legally required and what our goal should be.

I think our goal should be as close to 0 as possible.

We may not be able to get there which is fine but we should see if we can.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Fair enough so I think if I'm not mistaken, we checked off Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Based on what Anthony just said, I'm not sure we need to invest the time in that right now.

Maybe after the hearings.

Because we are going to get more input from the hearings and may make some minor adjustments and so forth.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent I think what I'm offering too I think the next step in our compliance if I'm not mistaken is the compactness score.

In terms of compliance and trying to walk through compliance.

But I'm looking for help here because the next step in our compliance is compactness and getting a compactness score is that accurate? General Counsel? Or anyone who has more of a clue than I do please? So I'm looking for so we have officially done sort of our VRA analysis on this Senate District excuse me Senate map 165.

We have done partisan fairness and now I think in terms of compliance and a methodology and in terms of methodology right I think we want to run a compactness score which is also part of the software and is that is next logical step we should do to run.

Great getting a thumbs up so and then Commissioner Lett please.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And we have people who need to take a break. Commissioner Clark are you objecting to that?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm not objecting to it I think besides compactness we have to make sure we don't have any little places in the state where we.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Contiguity great so we will run a few things but it's 4:25.

So by the time we finish it will be 4:25 let's take a 15 minute break or do we need a ten minute break.

15 all right so we will be back at 4:40.

Thank you.

[ Recess ]



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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are we ready to start? Okay, good afternoon, Commissioners and public.

I recall this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order.

Will the secretary please call the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely. Commissioners, please say. present when I call your name.

If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose your physical location as well, as that you are remote.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Present; attending remotely from Reed City, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothorn?

>> VICE COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: She did not say present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Present; attending remotely from Eaton County, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 9 Commissioners are present.

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Without objection we will go back to the state snap draft mapping and the compliance of that and the compliance phase.

And so I will ask our I believe we are to the compactness score so I'm going to turn to our General Counsel and others who can assist us with that.

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>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Mr. Chair and the compactness is the goal of the Commission.

The Polsby Popper test is the measure that is in the software that the Commission will be using.

And what we are gauging is the map, the draft proposed map reasonably compact.

So the Commission will be looking at a score closer to one than to zero.

And this will Mr. Brace is going to run the analysis or Mr. Morgan.

The Commission's consultants will assist with the compactness score.

Again this is the final criteria that the Commission is constitutionally required to consider.

So this is very exciting to run and see how the Commission did in this regard.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for helping guide us.

Before we move to our mapping consultants, I want to take Mr. Witjes' hand.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Do we have to use the polls versus Proper because I believe there are four different ones metrics in the software we can look at.

Is one better or more correct to use than one of the others, or no?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Polls versus proper is a nationwide test that is used. It's a more standardized test and that is why it was recommended to the Commission. It a great question Commissioner Witjes.

Great question.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That's a great answer.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you General Counsel over to you Mr. Brace or Mr. Morgan you have the floor.

>> KIM BRACE: John is going to show you first off what we have is there is a compactness capability it's not in the reports function of the system but it's in the analysis portion of the system.

So you go down to the analysis layer and you're able to then run the compactness report.

>> MR. MORGAN: Again it's in the analysis and before we did that, I did check the contiguity because it's important to do that because if you had a dis-contiguous area it would definitely effect your compactness so there is no dis-contiguity.

Every piece of geography is assigned so now I'm going to run the compactness analysis so it's a standard report.

We click the button and it says it generates the report.

So this report is in an Autobound edge viewer.

So if you run this on your own software at this time it just creates it but I don't know if it saves it.

So you would go here to export and you can save it as a PDF file here and I have done that and saved it as a PDF and I will just bring that up.

>> KIM BRACE: It has several different formats.

I will save it not only as a PDF but part of a data set and that sort of thing.

The key in terms of this is you're correct Commissioner Witjes that there are multiple calculations in here.

Usually the versus proper is the one frequently cited on that side.

But each of the compactness scores gives you a different clue on different issues that might be there.

So go ahead John.

>> MR. MORGAN: So what I would say is in these compactness measurements, you're usually comparing the District to an ideal geometric shape.

So there is different ways to do this where you're talking about let's take the actual perimeter which you can measure, the software is going to measure the perimeter of your shape for a District and let's compare that to the same perimeter as a circle.

So now you take the same perimeter and you compare the circle that creates to the boundary of the shape that you created and that's one comparison.

There is another one that you would think about is how well does your District fill a circle.

So if you have something that is a square that fills a circle pretty well.

If you have something that is a line it does not really fill a circle very well.

So again there is different measurements and then if you have something that has a lot of squiggles in it you will have vertices and won't compare quite as well so that is how that is done.

>> KIM BRACE: The key to this is you can look at when you are looking at perimeters any little nook and cranny that is being traced but I that perimeter is going to add area or take away area.

So it's going to end up increasing the potential length of the perimeter and so when you're looking at compactness you are looking at the overall if you take that length of the perimeter and you blow it up into a balloon basically, and then you're going to be comparing that balloon to the District itself, so and you can see that in a couple of the examples, John, if you want to go ahead and click on the or you're in, what.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm in a PDF of this so you want me to go back to the program and click on the more information on compactness.

>> KIM BRACE: Yeah, that is what I was thinking about is are you linking to there?

>> MR. MORGAN: Maybe.

>> KIM BRACE: I have that up on mind.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think it's trying to bring up a browser.

There we go so this was -- these are hyperlinks that are embedded in the software.

So whatever this is brought up, this is a reference that the software is referencing.

So we are not choosing in this is just what the software is using for background on the information.

>> KIM BRACE: What it does do is gives you a clue with examples so John if you want to go down in the example for example pose versus Popper here is looking at the perimeter of the District compared to when you blow it up into a balloon. And therefore it's looking at the relationship to the area of what's in the District compared to the area of that balloon. And when you start getting things away from each other then you start seeing hey there is some questions in terms of compactness.

In this instance it's obviously the perimeter of this gerrymander in essence is long and therefore your balloon is so much bigger than the object itself.

So it's the comparison that you're looking for in coming up, with a number.

And so when you go and go back to your report John for a second.

>> MR. MORGAN: How well does it fill the circle based on the perimeter measurement.

>> KIM BRACE: Right.

So when you take a look at that and if we go back to the report that we just ran, what you have is on pose V Popper you have down at the very bottom take a look at it shows the least and the most compact.

So the least compact is District 3.

Well we can go to District three and see what that looks like.

>> MR. MORGAN: What is happening and I know the Commission thought about this District but basically what you've done is you wrapped around another District so if you follow the perimeter on this you have a lot of distance following the perimeter so I'm still following the perimeter and following the perimeter and now I'm going in and I'm still following a perimeter so the circle for that same perimeter is huge.

>> KIM BRACE: It's caught by having that doughnut hole.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That was very useful thank you.

>> KIM BRACE: So that is part of the key so that is why District 3 is the least compact.

>> MR. MORGAN: Your greatest one in this District is District 25.

So let's find District 25.

So I'm not going to guess where it is and I'm going to use the software to Zoom to it. Because might as well use that so it's the thumb and the thumb fills the circle pretty well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: All right this is useful.

>> KIM BRACE: That is one way to take a look at the compactness and how to evaluate it.

Obviously, the districts will give you different stuff.

So for example 26 there that's a long line but and so your circle is taking you a long way around what is a thin District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you before we go to General Counsel, I want to make sure we did honor Commissioner Orton I recognize District 34 as 50/50 doing partisan fairness can we see what District 34 looks like also? 34 is on the west coast looks like Muskegon to Ludington.

All right, thank you for that General Counsel it's to you.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: 34 also has a good compactness score as well. The lawyers want to Zoom in back on I know we are working, can we pause the compactness analysis for the standard deviations just briefly and Zoom in on that District 3 that corner to make sure District 3 is actually joined.

I didn't, yeah.

>> MR. MORGAN: It is joined because it doesn't matter what this is. Right.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: No I just wanted to see.

>> MR. MORGAN: The District is contiguous because it's contiguous this way. It's not noncontiguous if that is the question.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA:

>> MR. MORGAN: So there is a gap here between them but I don't think it would matter if you had one Township and it was a complete circle around.

It might affect your compactness scores but it's basically going to be the same.

>> KIM BRACE: Right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Based on that level of Zoom, that would cause the compactness to be way off because it's not connecting in one particular place so it what's to go all the way back around to get the perimeter whereas if it were let's say the Township that's directly north the lower corner of 30 if you were to add that in for example, that one, the perimeter would change significantly because it's not having to go back around on its own.

>> MR. MORGAN: If you had like a full doughnut, I think then it would subtract the portion on the interior from the portion on the exterior in its geometric calculation so you are right it would affect the compactness.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: But if it has to go back all the way around itself essentially you are doubling your perimeter whereas if you were to have one Township added into it, you're cutting a big chunk off at that particular point.

>> KIM BRACE: It may be and we can experiment with it and run the compactness on that regard.

But I do know in other scores having a doughnut hole you've got to take into account the hole also.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: It's not a circle any more at that point.

>> KIM BRACE: Right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay, so I wonder because we've got this report and we've got this score and I know that we get some discussion but I'm wondering if we need to remedy something here based on this report or, yeah, Mr. Morgan.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I'd say I think that General Counsel might have some additional information on this.

But when we are talking about being from 0-1, that's again it's comparing to a circle and you saw that the highest District here was like .65.

So very few districts are going to be like really, really close to one and then your lowest one was .18, I think.

Which is fairly low but I think I only know one Court case in my experience that I was involved in that had a certain number that they said was absolutely no lower than that number.

And I don't think this number is near that number.

The 18 is not near the number they were contemplating.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Morgan General Counsel or Mr. Adelson do either of you help with regards to how we proceed with these numbers and how we proceed with this report? I apologize I saw the max and the min. Was the plan score on that report? Or is that a different? You can keep going down, is there more?

>> MR. MORGAN: These are other compactness measure but you specifically asked for Polsby Popper so the least compact on this is .18.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: While we have a minute, I'm not seeing all the Commissioners who are online.

If Commissioners online if you have a question or if you have any thoughts please verbally indicate.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well, while we are waiting, I guess I'm just not quite sure how we are going to use this information because it's the lowest on our list. Of 7 criteria.

And we don't want to sacrifice any of the other things we figured out already for this. So what are we going to do?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for the question, Commissioner Orton. And I think that is where our legal counsel is trying to help us figure that out.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Certainly thank you so much Mr. Vice Chair and I certainly acknowledge Commissioner Orton's comments as well.

So again District 3 with the least compact score that would be an opportunity to shift. It's not required the Commission can log these scores and move forward.

That would be appropriate.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Commissioner Eid then Commissioner Orton.



>> COMMISSIONER EID: So I just have a question about compliance.

If that is okay.

We did our due diligence for the VRA criteria to make sure that you know we got as close as we could.

But I don't think we have done that yet for the partisan fairness measurements.

I mean we have not you know we looked at them but we have not tried anything to see if we can get them to be any better.

And then after that you know we moved on to this compactness which is lower as one of the Commissioners just said.

So do we want -- I don't understand why we have not done our due diligence to see if it can get better.

Other than what it is now.

Because what it is now is an all be it it's not that much.

But it is you know all four of the measures point to a more republican leaning map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for that Commissioner Eid.

I want to acknowledge as the Chair what I'm trying to do is move us towards a complete District because I think we are trying to understand how we do this compliance thing.

So I really appreciate the question.

And I think we will return to it.

It's not finished.

Commissioner Orton then Mr. Adelson.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well I don't know if everyone is going to want me to shut up but if since number three was the least compact if we want to rework it, I'm happy with that.

Because I don't like what it looks like and I think Kalamazoo County by itself is a good Senate District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you, Commissioner Orton.

Mr. Adelson?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: The legal team agrees with you addressing three but I also wanted to address one point about compactness.

One of the ways that I look at compactness is that it's aside from it being, yes, admittedly it's the bottom of the criteria.

But it's a good checkmark to see if you have any like weird funky shaped districts, if there are racial gerrymander crazy arms reaching out.

So while we have talked about this before, nothing really stood out.

But it's one of those compliance involves a lot of checkmarks.

And this is one of them.

So it's less than the Voting Rights Act and partisan fairness and it is more complex but the scores indicate there is not anything there are no crazy shapes.

Three is something that General Counsel and I agree is something certainly that can be addressed and as far as the partisan fairness, the you know the whole point with compliant is trial and experimentation, how far you go with that, and is certainly something we would have further conversations about and advise.

But my -- our recommendation for now let's see if you can deal with the shape of the three because it should not be that involved and would be something that arguably could be dealt with quickly.

And so you don't have to come back to it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you and I think to Commissioner Eid's question because it's the least of our criteria and we did not do anything regarding partisan fairness can you help us understand whether we should address this criteria three as the 7th or should we start with the fourth criteria which is partisan fairness? Help us understand.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: The only reason we are suggesting dealing with three because it does have a bit of a funky shape and because you're looking at it now. It's something you want to come back to, it's not complicated.

It's certainly something that you can address whether it's now, tomorrow or you know whenever you decided to.

So our thought was just because we saw it for the first time that oh, that's something that we can check and maybe that's something to suggest dealing with.

But it's by no means is it an absolute that it must be dealt with now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: By no means.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: You have to do it now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Because it's convenient.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: It popped up on the screen and had not seen the scores before so that is why we had suggested that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you so we in terms of how we so what I think in terms of compliance we will get some sort of list or somehow we will have some sort of checkmarks or understand that.

But at this point for just for purposes of trying to help us all we walked through one complete Senate District and we have completed a compliance checklist.

We understand that it is perhaps compliant.

Is that fair to say? Like is that what we have just done?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I would agree it's perhaps compliant and there is nothing that stood out.

I knew you would like it.

There is nothing that stood out that really rang alarm bells other than the areas I already looked at.

I think what I typically do in redistricting that after we go through this preliminary check, we look at the election results then there will be some additional, there may well be

some additional questions but everything is looking good from a compliance standpoint and you addressed the -- no audio so that is good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What do we do so let's just sort of try to put a bow or figure out how does this help us what can we do now to indicate to ourselves and to the public that we have, yeah, finished that or Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, we are sitting here talking about doing something with three.

Let's do something with three.

Period.

Let's do it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton, Commissioner Lett who would like I think we are at Commissioner Eid's turn.

Help me know how to do this.

Commissioner Orton, you said something about Battle Creek and I don't see any objections.

Do you want to help us?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well Kalamazoo County itself is almost a complete Senate District.

So.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So I've been thinking about that particular statement about Kalamazoo County being its own Senate District for a while.

Because we've been hearing about and this will tie into District 3 in a second but the -- we've heard comments stating that Kalamazoo wants to be alone.

Kalamazoo wants to be with Battle Creek.

Kalamazoo doesn't want to be with Battle Creek.

Some people want to say Kalamazoo goes with Grand Rapids.

Some people say it doesn't need to go with Grand Rapids and some of them say they want to be by themselves.

So we addressed that in three different ways in three different maps we have one map where Kalamazoo is with Battle Creek.

We have one map with Kalamazoo is with Grand Rapids.

And we have one map which would be the house map which is where Kalamazoo would be on its own.

So I think we need to stick with that particular theme in the area just so that everyone is happy or unhappy equally when it comes to Kalamazoo Battle Creek, Grand Rapids and the particular area.

Do I agree that 3 needs to have something be done with it? Sure.

But I think we need to keep the configuration in regards to which cities go with where and what particular area land the same along those particular lines.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: All right so Commissioner Witjes I'm going to try to summarize what I hear you saying you think we have another Senate map. We do not have another complete Senate map we just have another version.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We have the Senate map we are looking at and one that throws Kalamazoo with Battle Creek and in Congressional we have Kalamazoo up to Grand Rapids so we are dealing with all the different comments we heard how Kalamazoo should be divided up in three different ways across three different maps and it should stay that way.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay so Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I don't see why it should stay that way over three maps.

Kalamazoo going one way in one map and another way in another and north in the third.

I think that's ridiculous.

I think we should evaluate Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo separately and put them where they belong.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would respectfully disagree here because we can't make everyone happy where they want Kalamazoo to be. So we are taking it and we are handling it in three different ways in three different directions so everyone has their say in where Kalamazoo should be in a particular map. I think it's fair.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I personally don't agree that Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo should be together in the Congressional map.

And I'm going to argue when we get to that to make sure they are separated.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I appreciate the dialog.

I'm wondering if we can help so what I'm concerned about and I'm looking at our legal counsel again because I'm looking at the criteria one of the criteria we have is about incumbents.

And the District that is let's say if we do draw Kalamazoo County as a whole District, I see you, that would be the same District as drawn in 2010.

Should that be something that we consider to try to again try to resolve what you know the discussion we are having now is that a consideration? Because it's a point on our legal criteria or should we not consider it because it's dangerous to talk about it?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Mr. Vice Chair I certainly appreciate the caution tape around it.

The language for criteria five I'm so used to saying criteria four that consider that District shall not favor or disfavor an incumbent elected official or a candidate.

So to date the Commission much like the political data has drawn blind in relative to the incumbent.

And the reason for doing so is the Constitution provide the Commission shall not favor or disfavor.

So once the Commission starts considering that information and start making map adjustments it will naturally favor or disfavor adjacent incumbents, upcoming candidates possibly.

But it's also a concern because the Metro Detroit area was so heavily packed and because of the work, the significant Voting Rights Act analysis work that the Commission has done in the Counties around the state the identified Counties, again, that really to give life to this criteria would be my recommendation to not consider that data when you're drawing your lines.

Mr. Adelson may have additional thoughts to add on that.

But again once you have the data and you're considering the data how you justify its use and how future amendments were made based on that use anticipating that there will be incumbent challenges potentially in some areas due to the unpacking.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Mr. Adelson please.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I completely agree.

I think the not considering and ignoring is the best approach and although the laws in Arizona are different, Arizona law prohibits the Commission, prohibits them from knowing where incumbents live, flat out prohibits them.

Frankly I think is a good approach there.

And it's similar to what we are suggesting now.

Certainly it's a safer approach.

And that I concur with my colleague.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you have any guidance for us how do we resolve this sort of back and forth.

And actually Commissioner Eid probably has the answer.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Just yeah what I would do I agree I tend to think that more of the public comments has Battle Creek being with Kalamazoo for a multitude of reasons.

But besides that, you know, we have an I think we do have an objective tool that can be used to see, make the changes, separate them, run the partisan fairness scores again, see if it got better or worse if it got worse revert back to it.

If it got better keep it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay, how do Commissioners I do want to try to acknowledge because we were trying to figure out should we address changing District 3.

Then we were discussing why or why not to change it now we have a measure that Commissioner Eid is suggesting maybe partisan fairness helps us decide how do we feel about this Commissioners? Again I'm trying to move us along and keep us in this compliance realm.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, we could clone this map and separate it or you got two districts in a certain area and you just separate the two.

You know, one in District 3 and one in District 21.

That is one approach.

The other approach is a complete reconfiguration of that area.

Personally I don't see a problem leaving it like it is other than any legal aspect to it and I'm satisfied with the way it is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Chair Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we did actually create an alternative configuration of that already area.

Remember we had 16A and 16B one of them was together, the other was split.

So we already did it.

So we can look at that.

Because we already did it.

Now that map does not have the changes, we made today with respect to VRA.

However, we did already draw that separate District.

So we don't need to reinvent the wheel.

We already did it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: They Chair Szetela.

Mr. Morgan.

>> MR. MORGAN: With that in mind I could download that and bring it as an overlay on to this map sed Szetela yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Would that help us in terms of running the numbers? I guess it wouldn't.

>> MR. MORGAN: You have to make the changes so you still will need to clone the plan and make two separate plans but it would make it easy to see what you did in the alternate plan if you direct me to that plan.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Please do that and it will help us address District 3 and we are still focused on trying to, yeah, figure something out.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will go to the website and ask the Commission to direct me to the plan you think it is.

We can look at it and you can see if it is what you think it is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think you know.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The one we are in right now is the A.

So we would need to go to 16B and that is going to have the alternate configuration for Kalamazoo.

Yep.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 166.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 91521V16VSD so 164.



>> MR. MORGAN: 164 is the one, all right, I'll download that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We already did it.

We considered this before so.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Maybe while we are waiting Commissioners one of the things we are doing for the first time is working until 8:00.

And I think I'm going to ask Director Hammersmith to weigh in on this but there is a suggestion on the agenda a suggestion for taking a one hour recess on and you know from 6-7 and then working from 7-8.

And I'm just wondering while we are again if we can have a quick discussion to sort of see is there a reason for it? And should we consider changing it potentially? Director Hammersmith please.

>> MS. SUANN HAMMERSMITH: Yes, happy to weigh in on that.

The reason was to allow for dinner.

However if Commissioners wish to work straight through since you took a later break another break then was on the agenda you can certainly work straight through until 7:00 and then break for dinner and end your day at that time so it would be up to the Commission.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Director Hammersmith.

So I will just acknowledge that I will just help me understand how we are doing y'all but I will try to keep us going until we drop.

Okay, and I think what we also want to acknowledge potentially is this is going to be the same thing for tomorrow but we are working an hour earlier starting at 9:00 and going to 8:00 so think about how you're doing, how we are all doing and maybe we want to help Director Hammersmith right figure out where the agenda should be and where those breaks should be.

She does the breaks she can with what we got.

By the end of the day today we will know more because we will feel it but as we get closer.

Okay so with that Mr. Morgan when you're ready please help us see the maps and the overlays.

And for those online again I see Commissioner Curry, I just want to make sure that you all are still able to weigh in and share your voice so please give me a verbal indication if we are as we are talking about things.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Curry could you disclose where you are attending from?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY:

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You are muted.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies you are muted.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you so much.

[ There is no audio ]

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm bringing this online.

Okay so the dark blue lines are the other configuration, so the dark blue line would be all of Kalamazoo County and then the balance would be this District 3 that would be following the blue line so.

We just ran the partisan fairness on this plan as is and it's unadjusted and I can make a clone and run metrics on this including partisan fairness and compactness if you like.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I like that I see Commissioner Witjes and Commissioner Clark any thoughts on what Mr. Morgan said or do you have something separate? So just in general should he do that? Then we will take the discussion? Is that what you want to talk about Commissioner Clark? Okay go ahead Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I want to talk about this configuration.

To me it's the same as the other.

We are just did the number three District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So are you should John gave us a question if he should run this and help us see the partisan fairness.

Personally I would like to see that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would like to see that too.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid you have been thinking about partisan fairness is that something you are interested.

Sorry so Commissioner Witjes then I think General Counsel.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I believe the changes would have to be modified in order to get a comparable partisan fairness score.

Because isn't the rest of this map is not adjusted in the other districts through the work. This is the clone map I apologize.

>> MR. MORGAN: To be clear this is a cloned map of what we just were working on so this is version two up to the last-minute and I've just brought the layer on top of it. So if I make the adjustments, it will be exactly the same everywhere except in this area.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Please do that and Commissioner Witjes so we can continue.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: This might be a little bit something to think about we can do this.

We have a strange shape again, I don't think it's going to change anything on compactness or change much in regards to partisan fairness so on and so forth.

We have two districts here.

Why not consider doing a northwest split, draw a line and figure out where we can go with two Districts that are not going around each other? As much as I'm against it because it changes the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek District that is here if we were to

split it right down the middle north, south that may make a little bit more sense but I don't know where you would put the line so go either direction if you want this or a north south split and make it a little more equal go ahead but I wanted to say that

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Witjes I'm trying to acknowledge this is right where Commissioner Eid it's your turn to draw and figuring out how to do this.

We wanted to try to fix three. And Commissioner Witjes suggested an alternate to just sort of using the old version that Chair Szetela offered how should we proceed? Oh, I apologize you were suggesting a north, south District, is that right? With the same figure in Kalamazoo County.

I misunderstood I apologize.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We have District 3 and 21 and we are good on population see that little blip at the very north side right by 33 it extends all the way, no, all the way north.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That could be the start of the north, south split and draw it all the way down and then make two districts that butt up to each other in that particular line.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think that particular configuration would be too much of the population would be on the left side.

But I'm sure we could figure something out.

I just think we need to be careful in considering communities of interest when we are right around Kalamazoo and Portage to keep certain areas together.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Should we just try to do the version that we did make? Okay so Mr. Adelson.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: As an FYI when you are looking to refashion what is here keep in mind if there are significant minority populations in Kalamazoo and Battle Creek splitting them into two districts may be dilutive.

I don't know that.

But just as a consideration and that is really across the board.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Let's mark the numbers and hearing you say in 21 which is the District that includes Kalamazoo and Battle Creek, we have a Black voting age population of 12.5%.

If I read that right.

So help us know is that something we should be considering then?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: The square to the left with Kalamazoo is that the entire City of Kalamazoo? Or it is? Okay so 12.55VAP is not typically what I would think is a red flag.

And this is more just illustrative as you are going throughout the state if you are considering talking about splitting cities, putting one City in one District and one in another, it's just as an FYI to check to see if Voting Rights Act issues are implicated.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What we are trying to do at this point John is just try to get the alternative that we had which was 16 version 16B and try to understand if we have a significant partisan fairness different scores so if you would if I'll in.

So I'm just going to help direct John to fill in.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to make District 21 will now be all of Kalamazoo County and then I'll put what was 21 in the Battle Creek area into District 3.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, and Commissioner Eid because it's your turn if you want to sort of should I move on to the next Commissioner to help do this or how do you want to proceed?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You can come back to me if you want.

This is not how I want to spend my turn with compliance.

I would rather look at after we look at this compactness, I'd rather again you know revisit to see if we could have changed anything as far as partisan fairness goes.

But we can totally do this first as Bruce said that is what we are on now and just come back to me after.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is about partisan fairness to be super clear is why we are doing that so that is why I thought you might be because I think that is what you suggested.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And this is, yeah, so thank you Mr. Morgan yes please.

>> MR. MORGAN: I did what was requested and District 3 is within population tolerance and District 21 is also within the population tolerance.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We should probably run the partisan fairness report or save it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Run partisan fairness and the compactness as well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Let's do that Commissioner Eid should I move on to Commissioner Lange? Or this is about partisan fairness.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Using partisan fairness to test which one we should go with.

So I mean you are doing a fine job directing.

If you want you can keep doing it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm the Chair and trying to facilitate so I don't want to have as much airtime.

I really want so I'm hearing you say I should move on to Commissioner Lange.

Commissioner Lange, how are you feeling?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I think three looks ridiculous now honestly.

That just looks terrible.

I think if you guys were going to do it, it would take a little more than just swapping them just for how they look.

I know that is not a requirement but that is something people do look at.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Absolutely.

So Commissioner Witjes earlier was saying there may be a different way a third way else to sort of divide this.

It's your turn if you would like to try to help us moving us towards compliance and addressing the compactness score where District 3 was our lowest score and trying to use partisan fairness as a measure to try to help us understand if this is a good shift are you willing to help us redraw it?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Just skip over me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thanks Commissioner Lange.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Bring it up I got it

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Mr. Morgan is bringing up the compactness score which is 16B is that correct John?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I just renamed it so that it's basically the same plan name and it just references 16B at the end of it.

So it should be here and 1004, 21 version two compactness and this has 16B because we are referencing just the Kalamazoo area that we just changed so the same compactness report all the other districts except 3 and 21 should be the same so three is now .22 under this configuration.

And so even though it appears like it was irregular shape it has increased its compactness score to .22.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: From .18 I believe.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes and 21 would be the highest in the entire state.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Highest compactness score.

>> MR. MORGAN: That's correct

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Just for clarification, highness means the highest score means.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay. It's the most compact on the Polsby Popper number. And it is of all the districts, all the 38 districts, District 21 under this configuration is the highest number on Polsby Popper measurement.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I appreciate that and wanted that to be out there for folks who are watching so it's absolutely clear but that is what we thought too.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Is there an overall or a score for the whole map or is it just per District?

>> KIM BRACE: Generally you look per District if there are extremes on that side. You could do an average on that side if you wanted to try that to compare plans. But generally an average number kind of inhibits you from looking at the individual districts on that side.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay so what I'm hearing is that the District is the changes make it more compact so now let's look at the partisan fairness data to see if it improved or got worse.

>> MR. MORGAN: Partisan fairness on the top is the analyzed plan which is 16B with Kalamazoo whole.

So on the lopsided margin it's lower by .1.

On the mean median difference it looks like it's the same on the efficiency gap.

Again the top one up here is the districts that we just did.

So it's lower by two tenths at 6.3.

On the seats vote ratio it's the same.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It's slightly more fair or compact and that is one of the measures we should leave it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's your turn Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Who started this conversation with Kalamazoo? That's not what I started.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark then Chair Szetela.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, my question is to Bruce.

Do you feel that that number is sufficient enough for us to go with, the number for three.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Compactness.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Compactness.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Compactness improved so I think one of the things that General Counsel and I were talking about was the funky corner, which is not there anymore on the right, to the east, northeast.

That has been resolved.

The number is better and that is like I was saying we were talking about before dealing with compactness is relatively easy compared to some other considerations.

So it looks good to us.

It's improved so I think let's put it in the bank and be done with it.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: My second question was to Cynthia.

I mean you live over in this area do you feel this is an acceptable change?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I do think it's an improvement.

I don't know if we want to spend more time here.

But I think District 20 since people still don't like the shape of District 3, changing it and District 20 around a little bit could improve even more.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is exactly what I was going to suggest why wouldn't we just move 20 over to the current border of Kalamazoo and then readjust those Districts if



we don't like how it appears? I mean was there a specific reason we didn't do that?  
Does anyone recall?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are in the compliance version and trying to do the best we can with the numbers we got and I see General Counsel and try to bring it back to Mr. Eid.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Mr. Vice Chair just very briefly again to remind the Commission that they can publish more than one version of the Senate plan so this might be something that whether the Commission elects to make additional changes in this area or not, that it could be a kind of we put it on the shelf and but we can always pull it back out.

But it is scoring better than the prior version.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay and I wonder so Commissioner Eid I want to frame this idea we have two Commissioners who recognize we may be able to improve between 20 and 3 and I think we also have heard because we are in compliance, we could also sort of put this on the shelf and move to the next thing.

Where are you at, how do you feel, what do you want to do?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: What would the neck thing be?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That's a great question.

I believe that because we've only got one Senate District, I would say the Congressional District to review the Congressional.

I think we have got four maps and Commissioner Witjes? You have a thought.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yeah so, we have five we basically need to get all maps done this week correct.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is correct.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We are almost done with the Senate and let's do this and Congressional and three days for the house.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Move adjusted 20 and 3 is that what you are thinking Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's have this be voting on not now as it stand now but by the time, we leave tonight we are done with the Senate map and we don't look at it again.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I like that idea and seeing nodding heads that feels great so that is where we are with Commissioner Eid where do you want to go?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We need to do our due diligence and getting the partisan numbers closer to 0 and I think unless anyone has any ideas, I would be welcome to them but the most obvious part that sticks out to me is District 27.

Because it has both Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti in it.

Split those up.

And I think it would bring the numbers a lot closer to 0.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lett do you have a question or a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I guess my comment Anthony is that and I heard a lot of comments that Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti were a community of interest and they wanted to be together.

I've not heard I don't remember that there was a lot of comment that said split them apart.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I certainly agree with the Congressional map where they are together, I think in all of our drafts.

But I think right now there is a partisan fairness reason where that area has representation from both instead of just one and I think if it brings the numbers closer to 0 much like how we do with the V RA and trying multiple different configurations to get the VRA numbers down we should try multiple different configurations without touching the VRA districts to get this number more in compliance.

Otherwise how are we going to know if it can become better if we don't try.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: As I recall the lecture on partisan fairness getting a lower number than a higher number but getting to 0 was probably an impossibility.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We might not get to 0.  
We won't know until we try.

I don't think it will get down to 0 but I do think we can bring them especially the efficiency gap number I think we can bring that lower.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: There are a lot of hands in the room so I'm going to keep a track and Commissioner Witjes and Szetela then Lange.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Partisan fairness numbers are acceptable and the last version we did prior to this.

I would suggest that we maybe change District 3 or 20 or 23 manipulate that a little. But other than that I feel we are compliant and in decent shape and should move on without any more changes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Clark, Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Having lived there I can tell you that Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor should go together.

The Congressional great, State Senate great too.  
That's fantastic.

And as far as that goes since Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor would technically be a community of interest, as far as I know partisan fairness measures scored below that so I would not tinker in 27 to get a better partisan fairness score because then you are busting up a community of interest so I would leave 27 as is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Witjes and I think we are Commissioner Szetela then Commissioner Lange.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I completely concur with Commissioner Witjes Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti I worked in Ann Arbor for many, many years. I really do feel that Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are a community of interest. Community of interest ranks above partisan fairness I understand the concern that Ann Arbor is highly democratic. And Ypsilanti is highly democratic and when you put those communities of interest together you are going to have a highly democratic population but at the end of the day communities of interest come before partisan fairness so I would not want to break up Ann Arbor just to hit a partisan fairness goal. I think the map we have is pretty good on partisan fairness. I'm comfortable with it even though there is a slight republican lean. I think a lot of the districts we have on it are actually closer to being swing districts and that is where the parties individual responsibility to work on their get out the vote mechanism and encourage as many people in those areas to vote so that they can swing those districts one way or another. But I'm happy with what it is although I would like to adjust 3 and 20 because I think we can make that look a little better and make it make more sense than how that currently looks.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Chair Szetela, Commissioner Lange would you like to speak.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: The last three people said what I was going to say so I'm not going to waste the time thanks.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton and back to Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay in that case are there any other areas we can look at? I mean.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 3 and 20 have been suggested.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Partisan fairness.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Three and 20 from a compactness perspective it looks bad, it looks weird.

I agree we can look at that.

But for my turn again I'm uncomfortable with just assuming these numbers are the best that we can get to without trying anything else.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think Mr. Adelson may be able to help us.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: One of the things that and General Counsel and I met with Dr. Handley last week she mentioned much to our surprise and our surprise as well that the margins electoral margins in the UP were not as wide as she expected. And she wondered if there might be some adjustments that can be made there that may not implicate the Voting Rights Act most likely. Not implicate some other considerations but in an area of the state that frankly none of us anticipated would be in play with partisan fairness.

So that is something we would suggest that the Commission might want to look at because as I said it does not affect any of these districts and that was an area that three of us were very surprised.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay thank you for that.

That may be an answer to your question.

Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: This is kind of a philosophical statement.

Let's not let the perfect get in the way of the good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Lett.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I just wonder if Commissioner Eid doesn't seem to want to take care of 3 and 20.

Could we just take care of that quickly with Commissioner Lange or Commissioner Lett or whoever.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid is giving you permission.

Please take it away.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Does Commissioner Lange want to take her turn on it.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I will pass.

Let Commissioner Lett go.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lett.

He is really excited about that Commissioner Lange, thank you.

And I see Mr. Morgan's hand.

>> MR. MORGAN: So as we proceed down this, we have now made the adjustment for Kalamazoo so now you will make a further adjustment to this plan, right? Is that what I'm hearing? Okay so we are saving this plan and making additional adjustments to this plan.

Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I suspect you can probably take that layer off too Commissioner Lett do you want the layer on or off of the old...

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this is when people were talking about the population to the west of Kalamazoo it's Van Buren County, I believe they were referring to.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That better? Show me the population in 3 on the west, southwest that John?

>> MR. MORGAN: So you want to look at what the population of this portion of Van Buren is basically?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, just a moment.

So I think for Simplicity if I add it to 21 you will see how 21 changes here.

So it's 3500 under.

And then I'll add this in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Are you adding to 20 or 21?

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm doing whichever you prefer.

Adding to 20 potentially is what you're saying.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, let's go to 20,

>> MR. MORGAN: Take this portion and add it to 20, so population is we are up 1256. So we will add this portion and see how much it increases it. So that is all of the County of Van Buren.

So 1256 so now it's 2714.

So that added about 26,000, all right, and I added it to the wrong one so just a moment. Let's try that again.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I was going to say that doesn't look very good.

>> MR. MORGAN: It doesn't look very good so now so that sounds right so that was more, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay Zoom out.

Well not quite that far.

So how much.

>> MR. MORGAN: Let's look at three because that is what you just adjusted so showing the districts in the view.

So three and 20 are now out of alignment.

So you would potentially be looking at taking from 20 into 3.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's do the northeast of that goes way up there doesn't it?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: This is Cascade and Ada.

They did not like being in those districts any way.

Meaning in 20.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Didn't like being in what.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 23 Cascade and I guess, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Didn't want to be there with Kentwood is that what you're saying?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: They do so Cascade does associate with Kentwood. So the idea that they didn't associate with District 23 that they were in District 20 they were unhappy with.

But I guess what I'm saying I think could be doing a service by going up there. It's good instincts.

>> MR. MORGAN: You're contemplating taking these two Townships into three?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Zoom out a little so I can see.

Zoom out a little further.

Copy on Cynthia what do you suggest? It's your District.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I wish I didn't go up that high but I think that is our only choice right now is to take those few districts that are up there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm tempted to add them to 24 even though it will be overpopulated but that is the suburban area they wanted to be associated with then we can sort of adjust in Ottawa County 24, I'm only suggesting to leave 24 put them in 24 then stay focused like balancing 20 and 3 but I think that is the feedback we got that we should adjust between I don't want to make it more complicated but just yeah and it's big.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Quite a bit of population there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: There is a lot, Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Am I missing something? Or should we focus on balancing between 20 and 3 and not doing anything else.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Agreed.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That is what I was doing but the way to get more population is Grand Rapids and they didn't want to be there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is what we were struggling with.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, it makes sense to go up there and get -- go north.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Well just to take another perspective I highly doubt that the people from Grand Rapids wanted to be in this lakeshore District we have either so 6 and 1 and half a dozen in the other, I guess.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Look at 23.

Take the two Cascade and.

>> MR. MORGAN: 23 is currently ideal population so if you added to it you would have to remove something potentially.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I'm thinking of taking Cascade and Caledonia into three.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want Cascade and Caledonia in 3 and see how that looks.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, that is a 15, 29.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I would recommend taking Cascade because that is where the Grand Rapids airport is so to take it down into there I don't know if that would be a great fit but I understand what you're doing.

>> MR. MORGAN: 3 would need a little more population and 20 is high by 4.9%. So you might look again 3 needs population so you could look at a Township from 20 or you could look at more up here in Kent County this is the border of 3 and 20.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I don't want to go any more in Kent County so take those couple there.

>> MR. MORGAN: You are looking for a lot of population you only need a little to get 3 into plus or minus 5%

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I see Ionia County District 33 is actually over, aren't they? Maybe that could be used.



>> MR. MORGAN: And also Commissioner Lange there are a couple of Townships in Kent in the Ionia District 33.

So that might be an option just to settle the population issues.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What is in 33 now?

>> MR. MORGAN: You are right up to Lowell and District 33 is over by 7,000. So Lowell and Lowell City is 10,000 so that would get you led Lett put that in then. Put that in.

>> MR. MORGAN: District 33 is over 1%. District 3 is now 7,000 under. And then District 20 is still it still has some over population if you wanted to make any adjustments to it.

If not it's still within the 5% plus or minus.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What is 21?

>> MR. MORGAN: 21 is not in this area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is Kalamazoo.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Kalamazoo.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry it is, my bad.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So 20 is over by 12 and 21 is a little low. Plus add a little couple of those.

>> MR. MORGAN: These are two larger Townships Antwerp and Alma and here you've got 2500 with Porter or 2900 with Pine Grove.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes, ma'am.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can we Zoom in just a little bit John so we can see the population? How much population are you wanting to move in?

>> MR. MORGAN: He is talking about, yeah go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: 3 is 7,000 down. And 21 is 3,000.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry we are looking at 20 and 21. So you're contemplating.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: 12 over so I would be taking out of 20 if I took Antwerp would take care of it.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: A good place to start would be there because they associate closely.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: They what?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: They associate closely.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: They associate closely with Kalamazoo and Portage.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay Antwerp.

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So now 21 is under 4 percentages taking went Township of Van Buren and 20 is 733 under.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: And 3 is.

>> MR. MORGAN: 3 is under populated.

It's under populated by 7,000.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: What is that Township? Right below there, right next to that.

No, down, down, down, so south.

Pine Grove.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay Pine Grove.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Into 3.

>> MR. MORGAN: Into 3 so this is in Van Buren sorry this is in Van Buren and this is in Allegan.

So three currently has Battle Creek, okay so you're going to add a new County to it here.

Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Not County just the Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: A Township of a different County, okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Sorry Steve do you mind? What about Watson, is it Watson, what about that one instead? Compactness wise? And it wouldn't be going into a whole new County.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Put Watson into 3.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now District 3 is 4800 under District 20 is 110 sorry is 2900 under I think you're right on the populations.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Zoom out and see what that looks like since that is the whole purpose of this Charade.

Very good Holmes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Lett.

So we have adjusted.

We have one our compactness scores and adjusted based on that and had a collaborative sort of session.

Are we ready to kind of put this aside? Or are we ready to vote? What do we want to do Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Run compactness scores and partisan fairness on this version.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Let's do that so we will run the partisan fairness measures first.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this is one of these things where we made changes but we kept the name of the plan the same.

So if I rerun the compactness it's going to say it's the same name as the report that I just ran.

So I will have to like kind of clone it or do something to make it slightly different otherwise or I can delete the previous partisan fairness one without these adjustments.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think just copy it and change the name and run it so we can have them both.

>> MR. MORGAN: Got it, one moment.

>> JULIANNE PASTULA: Mr. Vice Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes

>> >> JULIANNE PASTULA: While Mr. Morgan is assisting the Commission with that, I wanted to recommend that the Commission not vote to publish until the end.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you.

So how should we conclude today? I think our goal is to try to somehow say yes, we have done something with this, how do we move on to the next thing? I see Commissioner Witjes' hand but I want General Counsel to finish.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I think you should celebrate the work you have done today on the Senate.

You made substantial improvements to the plan.

To the previous iterations so you should celebrate what you have done on the Senate. You identified most likely more than one plan that could be published or that could be considered for being published and then move on either to the Congressional I believe Commissioner Witjes suggested going to the Congressional and then focusing on the house for three days which was actually our internal recommendation as well.

So that would match up to move to put the Senate the work that you've done after you crossed that checked this last bit of data and move on again to the Congressional plans and start your work with criteria one, with the criteria two, and move forward but let's celebrate the Senate.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes then Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: This is how we end we have an unwritten rule that State Senate does not come out of our mouth until Friday.

Until Friday at the end and see if that works.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Morgan, Commissioner Lett did you have something.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't think we need to vote on whether or not we will accept it or publish but we can have acknowledgment that everybody agrees we are moving on.

Now if you want to call that a vote or not.

We have to have agreement from everybody that we are moving on.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: To the Congressional.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Whatever.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And Mr. Morgan you have up the.

>> MR. MORGAN: What I'm doing just as a check here so the previous one we had Kalamazoo whole, right? So that was District 21.

And the partisan scores are 864 or used percent 5643 and with taking one Township in on District 21 just to confirm it's a different number, so it does reflect that is a different plan these numbers are slightly different and then the number goes to 56.

So again just 21 was 56.3 to 47 now it's 56.8 to 43.2.

So they are different plans just confirming that.

And on the metrics of the lopsided margin it's the same.

On the mean median.

It looks like it's the same.

If we are looking at this number there.

On the efficiency gap, okay, so it looks like it went up by a tenth of a percent and the vote ratio.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can't see the top one because of the Zoom.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry about that, one moment.

Want me to back up then?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just it was just for that efficiency gap thing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Just the efficiency gap.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We couldn't see.

>> MR. MORGAN: So you still can't see that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Look at the screen up here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, that is helpful.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We reduced the gap.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Got it.

>> MR. MORGAN: Seats vote ratio will be the same because again there is no change because you have the same statewide average as I said all the plans will have the same number and then they are the same.

And compactness next?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, please then Commissioners we are approaching 6:00.

So I'm going to ask as John brings this up this compactness score, I want to ask how we are doing, if we want to keep working? Just go to 7:00? I'm seeing some suggestions to go to the number excuse me to go to 7:00 p.m.

I appreciate any online Commissioners if you have any thoughts on that just help us know your wishes.

Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: If we get done with the Senate to the point, we are good then we will talk about it on Friday, we can always leave early today too so keep that in mine.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Witjes.

>> MR. MORGAN: As I'm bringing this up, I noticed this while we were looking at this after you made the adjustment to District 3, the next District that was the lowest compactness score was District 20 and now you made adjustments to District 20 so I think you will find that, that may have improved its compactness as well.

So now the one on the bottom you see that the least compact District was on Polsby Popper .2 for District 20 but since you made changes to both the 21, 3 and 20 now District 20 is no longer the least compact.

So you have improved compactness over all for the plan because the least compact District is now .21 instead of .2.

And you effected District 20.

So you made District 20 we will look at it more compact.

All right so District 20 which is one of the ones that Commissioner Lett adjusted there, it was previously .20.

And now it's .23.

So in doing that you affected District 20 and then let's look at District 3 lastly.

So District 3 was .22 and now District 3 is .32.

So that was a pretty substantial change in by making District 3 less of an upside down U, now it's you cutoff the part of Van Buren County so that made it more compact on this measure.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Morgan.

All right so with that, with those scores Commissioners and looking back at our mapping process, there is a suggestion right now to use consent or consensus and just say are there any objections if we move on to the next District which are in the Congressional District? Are there any objections? Seeing no objections all right, without objection we are going to move on and save these and move on to the Congressional District.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, can we get the name of that final map that we did?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah so, I think we probably want to pause and give it the name you want to give it.

Because we've had several iterations.

So what you may do is give it today's date, a version number, and Senate District number.

So I think that's probably the best way to handle it is we will give it a new nomenclature.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Since we are pretty -- since there is consensus on this particular map should we take the time today to change the District numbers instead of going to Congressional and have the full day of Congressional tomorrow.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: They may be useful for that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would wait until we get to the final maps because our comments are based on these District numbers.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good point.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Or we will have to have a conversion table to be able to map back and forth.

>> MR. MORGAN: So back to the naming convention let's agree what we want to name it.

So let's do that here.

So the way I had it was 10, 4 so this is our 10, 4 plan and it's version one but then it was version 216C so I think we can consolidate that into a single name that reflects all of the pieces that you put into this today.

So 10421 version, well, we are going to call it 10421 version 2 so I'm going to take off the 16Bs and Cs and that sort of stuff so at the end of the day we will upload 10421 version 2 Senate.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Any objection to that Commissioners?

>> MR. MORGAN: Senator SD.

Well let me reference the website.

So let's just see where we are on the website.

So for other State Senate plans they are normally SD so we will go with SD and again so this is going to be 10421 version 2SD that's what it will be.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Mr. Morgan.

We were to Commissioner Lett, Commissioner Lett finished his turn.

We are to Commissioner Orton.

So will you help us with our Congressional?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I will.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Before you do that Commissioner Eid has a hand.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I never really had a turn.

Can I start off with the Congressional or did we skip that or? We got on to the Senate maps and we were not doing what I suggested was reconfiguring 18 which is fine if that is the will of the body.

But I didn't know I was giving my whole turn away.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay Commissioner Orton are you okay with that?

Whatever great.

So Commissioner Eid take it away.

O, Commissioner Clark sorry.



>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Before we get started what we did today with the Senate we determined which map we were going to start with and I think we need to do the same thing for the Congressional.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you and I believe you suggested that 180 was somehow what you said this morning.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: According to my records yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So Commissioner Eid do you want to try to help us? Do you have anything different?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well we have three that are what we scored on Friday. One that was by Commissioner Szetela, one that was based on the collaborative map. One by Commissioner Witjes based on the collaborative map and one submitted by me based on the collaborative map and they were 188, 1 at the time it was 191 but it looks like there is a new one 195 and I believe Commissioner Witjes updated his to be 196. So I mean we can start with any of those or we could go prior to that and go to is 180 but it was an earlier version.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think what might be useful is if each Commissioner what Commissioner Clark is asking help us like I think what we want to do is build consensus from that sort of beginning and I think what I'm hearing or sort of help walk us through Commissioner Eid is each version that has you know Eid or Witjes or RAS Rebecca what I think you are suggesting each one is built on the collaborative map which may be 180 is that fair Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm wondering which collaborative map it was built on because I think we have version one, version two and three and version four was not completed so we have those three versions of our collaborative map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It would not be a mistake to sort of use our last hour to try to figure out how do we, yeah, like figuring that out would be helping us start off tomorrow with a.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Can you open 180? Let's see it? I think they were all based off of 180 but I'm not quite sure.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think the main differences is Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and again Grand Rapids and Muskegon.

I think that is what we will see when we look at these, the major difference and may be others.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Did you say Midland?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: No, I did not say that.

That could be in these as well.

>> KIM BRACE: So this is plan 180 up on the website.

And everything north is District 12.

All these dots are where the comments have come on to the system.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Do we want to start here? This one was not scored on Friday.

You know, I would say we should start with you know the ones that scored the best to save us time and build from there.

But if that's not what the rest of the Commission wants to do, we can go a different route.

But I think we should do that and make those as compliant as we can since we know those scores are in compliance at least.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm not sure I think we were at this point then the Muskegon issue came up and then we made a couple iterations based on that on how we would deal with it.

As secondary maps or third maps.

And then we've got some variations of that and I don't know if I would want to put partisan fairness measure against it at this point to determine which one.

I think logically we should choose which one.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I'm curious was any of the metrics ran on map 187 on Friday? I wasn't able to be here so I'm just curious.

That was the alternate map.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Can you open 187 which one is that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lange I'm seeing nodding heads so I think the answer is yes.

Does anybody have any.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It was not ran on this one.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think it was.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think it was too.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm pretty sure we ran this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: This is Commissioner Witjes' map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: With Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I should say the start because I know you have updated this and changed some things.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yeah, this is the one that I used to get the deviation down as close to 0 as I possibly could.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And just to clarify for the public because I did see some comments questioning why it was titled 20 you were trying to get the population to 0 is that accurate? It's not a reflection of partisan fairness right.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: It was to population yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is what I thought but seemed there was some comments about partisan fairness and I think it was population so just clarifying.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lange does that answer your question? Okay, I think we are still sort of how do we help Commissioner Eid know which map to choose? Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I think if we determine how we want to handle Muskegon and Kalamazoo then we can choose the correct map to start with. And we may I know we are going to have different opinions on the Kalamazoo Grand Rapids thing.

And so probably some different opinions in Muskegon.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Lange has that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I would add Midland to that also.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah, that's a big one.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Friday to address those.

There is the do we want to pull up all three of them and look at them? I'm not hearing consensus on which one exactly you want to look at.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see Chair Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: With respect to my map I don't want to pull it up we ran the efficiency analysis and I changed over the weekend and changed VRA balance between districts 1 and 2 and what I ended up doing is incorporated some of Commissioner Witjes' changes and ended up creating two different maps so I feel looking at that map it's out dated and the maps I did over the weekend will be circulated to everybody today and we can look at them tomorrow so I'd rather if you are going to look at any of my maps I would rather you look at the ones I updated rather than going from one that has been changed.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see Mr. Morgan then Commissioner Clark.

>> MR. MORGAN: I wanted to clarify and 187 was run on Friday.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, let me respond to Rebecca.

See my opinion Rebecca is that you did that at your house and you made changes and we didn't see what those were.

And it was not a collaborative or collaboration effort among us.

So I would see that as a map that you would submit, this is my personal opinion, that you would submit on your own for the hearing and that we should work from one that we have already done collaboratively, from a collaborative standpoint.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: My point was that Commissioner Eid was talking about bringing up the three maps we look at on Friday and one of which was mine and based on my interpretation would not be collaborative it was based off of the collaborative maps and made changes at home so I'm just saying I prefer we not focus on that map right now that is my point.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Eid then Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This one was collaborative for sure.

I touched the one I submitted at home so why don't we start with this and see how we can improve it perhaps build on some of the ideas that we have taken from other maps and see if we can make it work.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 180

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton, did you have something? So we will start with 180. I'm not hearing objections so we just all agreed on that.

That is wonderful.

Thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just to help me as I bring this plan up are you contemplating making changes to this plan?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think we are and what will do at this time.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will make a copy of that plan and you may be making some changes to it.

Okay one moment.

Okay so we are taking 180 and the long name was version 392021 version three at the end we will rename this as a different plan.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm wondering, okay, I'm -- it said it had Rebecca's name on it.

I don't know why.

>> MR. MORGAN: The reason is I copied her plan and I'm going to override witness the plan we just wanted to bring up.

That is the fastest way we can get to where we want to go.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I see.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I was confused too.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So as we continue Commissioner Eid will finish his turn and take us to the day and Commissioner Orton tomorrow you will be first in line. I just wanted to acknowledge that.

>> MR. MORGAN: Again the coloration is different but I just want to confirm Coopersville is kind of the indicator this District Four is what you expect.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I feel we will end up changing some of that area but for now we are focusing on compliance so we should probably start with VRA compliance so let's look at the Metro Detroit area.

So we have one District here that is 47 and one District that is 35.

We had spoken earlier about we should try to have it between 35 and 40%.

We also talked about there being perhaps a little bit of a cushion there that we might want to have.

I know that previously I had submitted a map that was at about 45-45 and I was told that looked okay.

I don't know if it's that still would be okay.

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So I think some clarification here on like if we want to do a cushion to on these numbers and figure out what that would be before going forward.

It might be a good place to start because then it would give us a goal on you know where we want to go from here.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: With the Congressional districts of course those are your largest districts.

Most people you cover a wider area.

So that makes the election results in a way even more important.

Because you get...you're dealing with population that you might not have dealt with previously.

And as we talked about earlier having a cushion, I think is important.

The range that I believe Dr. Handley and I talked about in Wayne the Wayne County part of greater Detroit would be 35 to 40, but again I have to stress there is no absolute drop dead number.

The her VAP analysis, her analysis of the minimum amount of Black voting age population that is needed to elect candidates of choice is the four but there is no absolute though.

It can't be this number or it should be that number.

It really is not in play.

But what might be instructed to begin if we could look at the election results for one and two just to kind of see where we are starting from.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Mr. Morgan let pull those up election results for one and two.

>> MR. MORGAN: One and two, okay they should both display at the same time so starting with District one.

District one which here is east Detroit, some of Warren the Grosse Pointes and then down to Lincoln Park, Allen Park.

78 Biden.

22 for Trump.

Clinton is 79.

21 Trump in 2016.

2012 Obama 83 and Romney 17.

For U.S. Senate it's 78 for Peters 22 for James.

It's 76 for Stabenow and 24 for James.

And 2014 it's 83 for Peters and 17 for land.

86 for Stabenow and 14 for Hoekstra.

Governor 2018 is Whitmer 78, Schuette 22.

Shower 74.

Snyder 26.

Nessel 77, Leonard is 23 for Attorney General.

And then 75, 25 for Attorney General in 14Totten to Schuette.

Secretary of State is Benson 78, Lange 22.

Then Dillard 74, Johnson 26.

For the gubernatorial El-Sayed is 31%.

Thanedar is 29 and Whitmer is 39.75.

Almost 40.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you is there any does District 1 encompass any compact Arab American communities.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: No that would be in District 2.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: District 1 election results are interests because El-Sayed does carry the District by a narrow margin that is what I was wondering about.

The elections do prove out the District does perform for minority candidates of choice. I think across the board. And you recall that last week Dr. Handley talked about the Voting Rights Act districts typically having a larger margin of victory than the average District would.

I think it's also important to point out that in the current configuration the Congressional District I believe that both incumbents are candidates of choice as I recall.

So that protecting about the minority population in this area is particularly important.

This District does seemingly do that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: One of the things we were just discussing Commissioner Eid and I were the Yemeni population may explain this, this is the Bengali and Yemeni community.

In addition to others there is a Latin community as well.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: A small Arab community east of Dearborn that contributes to that too.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Thank you for the comment about the Yemeni population.

I think that also may be a reasonable inference about the election results.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That seems to be -- is that percentage that that District is at, okay? For the minority Black voting age population? I think it's what about 48%.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I think excuse me the population is clearly enables the Black population to elect candidates of choice so it is a little above the Dr. Handley range.

So whether or not there's a desire to shift some of that population into a District 2 for example, because District 2 is lower, that is something that might be a good idea to entertain.

District 2 population BVAP is just about at the line that Dr. Handley recommended.

So building in somewhat of a cushion there I think would be a good idea.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: For District 2 bringing that up a little bit is what you're saying.



>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: As far as District 1 goes, that could pass the muster test for now?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: I'm expecting it's possible that some population of one could be shifted into two.

So I'm going to reserve the final thought to see how District 2 might be reconfigured.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well, I don't know the populations here real well expect for what we have seen with the theme dots but I'm wondering Anthony would there be a way to shift some population between one and two so they are both around 40 like you were talking about.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would suggest instead of doing that I would include Southfield with District 2. And that as well as maybe reconfiguring that line between one and two, but we have Southfield with -- which is a major Black populous and I think that would increase at 35, almost 46% quite a bit.

And then from there we would take population out of three and we could possibly include Troy into three and if you recall at our meeting the other day in Troy was something that the in person public comment said to us almost every single person said that.

So that would be my suggestion to add Southfield to two which would bring it up. And add Troy to the three and then we can reconfigure the populations after.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Chair Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Southfield has 76,000 people in it though.

So that's really changing the balance between those two districts.

And it seems like it would be simpler to sort of change the line dividing one and two because one right now is high, 47 and two right now is low so and we know that line right there is almost entirely African/American.

It's I believe 85% along that line.

So why not just readjust that line rather than going into an entirely new District where you would be adding so much population that it's going to require like a Cascade of other changes.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We could do that.

That is fine with me too.

I think that if we could average out the 35 and the 47% and probably get around you know 43% for each of them if we tried doing that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you feel like you know where to do that or do you need help?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: All we do is move that line to the right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I suggest that's the best approach and one recommended by Bruce but I would not move into Dearborn or Dearborn Heights. I would want to keep that intact as it is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So Commissioner Eid and Mr. Adelson.

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: One other point in moving forward is can we have the demographic dots, please.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: The themes.

Do you have the African/American theme you're looking for?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: Yeah, to that point I think that is the largest minority group in this area so I would suggest that's a good idea.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay so Commissioner Eid it's to you.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay let's turn on that theme.

Okay wonderful let's go back to where we were which was that vertical line between districts 2 and districts 3 and we are going to pretty much shift that line a couple blocks to the right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we want to have the neighborhood overlay over? Is that helpful.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That would be nice.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's start right at 8 mile the border of this District.

Okay let's include those three neighborhoods right there.

Now this is going to add population to two and remove population from one so we will have to after we get these numbers a little more balanced look at where to add to one. But we can look at that after.

So let's just continue down.

Yep, those neighborhoods right there.

>> MR. MORGAN: South along here?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes, now let's keep going all the way down until we hit Dearborn.

Okay now let's try to let's take that neighborhood the one that ends in 1433 and let's take out that 697 precinct.

Okay now let's try to cleanup this line a little bit.

So let's go back up to 8 mile.

Ap we are still about 46% versus 37%.

Just come down a little.

Let's try to continue with this process.

So let's take that whole square of neighborhoods right there.

The 1600 to 3280, 3228.

Okay we are getting closer.

Let's take that block as well.

Okay we are at about we are at 39% and 45%.

What do we think about those numbers? Because we are adding population to two as well so we have to find that place to take it out.

At the same time.

Bruce what do you think about that normalization of the numbers there?

>> MR. BRUCE ADELSON: As you said Commissioner Eid the numbers are better. And if you would like to explore how to deal with the over and under population with one and two and then see what the overall numbers look like, I think that might be worthwhile too.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: What is the population of Taylor?

>> MR. MORGAN: It is 63,000.

So if you put that in you just have to make minor adjustments on the borderline.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Put that in with one.

Okay and also normalized the Black voting age population further so that is nice so 42 and 41.

>> MR. MORGAN: At this point you are 16,000 over in one and you are 15,000 under in two.

So you would be looking potentially to gain into two.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, let's continue going with that line until those even out.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: You are within the right threshold 2% on each of them.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We have to be within .5.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: For Congressional and Anthony I wanted to just acknowledge that two is reasonably compact.

One we've got this sort of we drive I think I'm not sure if it is Eastpointe but we cross 8 mile with District 1 and don't cross 8 mile with District 2 and so I'm just wanted to acknowledge that somehow maybe District 1 and changing in the northern no, we can't because we -- I apologize.

I just thought it through.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You could in the map we scored on Friday.

That District 3 that is above 8 mile has all of that area.

So you know you could take that out of 1.

All you have to do is include Romulus instead which is where the Detroit Metro airport is and I do think that makes sense instead of going up into Warren.

But you know that's something we would have to do collaboratively.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want me to continue down to get the population balanced. There is about 7,000 between them.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We will add to two and take away from one.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm just going to go one at a time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Are you keeping the neighborhoods whole or is that less important? I don't know the neighborhoods that is why I'm asking.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We may not have to split them up.

So let's actually unassign the last three that you did.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: When I say unassign I mean change it back to District one Ottawa County do we have Commissioner Curry on the call still? Okay Chair Szetela we were just sort of exploring whether we do you know the neighborhoods enough to know whether it's okay to break those up as Anthony is filling in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Where are you at? Is that Woodward?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That is just a neighborhood line.

It might be.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's not Grand River.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It may be Grand River or northwest highway.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Would the neighborhood names help you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, and Zooming out would help too.

>> MR. MORGAN: Hang on we are experiencing technical difficulties.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Of course.

>> MR. MORGAN: Stay tuned.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The computer has decided it's done.

I'm starting to notice a trend of technical difficulties at the end of the day.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is it a sign Commissioners?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: While we are waiting there are other things, we can do so without objection we will proceed to approval of the two sets of minutes from September 21 are there any proposed edits to the draft minutes that have been provided? Seeing none may I have a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the local council committee meeting held at East Lansing Michigan on September 21.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So moved.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Motion made by Commissioner Rothorn seconded by Commissioner Lett.

All in favor of approving the local council committee meeting minutes of the local council committee meeting on September 21, 2021, signify raising your hand and saying aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting held in East Lansing on September 21.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Seconded by Commissioner Rothorn is there any discussion or debate on the motion?

Hearing none all in favor of adopting the minutes from September 21, 2021, please raise your hand and say aye.

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All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

There are no staff reports at this time.

Without objection I will ask Sarah Reinhardt from the Michigan Department of State if she has a report.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Chair I don't have a report.

But if you would allow me to say a few words to the Commission.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Sure go ahead.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: While we are waiting Commissioners, I just want to congratulate you for completing your first draft Senate plan.

I know that this is going to be a very long week for all of us.

But I am a firm believer in taking tiny wins where you can.

For the first time in Michigan State history you have created a draft Senate, State Senate plan and a completely citizen led, transparent, out in the open fashion.

That's the first time it has ever happened in this state and it's a momentous occasion.

So I hope you take time today to reflect on that and to feel good about that.

And that's all I have. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right, thank you.

And correspondence received in advance of our meeting today is provided along with written public comments to the Commissioners in our meeting materials.

It's my understanding that there is no future agenda items to share at this time.

Does anyone have any announcements? What, all right, we will return to mapping at this time now that we finished the other items on our agenda.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Madam Chair.

I'm going to motion to adjourn for the day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think we should I was going to say that because it looks like the computer is done and motion by Eid and seconded by Commissioner Witjes is there any discussion or debate on the motion? Hearing none all in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

It is 6:41 and we are adjourned, thank you, everybody.