



Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (MICRC)

Live Public Comment Guidelines

The MICRC is committed to inviting wide public participation in the redistricting process from across the state of Michigan. The MICRC will continue to operate with transparency, integrity, and impartiality, as well as ensuring the public's access to information is maintained.

- All meetings of the MICRC, including public hearings, are livestreamed to YouTube. The link is available in real time at Youtube.com/MichSoSOffice and on the Commission's website Michigan.gov/MICRC. During these livestreamed meetings, public comments are recorded in the official record of the MICRC, which are retained online and are publicly available.
- Subsection 11 of Art. 4, § 6 of the Michigan Constitution prohibits MICRC Commissioners, staff, attorneys, and consultants from discussing redistricting matters with members of the public unless the communication occurs in writing or during public comment at an open meeting.

Pursuant to Section 12.0 of the MICRC Rules of Procedure, *Procedures for Public Participation*, the following guidelines pertain to all speakers who will be addressing the MICRC live during its public comment sessions:

- Speakers are requested to address items on the agenda or topics relevant to the MICRC.
- Speakers may provide public comment in-person or remotely.
- When called upon by the Chairperson, speakers may provide their name in an audible tone of voice for the record. All comments shall be directed to the Commission as a whole, not any one individual or Commissioner.
- Speakers will be called in the order prescribed by the Commission. Generally, speakers will be called on a first-come, first-served basis, with in-person participants invited to provide their comments before remote participants.
- Speakers will be recognized by the Chairperson and invited to speak for a set time not to exceed two minutes. All speakers will be allowed the same amount of speaking time at each meeting.
- Speakers are requested to respect the time limit allotted to each speaker (announced at the beginning of each public comment period). Speakers will be informed when their time has expired, and the next speaker will be invited to begin. Speakers may not yield any time to another speaker.
- No person, other than members of the MICRC and the person having the floor, shall be permitted to enter into any discussion, either directly or through the members of the Commission. All questions to the Commission or its individual members shall be directed through the Chairperson.
- No speaker shall be permitted to speak a second time during the same meeting until all others wishing to speak have had an opportunity to do so.



- Due to the pandemic, seating may be limited. Signing up for public comment does not guarantee entrance to the meeting room for the duration of the meeting. Those who wish to speak are advised to arrive early or be prepared to wait to speak outside of the venue.
- No banners, signs, bullhorns or similar devices, items that could be used as weapons, or large bags or cases will be allowed into the meeting room. All items may be subject to search prior to entering the meeting room. Items may be held outside of the meeting room by law enforcement or security personnel, at their discretion.
- Temperature checks required by venues or local health orders shall be enforced, and any person with a temperature over 100.4°F will not be permitted to stay.
- The Chairperson may warn any person or curtail an opportunity to speak for failure to be germane, for vulgarity, for redundancy within their comment, for speaking more than the allotted time, for technical issues, or for failure to address remarks to the Commission.
- Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, or who shall become boisterous or disruptive, while addressing the Commission, may be requested to stop speaking. The Chairperson may take action to address such actions or remarks, which may include a warning, a clarification, a request for the person to leave the lectern or to rule the person out of order.
- If any person becomes loud or unruly, the Chairperson may rule that person out of order, and may forfeit that person's opportunity to speak further and that person shall immediately cease their remarks.
- Any meeting attendee, who, at the direction of the Chairperson for a breach of the peace actually committed at the meeting, is escorted from the meeting room, will not be admitted for the remainder of that meeting.
- Closed caption and ASL, Spanish and Arabic translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. People with disabilities needing other specific accommodations should email ReinhardtS@Michigan.gov or contact Sarah Reinhardt at (517) 285-0043.