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MICRC

09/15/21 10:00 pm Meeting

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: As Chair of the Commission, we will bring the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 10:10 a.m.

This Zoom webinar is being live streamed on YouTube at www.YouTube.com/MICHOS office/videos.

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 Bengali and Arabic translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. Please E-mail us at 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.

This meeting is also being recorded and will be available at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC for viewing at a later date and this meeting is being transcribed and those closed captioned transcriptions will be made available and posted on 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, 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 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.

I will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

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>> 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?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

Can you unmute yourself, please?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present, attending from Interlochen.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 10 Commissioners are present.

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You can view the agenda at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC. I would now entertain a motion to approve the meeting agenda.

So moved.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Seconded by Commissioner Rothhorn. Is there any discussion or debate on the motion? Seeing none we will now vote all in favor please raise your hand and say aye. All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

We will now move on to our 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.

We do not have any live, in person public comment today so we will move directly to the remote public comment.

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.

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I will call 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 the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute.

I will call on you by your name.

Also, please note that 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 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 two minutes to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

The first person to provide public comment is James Galant.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> All right. This is James Galant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition and these are my opinions.

And a couple of issues that we are ongoing here, that yesterday at the election of the Chair, I believe the process was manipulated by the member, member Kellom, the representative of the democratic party to the detriment of the members of the republican party.

Because Commissioner Kellom decided to put the election of the Chair at the end of the meeting so she could continue to Chair the meeting when Robert's Rules of Order requires that that is a special order of business.

And it's required to be first and supersedes every other order of business because it was voted on last September.

Every six months you are going to elect a new Chair.

It was already voted on before, so it's first before your unfinished business. It's in your rules.

Now, and your consensus building process here, I read through that last night. And it's on your website. It says rules of procedure, but it's actually the consensus building thing. And it says in there Commissioner or Ms. Hammersmith said very clearly, there is no provisions in the rules of procedure for the consensus process.

Okay, so that means the rules of procedure supersede the consensus process.

Well, you are doing the opposite. You are trying to get the policy to supersede the rules. So remember Robert's Rules of Order apply in every situation in which you don't have a rule that contradicts the Roberts Rules.

So you don't have any rules.

You are just doing it.

And also, I would like to say that I believe that Commissioner Rothhorn lied on TV, WKAR program. I've been reviewing them.

He stated that this is an inaugural, Independent Commission.

This is not.

This is...the Supreme Court has determined this is a reviving of an inactive Commission that we had already had from 1980. And they are talking about that too, but they won't get the rules of procedure to say this is the reiteration of that and it is.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission, Mr. Galant.

Next in line is Karen Tighe.

>> Hi this is Karen Tighe can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, ma'am.

>> I'm a resident of Bay County and part of the Bay City Saginaw and Midland.

We had the opportunity to meet and speak with all of the Commissioners on May 25th when you came to Midland for your listening tour and want to give a special thank you to Weiss Vallette and Rothhorn who came to Bay City last month and talked with the Tri-Cities community of interest group at the library there.

We had a really good turn out where the discussion at that time last month centered on the Michigan roadmap which actually shows the Tri-Cities highlighted in yellow.

As the northern most Metropolitan region the I-75 corridor before you get to what we call up north, the rural areas that are the top half of the Lower Peninsula east of Bay City in the thumb and west of Midland.

Many of us watched the Government at work yesterday when you drew the District 1 State Senate map and I'm here to say thank you to that .

You took the time to listen to the Tri-Cities group but actually heard our concerns about the importance of keeping these three cities together for a State Senate District.

On behalf of the proposed District 1 I really want to say thank you to all of you for crafting a Senate District that is both fair but also competitive.

We are very grateful for your work.

So thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Carol Harron.

>> Can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Thank you I'm sorry it took so long any way I am also in Bay County and I would like to echo Karen Tighe's remarks the only thing I would add to them and I know you have more work to do today is when proposal 2 was passed in 2018 by the state, it was at 61 I think maybe 61.7%.

In Bay County it was passed by 62.2% plus.

And in the other two cities in the Tri-Cities it was similarly it was similar statistics.

So we really wanted to see this Commission happen.

And like Karen I feel I can represent the community, thousands of people in this Tri-Cities that wanted to see this Commission are watching this Commission and are very pleased to see the action that you took yesterday.

In drawing District 1.

Mind you 62% are never going to have everybody in the state agree at the same time.

But you've got a very strong political positive support there.

So thank you very much for your work.

And we appreciate your coming out to see us.

Listening to us.

And keep up the good work.

I really endorse what you're doing.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Francis barber.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the purposes of the public record that participant is not currently present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

All right we will move on to Barb Handley Miller.

>> Okay can you hear me?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> All right, good morning.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity.

I too am a resident of Bay County and part of the communities of interest that wanted to see a State Senate map encompassing Bay, Saginaw and Midland Counties.

And we want to thank the Commission for the process that you have afforded us to be able to give public comment not only at the May 25th meeting but at the town hall forum that we had in which several Commissioners attended in Bay City because I think it gave us a real opportunity with those Commissioners to give a lot more context about our communities of interest.

And the need to keep these urban areas together.

Currently our State Senate District encompass Lapeer County and we just don't have as much in common.

These three areas Saginaw Bay City and Midland Bay Counties have so much you know, in common in terms of higher education, urban centers, industrial policy, environmental concerns around the Saginaw and Tittabawassee River and other concerns.

Thank you for the process, thank you for drawing this initial map that we hope will be the final map because we think it reflects your good work and your good listening of the people of these three counties.

So thank you again and best wishes in the rest of your work.

My husband is here with me.

Is it okay if he takes the balance? Of time? Terry Miller.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No unfortunately we can't do that.

We have to have him sign up separately.

>> All right very good.

Thank you again for this opportunity and thank you for the process that you have been using for this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

All right we are now going to move on to Cathleen Curell.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Hi good morning everyone thank you for this opportunity.

I'm a long time Midland resident of 45 plus years.

And just want to tell you proposition or proposal two gave me the opportunity to get out of my comfort zone.

I'd never been involved civically or politically before and I became passionate about the possibility of working for more fair election process in the State of Michigan.

My husband and I were happy to educate voters about gerrymandering while getting those signatures for the petition.

And I'm just very excited about the work you're doing.

I want to extend heartfelt thanks to the Commissioners for the vital work that's going on.

And I know it's work.

The Tri-Cities of Midland Bay City and Saginaw are a community of interest.

There are so many reasons that I'm sure have been stated many times by others.

A State Senate District that includes them will help pave the way for being an equitable and competitive District.

And that is so exciting.

To so many of us who worked hard on the proposal.

So just thanks and that's all I have.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Norman Clement.

>> Hello.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can hear you.

>> Hi, my name is Norman Clement of Detroit change initiative of Wayne County and I spoke to you before and you guys are doing an outstanding tough job and I commend the job you guys are doing.

I ask as community citizen watching the panel if we can dedicate more time drawing the maps.

I know you are working on the State Senate but you have a daunting task ahead of you of working on the State Representative districts which are tons of districts.

And a lot of cities need more time than just one day to do it.

So I'm asking as a concerned citizens if you guys will look into adding more time, more hours of doing the maps.

Again, I know you guys got pressing litigation, I know you have your lives to live and you guys are doing an outstanding job as it is but I also implore time is of the essence there is a concern because everything could change in a heartbeat working at the last 24 hours of getting everything done.

Because of a Judge's decision.

So I ask again to maximize all the time you guys have.

Coming up, at more time if you need it.

I implore to add more times because the upcoming counties need more time to draw those maps.

Thank you for your guys time and keep up the work.

I love you all.

You all have a great day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We appreciate that.

All right we are now going to move on to Claudia Warren.

>> Good morning.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

>> I live in Midland, Michigan.

And I've been a volunteer for several State Senate candidates for house of representative candidates and Congressional representative over the past 20 years. This would be the current 98th house seat, the 36th Senate seat and the 4th Congressional District.

It's been very frustrating to campaign for excellent, compassionate, qualified and intelligent candidates with so much to offer our state and then see them defeated by less qualified candidates because of gerrymandering.

So I did some door to door canvassing for proposal two in 2018.

And it was amazing to see it pass.

And I want to thank you members of the committee.

I know this is a lot of work and time for you.

I appreciate the work that you do.

And I appreciate that you're trying to create fair Districting for everyone.

I appreciate that you listen to our concerns here in the Tri-Cities and I hope the District you drew up the other day actually passes and that we can work together with our colleagues in Bay City and Saginaw to create, to elect somebody to the legislature who is responsive to the people of the area.

Someone with intelligence who can actually address our pressing issues in our area.

So thank you so much for the work that you are doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission Ms. Warren.

We will now move on to Robert Knobloch.

>> Yes. Can you hear me Madam Chair?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I can.

>> Thank you.

I'd like to thank the Commission for allowing comments concerning the communities of interest.

My name is Robert Knobloch, I'm 72 years old and a lifelong resident of Lenawee County.

My community of interest is Lenawee, Hillsdale and Jackson Counties and I present two reasons to support this community of interest.

The first for over 42 years I've been involved with the region two planning Commission, which includes the three counties mentioned above serving as a representative of Raga Township and then Lenawee County for six years.

Region two planning Commission is a local governmental organization serving the Tri-Counties of Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee.

Providing essential professional planning services for the three counties and their respective communities.

Second for the last six years I have served as a Lenawee County representative on the region two area agency on aging.

Which serves the same three counties of Jackson, Lenawee and Hillsdale counties.

The agency provides services to help older adults and adults with disabilities to remain at home and maintain their independence.

The services provided include healthcare, adult daycare, counseling services, home healthcare, food and nutrition programs and many other services.

Both the region two planning Commission and the region two area agency on aging have partnerships with the community of interest.

The Tri-County Region.

I believe the Tri-County Region meets the criteria in Section six, item 13, A-G of the amendment to the Michigan Constitution.

I strongly urge the Commission to keep the Tri-county District intact when drawing the Congressional District map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Chris Andrews.

>> Can you hear me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, okay hi I'm Chris Andrews from Haslett I'm asking you to empower Michigan voters to choose the legislative and Congressional districts or majorities that they want. No Michigan voter younger than 55 has had the ability to elect a democratic Senate majority.

Think about that.

If you're 55 your first Senate race was 1986.

Jim Blanchard won in a landslide but republicans kept their Senate majority.

Jennifer Granholm won two elections and Gretchen Whitmer won big in the blue tsunami of 2018. But democrats never came close to a Senate majority. The House has been largely the same. And it has had a major effort on every Michigan resident when it comes to education, taxes, public health, criminal justice, racial justice, the environment, worker and employer rights.

When we elect a republican Governor, we get conservative laws and policies.

That is fine.

When we elect a democratic Governor, we get gridlocked.

Michigan is profoundly different today because of this process.

Voters didn't pass proposal two because they hate wiggly lines or because County or City lines were split to create fair districts.

They passed it because they despise the political power grab that imposes one party's will on the people no matter what.

I believe you are all voters of good will and only you can fix this.

We are counting on you.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We will now move on to Chris Andrews.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: The previous participant was Chris Andrews.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm sorry Bruce Barlund.

>> Barlund.

Can you hear me now?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, all right, I'm calling from I'm here from Eaton County in a recent map I have seen shows Eaton County included with Lansing, Michigan.

Eaton County is a larger, largely rural, small town and farming area with issues bearing on those interests.

To be combined with Lansing, Michigan, a big City that out numbers us in population, that out numbers Eaton County in small town farming community that it is, Eaton County residents have very little interest in similar to the City of Lansing.

And should not be included with a Lansing Senate District.

We need -- we are just different.

It's just different in areas away from cities.

Lifestyles are different.

There is just so many differences than in the cities.

And we need to have a District that's drawn with other rural communities of interest.

Thank you again.

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I appreciate it.

You folks are doing a good job.

Keep it up.

But keep in mind rural is much different than City.

And there's just so many differences in it.

So thank you again.

And hope you have a great day.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Now that the first opportunity for both in person and remote public comment has concluded without objection, we will now hear from individuals seeking to provide a second public comment.

Hearing no objection we will now proceed with individuals seeking to provide a second two minute public comment.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide live remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so we will use the same process as the first round and first in line to provide public comment is Mr. James Galant.

Please wait for our staff to unmute you.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I can.

>> Okay, this is James Galant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition.

These are my opinions.

And, as we can continue, I'd like to continue and I notice that you just don't want to talk about the facts, and the facts of the constitutional origins of this Commission.

This is merely a revived reiteration.

Remember, your attorney told you that this iteration, the next iteration in ten years is going to have to follow the rules and it's a continuing thing.

So I would ask you to please formally on the record bring it to the agenda.

Review the facts.

And make a decision. And, you know, get the rest of them in there.

And correct Commissioner Rothhorn's false statements on the record.

And the rest of you I'm assuming just said the same thing as Commissioner or Ms. Hammersmith said the same thing.

But what I found was the Michigan Bar Journal published an Article, August 21st, 2020.

And this is where I first heard and saw this where they were claiming that this is a new Commission.

And 61% of the voters voted not for a new Commission. They voted to revive an already established Commission in the Constitution.

And the House determined that.

That was November 6.

See, so the Michigan Bar Journal I've asked them, and we will see where that goes, about publishing a correction.

Because this went to everybody. Where did it come from? It come from Voters Not Politicians. Except their cross complaint at the Supreme Court said that specifically, that this is not a new Commission.

You still keep doing this.

And I believe it's lying.

I believe and my prediction is that Commissioner Szetela will be facing charges at the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission because this is where it's going.

All you attorneys got together and you will throw it out there and nobody wants to question you. Well I'm gonna. And I'm going to be bringing this forward. I'm going to try to bring this forward to the Michigan Supreme Court right now, too. Because that was stated in that complaint that was just filed. It said the same thing.

Well, I guess this is now the time to look into this.

And you know...

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commissioner, Mr. Galant. That concludes our public comment.

However, I would like to mention that all e-mailed and mailed public comment is provided to the Commission before each meeting. And Commissioners also review the public comment portal on www.Michigan.gov/MICRC website on a regular basis. We appreciate everyone who provides public comment in whatever method they choose to do so. And invite the public to keep sharing their thoughts, communities of interest and maps.

Now that we've completed public comment, we will go to unfinished business of the day, which is agenda item 5A. Without objection, I would like to return to the State Senate mapping process. We ended with Commissioner...we did not quite end. So Commissioner Rothhorn was still I believe working on his District. Is that correct?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's true. And I'm going to try to make this a collaborative process too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We will pick back up with Commissioner Rothhorn and continue to work on his District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can you bring it up John

>> MR. MORGAN: This is the alternate version at the end of yesterday you want to start with.

We froze and we copied a plan as is and then you said I wanted to move forward in changing those districts.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct yes so, I -- yesterday, um, I'm not sure which is more efficient frankly.

What I'm looking at right now I think I have the shape file.

Let me see what shape file I was using and see if it was the alternate or the other one

>> MR. MORGAN: May be a designation of A for the alternate one which would be the most recent one where things ended yesterday.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm not using the alternate. I'm using the without the A, so the 91421.

No A

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so I'll bring that one up and you can look at it and confirm that what I have on my computer is what you think is in your plan.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sounds good, thank you.

For benefit of the Commissioners we had an excellent sort of I think it was yeah District 8 and yesterday at the end of the day with Bruce Adelson I was trying to sort of figure out how to continue sort of that idea of a spoke that the District 7, District 6 and District 8 in particular sort of resemble spokes leaving the river.

And sort of going out into the suburban areas.

And so if 9 and 13 right currently don't look like spokes that is what I'm going to try to do here.

And so and where to begin is so this is not actually it must have been the A.

This is not what I'm looking at John

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is where we stopped right before you started drawing. And then I'm going to bring up the other plan which is the end of where you finished drawing so that is the one that is A.

Just a moment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And I will acknowledge one of the things I'm doing with the spokes and I will try to work on two districts at the same time in order to make this spoke idea kind of work.

I'm trying to acknowledge sort of an I think there were two in the southern area.

Yes, this is the one John thank you.

I think this will be more efficient if we sort of start from here.

I'm trying to acknowledge an LGBTQ circle community of interest and sort of the northern tier sort of it's in District 14.

That's one community of interest I'm trying to do, work into this.

Then the southern tier John closer to the river there is two communities in particular, 48217 I think was the name they sort of gave it and also a Latin X community.

There is some tension there so I'm looking for Commissioners to help me sort of figure out the best way to do it.

At this point, John, so I'm going to I like I think we all like District 8 and District 13 is drawn with the on the eastern edge of that District 13 I think we have a good border.

And, yeah, and I think we also so it's not starting all the way at the river and at this point I just want to confirm with other Commissioners who are familiar with the area if we don't start it all the way at the river does that feel like the right thing to do meaning to

start District 13 and when I say start, I mean at the southern border where John has the cursor does that feel like a good place to start at this point? It looks like it represents the communities of interest I wanted to preserve sort of in the southern that Latin X community.

I would suggest that this actually is a good place to start but I'm looking for any input.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we Zoom in a little built so we can see what streets are right around there? I'm just wondering it looks like it's 75 going through.

Okay so yeah that is the southern border of 75

>> MR. MORGAN: 75 is over here and this is the border with 8 basically.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Continue 13 and we will work on 13 firefighters and we will go I think the we are going to clean up the edge in order so we can so we are going to take a little bit, we are going to assign some of the District that is in 13 on the western edge and assign that to District 9 and there is a

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry when you say cleanup the western end do you mean assign this from 9 to 13, 13 is under populated at the moment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I know we will head further north with 13 and we are going to bite into District 14.

So at this point, yeah, that edge where you were, that edge of 13 the western edge of 13 where you were earlier, we are just going to clean that up and go to sort of go from south to north, yes, so we are at I think McNichols is that 8 mile? At the top there? Yes, that is 8 mile so we will go from 8 mile, that edge, yes, so yep right there is 8 mile and right at that corner so just the western yellow we are going to assign to 9.

>> MR. MORGAN: And this is the ten here, I think.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct we're not going to follow the road. We are going to there is a neighborhood it might help you and me both if we -- if you pull up the overlay which is the Detroit neighborhood maps, please

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

Just a second for that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sure

>> MR. MORGAN: So this is the neighborhood overlay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I will name the names because I have it pulled up on mine.

So that edge again we are in that area so please we are going to keep the neighbors as whole as possible.

And so that you are selecting I guess at the block level and precinct level right work

>> MR. MORGAN: Precinct level and again we are taking from 9 sorry I'm taking into 13 from 9.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are taking

>> MR. MORGAN: Other way around from 13 into 9.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct.

Respecting neighborhood boundaries.

So that is greenfield and college park neighborhoods you will select there, yep, uh-huh. You got it and go south.

That is college park.

And then we are going to -- so we've got, yes, so we are going to let's see carry so we are going to add, so we are going to take from 9 so now we are going to again that edge that I talked about that western edge of 13, yes, you got it.

And we are going to stop at that which is Grand River.

So we are going to take that and assign those to 13, yep, those blocks there, those precincts.

And the southern we will stop at that Grand River.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just for reference telegraph road is here and close to the border of Redford Township and going down here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Which is Grand River

>> MR. MORGAN: To Grand River, okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And that is great.

I think at this point we are going to leave it.

Is that true? Yes, because the neighborhoods are whole.

Yes.

I think we are now able to move north, John.

So into when I say north yep, we will move yep so, we will assign in 14 there we are going to assign what is currently in 14 to 13 not all of 14 but yeah, we are going to assign all of Royal Oak

>> MR. MORGAN: All of Royal Oak.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It occurs to me this is where I want to watch the numbers change, the minority, the percentage of minority and the reason I'm doing this also for rationale is to decrease the minority percentage, right, to have a more balanced Black-white ratio and not just Black and white but nonwhite and white balance

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so that is all of Royal Oak Township.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent I think we may be close.

We are on 13, so we need about we are 17 over, okay

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes 17,000 over, 6%.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah, so and in terms of the ratio, the minority percentage I think is still like 50, it's 53% non-Hispanic Black.

>> MR. MORGAN: For 13?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: For 13, yeah.

So this is not an ideal District or it's even higher 54%, 53

>> MR. MORGAN: If I'm not mistaken you are comparing this to the starting point District that you had for 13 or 9.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes

>> MR. MORGAN: Not to a hypothetical other value.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm comparing it and we reduced it and it's relatively high and it's important -- what I'm thinking about is flagging this in terms of VRA right in terms of the notes that we will follow-up with Bruce on it but this is in terms of, yeah and it's too high, the percentage is too high and want to chip away at it.

What I found is trying to improve the percentage of 13.

Again moving west because I don't want to move east.

I think we like 7, 6 and 8.

So moving west.

I wasn't able to improve the minority percentage.

We have high minority populations in Lathrup Village and Southfield and definitely in the Detroit area so District 9 we have to go further north.

And so what I'm going to do is suggest in 13 any way that we, yeah, I guess I'm going to suggest that we have to keep it but I want to get closer to the population.

So I want to take off the northern so I think the southern end we have to keep unless other people have ideas.

This is where you know again to decrease the minority percentage and increase the white or you know the people of color are too high at this point.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we scroll back so we can see further down into the City? Okay a little bit more.

I want to see down by the lakeshore.

Zoom out more but just, yeah.

Zoom out a bit, yep.

So your population is 38,000 over.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, and it just occurred to me John sorry Rebecca what I'm thinking about is that there is one of the things that have been useful for me is to see that theme.

John and if you have if it's the top and so the population total in the circle and then non-Hispanic white at the bottom so those two so a bubble that has those two characteristics or those two fields is useful.

And of course the difference is then where we have the minority percentage.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I mean I still think and we've talk about this a little bit offline you and I just before the meeting so I think the way to solve this problem might be to take that lower area near Corktown, Delray, just south of Michigan avenue and pull that into a District that now includes part of Down River.

Lost my map.

And then make a separate District with Dearborn where it's pulling part of Detroit too.

So then you are pulling some of that concentrated population out.

And then that gives you the ability to move out further into Oakland County to balance that way.

I think that's the way to do it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I hear you.

And yeah, and the reason I have not done it was because of the community of interest trying to preserve that at this point and this is I think I'll leave that as plan B and if this does not pass muster with the V RA so to speak.

Okay, so then when we get the map back up, I think I will chip away at the northern edge and then just try to finish off District 9 and try to get the population equal there too. I'm removing into Livonia rather into Southfield at the northern part of District 9 to try to decrease the people of color.

Without diluting votes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Commissioner Rothorn I have the non-Hispanic white out of the total population.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent yes

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay there is also a possibility you could do that out of voting age populations as well.

But right now I have total population showing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think, yes, I want totals at this point.

Thank you

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay it's set currently for Townships so just as an example if I click on Livonia, it will show you that the non-Hispanic white is 84%.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So it's a higher percentage of white and lower percent of white and looking at rough

>> MR. MORGAN: And this is Detroit.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, less than 10%

>> MR. MORGAN: That is the whole City.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is the whole City thank you

>> MR. MORGAN: Now when I move to lower level you will see it at the voting precinct.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And that's, yeah, I wonder if that concentration so let's go to a lower level in the precinct just to sort of play with what Rebecca was talking about.

Like is there a higher percentage of white or maybe and these may be Arab white.

But yeah, looking at the lower, the southern

>> MR. MORGAN: So these precincts are in Dearborn.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, and can we, yes so if you hover over yes, the Section of 9, yep.

So we've got that is a white population, yeah, we have a high percentage.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is what we call clay town that area but there is a high Arabic population and along Warren the same thing there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay, Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, as you begin to adjust this, I would recommend that we keep that Arab American population together.

And we had some specific reasons the way we drew that District.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right and I think that's -- and that's the Dearborn District is the high percentage of Arab American and I think what Rebecca and what we were just looking at is there are -- if I bring 13 down further south, we may actually increase our white population.

And that's the Corktown, that area and that's and I'm just breaking up but there is a Latin X and a so at this point I'm going to leave it.

I'm just going to leave it and we are going to go north.

So, John, to the northern part of 13 please when you're ready

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah okay.

So this northern edge is the Township boundary of Royal Oak or the City boundary.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We will take away or add it to we have 16 and 14. And I think if I'm not mistaken Troy, is 16 is that the Troy District that we drew? Yeah, okay so I don't want to change that.

I think yeah, I want to keep District 16 so we will take away from 13 and add it to 14, please.

Go ahead, Doug.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, and that is how we originally had it. We had Royal Oak Linked-In with 14 as part of 14.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: So I think that would be the appropriate thing to do. You may not end up taking the whole thing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Definitely not the whole thing just enough to balance the population in 13, please, John.

So we are just, yeah, take away the voting precincts in order to yeah that northern tier so we can add it to 14, please.

Yes, I like that north of 12 mile.

So we are pretty good but let's see if we can add the two precincts, I guess that is 3, north of 12 mile.

To keep make it sort of clean.

Cleaner.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm sorry on 12 mile is down here. This is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is 10-Mile.

I meant 10-Mile thank you for the clarification.

And we are about 324 over population.

So let's leave it.

And in order to do so John we are going to stay in the north and we are going to assign Southfield so Southfield has a high minority population and Livonia has less and I think that is what you can hover over the dots, John.

Bigger dots in Livonia means more white folks right, fewer dots, larger, yeah, in Southfield.

Right so what I'm trying to do with the spoke is right balance the white, nonwhite population and.

Therefore I'm trying to take away from not trying I'm going to take away from Southfield from District 9, yep, and I'm going to add it, where to add it is sort of the part that I know I'm so let's add it to 14 for this moment.

I'm getting some insight here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I was just playing with this.

Because Southfield is so concentrated what I ended up doing is pulling in Redford with Southfield and the Detroit upper corner around just south of Southfield and then the upper part of Livonia and I was able to with that end up with 53% African/American. So it brings the percentage down quite a bit.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can you help direct John and help draw number 9 or do we have to scrap 9 and do what you are thinking about? See what I mean?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You have 9 going all the way down?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Nine goes down so.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: With that District.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're basically breaking 9 up into three directions the way that I did it.

So part of it will go 19 and part is Down River and the other is 10 and that breaks you up into a District 5 that would have 25% African/American, 40% total minority because of the Hispanic population and then you would have District 2 which would be 29% African/American 20% Hispanic.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: When you say the District 2.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: My districts are a little different.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So what I would suggest is that pulling Detroit up into Southfield like that it kind of doesn't solve the problem of concentrated populations it makes it worse.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Exactly.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So sever off Southfield with just a portion of northwest Detroit and then bring in Redford and then a little bit of Livonia and that sort of solves the problem.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Northwest Detroit so District 9, our District 9 is currently northwest Detroit, right? District 9 is within northwest Detroit.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay so right in terms of communities of interest and what I'm trying to do here with the District 9, thanks for listening, John, what number 9 has enough for we are 39,000 roughly 39,000 so it's not enough for two districts. And Dearborn, the Dearborn District the Arab District we are trying to draw is number 19.

We are right on population with number 19, District 19? Is that true?

>> MR. MORGAN: A little almost 19 under.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Acknowledging what Doug said we want to try to preserve an Arab community of interest within this District and we also want to recognize right the Down River District that we've drawn so, yeah, Rebecca I am just wondering if there is ways to play with it, part of me I feel like 13 is not bad.

8, 6 and 7 I feel like we have sort of a good sort of eastern.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Which one is 13?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: The yellow.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yellow.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 8, 6 and 7 heading east.

I can't remember 5 what we think about 5 but it doesn't feel like wrong.

But, yeah, as we continue west, right, 9, 10, 14, right in the Down River like what we have drawn we got feedback public comments that say they like it, right.

And knowing we will disturb it there is a part of me that wants to be as intentional and deliberate as possible so I'm thinking about you know the way we do it.

The way we would disturb it.

I'm thinking about if we in general if y'all agree with the...my assessment of 8, 7, 6 and copy this and say this is what we like and then we will just mess around with 9, 10, 19, and the down river.

To try to see if we can preserve communities of interest and yeah get a VRA analysis that feels right or and I say VRA analysis and what I mean is really a more balanced racial demographic so that we have without diluting the African/American vote in the City.

And I guess I'm asking I'm not seeing any hands or I'm not seeing a lot of like no objection so to speak, so I'm going to ask that you make a copy of this one, John, saying that this is a good start

>> MR. MORGAN: And I'm just this is going to be 15A because it's based on the alternate draft.

And you know this may end up carrying forward with a different name or number.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Steve, Commissioner Lett, I see you have a hand up.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: MC, looking at the percentages on voting whites and Blacks, and I can't see all the matrix at the same time, but it appears to me that there is a lot of work that's got to be done to get the percentages down under 50.

And so I mean I don't mind what you're doing.

But there is more work to go.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah, so maybe so what I'm hearing you say Steve which acknowledges 13 is not good.

And 8 is 8 good? Like are we under, yeah, we are under 50% so that is okay.

So John let's not -- let's keep playing because we know this one has to change.

Like we like 8, 7 and 6.

13 is not okay.

9, 10.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What are the percentages on 13.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Over 50%.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: A lot or a little bit.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 57 and voting age population we are at 79.

So a significant so it needs more work

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry just to clarify when you say voting age population were you referring to that number?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes

>> MR. MORGAN: That doesn't have anything to do with any racial demographic.

That is just a percentage of the voting age population out of the total population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The next

>> MR. MORGAN: See all the districts here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes

>> MR. MORGAN: It's just a racial of voting age to total population.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay thank you

>> MR. MORGAN: This over here these areas are the racial demographics as a percent.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Of the voting population

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So we do not need to make a clone because we already have so let's just keep playing, John

>> MR. MORGAN: So continuing with this plan.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Continuing with this plan and Rebecca would you sort of oh, Steve, sorry.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Steve did you have another comment?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It might be useful to look at how the votes took place.

We have that on the bottom on the overview.

While we have what we are looking at non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic white, I think that John, you can help me when we look at the actual vote totals doesn't that break that down a little finer?

>> MR. MORGAN: Just have the statewide election results for each District so I can give those to you for any District that's in the plan here.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't know if that would be helpful.

It's just a thought that it might be.

Perhaps not.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I like it thank you for bringing that in, Steve.

Trying to figure out how much information we have to help us is useful.

So yeah, I really appreciate that.

And.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you want me to show you the area of Livonia?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm going to turn it to Rebecca to help drive.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so what I want to do is I'm going to reconfigure this a little bit and then we are going to take what we leave behind and incorporate it into 19. So if you could for District 9, I want you to go up to the Southfield area and I want you to grab the City of Berkeley which comes off on the right.

You see that it's right there.

Yep, Berkeley.

It's kind of like a, yep, that big circle in front of you, that's Berkeley.

>> MR. MORGAN: Where do you want this to go?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Into 9

>> MR. MORGAN: 13 into 9.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

Okay so now I want you to also add in Redford and Redford Township into 9.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just a moment that was Detroit.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We are way over population.

And just to be clear we're going to have to juggle some other districts so if you don't like this we can go back and do something different.

But this is kind of my suggestion to solve the problem.

So all right so that little bit of 10 that is still there

>> MR. MORGAN: That is part of Detroit so.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Throw it into 9

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Uh-huh.

All right so

>> MR. MORGAN: To be clear I don't know that I put Redford and Redford Township in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It looks like you have

>> MR. MORGAN: I clicked one so that might not have been both of them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so now we're going to go a little bit into Livonia which is to the west side, it's green right now.

And we are going to take the upper part of Livonia north of 6 mile which is partially in 12 and partially in 10.

>> MR. MORGAN: So these areas along the northern border first?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, basically the top two rows of precincts, going across.

>> MR. MORGAN: Something like that?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

Okay so now I want to go back just pause right there for a second so I can show you. See that squiggly line 96 it dips down and comes back up?

>> MR. MORGAN: Not quite

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Where your mouse cursor is so I want you to Zoom into that area a little bit all right so we see the border of Redford there.

So what I want to do is right where that 9 is sitting there is a precinct just northeast of it. And we're going to start assigning it into 13.

So right where the nine is sitting right now the number nine the precinct the one that is like a half of a box, actually wait hold on.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is that Brightmoor neighborhood?

>> MR. MORGAN: I think Brightmoor is to the north.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It is a solid box.

Want to stay outside of Redford and in Detroit and I'm looking at the map. I'm in the wrong spot so go down a little bit.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is Brightmoor

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay right here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So yeah, take Brightmoor

>> MR. MORGAN: That is going into 13.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 13.

The red lines are your precincts, is that right?

>> MR. MORGAN: No the red lines are the Detroit neighborhoods.

The light yellow.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: They look different

>> MR. MORGAN: Light yellow lines are the precincts.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, can you

>> MR. MORGAN: So I believe this is the Redford Township.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you take the red off just so it's easier to compare to what I'm looking at on my screen just for now? We can add them back in.

That makes it a lot easier.

Thank you.

Okay so we are going to follow that line of the Jefferies freeway all the way to 13.

So yeah, see how it dips down and comes back up we will assign that all into 13.

Just stop there.

Yep.

So then go above where you just assigned and pull that next Roy out.

Same thing.

We are just going to assign that over.

>> MR. MORGAN: This next grouping?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

Could you Zoom in so I can see where Southfield freeway is? I think Southfield is right in the center there.

Rosedale and Grandmont.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Eastern.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Along Southfield.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Rosedale park.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is what I'm looking for because I want that kept together so help me on this map, we are looking at Rosedale park Grandmont and north Rosedale together.

So I have it carved out here but I can't really tell.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see Commissioner Curry nodding her head is that right, Juanita?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Rosedale, Grandmont, north Rosedale and Southfield freeway is the guide on the left side so I believe we need to Zoom to 9 on the west side of the Southfield freeway

>> MR. MORGAN: This is M39.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: This is Southfield so just Zoom in a little bit so question with see the neighborhood names.

Or the roads.

So we are looking for

>> MR. MORGAN: Grand River to Southfield sed Szetela looking for Finkle or McNichols there it is right there so you see where the road comes through and starts curving down above where the nine is? That I believe is the upper edge of Rosedale.

So we want to take that area.

If I've got this right

>> MR. MORGAN: This says outer.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you put on the layer of the neighborhoods again because that will make it easier

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm looking for specific neighborhoods that are community of interest that want to stay together and I want to make sure I have not split them.

Is that the same as that?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay at this scale I've got the...

>> CHAIR SZETELA: There it is right there north Rosedale park that is the upper edge of it

>> MR. MORGAN: You want that to be put into 13.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: North Rosedale and you can take gray and under neat it should be Grandmont Rosedale park, all of that area we are going to put over into 13.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You could even probably go McNichols and Evergreen area too if you need to.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That were split that is what I thought so we will put them altogether and leave Brightmoor with 9.

>> MR. MORGAN: So the voting precinct line here for this precinct goes into the Evergreen neighborhood.

Are you looking at taking those into 13?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would go to the block level and have you follow outer drive there.

That is what is curving outer green outer drive so the lower level is south of Evergreen outer drive where it comes up and curves all that is purple right now, I would put into 9, I'm sorry 13.

Because part of it is Rosedale

>> MR. MORGAN: This is portion of the Evergreen outer drive.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I don't want to go north.

That area right below outer drive, yes, straight across there and then just stop there

>> MR. MORGAN: You want this included in 13?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would take that little back block and put it back to Evergreen. So put it back to 9.

So on the other side of outer drive I want it with north Rosedale, the other part I want with 9.

>> MR. MORGAN: So these that I'm going to draw.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, that whole...

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: John can you help us understand what the blue squares and the orange dots mean when we are at that level

>> MR. MORGAN: I think that may be the same data you were looking at earlier with the non-Hispanic white.

The blue dots might be something else.

I'm not sure.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Szetela sed can we scroll back a bit to see where we are at? Yes, Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go ahead and scroll back first because I want to look at the Berkeley area when we get there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So that is good. We've got our line.

So now I want to go down into north of Dearborn.

Okay, and so you see that whole area between District 19 and District 13 that is currently 9? Yep, right there.

Along that border of Redford I want to take the areas in 9 and put them into 19.

>> MR. MORGAN: Including this area of Redford?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We don't want Redford we will go outside of Redford

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so into 19.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is 19 still sort of our Arab community?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay

>> MR. MORGAN: Those are the precincts along Redford Township.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: There should be one more because Redford is oh, no, you got it, so keep going along 96.

That's again that freeway there.

And we are going to just keep assigning until you get to the point where it comes up and we are going to stop there.

>> MR. MORGAN: I think this is Southfield here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep

>> MR. MORGAN: It's up to the Southfield line.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No, keep going, a little bit more.

So go over two more precincts, yep.

All right then we will take one more row over.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay more, or no?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, so continue that last area.

Are you doing block level or precinct level?

>> MR. MORGAN: Still precincts.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Assign that and let's see how it looks when you assign it.

>> MR. MORGAN: More?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

I know it's wonky.

That last one right there, yep, right there.

All right, and then stop once you assign that last little block right there, yep.

Do that.

That is a little too far.

Can you take off what you just assigned? That little one that comes out kind of at an angle.

So take off the one that has got the discontinuity in between it.

That looks like a square with its corner cut.

Yes, that one right there take it off.

Now I want you to scroll down a little bit and we will go to the other edge of Dearborn

>> MR. MORGAN: Let me just save the plan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I think that is a good choice.

Not right now, not right now.

Okay so you see where Dearborn sort of juts with a curve and an ear hanging off the side of Dearborn, yeah, so scroll into there.

Zoom in a little bit, yeah right there.

So we have, back out a little bit, we have a few neighborhoods there that are pretty strongly Arab American.

So, yeah, so just click right there to get the precincts.

It's hard to see the precincts in this area.

I wish I had a pointer so I could point for you.

Okay so you see where the blocks out and comes down like an ear? I want you to grab the precincts just to the east of that.

Let me show you.

It's easier.

So here I'm out like this and then this precinct here.

So this follow the freeway and there is another precinct right there and that is where I want to go.

So up here.

Even this out here, here and here.

>> MR. MORGAN: In the rail area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

Let's go back down to the bottom of this District and take off Taylor.

Bottom of 19.

And take off the City of Taylor.

>> MR. MORGAN: What District do you want me to assign it to?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Put it into 17.

All right so where are we at now? Okay, so

>> MR. MORGAN: On 19 it's 5380 and if you have something on your screen an easy way to check congruency is to look at the total population and odds are if they are the same then the District boundaries are the same.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's not exactly what I have but we are kind of working with other people's Directors but I think that is good.

Now we have 19, having 26% African/American.

Almost 10 percent Hispanic and that brings us to a 41% minority population total.

And then all right let's see where we are at with nine.

So nine we need to assign that portion of nine, that's left in Detroit, down into 17 then we will take some things off 17.

Yep.

And we are going to have to rejuggle this a little bit to get all the populations balanced but for right now I want all of 9 in 17 so we can see where we stand with 9 without all this other population in there.

>> MR. MORGAN: So following your request I'm just doing this in two parts. I'm walking up from 17 and then we will look at the northern edge of that part of 9 in a moment.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay

>> MR. MORGAN: Also we probably will have to look later at the water boundaries.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: Looking back in this area here, this is assigned to 9. It's probably a 0 population block.

What I'd recommend is that you click on the voting precincts of this area and put that into 8 so it's surrounded by 8.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, go ahead and do that if you want to do that right now or we can do it later.

Either way

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this will just show the whole voting District. It may or may not be what we want.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay

>> MR. MORGAN: I think that is what you wanted.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay good a little along the freeway too

>> MR. MORGAN: Again I'm going to click on the voting precinct first and let's see what that looks like.

So again basically it was just a voting precinct that was probably inadvertently split. So that is in 8.

That is now in 8.

The fragments of voting precincts.

Okay so at this point I'm going to take one more into 17 from 9 and then.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Before you leave 8 there is one more fragment in the south just below, yes, right there

>> MR. MORGAN: I think that is a highway designator.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's a highway designator.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Can you check if the little sliver of nine that is running along 13 is contiguous or if it's a diagonal?

>> MR. MORGAN: I was going to back out first and look at the whole area. This is the area of 9 that is still not assigned.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right we are just going to assign it to 17 for right now

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Then we are going to take a look back and see where we are with 9 and then we can readjust this with 13 if we need to

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so at this point you know we seem to have cleared all the area of 9 but I'd recommend just doing a contiguity check here to see if something might have been missed.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, go ahead and do that

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so this is the area of District 9 that we think is only the District 9, so I'll just run the contiguity check.

And also there are other known contiguity issues in this plan that we have not addressed that we are aware of.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Juanita you are unmuted did you have something you wanted to share.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No, I'm just trying to I need a little break, a couple minutes, a five minute break

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so just as concerning District 9 no discontinuities so there is no fragment that we left somewhere in this area.

So all of 9 is in area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Curry we currently have ten so if you want to get up and take a break and come back in a few minutes that would be great.

As you can certainly do that

>> MR. MORGAN: This leaves District 17, 122000 above the ideal.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes

>> MR. MORGAN: And district 9 is 28 almost 29,000 below the ideal.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go down to 17 and try to fix that quickly.

By taking off some of the Down River community.

So we are going to work from the bottom.

Go to the Township level.

Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Why exactly are we messing with the down river community on the south border based on all the praise that we received that that's basically a perfect District from everyone that lives there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Because we are going to have to, to balance out the population in Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I disagree completely.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I mean where are you drawing this conclusion from out of curiosity? Because I don't see it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: From what our voting rights expert indicated our populations were too packed.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct there is the northern areas and also the areas going out towards the east, not south that can be adjusted.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: To the southeast.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: To the west, I apologize.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We have already done that and just adjusted Dearborn Redford, Livonia so now we are adjusting southern and we've also adjusted the northern edge of the City.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I've been watching that happen. There has got to be a different way to do that.

There just has to be.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

All right.

So let's continue with what I suggested and we will just see how it all shakes out and then we can redraw it if we need to.

So go down to the bottom

>> MR. MORGAN: You put Taylor in 17 that was recent addition to 17.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Take everything south of Taylor so South Gate, Wyandotte, Wood Haven and pull those out and see

>> MR. MORGAN: With Brownstown one of the Townships down here is not contiguous.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Brown town jogs from one area to another with a gap in between

>> MR. MORGAN: So where should I assign these towns?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What's below it right now?

>> MR. MORGAN: This I believe.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Is that our unassigned area?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, unassigned portion in Monroe County.

This is the County line right here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let's put them in 28 for now

>> MR. MORGAN: That is the District that goes out here into Lenawee.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, then we already know we have to readjust that one any way so let's just move them over there for now, try to bring the population down in 17

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so since we are putting them into 28, I'm starting with the ones that are adjacent to 28.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep

>> MR. MORGAN: So flat rock and then browns town and this will show the discontinuity.

And then Rockwood.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes

>> MR. MORGAN: Gibraltar and wood haven and between Trenton and gross Isle you would have to consider that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: How much are we at for 17, 57,000 and what is gross aisle

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>> MR. MORGAN: 57,000 over Szetela se sorry wrong way.

Take off both Trenton and gross Isle.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so now it's 28,000.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So keep going up, river view

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

Now you have Taylor, South Gate and Wyandotte and you're about 15,000 over.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So what would you do or take more of Detroit?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I wish I had any some expertise.

Yeah, I don't know what to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well I quite like the changes you made to District 19.

I think Taylor does associate much more with Grand River than with Dearborn.

And the parts of Detroit that you added on to it also like you said has the Arab American population in parts of Detroit.

So now you're trying to gain population for 17? Or.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No, no, no. If we take off Wyandotte and South Gate and put them into 17 or put them into 28 which is where I think they are better fit it will put us under population in I'm sorry, if we move Wyandotte and South Gate into 28 then we are under population in 17 which is okay.

We just need to go to the northern boundary and grab a little bit more.

So that's what I was asking would you split those up or would you pull them off as communities? And my inclination would be pull them off and put them to the Down River.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Could we try to do sort of like a northern whatever Down River and a southern Down River? Can we make sense of it that way.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Taylor Lincoln Park and river rouge are the communities with the high Hispanic population. Well Taylor not so much Hispanic but high African/American population. Lincoln Park and Ecorse are high Hispanic population and that also trails into Detroit.

So it's kind of keeping them together.

I feel like South Gate and Wyandotte are very substantially different so I would rather push them into Down River and add a little more in Detroit because we already have to balance in Detroit.

Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So just for the record this is going against everything that we've been told about the Down River Area.

And going back to the minority Hispanic population that is basically been said it would be a better way to handle in the house.

You are literally taking everything that we have heard and been told about the Down River Area and cutting it up into two very distinct pieces.

So I don't think this is the way that we need to go about doing it.

I just wanted to say that one more time to everybody who is potentially watching.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And I think, yeah, and you speak for all of us.

We are just trying to somehow keep as many communities of interest together as possible and recognize that we have tough choices to make.

I think and this is just one option but you are right.

This is a second option.

We need a third, we need a fourth right it's not like this is it.

Because we have to try something in order to get this V T -- the VRA problem.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Solve the problem of Detroit and won't be able to do that by ignoring the population in southwest Detroit and creating a 70% District down there. It's just not going to solve that problem.

And VRA as we all know is number one.

So John, I would ask you to assign Wyandotte and South Gate into 28.

So now 17 has 39,000 under so we are going to go back up into Detroit and take a little bit more population in Detroit

>> MR. MORGAN: From 8 or 13 or 19?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Who is more over 13?

>> MR. MORGAN: 13 is over by 25,000.

8 should be on the button but it's not 8 is actually under quite a bit.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so let's go from 13 because that will make it easier so I just want you to start picking off some of the if you could put the neighborhood map back up that would be helpful.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, what I was going to mention before was I think in the northern part of 13 is Berkeley you assigned that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Into 9.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think it's more associated and I know what you are trying to do with the numbers but it's more associated with the Royal Oak area than it is to the west.

But going back I understand what you're trying to do with the numbers to make them balance.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm just trying to balance.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah

>> MR. MORGAN: Assigning from 13 into 17.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So let's just start taking some along there, that are neighborhood blocks and put them in as best you can because I know there are a lot of crazy precincts in there.

You will click one thing and get all sorts of stuff.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, just keep going

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay so as we are getting a little closer there is still more to take.

This area next.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, just keep going.

And obviously we are not going to go into Highland Park so I would suggest you grab those two precincts that are on the eastern edge right now.

Yep.

So that one right there and the one to the east of it in the little two little blurbs there and we will put them all with 17.

And then we are going to

>> MR. MORGAN: Just a moment on this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

Uh-huh

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Highland Park I'm thinking Hamtramck we can go north from here because Hamtramck is good so just kind of keep moving northward.

And I would Highland Park is going to add a lot of population quickly if you click on that just to warn you

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, at this point I don't think we are into Highland Park.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So if you add Highland Park it's going to add 9,000 people right there

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I'm just double checking the boundary.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, that's it right there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I see a neighborhood or two that are sort of split between 8 and 17.

And if 8 is also under population we might just consider adding that little piece of 17 to 8.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: To keep the neighborhood whole.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So continue to work on the west side of Highland Park.

Okay

>> MR. MORGAN: So 17 is 12000 under.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay

>> MR. MORGAN: I believe this is the boundary with Highland Park right here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep

>> MR. MORGAN: All right.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I would just try to grab that little block that is under the Jefferies freeway.

And can you use the select box so I can see how much you are going to add before you add it?

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm not sure.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're not very good.

You are not used to using that.

Kent uses it a lot

>> MR. MORGAN: I will put the populations on so we can count that way Szetela sed don't need to add a bunch then we need to take it back off.

So those are neighborhoods so just continue filling in the neighborhoods.

We are getting close so definitely, yeah.

Just keep going.

>> MR. MORGAN: This is getting into a new neighborhood boundary.

And then I think this is the Township line.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I think we can probably take that whole neighborhood if I'm looking at the numbers right.

We are under by six and that is a little more.

One second.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'll complete this and stop to evaluate for example you have a split neighborhood in some other area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah so 17 is now 40% African or 40% white 33% African/American 20% Hispanic with a total minority population of 60%.

19 can we scroll down and see what 19 is? 19 is 26% African/American 9% almost Hispanic and 41% minority and of course that includes all of the Arab Americans who live there.

Let's look at what we have for 9.

Is it possible to remove that dot layer? Because it's just distracting.

Thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: Sorry I started doing that before you asked me to.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It was like brilliant, brilliant timing.

Okay so 9 we are under so we need to add more but we are at 57% African/American.

Little Hispanic 66% total so that one is still a little high but it's better than it was.

And then 13 is still a little high with the 16 or the 62%.

But I think they're better.

I mean go ahead Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: How far south does 17 go?

>> MR. MORGAN: The southern border is Ecorse, Taylor and Allen Park, sorry Lincoln Park.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: What do we do with Wyandotte, have we eliminate it? We didn't eliminate it, traded it to Canada, yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Wiped it off the map and put it with Down River

>> MR. MORGAN: The 28 is District holding a lot of population including all of Lenawee County and areas to the west.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We know we have to readjust that.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'll just make the point I share Dustin's opinion that I think we went too far south on this.

But maybe after lunch or something we will talk about that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I guess what I mean it feels like we are addressing our legal you know.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Challenge.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: A legal challenge that we've had.

It's not exactly the spokes which was what I was looking for.

And you know it's an option.

It just feels like it's better than what we had but yeah, we need a third option too and at this point I just feel like I feel like we may have had I feel like I need to conclude my turn. I think we may have the rationale.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you want to add more to 9 and 13 to balance a little more or do you want to stop?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I feel like right so you said 9 and 13 so 13.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We could go a little further in Oakland County with those two to reduce.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I feel like we need more.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would not go into Oakland County I would go west instead.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm tempted to go into Livonia too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We could do that.

The so west into Farmington Hills I think is more tricky because Farmington Hills is a big area whereas the nice thing about Oakland County it's got a lot of small communities. You have Berkeley and Frazier and gosh there is like a million little, tiny Lathrup village little small areas we can grab where it might be easier to get population and that is just a thought.

I think we can go further south into Livonia to accomplish the same thing and just continue to adjust.

To your point Commissioner Clark if we go further south into Livonia, we can put Berkeley back with 13 and it may balance out 13 a little better.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think Berkeley was with 14 at some point.

If Berkeley and Royal Oak were 14, I think we got a population problem up in 14 too.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right and I think that's what I think we are all wrestling with if we get Detroit right it affects everything else.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is the thing we have to get it right first.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Happy with 8 and 6 and 5 and 7 and don't want to touch those.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct I agree.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I agree.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: So what I will do is I will take the suggestions that we leave it under populated or leave 9 and 13 sort of here.

I think Rebecca I think you're next after me as far as.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I feel like I already had a turn so per -- perfectly happy to skip it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We have to somehow wrestle with this so if there are other people who feel they are ready to wrestle so to speak we can do it collaboratively right but it just feels like we got to like, yeah, the point is that we've got an op -- option here but it's not one we all like.

So if we come back after the break let's try to figure out do we continue wrestling with 13, 9, 19 and 17 or do we right, because we will leave it unless we continue wrestling and that is how I want to finish my turn is say this is another option and finish.

I think the rationale is good and I think we already talked about whether it's you or somebody else after this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I think the intention with all of this juggling I see you Steve I'll call on you in a second the intention with all of this juggling is to address the concerns that Bruce relayed to us about us having these districts where they were 70 and 80% African/American or more once you added in other minorities.

And so the thought process behind this is trying to balance that so we are complying with the Voters' Rights Act and not packing the way that the districts previously were. While still incorporating communities that have ties to the Detroit area so they are not significantly dissimilar that is my thought process on the way I'm drawing these lines.

And incorporating in sort of the border communities with the City of Detroit to sort of reach those numbers knowing that we are going to have to adjust things as we go out. But I think if we I think if Bruce were to look at these numbers and what we have done I think he would be much happier with the way we are today than we were a day or two ago.

And obviously with all of these lines nothing is final yet.

We are still working.

And trying to sort things out.

But I think this moves us closer to sort of having Detroit a little better and more balanced.

And that doesn't mean that we can't adjust elsewhere as well.

Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let me suggest that we stay in the Detroit area and move out.

Because if we don't then you move out and then we have to come back you are just going to have to do what you did outside again.

So I think the key really is to get the Detroit area done and then move out.

And that's exactly the opposite of what I thought when we started this whole process a year ago.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The wisdom of Steve.

All right so we are supposed to take a 75 minute break but we did lose quite a bit of time yesterday wondering if there is any interest in taking a shorter lunch like maybe a 45 minute or hour lunch rather than doing the 75 minutes? Is that sufficient.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So everybody knows I will be leaving and I have a doctor appointment and I will rejoin after that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What is your approximate ETA on rejoining just so we are aware?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Probably no earlier than 2:30.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Fantastic so let's take an hour break.

Let's not do the 75 minutes and let's try to get that 15 minutes of time back.

It's 11:58 right now.

Without objection we will recess for 60 minutes.

At 1:p.m.

Thank you everybody and have a good break.

[Lunch recess]

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Redistricting Commission back to order at 1:03 p.m. will the secretary please call the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely. Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose your physical location you are attending the meeting remotely.

I will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?
- >> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?
- >> 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.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We were working on the last turn what I would like because General Counsel was not in the room I kind of want her to weigh in on what we were attempting to achieve in the Detroit District in light of the advice we had received from our expert Bruce Adelson yesterday.

So if we could bring that map back up for her, I would appreciate it

>> MR. MORGAN: Changing pilot and copilot so Kent will be bringing up the plan we worked on and I will be here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Madam Chair.

I can provide I can certainly provide my general comments at this time.

So it is my understanding I was out of the room unfortunately dealing with an issue for a portion of this morning's mapping session.

It is my understanding that the Commission endeavored to unpack some of the Detroit districts that were 90% or more minority population.

And in doing so the Commission was looking at not only the racial population data the voting age population data but also the election data.

As identified by Dr. Handley in her racial bloc voting analysis.

And that the Commission was utilizing all those data points and tools at their disposal to walk through what they hope to be, after Mr. Adelson has a chance to review the work and Mr. Adelson is of course the Commission's Voting Rights Act legal counsel expert advising on compliance with the Voting Rights Act, but that the information looked at and the manner at which it was considered would be consistent to what Mr. Adelson had during yesterday's mapping session when he was present.

I hope you find those comments helpful Madam Chair and I can respond to any additional questions.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much.

So Kent can you bring the map up for us to look at? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I understand y'all were working in and around the 9 area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We were sort of working collectively on multiple Districts to rebalance them a little bit.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we bring up the matrix for the areas we are looking at? Can you roll up to them so I can see?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District is in the view.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And can you also take off the neighborhood grid so it's a little easier for everybody to see? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you, okay, so then my question is before we move on, do we want to try to adjust the populations in 9 and 13 so we have 9, 13 and 12. Where is 12? Oh, 12 is Plymouth.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 9, 10, 12 and 13 all four.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So do we want to try to increase the populations in 9 and 13 to start with and then we could move on out or someone else could move on from out there since these were the two, we were working on, MC, do you want to try to add a little?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I just want to echo what I think Steve also said it feels like we do have to be in Detroit and get Detroit right and move out into the suburbs, it feels silly, I shouldn't say silly, but, yes, I think we have to wrestling with it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So let's start with 9 then because I think the easy answer there is Livonia.

And let's look at putting more of Livonia into 9 and we will just continue to and as we go out and I would suggest starting with the really densely populated subdivisions that are right on the eastern border of Livonia so right above the freeway right above 96, yep.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Those are precincts and the populations.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Did you tell me to move this area into 9.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Further down by the freeway so go down a little bit.

Yeah, so starting right there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area the vertical area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The vertical area bordering District 9.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All right let's do it.

We put it in 9.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Put it in 9 from 10 because we are trying to makeup 28,000 people.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You still need 16,000 more.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let's do the next row.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is this the Detroit area, is this where we want to have neighborhoods and not break up anybody's.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: This is Livonia.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are outside Detroit.

- >> CHAIR SZETELA: This is Livonia.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: Minus 2.5% which is 6700.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we take that center block so it looks more balanced.
- >> 14445 you are exactly at 2%.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you want to keep going or do you think it's good.
- >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If you do due diligence, we should look at election results for 9 and 10 and yeah and just sort of make sure we did something that feels.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you want to adjust 13 first before you do that?
- >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I do.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.
- >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sorry Kent can we go back and adjust 13 then we will look at it altogether.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so something that Commissioner Clark said is that we should put gosh is it...it starts with an H Hazel park is that Hazel park.
- >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Berkeley.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Berkeley do we want to put Berkeley back into 13? Can we see what the population of Berkeley is? I thought it was like right around 13.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: A precinct or a Township.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: The jut out 15.
- >> 15194.
- COMMISSIONER CLARK: When I made that comment I thought Berkeley was in 13.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put Berkeley into 13 it will be exactly right.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: So let's put Berkeley into 13 and add a little bit more into.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: 13 is 155 people over .06.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Look at 9 again and go back to Livonia and we will add a little bit more into 9.
- >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Non-Hispanic Black is.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: Pretty much has to be in this area or you're going to cut it off or move it into 12.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Do that area and see what the population is.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: 2200, 19.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: So I would go across first so take the top two.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is three but.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Three precincts.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: 9 is 14,000 under.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay can we pull the bottom ones? See where we are at? .
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: Oh, yeah, we are still going to be low.
- >> CHAIR SZETELA: Still a little light.
- >> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now you are 80.
- >> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are going down in our percentage, yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's what we want.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 8480 under.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can take off all three of those right there on that edge, right?

Yep, those three.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That puts you .68 under.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that's okay what do you think?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah, it's about 51% non-Hispanic Black and it's not great but it's better.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's better than it was.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 9 is 52.26 non-Hispanic Black you are looking at the voting age.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think it's better can we look at the voting results now?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: For 9 and 13?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is 9 want me to read them out?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: No I think that is okay there is I think we should do 19 and 17 also just to sort of, yeah, make sure that we.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District 19.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 75% democratic, yeah.

I think what this means is that the cross we got coalition.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Cross over voting in coalition districts which is what I would expect in those areas honestly.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: 75% democratic.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 9 is good on population 13 is good on population.

I'm just trying to see if we like rebalanced everything back so 9 is good.

13 is good.

6 is still good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And to be clear I just want to acknowledge that you're saying good but I think what right it's difficult to get a balance.

We do want to try to get closer to 50% and 50%.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm talking about the total population we are not massively off the total population.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Referring to 50% democratic being republican and it's incredibly challenging in this area to get that so we are trying to get closer to a voting age population and a percentage of minority candidates who are not going to have their vote diluted because of, yeah, too strong of a, yeah.

They are not able to elect their candidate of choice I think are the words that our consultant uses.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Bruce used.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah so, we have 9 and 13 then 17 and 19 you were starting to do the bring up the election results for that Kent please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 19 is at 2.03% over.

But we will go to this.

Which one we going to look at? Here is 17.

And then here is 19.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Again what I would expect knowing those areas they are largely democratic.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And I mean, so we can't predict it but we right the likelihood that there is going to be a vote dilution is lower.

Eyeballing it.

Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we go back to the primary Page and look at the overall totals to see what we jacked up with doing this? So we have ten way off.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Let's acknowledge that 19 is the Arab American District so we have non-Hispanic Black in 19, also it's significant 23%, 27, 26.6 I think is what it says.

And then the white percentage what we want to acknowledge is that is also the Arab population significant almost 60% there.

19.

And 17, 17 is what we, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District 17 is .31% District 19 is 203%.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: In terms of population.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 14 is well down 47,000, 12 is 12000 under. 10 is 127,000 under.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right and 17 at this point is 33% Black and what we looked at when we looked at the election results is there was not likely going to be a vote dilution based on a lower minority representation there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Because it's cross over voting significant.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right.

And we also acknowledge it's not the best representation that District does not represent the COIs and what we would like to have with the whole Down River represented and so we want to have alternatives.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I honestly don't know about that because I feel the Latino community and Lincoln Park, Ecorse Melvindale and Allen Park had maps shown to us and strongly asserted they wanted to be put in with Detroit.

So I don't think it's inconsistent with what the people in those particular communities asked for.

We did get other Down River voices saying they wanted to be kept together but this mostly does keep the Down River community together.

It's just taking off those portions that specifically asked to be put into Detroit with the exception of Taylor but Taylor is pretty strong minority community as well.

So I think that it would fit there.

So short of people from Taylor or Lincoln Park or Ecorse or Allen Park coming out and saying they are uncomfortable with this I think this is what we have been asked to do with respect to those particular communities rather than just the broader Down River Area.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay, yeah so with that, yeah, I feel like you and I did a strong long collaborative piece and I feel like I'm done.

I appreciate the help.

And I think that's the best, yeah, I think I welcome other options but that feels like we are doing our due diligence there with the V RA.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: MC is done.

Yeah, that was a long collaborative work.

Now my question is I don't know.

I mean I could do more but I can certainly hand it off to Janice if you want to take over.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 10, 12, 28.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What do you want to do Janice?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I would like to express my concern with Down River and kind of agree with Dustin maybe we should find a different way and I do understand what you are doing but I don't know this area.

And I would either like you two to continue unless Commissioner Weiss wants to do it because I would not know what to be doing in this area.

So I guess it's up to the three of you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: The four of us because I know the area quite well.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Juanita do you have any specific thoughts about Lincoln Park being more aligned with Detroit versus the broader Down River communities?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Lincoln Park, Ecorse, river Rouge and the south part of Detroit, they are right at each other's door.

And they have been like that for the last 50 years that I know of.

And so I think they are very -- they may like it.

I know that when we went to the town hall river Rouge wanted to be we cores and Detroit.

If I'm not mistaken is that right MC? You were there.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We were.

And to be fair we're not supposed to bring this that town hall comment because not all Commissioners were there, but you are absolutely right that we did hear that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I feel like we had people at public hearings that echoed the same concerns because the concern in those communities are the pollution.

That is the factory area.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I agree.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The marathon factory and other factories and you know Delray is dealing with the same environmental is that those areas are dealing with and then when you add on in addition the Latino community which is very high in those areas, I think that those communities go together more than they do down with the rest of Down River.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Rebecca Delray is empty. There is no -- there is only maybe four or five homes in Delray. It's totally empty.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Juanita with your permission I'm thinking I'm interested in trying to hearing what Janice also said I'm real interested in trying to draw a District now carving out 28 and seeing if there is a way to what would it look like to draw the rest of Down River?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What is under

>> MR. MORGAN: So with that in mind you've got several Directors at this moment that are in a partial state District 10 and 12 is mostly fully form and District 28 is way over.

Effectively what you got is you got the population for three districts there. 10, 12 and I'm sorry two districts.

Basically 10 and 12 so you would end up probably recreating 10 Down River population wise if you know what I mean.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah. And I mean, I think that would make sense to put Romulus in with Inkster, Westland and Wayne. And that is going to change 12 then you will have to adjust 12 a bit

>> MR. MORGAN: Population balance if Kent looks how much 10 is off versus.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 126

>> MR. MORGAN: So District we still have District 14 which is a little bit to the north but basically the population from 10, the amount it needs versus how much 28 is over, you know you will end up going back to the state where you were before where you have this unassigned Monroe area if you understand what I'm saying.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah

>> MR. MORGAN: Then the last thing is 14 is out of alignment so you will have to 14 is going to have to get population probably from the south.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Why is 14 not showing up on our matrix?

>> MR. MORGAN: He may have changed it to the ones that are in the view.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: In the view so where is 14? It's up north, okay

>> MR. MORGAN: Right that is where you took the Royal Oak out of it.

So for example 28 as it's drawn right now may have a little too much population and so that kind of has to flow up to where 14 needs it one way or another.

You have options of course.

But that is where the population is.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: If you don't mind Janice, I would like to work on the 10, 12 balance.

Okay, so let's.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I'm fine with it thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 14 has to happen

>> MR. MORGAN: And again to be clear I think you will end up recreating 10 somewhere else like as a down river.

You might end up.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Talking about potentially just taking that out and putting it someplace else

>> MR. MORGAN: Basically combine 10 and 12 and create a new version of 10 Down River which it sounds like you want to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That makes sense but how do we tie that in with 14? Can we tie it in with 14

>> MR. MORGAN: You are going to end up a little bit short.

You are short on 14 and you will be over on one of these southern Districts that you are drawing now.

So you probably want to put the overage, push it into 12 and then go it will have to go through 11 or 9 to get to 14.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Wondering if is 11 can we have 11 take more areas of Plymouth that we originally took or maybe Salem

>> MR. MORGAN: To Kent's point if you go to 14 since you seem to be done with the northern edge of the Detroit area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah

>> MR. MORGAN: If you were to rectify 14 and push that population through 11, then you're going to be on the right on the correct side of the ledger if you will.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so as a plan of attack.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I have a point of order.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead commission Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't think rules of procedure allow Commissioner Vallette to pass it to you to keep drawing it needs to go to Commissioner Weiss then myself.

If they choose to pass, they can.

But that needs to be continued to be followed.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay well I mean I did not technically ever have my turn so because I was just helping MC with his turn so technically, I've never had my turn. I just didn't want to seem like I'm hogging the mic.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well you hogged it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think I kind of agreed with Dustin because well for the past two hours.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's fine pass it over.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Past two hours you guys have had it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So Janice do you want to take your turn or not?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I will pass it to Commissioner Weiss.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Your turn.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: As much as I would like to, I would like to see you guys continue.

I think you are doing a pretty good job.

I will sit back and watch and tidbits a little bit if I see something if that is all right.

But you guys understand this area way better than I do.

And obviously I seen that by what you've done so far so I would like to pass to Dustin.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: And I would agree with Commissioner Weiss as well.

But I again will state that I'm unhappy with the Down River now as it stands as well as potential changes that are going to be happening with Monroe County if we keep going in that direction.

With that being said I don't know the area well enough to make informed decisions how to go out so I will pass as well.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Wow.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark? Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Didn't you want Monroe to be with Lenawee?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think you could kind of have one -- they wouldn't be the totality of both, but I think now what you could do eventually getting there is have kind of a down river plus some of Monroe and then the rest of Monroe with Lenawee.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: True but I will wait until Detroit is finished before that gets done.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is going to be necessary because as we push down 14 through 11 through 12, we are going to end up you know needing to take some, yeah.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Rebecca why don't you go on and work with Detroit and try and anybody else that wants to join in and let's try to come up with getting it resolved.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What about Commissioner Clark? Did you want.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would like to work on 14.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think that would be appropriate.

Expand it some.

Okay, and as I do this, I'm going to ask Commissioner Eid to also assist me because he originally put together 14.

I think let's go south.

What is the population that we need?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 14,000.

No I'm sorry 47,000.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me ask Commissioner Vallette, what about Walled lake and the rest of Commerce Township? What is your opinion on that.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Well I said in the past that I thought Commerce belonged to Highland Milford White Lake.

Because they have more in common than they do with Orchard Lake.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay and let's go down into Farmington Hills.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Farmington Hills.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I tell you what, what is the population we need? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 47,000.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Why don't you just take the northern part and let's see where we are at.

First two rows of Townships.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is not going to be half of it but here it goes.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well then.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Shall I take those two precincts.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I really think we should try to keep Farmington and Farmington Hills together as one.

So I -- one of the things that we've heard is that they are currently split from each other. For really no reason.

I think a better idea, I think Commissioner Vallette is you could go either way you could go in Commerce or Farmington Hills so if you wanted to completely take off Commerce and switch it with Farmington Hills instead that might work for population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: With Commerce it's interesting because it's kind of like an east side and a west side of Commerce.

And I think you're right the west side could be more so say with White Lake and Highland then the east side like where the Walmart is and where the movie theatre is and that part is a little bit more with the Orchard Lake West Bloomfield area so we could look at splitting that County east to west and I think it would be appropriate.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: And I too think Farmington and Farmington Hills belong together.

If I remember correctly, they used to be one and then they split up into Farmington Hills and Farmington.

So they were originally just Farmington.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: My only concern with the proposed plan is we are going to then have to correct what Milford is in right now too if we add Commerce into it then we have too much population in Milford and then we are -- now we are creating a problem to solve a problem basically just a thought.

But I agree on Farmington, Farmington Hills. We received strong public comment on keeping them together so I would honestly go with Walled part of that and south Lyon instead of the Farmington area go ahead Janice.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: District 18 if you put Commerce back in the two can go north and eliminate those Townships up there.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: The consensus will be keep Farmington and Farmington Hills together.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Force us to go to Walled lake at this point. Yeah, let's -- delete the row of Townships that we did in Farmington area. I'm assuming that whole Township is Farmington or Farmington Hills.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, it is.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Another concept too to think about is and I don't know if we would want to do this but 16 is a little over by 8,000 so you might be able to Bogart so population there and add it to 14 to shore up your Wixom and Walled lake. But you would have to be covering up Troy to do that.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I hesitate in carving it up, let's see what walled lake is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Assign walled lake to 14.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You mentioned Troy over in District 16 it could be Clawson is split, not Troy.

So you might end up unifying Clawson if you took additional population from 16 into 14.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, let's take Clawson out and see what happens.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Clawson to 14.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah to 14.

I forgot about that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So with Walled 14 is 28,000 under

>> MR. MORGAN: Again we were talking Commerce is split but looks like the boundary between Wixom and Commerce. So the next town is Wixom.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commerce is not split, that is a whole Township.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: When I was talking Commerce, I was talking the whole Township.

It's almost like we have to take Wixom let's do Wixom and see what happens.

Then I think I would want to go over.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 11,000 more.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do you want to look at taking the rest of Walled lake, it's in a District Township but the lake is cut in half by the Township.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You could take that area which I'm sure is affiliated

>> MR. MORGAN: Northern Section of Novi is what you are talking about.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes correct

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: That lake runs right where the City is.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Right in the center.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: .74% over.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'd say that is good.

Let's keep that and I know you originally did 14 were you pleased with that Commissioner Eid? I think it will work.

Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do you want to keep going and go to 11 to keep going south or?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Where is 11.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 11 is the one you just took from.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I did not see number 11.

I can and I would gladly pass my turn to somebody else.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We have to fix where we accidentally unassigned that portion of 11 because that was you originally went there and backed off but now it's unassigned completely.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay so yes so Farmington Hills we need to.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put this area in 11.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Area in white put it back into 11.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 11 is 38,000 under.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: That is fine and I think our biggest alternative is to go south.

So let's go to the Township next to 9, let's get those.

>> MR. MORGAN: Plymouth and part of Livonia.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area in here?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And what were you doing here into 11.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Wait, wait, wait.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You just need to take the top row.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: We will have to get more population, correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are down 125,000.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Can you make that a little bigger so I can read it

>> MR. MORGAN: At this point you are in Plymouth and outside of there Salem you can look at moving one way or the other depending what you do here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would say Salem would go with south Lyon and move Salem to 11 before you move into Plymouth.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I would too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What is Brookville that is Salem.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: How many do we need 15.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It won't get you there but it's a start

>> MR. MORGAN: I was suggesting the opposite of that where if you end up taking Plymouth to connect you to the Livonia you then might end up putting Salem in 11 entirely rather, I'm sorry in 12 entirely.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Get all that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Selected the area is 37,000 which would put you 22000 high.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Take the eastern half of that area.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Selected area is 27,000 which is 12000 people high.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Take a little more off, take those two western Townships off.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area there is 22000 which would be 7,000 high. Area highlighted here is 18,000 which would be less than 3,000 high.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: What I don't want to do is split the City apart at all. Does anybody see anything wrong with that?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Plymouth is in the middle of Plymouth Township so you are already splitting up Plymouth Township by doing it this way.

So you know you are cutting right around the City itself is kind of small like a lot of our cities. Then you have Plymouth Township around it, which would definitely consider themselves affiliated with Plymouth.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Are we saying we are high at the moment?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If you select the selected area, it will put you high. So yeah.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Select it and take the bottom Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: With this assigned you are .82% high. .82% high as it sits right there.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay take the southeast

>> MR. MORGAN: So that is where I was saying if you wanted to look at Salem now to equalize you could do that.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, if we chose to.
Oh, this moment.
I think Salem is more with south Lyon.
That's my opinion.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's what I said.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would take southeast Township over in 11 it has 19,086 people.
Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 1.5% high.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is pretty good.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You still split Plymouth in half so

>> MR. MORGAN: The Township.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Half is in District 11 and the other half is in 12.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Not the Township.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, you split it in half.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Plymouth Township.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: The City of Plymouth.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's with the eastern portion of eastern Plymouth Township and the western is with Canton which is fine because they share a school District but it's just weird to pull off Plymouth and the rest of Plymouth Township like that.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Given the population in Plymouth Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: If you try to keep Plymouth whole it cuts off this Section 11.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You be you could also just take that top precinct and then put in superior which is actually more similar to Lyon and Salem and keep Plymouth and with Canton

>> MR. MORGAN: Also in addition at this point you have District 10 which is an unformed District so you could put the Livonia portion with 10 which is really going to be 12.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's true.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Canton and Plymouth share the same school District

>> CHAIR SZETELA: They do

>> MR. MORGAN: You will not resolve 11 quite yet.

But you would be moving the population in the right direction.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I wonder too if you could reconfigure the line for 9 so rather than cutting into Plymouth you take that precinct that's part of 9

>> MR. MORGAN: You also could look at the western edge of 12, the Township superior which is in another County.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Superior and Salem are very similar and would be similar.

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>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Are we saying put all of Plymouth into 11 or unassign it? Are we going to unassign this and put superior in? And take this out, put it in 10, put all this in 11.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I don't think we have decided.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Plymouth Township is 27, 28,000 people.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: What I'm saying if you unassign this or assign it to 10 for now just to hold it.

and then put all of this into 11.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That would make more sense than breaking it in half.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's see what it looks like.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just as kinds of a holding pattern.

Not saying it has to be like this

>> MR. MORGAN: While Kent is doing that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton? I'm sorry John go ahead I didn't mean to cut you off.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm sorry, only Commissioners should be making suggestions of where to draw the lines.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: My read on that Cynthia is it's also process driven. But I respect what you're saying.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The population that is hanging out, out there.

So and y'all were talking about this Township.

And 11 is 18,000 under.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: So.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Doug.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: What about the rest of Plymouth Township? We can't do that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 11 is .3 percent high or 806 people over.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'd say keep it just like that.

I think that's good.

I didn't like splitting up Plymouth.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just throwing it out there 10 is not a District by a long shot. It's 103,000 short.

It's just kind of a holding space right now.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: So we helped that by adding to it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Going to bring it altogether.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay perfect.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: The numbers on 11 the racial numbers the demographics are okay.

We don't have a minority or a do we have any, yeah, are we happy with 11?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think 11 is good.

I think not splitting Plymouth is good and what I was concerned about now it's whole it's fine.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Plymouth Canton school District is fine.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: They are different communities but the most important thing to keep Plymouth whole and Canton whole.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I do too.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can reshuffle ten into either one of those that is the next logical step is fold 10 into 12 and reassign 12 to 28 and go from there.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I was also going to say I like that it has Farmington, Farmington Hills together with Novi.

Those communities go together very well.

And go together with the two that are south of it as well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we need more rationale?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yeah, I just have a couple questions for you Commissioner Clark.

How did you take communities of interest into account when making these adjustments?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, in the individual Townships, school District.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Can you make sure your microphone is on.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: In the individual tones we did not want to split Plymouth and Plymouth Township to keep the school District whole.

And it's been one of the points brought up at one of the hearings.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is there an Asian community of interest within Novi do I remember that correctly.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: There is that as well.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That actually leads to my next question how did you consider minority populations when adjusting these two districts?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Anthony will provide some input.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This area is a diverse area.

There are all types of people in it.

I think it's 31% minority is in there.

I think that is just reflective of that community being a diverse community with many different types of people from many different backgrounds and that is how they are over there.

They like having the diverse community.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

Can you be more specific though? Apologies if I wasn't clear consideration of diverse populations is a separate one.

What I'm specifically asking is how did you consider minority populations when adjusting these districts? And if you can speak to minority populations, thank you.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, we adjusted them basically on population itself. But while we did that, we knew there was nation population in that area so I don't know how to go further with that the main focus was getting the population correct.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think we adjusted it also Sarah to make sure we done have majority minority and that we have yet there is essentially a strong ability to elect representative of choice 31 pet sent minority District, there is yeah there is strong representation I think minority representation therefore potential coalition District.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: What I like about this is we have kept Farmington and Farmington Hills together.

We kept Plymouth and Plymouth Township together and south Lyon associates well with Salem I think those three items kind of drove this process.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right we will move on to Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I have a question if I may ask.

Yes, I have a question and anybody can answer it I'm just a little off on keeping some places whole and some places not.

Is it because they are over packed or they are packed considering the ones that are whole? For instance like Detroit we split it up some.

Is it because it was packed and some of the other places that we don't touch when it comes to the population, is it because they are already whole? I'm just asking a question.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah so, we specifically split up Detroit because our expert, Bruce Adelson had -- was uncomfortable with the districts we originally came up with because they were highly concentrated African/American communities to the point where he said that it would likely violate the Voters' Rights Act.

And so he had indicated we should try to get those percentages down to maybe 40% African/American population.

So that was sort of the intention with redrawing Detroit the way we did was to ensure compliance with the Voters' Rights Act.

With respect to some of these other communities outside of there we don't have the same Voting Rights Act implications that we have in Detroit.

Because the communities are much less diverse.

And so splitting them up isn't as much of a concern so we are just doing it I think primarily for population while at the same time observing our communities of interest.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Thank you, Chair Szetela.

Okay, I don't even know where to start.

But let's go to an unassigned area, please.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Juanita, may I.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Am I still muted.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: No we heard you.

We do have unassigned areas.

One of the things that we are wrestling with is recognizing that the unassigned areas will be impacted but the way we draw Detroit.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I thought you guys were doing good in Detroit.

I didn't know I really do not know how to make it any better than what you guys did.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Can I say one thing.

This ten area is not a District.

It's essentially unassigned or you can look at it you know you got would it make it easier if this area was unassigned.

Because something has to change in this area.

We know that.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: What do you think y'all?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't know.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think we need to fold ten into 12 and take off from 12 and push it down and start working Down River.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That may be good.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Would it be beneficial for us to freeze some of these districts so we can't by mistake add population or subtract population from it?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is a wise course of action and I think we should probably save right now.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go to 7, 6, 8, 13, whatever and freeze them so we don't make any changes to them.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Why don't you go ahead and say what you wanted to say earlier.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I was getting ready to say I will say when you freeze it so I will know not to mess with it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I will lock whatever districts y'all tell me to lock at this point.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Gosh I think the only ones we know are 6, 7 and 8 is that fair to say? Those are the ones I think we know unless can I get some nodding heads or some general? More than 6, 7 and 8.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I thought we did.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think like the Detroit ones, so like for now we could lock them.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm interested in the Detroit area.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Does that mean so.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 9, 19, 13, 17, 8, 6, 9 in particular, 9 in particular because that's where we are working.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay that sounds good to me.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Somebody start at the lowest number and.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Nope I'm just going to keep throwing numbers at you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Nothing will get locked.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let's do 6, 8, 9, 6, 8, 9, 13, 19.

So 6, 8, 9, 13 and then what was the other one I said 19? 19, yeah.

17 did you want 17? Sorry 7 as well and then 7, yeah.

And I think that's good.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Any more than that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No I think that is good just so we don't end up monkeying.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: If we accidentally hit something we can fix it as long as we pay attention to it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: How can we tell when it's locked.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You can't other than you can't change things.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I won't even touch it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It looks like the locked areas have orange numbers.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay they do.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Not locked are white numbers.

Again 10 is not really a District.

It's just a holding spot for a lot of population.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And Juanita earlier you suggested I think if I heard it correctly adding 12 to 10 and then we could take population off of 12.

I don't know if I heard that correctly.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't know either.

But I think.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Ten is basically.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think Westland are pretty contiguous.

And I'm just trying to think how Wayne is caught up this that.

I don't see well Wayne is not caught up in it.

Westland and Canton.

Garden City.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Basically 10 is not a District right now.

That's all like a holding place.

So we need to put them somewhere.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District ten needs 100,000 people added to it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Kind of the suggestion that MC was suggesting is we just add 10 to 12 and then we can start taking off from the bottom of 12 to make.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Why don't we do that.

Why don't we do that.

Just turn it all green.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Would it be easier if we just took ten and took it out completely, leave it unassigned, would that make it look easier to work from? Rather than leave it as a color, looks like it's a District when you look at it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think if you just assign it all to 12.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Maybe take some of 10 and put it into Livonia because Livonia is not real short but a couple thousand people short.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: May I make a suggestion? These are whole Township and this is partial Township how about we just assign all of this to 10, all of this will be 10 and then she can do what she needs to do to draw the districts.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That works.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, I'll give it a shot.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's keep Westland and Canton close together.

And superior, I guess.

I don't even know where superior is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay now at this point.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can we put Wayne and Romulus? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's going to be way over and then you can do whatever you need to do to make it right.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now 10 needs to lose 86,000 people.

How do you want to approach that?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That's Canton, right? And Canton and Westland and what is that other one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Inkster.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I was just in Canton the other day. Canton is close to Osborne in a way of speaking?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, I said I would tidbit a little bit.

Juanita, what if you were to take off Van Buren.

Go ahead Van Buren and Bellevue.

And take Romulus off and then Wayne and see what is left.

I think you're going to be pretty close.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is going to be good.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Who was that, Steve.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is Richard.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Richard okay let's try that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Unassign Van Buren Belleville Romulus and Wayne.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Did we say Wayne too?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 3.62% high or 9610.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And we can't take any of that Wayne and put it with Romulus, huh? To make it kind of more equally populated? We can't take any of that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You can start chipping away at.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let me chip a little bit at Wayne because Wayne and Romulus are very close together and Inkster.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You have Wayne out now so you would have to chip into Westland.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Wayne and Romulus are together and then we need to remove population from ten.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay then let's take this little part here that is close to Wayne.

Right here.

Can you see it? Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah, on the end right here yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This where my cursor is.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: How much is in the little area at the end of the border.

The border.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm getting there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Did I say it right.

Right up in there, yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: From Canton.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Not the whole bottom.

I wanted to chip away at it some to get.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: For Canton just to confirm from Canton.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay this area highlighted is 11,000 people.

You don't want to remove all that?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We need how much? For population sake.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is 9780 people.

The District is 9610 over.

If we assign this area or unassign it and District 10 will be just a few hundred people high.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's do it that way so we will just be that ten will be just a few hundred people high.

Did I say that right, Chair? Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Repeat it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Did I say that right.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Say what I didn't hear, I was talking.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What did we say.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District ten is .2% high or 532 people high just 532.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Juanita may I make a point.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Sure.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: One of the things we got in public comment do you remember that keep Canton whole? It was a comment because there is a lot of the Asian community is in Canton.

And so when we.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I was just in Canton a couple days ago I didn't see too many.

Believe it or not I saw a lot of Black population.

But I don't know.

I don't know if they live there or I was just looking at them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Canton has the highest Indian American population I believe in the State of Michigan.

Which is why they wanted to be kept whole.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Keep it whole.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's concentrated Indian American population.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well let's try to keep them whole.

I don't want to mess anybody up.

Okay what do you all suggest? I'm open for suggestions.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I guess I would suggest sort of undoing like put the voting precincts back into Canton.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: To keep Canton whole.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And then I would chip away at Westland because Wayne and Westland actually share a school District.

So keeping the whole thing.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's make Canton whole and then so Westland and Wayne can be contiguous.

And let's see what that looks like.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: What I was hearing was to remove this area.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Is that what we were saying Rebecca?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is going up into Westland so putting Westland with what will be a District with Wayne.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put some of this into here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, that is what I was suggesting.

Commissioner Orton did you have a comment?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON:

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Come on Cynthia.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Sorry looking at the matrix.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Mel help me out Commissioner.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Almost 2000 people could go in to 9 so I'm not sure if there was a reason that we made it look exactly like that.

But some of it could maybe go in to 9.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Into Livonia, huh.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, that would work too.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think so too.

That was a good idea.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Shall I take this area and put it into 9 or we can't take that much? So.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Just take the least that we need.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So you could put that 2000.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Uh-huh, okay, let's try that.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think you will have to unfreeze 9.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Oh, we locked 9.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We did, didn't we.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I can unlock 9.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Do you all want 9 unlocked?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is good.

Did you -- re-reassign that the 2140? Or no you didn't do it yet.

Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't want to touch anything that is locked.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No we have access to population there so you might as well take it then it allows you to keep more of Westland together.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now we are at 9, that is 324 people high and 10 is less than 2% high.

So when we look at moving another population up here or is that too much or?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: If we can put the that piece of Westland back, I feel like it's worth it Juanita to try to take away.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's look at it because you guys.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put this back into 10?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah, sorry basically a trade.

Add that back and then assign.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Do all the Commissioners agree?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: A lot of nodding heads.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Suggest to take a little more from nine or put it which way.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That northern piece because it's about 2000 up there population.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 2300 so it's 2600 overboard.

Let's do this.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Or take the 1782 either one.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Try the lower one 1782 instead.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: These are very large so.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No but the one right beside.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: The one that is currently sticking up above.

There.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay let me get caught up here.

Nine is .99% high.

10 is 1.95% high.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Do the highest on the 1.95% high.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioners, do I put this back in the 10 and this into 9?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We say yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What do you guys think? Does that look a little funny at the top?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It does but I think what we have heard is my people want to be represented, if the shape allows them to be better represented then that is what we are trying to do.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That is great so let's represent them then, okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So 9 is .79% high.

2100 people.

10 is 2.14% high or 5688.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Ten is a little high, isn't it?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's not bad though.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's still not bad.

It's still within range.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's within 2%.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: So are we just about there? Or do we got a ways to go.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No I think you fixed ten so it's no longer a neglected District.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay do you want to lock it? Thank you, guys.

Because I'm just about through.

I don't know which way to go now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You did great Juanita there was a request to lock it so we will lock the District 10 then we will move on.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: But maybe or the Secretary of State may need to have some questions for you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I think I have everything that I need.

Thank you though.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Thank you Sarah.

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

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Kind of something to point out because so we fixed what we fixed the problem with what we had as districts 12 and 10 by merging them and taking some out.

Now we have these two counties and we need to still fix the rest of Down River and Monroe.

And we also have this part that is union the west side of the state that is unassigned. We have a really big chunk of population in Ypsilanti that we might have to do something with going forward.

And I just wanted to point that out.

And then that would kind of move everything more west which would fill in that hole.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I was wondering is Ypsilanti close to Canton in any kind of way?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: They are kind of kiddie corner so they are diagonal to each other, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Because you know.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I personally.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I was born in Ypsilanti so I don't know.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I feel Ypsilanti and Van Buren and bell village are more connected than they would be to Canton.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: They are.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This debate we've had on if you know it has to be kept with Ann Arbor or not or if it could be like how you just said with Van Buren.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think it's contiguous to Ann Arbor I do know that. Because every time I go to Ypsilanti, I go through Ann Arbor doing something.

What do you guys think?

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

Yeah, I think District 10 looks good.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: All right I'm through.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go on to someone else if you are done.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm done.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right fantastic job.

So we have 123456789, so assuming it's okay with everybody can we take a brief five-minute recess?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Hearing no objections let's take a five minute recess and get back here real quick.

Thank you very much everybody.

[Recess]

Independent citizens redistricting Commission back to order at 2:16 p.m. will Department of State please take 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 during roll call.

I will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> 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 SZETELA: Thank you. Tt this point we are moving on to Commissioner Eid.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Eid ready when you are.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So we have this unassigned area here.

And we have the rest of Down River and we have still Monroe to deal with as well. So we can have a new District number right because we will need one for the unassigned area.

Is 12 used yet? Let's use that.

Can we save this how it is now so we can refer back to it? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Sure just is a moment we can export it and come back to it when we need it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We will go in Ypsilanti in 27 or go in 28 and take the rest of southern Wayne County and Down River which might be the way to go.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 28 is already has 167,000 extra in it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm going to export this plan so it will be sitting there and when we get finished if we need to load it back in, we will load it back in, okay? So if you want to continue on, we will continue on.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's make a District 12 and let's assume Romulus and Van Buren to it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, and Wayne?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: All of the unassigned portions right now.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So 12 now still needs 187,000 people.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Should I change the color so we can see what is going on in here?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Make it a yellow or something, I don't know.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 12 is a little darker colored and it needs a lot of people.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So what do my fellow Commissioners think? Honestly, I'm inclined to go into Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti with these to Townships to me are closer together than like Van Buren is with the rest of Down River.

What do y'all think?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm okay with that.

I think we've got to play but I would advise that we do have to somehow fix Detroit somehow.

So like we may, yeah.

I say fix Detroit but like that Down River Area is important.

It's an important piece.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah so, my -- can we Zoom out so we can kind of see what we have front the Ann Arbor District right now like how far out does that go? It goes pretty far.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 27 and 29 are blended but 27 is just.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay so yeah change the color.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Like the color better so it's more obvious.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I did too.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It did look like it was half the state.

So there is your 27, 29, 27, 12, 10 and this big holding District.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah so, my thought is if you pull Ypsilanti, you're not going to have enough to make a District but could you go down to Sumpter Huron and go over to Down River and create a District with that group? That's what I'm wondering if you could do that.

I don't know that you could fit Ypsilanti in with that group but I don't know where else you're going to go other than just continue to go south.

You could certainly grab York.

But there is not York and Milan I think what all makes sense.

Augusta, Sumpter, Exer, London, all of those I think make sense but I'm just wondering and worried you will run out of population will be my point.

You won't have enough population then you will have for wander into Down River and I don't know then could we have too much population that is my concern.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's look at the rest of Down River.

Let's start there because we should probably be starting there and working our way out. So starting at South Gate and Wyandotte.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: South Gate.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Where do you see that at?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Top of District 28.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All the way up in here okay.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: All the way up top.

So let's take all of that down.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You want to assign it to.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You can assign it to 12.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Assign it to 12.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Uh-huh.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Then you have to move Taylor, take Taylor.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are half a District right there.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, so let's take it all the way down and connect it to the other part of 12.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So river view browns town, Huron? Or go across Taylor?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So keep Taylor where it is, don't change Taylor but go down.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: River view?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: And we are grabbing a few Townships I think you can Zoom out and use the select box.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Browns town.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yep.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Browns town.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Looks like browns town Township comes all the way down in here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's hinky it's broken into two different parts.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We will unassign this is that what you are suggesting?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Put it all in 12 everything that you just censored.

>> Wood haven.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Gross aisle flat rock, Rockwood.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Gibraltar, gross aisle, Trenton.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Wow.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Huron so it connects up?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes, and what if we take Sumpter as well.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Sumpter will do it just right.

And District 12 is .19% high.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That is pretty good, isn't it?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, it is Commissioner Curry.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It is pretty good on population.

My wonder here.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Are they contiguous.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well they are connected so I believe they are contiguous. But would it be better to have this how we have it drawn now which works and it works with the rest of the map and it works with Detroit and the VRA, but would it possibly be better to have what I was saying before, have it go the other way connect it to Ypsilanti and then have this Down River community that kind of juts into Monroe but then you couldn't have the Monroe Lenawee County combination that we've heard about. So I'll leave it as this for now but I think that is just something to keep in mind.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The way we've got things now if you start where Detroit ends so you got 17, 12 then an unassigned District going Down River. You have three districts going ahead of Down River.

I don't know if that's what we want or not.

Something to consider.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we have three districts I think Down River is a northern Down River and a southern Down River.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Everything south of Detroit is Down River.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Down River is really Wayne County though.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Is Berlin a French town Berlin or French town are they Down River?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is Monroe area Down River is kind of the 16 communities that were mentioned so Romulus herd browns town south gate Wyandotte gross Isle.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah, I think those go together the ones that Chair Rebecca that you just called, they go together well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It does feel if there is a choice, we have had significant right that the last two, three days right we've had comments each day about the boundaries, the boundary or border counties and the idea that we can call them together and Dustin said it multiple times and keep 12 the way it is and keep the border counties together too.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: While we are here then could we fill in the rest of Monroe with 28? And that would complete the Monroe District?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I don't see why not.

We know we are going to have to take away from it on the western edge but I don't see why not assign rather than keep it open.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It will allow us to have the two border counties together.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes Lenawee.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Go for it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's assign the rest of Monroe to 28.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All of this to 28.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yep.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's 20% high or 55,000 people.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I think going west we are probably going to have to take away that whatever is west of Lenawee and then you know work on that and bill it in eventually to the Kalamazoo Battle Creek area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I can't remember one of those districts Commissioner Witjes you probably know better one of those Directors over there was way off too. Maybe it was 3 or 26 or 21.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 21 and 3 neither one are real districts.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we have to shift over there too.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Let me go up here 21 is 100,000 light while 3 is 40,000 heavy.

So neither one of these districts are near complete.

So basically whatever is left over here it's all going to come together somehow right in there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can I ask a favor? Can we scroll out.

I want to see if there are any other unassigned area because I think we had something by Saginaw.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is part of the analysis to check the plan for errors, you check for unassigned areas and there are nine unassigned.

They are probably little spots but we can go through here.

There is a little sliver.

And now as good of time as any to put it in 29 or 28.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What is that sliver called? Does that sliver have a name? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We would have to Zoom in but my guess it's a geographic glitch because it looks like when you have those lines like that they probably should have been in line when the GIS data was made

>> MR. MORGAN: And at this point the likely way to check that is to click on one of the voting precincts or the Township like if you know you've assigned a whole Township and that is your intention that sliver may be part of that Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Township line is right here.

Is where my cursor is.

>> MR. MORGAN: If you Zoom out a little bit you will see whether that sliver is in the Township to the right.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The Township line is here so that sliver should be in the here.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you put it in 29.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We can do this quick there is 7 people in there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Oh, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: But it follows the Township line

>> MR. MORGAN: I believe that was your intention when drawing this area.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This District or this block has population and looks like it's in a waterway and Huron river comes down through there.

I'm willing to bet it's in this County so it should be in this District.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's do that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep, go put it to I think 29 is the lighter green or is it 28.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 28 is where and when you look at it because we can always move it where Commissioners want it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just move it to 29 or 28, 28, I'll get it eventually.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We will have to come back to it because.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Put it in 28.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Here is another 0 block.

Now in this instance that little spot right there is no population.

That is west.

So we will bring up the precincts.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can we take a break not a break but Cynthia has a question Szetela Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think we may need to unlock things and maybe that is why there is the cross hatch on it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Good call.

I don't think 27 or 29 are locked.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It might be those were assigned on the block level too because sometimes I've noticed that where it's

>> MR. MORGAN: You cannot assign the entire voting precinct but it might tell you what voting precinct that is associated with.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All right where are we back at? Want to see the precincts? So the precinct lines are the gold lines and it's really hard to tell.

So that is a precinct line, yes.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: In my opinion that 0 block should be in District 27.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, excuse me, yeah, I agree.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And we need Commissioners to direct so Kent please put that into 27.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Trying to get someone to say it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I said I agree.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are on Commissioner Eid so if you want to help us here, help give direction.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is a water block.

We can almost bet there is nobody in it.

>> MR. MORGAN: So in this case you probably want to assign that to whatever County it's in.

So you don't split the County.

It's either 20 or 26 this is

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: County boundary is right across here.

>> MR. MORGAN: So 20.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It appears to 20 the County boundary goes across here 20.

Shall I assign this to 20?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes, please.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm sorry Commissioner Eid.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: It's good to hear your voice, Juanita.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I agree.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Ing that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Here is a bigger water block that runs from this locality County boundary or City boundary all the way.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Looks like that is all around District 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 7 encapsulates it so put it in 7?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You guys are on a roll now.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This had to be done sooner or later but.

There is an eight people there, nine people there.

And it's wholly inside of 7.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Also assign that to 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There is another piece.

It's inside of clover leaf of a highway 0 population wholly inside of 7.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay so let's assign it to 7, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There is another little piece a median, no population, inside of 7.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay once again let's assign to 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: A census block at 0 population wholly inside of District 24.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It popped up and gone away so let's assign that to 24, the District it was in.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All right there is four unassigned areas.

I don't know why it didn't assign this earlier.

But we had talked about somebody said put it inside of District 29.

Let's see if it will -- it's not.

It did it that time so we are good.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Here is another little sliver that was along the 20, this was unassigned but there was also this little piece.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay also put that in 20.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Got to Zoom in.

That little water piece inside of 7.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay let's put that in 7 as well.

I think everyone who watching us today is getting a little lesson on how the Census Bureau does these blocks.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: When there is actually a bunch of water blocks here so.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay let's put them all in the District.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And it says they are unassigned so we will just assign them and then not put them in to 20 because I just think that is wrong.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I agree.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: These are little, tiny census blocks with no people in them and it's real easy to miss them when you are doing, there is a little piece up here, all of these I'm doing are pointing to are the inside of 7.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yep, put it all in 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's going to be a little piece right here too.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Looks like the top part is assigned to both 7 and 20 right now.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah, they are two different colors.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Wasn't 7 one of the districts we locked? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Correct, yeah but you can see the whole evidently this whole coastline was a separate little water block all up and down the coast. So it was real easy when we were moving stuff around up here to leave these hanging out evidently.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: So are we putting them in 7? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, ma'am.

These are more 0 blocks going into 7.

0 population census blocks.

7.

0 population in the middle of.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yep District 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: A small water block over there we have been working around.

These are tiny little slivers, put this in 20.

And there is another 7.

This is 0 population.

What it is these are all census blocks.

Different census blocks.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay we can put that one in 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, it should not be changing the table down here because there is 0 census blocks.

0 population census blocks.

All these are doing the same thing.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can I ask a question?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Curry?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Those are waterfronts, water.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The long pieces here.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay so no one will ever probably move into it and make a home out of nowhere.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Hopefully not.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's completely inside of 7 so let me look at this real quick. Miss assigned this to 20 earlier and obviously it should have been inside of 7.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes, so let's change it to 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 0 population.

And I'm putting it in 7 where it should have been to start with.

And that's going to show up here in a minute because that is unassigned.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay just assign it now so it doesn't.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: More and more.

I have to Zoom in and do them by blocks.

And this is the final 0 population.

I will Zoom in.

You can see there is 00000.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Why don't we just highlight that whole area and put it to 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Kent there was a piece in the north of that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I see another one, yeah.

These water blocks are painful actually.

While we are checking for unassigned.

7.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Unassigned area up there, put it in 7.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There is another 20.

It feels like sometimes it's find the new ones as fast as I can do them.

This will go in 20.

I mean the water block coastal it should not change the number.

And more on 7, these are three census blocks all with 0 population I'm sure, yes.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's highlight all three of them with 20.

I will put them in 7, sorry.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: One unassigned area. We are almost there and it will be that little sliver look at that.

That is District 20.

Water block.

This is the Black River 0 population

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Last one for District 20.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Every single census block in Michigan is now assigned to a District.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Could we do a save? Thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Actually it was already done.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I saw you do it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I did another one to see it sed Szetela just an extra save.

All right.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There were some discontinuities.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Now we got to fix some things.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Ten discontinuities and it probably will be similar.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I almost think instead of fixing these now we can map broader areas and fixing these at once in the end what do you think.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I agree. We know we will be adjusting, yes, significantly in the southern part of the state so.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: As long as we know it, that is 12 people there and that needs to be taken care of.

Shouldn't be enough to swing a District in any direction.

It should be just very small number of people.

21 is broke up into two parts right there.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We will switch that whole District 3 around any way in a little bit.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Here you are with your big, tall high number District 28. There is 28.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid is done with his turn and we are going to pass the baton to Commissioner Orton.

Before we get started does anybody need to take a break since we are only at anyone, anyone? All right let's press on.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay so can you Zoom out a little just so I can see everything? So everything is assigned but we have two Directors that are very far off, 3 and 21.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And 28.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: And 28.

Are we happy with everything we did in the Detroit area? Should I move on?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Happyish.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Happy as we can be.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'd say let's try to fix this bottom part.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: What does 29 look like? Can you scroll down on the matrix? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes 29 is .76% high or 2000 short.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, so I'm not sure how I want to do this but can you put the County populations on? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes Hillsdale, Branch, Branch is 44862.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay so looking at Monroe and Lenawee so those two together are pretty complete.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I would like to we don't have any extra numbers as a placeholder, do we? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 3, 21 and 28 are incomplete districts. Either they are way too big or way too small.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: What I would like to do basically I want Monroe and Lenawee together but I want to know how much with that little Township up above. I just want to know the population of that much. That Township plus the half of Milan or however you say that City.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Augusta is 7,000 plus 3865 would be 10,900 roughly so 13,000.

Milan and Milan with that is 13 plus this, this will say 15,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No what I want to know, here, I'll write it down. So that Township, so 7, 083 Dustin, you can add it up quick and the top half of Milan is how much? Yeah that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 10, 948.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Monroe and Lenawee counties.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We can do this and it will stay lit, it doesn't. So what was it 10,000? I think it would be right at 265 am I wrong?

>> MR. MORGAN: Just recalling back from the first District we drew for the Senate, I think this is basically very similar to that very first District that was drawn.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I would like those two be District 28 then and then we will fix the rest of it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm going to approach that by unassigning these Townships.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Good.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I assume everyone wants me to keep going or is that my turn?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No keep going, keep going.

When we are adjusting districts like this, I mean you are going to end up going into multiple District and that is fine.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sort of your area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Your area.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We are looking at 28 and 28 District is 13 people low or .00%.

Which is the new record.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Perfect.

Love it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You still have 13 people you have to deal with.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Dustin knew this was happening.

He was just waiting.

Are we happy with District 29? With -- no.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I think we want to honor the border counties and when we were drawing Battle Creek, we were sort of struggling where is the big population. And it seems like Jackson would be the most appropriate border county.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Dustin, do you have something to add?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: If we take part of District 29 that goes down into Hillsdale County if we were to take that out right now and extent District 26 down into Hillsdale County, we will do a little switch because once we get to current District 21 and 23, we are going to most likely have to extent District 29 to the west.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay I'm not sure exactly follow you but what I'm thinking is we want to put all of Hillsdale County and all of Branch County in with 26.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All of it.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Please do that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL:

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: And then.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Let me get it up here.

I guess you want to see 29.

29 needs 20,000 people.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay first I want to -- can you assign I don't know. What do people think about assigning all of Kalamazoo County to District 3? Basically all of Kalamazoo County is almost a District.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I think that makes sense, Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was going to say there is a configuration you can do with Kalamazoo and the Townships going over into Battle Creek that is almost perfect population wise.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Does that work for the bottom as well?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You would have to adjust 26 down a little bit and then 21 would make like a C around the District that would encompass Kalamazoo and Battle Creek.

That is if everyone believes that Battle Creek and Kalamazoo should be together.

And I believe that they should.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We heard abundant public comment to that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We heard a lot of conflicting public comment.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: My question is before you do that, do we need population in 29? Or are you just going to do that as you go.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We do need population in 29.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: If you should finish 29 then move to 3 and 21.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well I'm thinking that we obviously need to take population off of I think it's 26.

The bottom one now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So that's why I'm just kind of wondering if I should do the Kalamazoo County thing and what people are thinking.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Can I make note we are 100,000 people short, 21 is.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So we will eventually move up there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think at this point just unassign the extra in 21 and we can figure out where to put it in a little bit.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Take that one step further just to okay I'm going to start over we know we will have a problem with Kalamazoo and Battle Creek and the areas surrounding it.

Going to manage districts, take the 22, 3 and 21 and get rid of them so you don't see the colors on it.

Work around Kalamazoo and Battle Creek, get that one set.

Work from Barry down and then finish the rest out on the border.

Then it will give you a little bit to assign to 29 and that should get you to the right population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So could you scroll down? Never mind I can see it now, you are good.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So can you unassign, unassign we need to reconfigure these so I want to unassign some.

Would you rather unassign it by District? Or by County? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I can delete a District.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay delete District 21 and 3.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think I can do that.

Yes.

21.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Where is 3?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Kalamazoo.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Kalamazoo.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 21 is erased and the next one to erase.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: 3.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 3 gone.

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>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay now let me see, okay, can you unassign Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, ma'am, unassign Calhoun and Kalamazoo.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, and the blue part of Van Buren County to the west.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, please.

Van Buren.

So I would like to see what 26 is on the matrix.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

26 is 3.6% high.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: High.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 20 is .47 high.

29 is 35,000 short.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Which one is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 29 is 35,000 people light.

28 is the perfect District almost.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I got to think a moment.

I can feel you willing me, Dustin.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So we are good on 26 at this point though, right?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Good well we should make it better but.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I see we are a little I got you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We are 9,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We just need to take out a Township somewhere.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: A Township or two, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Do you have a suggestion which Township that is Dustin?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was going to suggest would you like to see a suggestion that I have for the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo area?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, but first, okay, first, okay I can't see the numbers real well is that 9500? The 26 is over by.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 26 is over by 9545 that is 3.6%.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay please assign Townships to District 29.

The Townships of summer set.

Moscow, and Cipeo.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 26 is now at 1.35 high did you say Cipeo?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now you are .66% high.

Which isn't quite as good as 28 but you are getting there.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, all right, now Dustin if you would like to show, yeah, that's good.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Can you make sure you speak clearly in the mic.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I have been waiting for this for days.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: May I make.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Please go ahead.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I want to note 29 is still 28,000 light.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, Townships.

I'm going to grab the Portage Township and District to north Kalamazoo Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All this area in here.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct, in fact, those four squares Kalamazoo pavilion Comstock and Portage all of those and everything that would be inside.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That should not be 29.

That should be 3 or 21.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 3 is fine or 21 doesn't matter.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, there is your starting point.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay grab the total of Portage and pavilion.

Balance of Charleston.

Top right.

Yep, Galesburg as well.

Now we will grab Ross, Bedford, Pennfield, Battle Creek and Emmet those six to make a six.

Correct.

And Emmet.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are 11,000 short.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Emmet Township I'm sorry.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is perfect.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Now that gives you some wiggle room to bring the one that has District that has Jackson to the west if you need.

And then the Section north you can wrap around the District 21 to makes it somewhat of a C but it also takes into account the ruralness of those particular areas then if you need to push down into 26 you can.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay any comments from anyone else?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I do agree that this does reflect significant public comment that we've heard.

I'm just thinking about the suburban areas around Kalamazoo and how yeah and then there was also that conflicting public comment that Battle Creek did not want to be part of Kalamazoo.

And so I'm just thinking about how if we continue with the 29 and like sort of wrap it around like you were saying then they are associated with Jackson.

Right the Oshtemo and suburb there so I'm just calling it out because that is the part that makes me feel uncomfortable.

Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES:

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I did think and struggle about that when I came up with this particular design for it.

My inkling is the individuals that stated that they do not want to be with Battle Creek for the people that came to our Kalamazoo meeting were in the suburbs of the area around Kalamazoo.

Not the individuals that were in Kalamazoo City proper going into Battle Creek.

Which is why this configuration would potentially solve that problem.

And then the suburbs would be included in that District that looks well the weirdest one we have so far.

And balance that particular act.

Again, that's just my personal belief on how I've heard rural and urban splits should be going.

So I kind of took both of those things into account.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I did see Doug, do we need to note that Commissioner Lett has rejoined the meeting?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Hi Commissioner Lett.

Could you just disclose where you are attending the meeting remotely from?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Good afternoon.

I'm attending from Interlochen.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Hello Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Clark yeah, a number of comments.

I really like this.

I think it's the right approach.

What I heard of Kalamazoo was and I heard this a lot, they wanted the urban rural split.

And this supports that.

I also heard mixed opinions on Kalamazoo and Battle Creek being put together.

But the way that Dustin has designed this it keeps the urban the big urban areas together.

And in Battle Creek one of their concerns was apparently they have two military bases there or airfields to keep those together.

So that is the supports that as well.

And the outlying areas we have not assigned yet are basically all rural.

Which I think meets the requirement that we heard from the citizens in that area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm not sure I agree with that.

I think the communities Antwerp Texas and I forget what the other one is called Oshtemo those are not rural.

They have pretty significant populations of and they are suburbs of Kalamazoo so I wouldn't attribute those as being rural at all.

As to whether Kalamazoo should go with Battle Creek, I mean I'm not going to weigh in on that.

But because I feel like we've gotten a lot of conflicting information.

I think you can either put Kalamazoo and its surrounding suburbs in one District all by itself and Battle Creek separate or try to join them together like this but I think if we are joining them together, we are separating the suburbs where we had people come in and talk about the school districts and how they worry a part of the same school District and didn't want to be separated like that.

So yeah, I just want to point that out.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Maybe one approach we could do is leave this as is and then the only unassigned areas create another District and see how our population flows from there and adjust from there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I don't know how to phrase this.

So what I would like to do, we haven't really discussed this but what I would like to do is kind of draft two options for people, not just here but in several places so that we can get public comment on the two different ways.

Because I think we could propose this way and we can propose Kalamazoo County basically as its own District.

And see what the public wants.

So for now I would be inclined to leave it like this, on this map.

And see if we can work around it.

And then consider making a second draft that we can also present.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think that makes sense Mr. Morgan?

>> MR. MORGAN: So you are very close to having a plan completed at this point.

So I might suggest that you complete this plan and then make the other option you're describing so you have two complete plans that have just one difference in this area.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I have a point of confusion.

So I notice is it do we have 38 districts at this point? Or is it just because the active matrix is not showing 38 is it just because it's only showing ones in view so we have full 38

>> MR. MORGAN: Unassigned District that would be District 3 at this moment.

So.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Which is the one we took away

>> MR. MORGAN: And District 29 is not in alignment so if you were to finish 29 and fill in 3 in some way and then call that option one for Kalamazoo area and then do something different as Commissioner Orton had suggested.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay that sounds good.

Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm thinking Cynthia I wonder if we looked at so and Dustin too like this idea that we may have a demographic like it may look differently racially and we may want to try to support our argument here like looking at the demographics of this versus like all of Kalamazoo just try to see what it looks like, like the numbers like we are about 30% minority at this with this District here.

And it's I don't know that that means it's a suggest I think we have to be above 30%.

But that was a threshold but not voting age population right.

So it's one of those things I think it's worth trying to consider.

I think there are like there are ways that we can draw and reflect the demographics and the minorities like we were doing in Detroit that might help us make a decision and getting the information on this.

I don't think we have election results here but I think we have.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: As far as demographics I don't think there's a significant difference when I look at it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: When you did it with the other with the Kalamazoo the whole County.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So if Kalamazoo County itself, can I say what I see on my screen that is different than that? If I just choose Kalamazoo County for racial demographics, we have 73.9% white.

And 26% minority.

And on this one 69.7% white.

30% minority.

If I'm reading it right.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: That is useful, thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So I think the next step would be to finish out 29. But should we move on to the next se Szetela finish 29, do the new 3 and then we can potentially save and do a new one and do a different.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Do you want me to go ahead or move to the next?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Knock yourself out.

MC and I talked about today this is your area.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Before we move on to the next District should I answer any questions for the Secretary of State? Or do you want me to do that at the end?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: We can do that at the end.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Just a suggestion, because we are going to be dancing with population changes within 29, 26 and unassigned District which is effectively District 3.

I would fill in the unassigned areas as District 3 first so we get the population numbers and we can see things.

And then shift the borders of the districts as needed to adjust 29 to make it fit.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: That's a very nice suggestion Dustin.

Can we do that Kent? Make District 3 all the unassigned areas? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, ma'am.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thanks Dustin I want to acknowledge the process is just as important here so it's really useful to have thought it through.

Really appreciate that.

Thank you while we are waiting Bruce did tell us the VRA does cover all of Michigan so I'm just thinking that, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 3 is 18,000 high and 29 is 28,000 light.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, could we change the color of either 3 or 29?

Thank you.

Okay, Kent, could you select the where your cursor is select that whole block of Townships that are touching towards 29? I just want to see what the population is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I will select it and it will show us the numbers and without assigning.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, that is what I would like.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area is 35,000 roughly 7,000 over ideal.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, then unselect that.

So choose just two Townships in and all the way down.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is 21,000 which gets you pretty close to, well, you are 7,000 light on 29.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay assign that, please, to 29.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Let me take another whack at it.

Okay 29 is now 2 point 61% low or 6900 people.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: What is 3? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 3 is .1.0 8% low. So you can balance these to be about 1.5 high, something like that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes, do you have a hand up?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: No I yield.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You could also potentially add in Marshall.

It's about 6800 if you want to get it closer.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: It will help 29 but a bit too much to take out of 3.
But let's do that.

Take the village of Marshall and put it in 29 and then we need to see where there is extra population, I guess.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We have a little piece of Marshall out here.
We can deal with that later or whatever.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, we can deal with it later but and we have something up all around there so.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I can go to blocks and see how many people are in here or what that is.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, let's do that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just to have an idea.

There is nobody.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Go ahead and assign that to 29 while we are here.
Then I think there was something up north.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This little piece here?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There is nobody there currently living there.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Assign that to 29 and then the piece in the west let's assign to 3.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put that in 3.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Uh-huh, no people.

Then can we see the active matrix for all of the districts? So we need more population in 29, right? Or 3.

We need more population in 8.

And we have extra population in.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At the top and I will roll down through them 8 is a little lower.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: 8 is low.

8 is low and 15 is low.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 31.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: 31, can you volume down a little on the active matrix?
I don't see any that are significantly high.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You have 32 and 33.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 32 and 33 are 7,000 over each.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And that's but that counters 31 which was right in the ballpark.

26 you know, is still a little bit high.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I guess 27 is 5,000 high.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And where is 27?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: By Ann Arbor I think it is Ann Arbor actually.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, it is Ann Arbor.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: It looks to me like we at least have everything within the deviation.

So I think except for the tact -- fact that makes a doughnut which I don't like.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Does the total population.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're not on.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Does the certain plan deviation need to be under a certain percentage as well? Or is that not a thing that we really need to worry about?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: It has to be within 10

>> MR. MORGAN: So I'll just comment on that.

If Kim were here, he would also comment that the overall deviation you know is plus or minus 5% and that is contemplated.

And then also the General Counsel may have a comment on this, but I don't know that the overall plan deviation has any bounds on it other than those bounds.

So you could contemplate having your overall deviation within a certain range.

But I think that you are allowed to have up to plus or minus 5% and there may be reasons that you can point to for why certain districts have a certain deviation.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right so I'm assuming we have saved this plan, right? General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Madam Chair just briefly certainly I support what Mr. Morgan is stating.

And yes, the Commission has not adopted any deviation range outside of that.

There is not a deviation range in the Constitution.

As there used to be.

Those kinds of deviations were fairly common.

Nationwide.

So at this point the Commission is on secure ground.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I just have a comment.

I was hoping that at some point we could have a conversation about what deviation we would like to keep it within for all the different you know the Senate, the house and the Congressional.

But at first, I thought I wanted to get as close to 0 deviation as possible but now I see there's reasons for VRA compliance or other compliance that we might not want to be so strict with that.

But I do think in Congressional districts we should be very close to 0 deviation if we can.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Morgan

>> MR. MORGAN: So I think the General Counsel will have a comment.

The only thing I will say about this what you end up doing Congressional if you choose to go down to exactly one person which I think we will hear is the requirement you generally get very close and have the concepts the way you like it and then you would take it down to literally one person in a particular area.

And that takes a little extra work for the map drawers but that's how the process generally works.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you Madam Chair and certainly I will speak to other deviations then for the benefit.

I know in the past the safe harbor of 10% again, just having deviations under 10% is not a safe harbor.

It goes to intent and how the Commission or excuse me how the map drawers, the map drawers would be working with the data and what was deriving their decision making process.

Again, the Commission is on very secure footing there as well.

As far as partisan fairness, we have case law that gives a very clear range for the Commission to consider.

So in response to Commissioner Orton's excellent question the deviations and the considerations will fluctuate.

And we are happy to provide that direct analysis and guidance at the appropriate time.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right, Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Cynthia you want to go first.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm thinking there is probably questions we need to answer now.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Indeed there are.

Commissioner Orton, could you describe to me the COI considerations when crafting these two districts?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So specifically which districts are you talking about because we went through a lot.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yes apologies.

So I recorded your stated reasonings for some of the changes for 26 and 29.

So for the creation of District 21 the new 21 and the new 3, can you describe the COI considerations for those?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, so I'm going to say we heard a lot of public comment to keep the cities of Kalamazoo and Battle Creek together and Portage along with Kalamazoo so that is one.

And the rural areas around that wanted to be kept together.

Anyone else? Dustin, do you have something to support that?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I think you got it because that is what I was going off of as well.

Two communities of interest that I was able to really come to conclusions on were urban and rural split but I was able to -- I postulate like I said the individuals who live in the City of Kalamazoo are probably closer in line with the individuals that live in the City of Battle Creek.

That's why I suggested the connection the way that it is.

And the individuals that are you know that have Kalamazoo mailing addresses and don't think that they should be associated with Battle Creek are the ones that would live in the suburbs on the outside areas that are going to be now encompassing District 21 and are included in District 3.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

And my final question is in the creation of the new districts 21 and 3, can you describe how minority populations were considered?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, so we did look at that and there didn't seem to be a significant difference in the number of you know the minority populations trying it different ways.

So it didn't seem to make a difference.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: And District 21 was drawn with a higher minority population.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: True, yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right, well, I think we've completed obviously it's a draft.

I don't want everybody to get all excited.

But we have completed our first full Senate map.

Which is awesome.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Congratulations Commissioners.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's not technically completed because there is still.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You had to burst our bubble didn't you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Bubble bursted.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's technically not a complete plan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's technically not but it's pretty darn close.

So.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I wonder Chair if we want to...do we want to sort of like part of me wants to know like how do we finish this? And part of me is thinking is this where we run the partisan fairness stuff? I have, yeah how do we do this? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I strongly suggest doing the error checks and making sure every single piece is where you expect it to be.

Because until then technically it's not a legal plan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would suggest we run the analysis to make sure there is no discontinuities or plan, errors or unassigned errors.

I see you over there Department of State Sarah Reinhardt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yes, per the schedule adopted in the most recent process document, partisan fairness analysis will be done during deliberations the week of the 27th.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you please assign that to 28? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think that will do it.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I believe that also allows time for the analysis itself to be done as well so thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now it's a complete plan.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay thank you Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: It's not only the partisan fairness analysis but I think we need a final analysis from Bruce Adelson as well.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We need a VRA analysis.

I think what we all should do is this should be sent to all of us so we can look at it because we have Commissioners that are not here today that may have input on what we have done and that would be how I would like to proceed.

And I'm open for a feedback on if we should do something different but I think we should all receive this file, look at it, decide if we want to make any proposed changes to it and maybe reconvene on that point tomorrow.

And then potentially move on to Congressional maps at this time.

Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: And then so what do people think about the idea of having two Senate maps draft maps that we let people comment on? Do we want to do that? How do we come up with that?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We could or we can leave as is and wait for people to make comments because if they don't like it, they will make comments so either way I think we can just leave it.

I see Sarah then I see Commissioner Eid.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I'm just circling back to the process document that was most recently adopted.

Certainly Commissioners have the authority to make alternate drafts.

That can be an individual Commissioner or it can be a collaborative effort as we've seen you all undertake in the past.

And the decision of how many maps will be brought forth for public comment during the public hearings is another decision that is scheduled to be made during the deliberations process.

Again the week of the 27th, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: She just answered it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, oh, Commissioner Lett? I don't see you but I'm hearing you have your hand raised.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You don't see me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Oh, I see me on the screen.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That is a technical error on our end.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The map disappeared and since I have not been here and you guys have not zoomed out, I just wanted to have it zoomed out so I could see what you guys managed to do without my expert commentary.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Did you have something to add John?

>> MR. MORGAN: I just wanted to say Commissioner Orton had contemplated drawing the second Senate plan which would just be very similar to this one. It just is a different option in Kalamazoo if I understood her.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yeah, and I think the question that I'm also hearing with Cynthia is it might make sense to sort of have an intention like so if we are going to draw a different Kalamazoo Battle Creek map like we also have like I'm just thinking of like maybe we have cities that are sort of combined, maybe then we have and then we have cities that are not combined like Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor for example. Right so we have a draft that sort of says this is where the cities aren't combined and this is a draft where the cities are combined.

For example.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think we all are familiar with the various areas where we've had conflicting public comment such as Midland with the Tri-Cities or Midland without.

So we could you know take all those into consideration maybe.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would also very much like to make a clone.

Since this is now a completed map, quote unquote.

I would very much like to see the opposite here, the clone of this map change 21 and 3 so that District 21 takes into account all of Kalamazoo County as Commissioner Orton has suggested.

And then change the numbers so that we get to draft maps done in one day for public comment to do over the next couple days.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I'm open to that and using the rest of the day today to sort of finish a second set of maps.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, I'm okay with doing that as well.

So Commissioner Lett did you still have another comment?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

I certainly don't have any objection to having alternative maps.

I think probably what might be a somewhat better way to go would be to contemplate those alternatives once we get our VRA analysis and the other analysis to have that

knowledge if we are going to go down a path of alternative maps which I think is probably not a bad idea at any way.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I concur with that Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think we should do one alternative map with the Kalamazoo County.

And that will give us the opportunity to get some public comment on it.

Because we did have split comments about having Kalamazoo and Battle Creek together.

And maybe we can get a better feel for what the public wants at that point.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think we will get a split again I don't think it will be helpful. Yeah, I mean I'm fine with that.

Let's clone another map and do I see the Commissioner Eid and then Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well you know this is going to be a lot easier to make alternatives because now this is a complete plan you can display it as an overlay on top and so you would really be able to see the comparisons between the two is my understanding of that correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Absolutely I will export this, it will be a shape file we can bring it back in as an overlay.

With just an outline on top of these.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Commissioner Orton do you need the floor?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm kind of conflicted.

I do want I do think that is a good idea to show it with the other configuration.

But I'm not just considering Kalamazoo.

I think there is other areas that I would like to see with an alternative.

But there is what Steve said does make sense that after the analysis would make more sense but I'm just concerned that the analysis will be near the end of our time and then will we have time to make alternatives.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Excellent question and I think Sarah I think my memory is that Sarah has been reminding us of our process document and I think we have a full week of deliberations so make we will spend more time and Dustin has his hand and maybe we will come back and try to answer your question, Cynthia.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I agree we do need the VRA analysis but this particular change isn't going to change what we did within the areas that require the VRA analysis.

So these particular changes regardless of what that analysis comes to be is going to be the same.

I don't think we are going to be going back into Detroit by doing this particular change in the Kalamazoo area.

At least I'm not going to be going back into Detroit.

My brain is a little fried.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: How does that line up with what you are thinking Cynthia?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: That is true we are not going clear back but thinking if we have to change Detroit it could ripple out a little bit but probably not to effect Kalamazoo County so I just don't know the good answer.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: How about we take a five minute break and I see Commissioner Lett or Steve's hand, you want to weigh in on this?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, if you are going to take a break that is fine. I will ask Kent then to bring up the population totals and demographics of the Detroit area so I can look.

I didn't see those since I was gone.

And I wanted to look at those while you're taking your break.

I don't want to hold you up on that.

I just want to look at them.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Appreciate that do the Commissioners need a break a five minute break yes, we do need a ten minute break and I see Commissioner Curry we will do a ten minute break it is 3:35, 3:35 so we will be back at 3:45.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: May I ask Commissioner Lett if this is the area, he would like to look at more or less?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: As long as I can see the Detroit districts. If we have them all in there on the matrix. I'm looking at the matrix.

So what is that? Down to about 19, down through 19.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We have 12, 17, 10, 19, I need to get 19 on there. 2 is all the way up here.

I don't know if that is in your, there is five.

7.

So I can make it a little bit bigger.

And that is 2 through and that should be everything.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Just a reminder to allow our interpreters to also take a break, if there could be a full break of audio during this time as well.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are all set thank you we will officially break at 3:36.

[Recess]

>> CHAIR SZETELA:

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Curry can you hear us?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Now I can, yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Can you disclose your physical location?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Remote from Interlochen.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 10 Commissioners are present and we have a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We were wrapping our heads around if we were finished and there was Doug just reminded me, we got significant or we got one particular comment that might be an easy fix I think it was Montcalm County and moving Newaygo out and moving it to Oceana does it sound familiar it was in Big Rapids. And the fix it should not affect the map too much but I'm wondering if you all are okay with that to try to shift that rural District, that would be one thing, one final adjustment and Cynthia has a comment report.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm in favor of that as well.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We are working on the existing draft, right? And just shifting one County so let's pull that map back up.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioners I made a copy so I need to close this and go back to the plan we were working on because I made -- you will see this is V16B. I'm going to go back to what we were working on.

Which is that plan.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you, Kent, and we are do you know the area we are looking at Kent or looking for when we say Gratiot.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Right there above Grand Rapids.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: North and a little east in the middle of sort of the fingers of the Mitten.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'll find it as soon as this loads back up.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We are south of south and east of Traverse City I believe.

In that area.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I need just a minute to gather my forces here.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: While you're doing that, do we want to discuss, I think Commissioners what we are thinking about is sort of how do we finish this finalize it and what happens next, is that sort of what we are asking ourselves? Is that fair?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Well we could just say it's finished for now and wait for the VRA analysis.

I know there has been a proposal to create alternative maps which I think is probably a good idea so we could probably just finish this out for voter rights analysis and then create the alternative with the alternative Kalamazoo Battle Creek.

I also would be interested in doing an alternative Ann Arbor Ypsilanti as well.

And possibly an alternative Lansing.

But just have you know keep everything else as much the same as we can but have version A and version B so the public can look at it and comment on it but I don't think it will take very long honestly.

Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yeah, I would agree I would say we take this plan that we just finished, save it as draft Senate District one because it's a finalized, it puts a term of finalization on it even if you want to put a date on it go ahead but.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Draft, it's a draft, it's not approved by the Commission.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel, sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was going-to-say we call it draft Senate map one for example.

And then if we make an alternate, we call it draft Senate map two 3, 4, 5 until the cows come home.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: The only offer I would add is draft plan because it's actually a statewide plan so you guys have kind of the districts you've been doing kind of regional mapping, all these kinds of things but you actually do, in fact, now have a statewide plan for Senate, for the 38 Senate seats.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothorn.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: General Counsel because we will wait for VRA analysis in the partisan fairness do we have an expectation -- can we expect it in all at once or can we expect it soon? Is there I know that this is like maybe part of our

process but that is a question I have and guessing other people are also wondering is there a General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Asking.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: When we have a, like, in moments I expect we will have a, like, a proposed draft plan for the Senate.

And we will come up with alternatives but we will have this proposed draft plan.

Will that be turned in to get analyzed through VRA like so -- we won't okay and that will be ready when we are deliberating in about ten days potentially.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: So Madam Chair I believe Commissioner Rothorn is correct.

I think if you identify and the Commission while naming conventions and protocols are always critical the naming conventions in this regard are particularly critical.

So if we have the Senate plan dated today, that of course is proposed.

The Commission has been very clear that it needs additional feedback and analysis from Mr. Adelson.

And other criteria considerations potentially as well.

But that this is the capture of the plan on this date of what it looks like so if it is modified then that would be again captured on that date and that would be how it would be displayed as well.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: My memory is there was a cost that we have to be careful as Commissioners to how many plans that is time, it requires a significant amount of time and review and therefore that what I'm thinking about is as we consider alternatives, right, that how we coordinate that so that we don't over burden frankly the yeah the people who need to give us this analysis and the timeliness and so I'm thinking of like is that why we are deliberating all at once at the end of the week? So we have to have all do we want to have an alternative if we are going to do alternative Senate, do we want to do that within minutes?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair I apologize Commissioner Rothorn I'm trying to get to the essence of your question.

And what I believe I heard, what I believe that to be is while you're considering the draft maps that you're creating now in advance of the public hearings that week of deliberation the planning behind was that the planning focus behind that was as you make modifications in one area, that it will inevitably lead to other considerations and modifications that the commission will have to make in other areas.

It's just simple math.

And that by doing that in a block of time that the Commission can address all those concerns simultaneously.

Certainly if the VRA analysis is I'm sure Mr. Adelson will be able to provide his feedback upon looking at the draft districts when he rejoins us.

So I hope was that responsive to your question?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, it was.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I'm trying to distill it so I apologize.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You did a great job.

I appreciate it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: My other question too is at what point are we going to renumber these districts? Is that something we should do now? Before we create the clone or the alternate? Because we've kind of got districts all over the place and I don't know how long that takes and if that's a quick and easy fix or how that works.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The key to it is y'all have to do the numbering and decide how you want to number them and where they are going to be numbered. But the last thing we left was we were going into the Gratiot area to do some modifications.

So we can do that, do the numbers, John?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: John in

>> MR. MORGAN: Commissioner Szetela through you to General Counsel I would just say I don't know if there is any concern about what the numbers are vis-a-vis the term limits.

So I think that is a question that you might have to discuss a little bit.

I don't know for example if somebody runs in Senate District 38, are they term limited to that District? Number? Or are they term limited as an individual? So, for example, if I was a hypothetical Senator and I represent District 38 and you renumbered this District to District 2 does that mean I can remain a Senator for eight more years? I don't think so.

I don't know.

But I just thought that that is something to consider as far as the numbering of districts goes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay already that is helpful thank you. Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And if we do renumber them one of the things we discussed previously is if it used to be one, we try to get it to be one and keep it as consistent as possible so it does not confuse the public.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We should follow the same convention we followed before if one starts in the UP and comes down that is what we should do but right now we have three on the with eastern side surrounded by 21 and it's just confusing do we want to fix that or do we want to save that for later? We can save it for later and it makes sense to save it for later so we can focus on our alternates right now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, and if I may the idea of the Gratiot and I think that is something we can assign to you all, can't we? Or do we have to do it publicly? You all being the mappers? We should do it publicly.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We will do it publicly.

Can we try to do that quick County swap add Montcalm County I think into that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would say let's look at our map we have right now.

Let's do the swap for Montcalm County and then we can save it as version one or alternate one and then clone it and let's work on that second proposed map, does that make sense to everybody? Any disagreement, comment concerns?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Sounds good.

So I think what we are doing Kent is we are going to add we are going to add Montcalm County, take it out of 33 and put it into 35.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Montcalm into 35.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Correct and head north and west.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We have these, okay.

Now 35 is 65,000 people high.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right so we will balance that with adding Newaygo and Oceana.

We are going to take 33 Steve has his hand up.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Why are we doing this?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Based on feedback in Big Rapids and they were reiterating I guess the feedback that we got about community of interest that this is Isabella Gratiot Montcalm is a large sort of service area, working area that not only includes the Big Rapids University, sort of affiliation there was also they had the Indian reservation Isabella they worked with CMU and there were I believe some other working agreements of universities in the area recognized so this was they were there were three comments in person in Big Rapids and I think we recognize that we that this was it would be a quick and easy swap is so what is what we were doing before we had the not finalized but draft plan.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That is my concern and I know there are other Commissioners that have the same concern we are making a change on something that we've considered previously based on three comments? What about the other 30,000 people that live there? , in fact, the other 66,000 that live there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Maybe this can be one of the alternatives when we make an alternative map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Why don't we flip it back and then we will make that an alternative map since we are going to do that any way.

I think that makes sense.

So flip it back, save it, call this our alternate one and then we will create a clone, alternate two and we can do that on the alternate.

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>> MR. KENT STIGALL: In the second clone is that where we are going to -- you the Commissioners are going to modify District 3 and 21 at the same plan?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Give me one minute.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I just want to make a comment based on Steve's question a second ago.

We are going to have that situation in any change that we have.

We are going to have input from three or five or ten people and have 30,000 people and not respond at all.

So we are confronted with that throughout the whole state.

It's just not this specific change.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett go ahead.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is version what we are calling today's date at the top V16, this is the B version, the one we have been working on earlier today was V16A.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So this would be number two.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well I understand that we are going to have that.

I think we need to be cognizant that you know we spent we as a Commission have spent a lot of time on these and have had input from us all of us as Commissioners and have looked at whatever each Commissioner has chosen to look at to make these maps and to have one or two or three comments come along now and say that's wrong, I have a hard time accepting that.

That is all.

I think we need to be cognizant of that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Lett.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK:

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Then Commissioner Witjes.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Commissioner Lett do you feel it would be better handled at the next set of public hearings?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't know.

I mean I don't know who is going to come out at the public hearings.

I'm just concerned that we put something out there and we get a comment on the portal that you know is very intent on making a change, but as we all know we can probably go back and look through our other comments and other notes that we've taken and see, you know, just as many comments on the other side.

I guess my opinion is that we've spent a lot of time.

I mean we didn't make Montcalm Ionia and Newaygo just out of thin air out of whole cloth we decided whatever we were debating on at the time that Ionia and Montcalm would go together quite well.

And, in fact, in my opinion and I've done some work in both counties as an attorney, and you know, they pretty much fit together.

So I mean, we can take whatever we want into account.

But I would hate to see that we get very minor 1234 however many minor comments and we are going to let you know five people drive the bus.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would tend to agree with those statements.

The changes that we are talking about in making in our draft maps, whatever they would be, and even the alternate maps that we are going to be coming up, with how many of those would we come up with.

Take into account the public comment portal and take into account our public hearings that we had, our own thoughts about the situation and us deliberating, I can't say that deliberating as a public body to come to these particular lines that we have drawn.

I do believe that if we are not going to make everybody happy and the only thing is when we do make something or change, we will hear from the majority of people or the five or six that come in or the five or six people that disagree where we decided to put a line based on our thought process and how we came up in the first place to place these particular districts.

So I would caution us to make changes to maps based on new things that come in if it's not substantial and it's just one or two that are coming in or a suggestion.

And we are going to get a lot of public comments.

I'm assuming we are even going to have more turn out during our second around of public hearings then at that point we can go back and weigh in the new items that have come in.

The items that have come in during those particular hearings to make slight tweaks then when we vote for the maps, we will know we have taken everybody's voice into account.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I would add to that it sounds scarily like the first person who commented comment is going to rule.

And I don't care for that at all.

This is a rolling process.

People who you know had no idea what we were going to do might not have commented and now they have seen what we are drawing now they want to come in and make comments.

I don't think that invalid dates their comments and it's concerning to me that we might just dismiss that.

So I think the solution to that is what we have talked about here which is we have this map, this is one proposed alternative.

We have heard some comments on it already.

We are going to create this second map, we are going to change some things around and we will see what the public comment is then we can deliberate on that and move forward.

But I don't want you to make it seem like the Commission is not going to listen to people who are later coming to the table or even you know maybe it's three or four people who are coming to the table because they weren't the first ones in the door.

I think this is meant to be a transparent, open process where we are continually receiving feedback, that's what we have repeatedly stated to the public that we are going to do.

And I this I we should honor that by listening to people when they have specific concerns.

And ultimately, we are going to make the decisions about what we are going to do.

But I don't want to just dismiss comments because they are later in time.

Go ahead Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Y the argument that Commissioner Lett and Witjes bring up on these changes then what is the purpose of alternative maps that we develop? Because we have already discussed the argument is we have already discussed and drawn the lines.

And now we get a few comments and we want to redraw them.

But I agree with what you said Rebecca.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Clark.

Commissioner Eid or Commissioner okay I'm sorry Commissioner Curry you were first go ahead Commissioner Curry then Commissioner Orton then Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I just want to say I feel like I truly think that each of us have honestly did the best we can with these maps.

And to go back and ask other opinions and get several opinion just from one or two people like Steve said would be a disservice to what we are doing.

Because it's going to throw everything off and we will be forever trying to make a map to fit somebody.

So I think that we've spent all day doing this.

Can you imagine just trying to redo it because somebody or a few opinions out of 60,000 or whatever would make a difference? I think our honest opinion of how we have heard, we have listened, we have written notes, we have they sent their comments in, once we make our selection, we should leave it alone or get in a lot of trouble to erase something to fit somebody's way of doing things.

And then we are going to throw the whole map off so that is mine.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I understand what everyone was thinking we know in certain areas and we can probably all list them off we received significant conflicting public comment.

And so I was suggesting that in for those areas so we do a second draft plan and, in those areas, we offer the alternative from what we drew here.

And that way we can get public comment, then we can decide which plan we are going with.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid then Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, I guess the first thing I will say is even this map we drew today and I think that we should all be pretty proud of this.

We are a group of 13 you know people who have never done this before and I really do think we came up with a map that's quite better in almost every aspect than what is currently in place.

So let's take a second and be happy about that.

Be thankful about that.

Because that's you know that's no small feat.

I'm proud of all of you guys for making this.

So good job.

I do like having the idea of a few alternatives because for me it's going to come down to the analysis.

You know maybe this is a great map but maybe someone else's map with a few slight changes could be a little bit better when it comes down to the accepted measures of partisan fairness we will go over and to the VRA requirements we are going to go over. But I mean I agree kind of with I think everyone's right, right now we will get a will lot of comments at the second round of public hearings not only from you know regular everyday people but also from you know politicians that are going to be rallying their base and trying to get us to make changes.

So you know it is something to be weary of.

But we have to at least hear them.

And you know then make that decision as a Commission on what we are going to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Just to make myself clear and I think so I have no objection to making alternative maps.

We certainly can do that.

What I think we want to guard against and I think I want to guard against at least is that the last person in has the most weight.

They don't deserve any more weight or any less weight than anybody else.

But I certainly think, and we have had comments on both sides, and then in some instances we've had a majority of comments on one side that those types of comments deserve more weight.

So but alternative maps that's fine.

I have no problem with those.

In fact, the last guy or gal in may have the best idea we never thought of and we will change it based on them.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't mean to beat a dead horse here but Anthony I agree with what Anthony said and there is one thing that Kent, John and Kim said at one point in time that kind of hits home.

This is the first draft of the map that we did.

You can make as many changes as you want because no matter what it is you do it's only going to get better from here.

So you're going to strive to get that plan deviation down.

You will strive to get the VRA analysis as close as to what we possibly can.

Where we all like it and everyone is in agreement.

We are going to continue to work on these.

That is what the point of alternate maps are for.

We should all be proud with what we have.

It's going to change.

And it's going to only change for the better.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay I think we've had enough discussion on this point can we get back to our alternate maps because we wanted to get two done today and we are running out of time at this point so MC it's your turn.

It's the alternate map.

Knock yourself out.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Goodness with the Senate.

With the alternate map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So Montcalm

>> MR. MORGAN: This is the one we were contemplating changing Montcalm and Gratiot.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Originally this copy was made to make the Kalamazoo District 3 and District 21 changes.

We came back from break and the second idea came up and that is what y'all have the discussion.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We are going to do possibly multiple changes so this is going to be alternate B or alternate two whatever we call it but we will make multiple changes so MC it's your turn and go ahead and make your changes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Right, so it was let's try what I'm trying to do is, yeah, but there was good discussion there and I'm not sure I know how to proceed.

I'm not convinced that I want to, yeah, I'm not -- I'm at a loss at this point.

I apologize.

I feel like I want to pass or yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right then let's go down to District 3 and 21 and Zoom in a little bit there.

So with this I'm going to ask would it be easier to just take off District 3 or is it easier to unassign areas? It might be easier just to delete District 3 and 21 and we can just redraw them.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: However you want to proceed.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let's do it that way because I think it will be a little easier.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is this going to be 21 or 3.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Call it 3 and just select Kalamazoo County and see what the population is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Kalamazoo

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Kalamazoo County.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 261670.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just to see what the population is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That locality alone is just 3523 shy of the ideal target number sed Szetela so then can we go the surrounding areas and turn those into District 21? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Everything else make 21 so that will be one of our alternatives. So Barry and I mean I could do more here to make this, for the public record I could do more to make 20 go a little further and make 21 look less sort of like a you know upside down C.

But I'm just putting this out there as a concept so that the public can look at it and decide whether they like Battle Creek separate or whether they like Battle Creek together so this is just a concept.

And if this is what the public ends up saying they like better, we can sort of adjust that boundary if we wanted to make 21 more compact.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: In this process you undid the blocks that we assigned earlier.

It's easier to do it like this than one block at a time.

I'll Zoom in.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: And fix them, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Previously this had gone to 29.

This had got gone to 29.

And this would go to 21.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So put the white one in 21 and the rest with 29.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think that covers it and we can run a check to cover it but I think that is it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That is just an alternative instead of having Battle Creek and Kalamazoo together.

Can we look at Ann Arbor for a second because I'm kind of debating go ahead Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Can you scroll up so we can look at the population on those two districts? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 21, 2.26 low and 3 is 1.33 low.
They are both below the ideal.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Morgan

>> MR. MORGAN: Commissioner Szetela at this point this is a completed plan option, do you want to just save this and then create a different plan option that includes this and does something else?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We are going to put the things we talked about on one map so that we can see.

So I want to move over to Ann Arbor area.

And I'm going to need some help on this one so Anthony if you have any ideas feel free to jump in.

But I want to try to divide up Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor in an alternative map.

And I'm not 100% sure how I want to do it MC do you have a suggestion.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: There was some public comment about yeah Down River and border communities because we did split have sort of a northern southern Down River.

The idea that lumping so I think it's District 12 right now so just acknowledging that you could use, this changes a lot of districts potentially but Ypsilanti and Romulus right and you have Van Buren Township may actually be a good fit.

I don't know.

But the idea that yeah breaking up that and associating Down River but we had such a nice District down there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Why I'm saying I could definitely use some help on this how could you split this up? And still have it make sense? Especially because Ann Arbor is so such a weird little City in terms of all the precincts and everything.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Dexter definitely wanted to be more with Jackson rather than with Ann Arbor, the Dexter village.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So let's try to do this.
Let's just take off and put into District 29.
Ypsilanti and the City of Ypsilanti.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Ypsilanti.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Ypsilanti Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It connected on the corner and we will make changes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We will go down to Saline and try to grab there first and try to keep moving westward.

Go ahead Commissioner Witjes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Are you thinking of putting Ypsilanti in with Jackson?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I don't know.

We are going to play with this a little bit.

If you have another suggestion, I'm happy to hear it.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would say that would be not a very good thing to do. But this is going to be a very difficult area to try and split up, so I will sit back and watch.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Let me tell you what my inclination is on this. My inclination is Ypsilanti, Van Buren, Romulus and Wayne go together. That is my inclination, but then we have to change the otherwise very nice district we have there.

So I don't know.

I mean maybe.

Go ahead Commissioner Witjes then Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Ypsilanti and Belleville that is a good fit.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I agree.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't know if going further into Romulus and Wayne.

Parts of Sumpter and parts of Augusta have Ypsilanti addresses.

So we could try that route as well.

Then if we need to push District 28 over a little bit more to grab some more population that would be an okay thing to do.

It's a suggestion.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So let's try to grab Van Buren and put it into 29.

And then we will also grab Augusta and put it into 29.

All right so that puts us over.

Go ahead Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: This is not going to be super helpful but could we change the color of either the pink ones? I just can't tell the difference.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that better?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, so now what I want to do is I want to kind of take the areas that are south of Ann Arbor and Saline and also put them into 29.

So you see how Ann Arbor kind of comes down like a circle into yep so that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Lean into 29.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Pittsfield Township.

I don't know what does everybody think of pulling Pittsfield should we leave it or put it with Ypsilanti? Thoughts? Pittsfield with Ypsilanti or Pittsfield with Ann Arbor?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Pittsfield with Ann Arbor.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Pittsfield with Ann Arbor.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't know.

Ask me that in five minutes let me think.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I mean it could go either way.

Let's just, right, we will have to go north from Ann Arbor anyway so let's leave that and go north in Ann Arbor.

So let's grab Northfield, Webster, Dexter and assign them to Ann Arbor and see where we are at population wise.

Go ahead Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And Dexter.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Do you mean me.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Pittsfield Township and Ypsilanti.

That would be better than Ann Arbor I would think.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, yeah but Commissioner Curry didn't think so.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Ypsilanti I just never I don't know where Pittsfield is and I used to stay there.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's where the municipal airport is.

It's outside the City.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Carpenter road.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Carpenter road.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I do know where carpenter road is, yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think to divide Ypsilanti the population of Pittsfield is what? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's not showing up so I will get the info on it.

It is 39,000 plus.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right can you scroll out a little bit on the map so I can kind of see? Yeah, I'm just struggling with this because I know we received comment about not wanting Ypsilanti in Ann Arbor to be together.

But then what do you do with Jackson? I don't really think Ann Arbor and Jackson go together either.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No, they don't.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I don't know how to resolve that sort of dividing Ann Arbor in half.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Madam Chair I know that Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor are they have a lot of they do a lot of business in Ann Arbor.

I don't know about Dustin but.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I just don't like it.

I'd say let's go back to what we had go ahead Commissioner Witjes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Having lived there the southern side of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Pittsfield, that's a decent thing. I would not be against splitting Ann Arbor. Because the northern side of Ann Arbor is going to be more affluent side the north side and also the west side. It's like Barton Hills area and so on and so forth. You could do a split like that right along the diagonal if you were to take a somewhat of a north-south approach. But southern side of Ann Arbor with Ipsi and Pittsfield you can go into the heart but the northern and western side you can try and put towards Jackson. That would be okay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right so go ahead Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would honestly yeah, I don't like it either being with 29. I would maybe try to figure out a way how to put it with your original idea with Van Buren and maybe reconfigure what we have for Down River.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we took off Van Buren from Down River, right? And that is 35,000 people approximately. Right? And Ypsilanti okay so and then we have 75 for Ypsilanti and surrounding areas. Then we have 35 for Van Buren. I don't want to do that either.

So you know how I feel about that. I'm just wondering if you could put Ypsilanti Van Buren Canton and superior together and pull west Atlanta into Wayne Westland Romulus but we would be cutting off that area in Livonia.

Which is problematic.

Go ahead Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think our time is up so maybe we can think about this tonight.

And work on it tomorrow and work out something.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I feel this is a very tricky area. With a lot of population which makes it hard. So and you're right we are out of time so all right so just save this, please. We can pick up with it in the morning and Commissioner Lett, I see you and Commissioner Curry I see you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm saying good-bye.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well I think you should look at your MGGG cluster A16 and read that because all of that says Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti are joined at the hip.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: They are.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It's true yeah but we are also receiving comments saying they don't want them to be together because it's packed, so I'm just trying to propose an

alternative but I just think it's I think saying that they don't want to be together is simpler than trying to draw it.

So that's what I'm struggling with is where are you going to put Ypsilanti then.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: How many people are they representing that said they don't want to be together?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We've seen quite a few comments honestly.
Commissioner Rothhorn then Commissioner Eid.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I have something more about process in the next step so maybe it's Commissioner, yeah, I will wait because it's not directly related to this.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I mean, yeah, I think you know when we do the Congressional districts, they are probably going to end up together but you know I think we are just going to have to make a decision and have an alternative and see how it shakes out with the analysis.

Because I think either way you do it it's going to end up with a different level of partisan fairness when we get to that point.

But I agree with Commissioner Szetela maybe we should just take some time to think on this.

Instead of saving it because you had your first set of changes.

I would actually suggest undoing it and have your first set of changes that you made be there so people can comment on them.

And while having the rest of the map intact.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can do that, that is fine so that will be petting Belleville back with 12 putting Ypsilanti back with 27 and taking off the two I'm sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think they can just go back in the history.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You can go back in the history too.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Need to go back and I think, no, that is still not done, is it?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That was the first step changing Ypsilanti to 29.

So I think from there you just need to put 29 back to 27 so there you go.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now I just got to check those changes around here and make sure that we didn't go back too far.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No that looks the same.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Let's check the contiguities and that sort of thing to make sure we have not backed up too far.

That is always, yeah.

I went probably those little census blocks.

Yes, it's just that one so redo that to 29 I suppose.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Change it to 29.

Mr. Morgan?

>> MR. MORGAN: Considering in the future if we do something like this we probably do want to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What you suggested

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do what you suggested and I told you no on and it turned out to be a smart decision.

Go ahead Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Are we going to back off of what we did up north as well.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We didn't change anything up north.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: We did not change it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: MC wasn't comfortable so it's just the Grand Rapids I'm sorry Battle Creek Kalamazoo area.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 21 and 23.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think we are all it checks out.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right

>> MR. MORGAN: To close this out for reference we will have an A and B and the sequential number we are using is 16.

That is more of an internal designation, I think.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay sounds great. Well that concludes our mapping for today. We have a few more items on our agenda we don't have any new business/ however we have several sets of minutes to approve.

So we have September 2 both first and second meeting. September 7th, September 9, and are there any proposed edits to any of the draft minutes? Okay. Hearing none let's run through them.

May I have a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the first meeting held in Ann Arbor on September 2, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Seconded by Commissioner Rothorn.

All in favor of approving these minutes from the first meeting on September 2, 2021, please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay. The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

Next may I have a motion to approve the minutes of the second meeting in Ann Arbor on September 2, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Seconded by Commissioner Lett. All in favor approving the second meeting on September 2, 2021, signify by raising your hand and signifying aye.

All opposed raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

Next may I have a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting from Lansing on September 7, 2021? Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Second made by Commissioner Lett. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes from September 7, 2021, signify by raising your hand and saying aye.

All opposed raise your hand and say night.

The motion is adopted.

May I have a motion to approve the minutes from the first meeting in Big Rapids, Michigan on September 9, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Second made by Commissioner Orton.

All in favor of approving the MICRC meeting minutes from September 9, 2021, signify by raising your hand saying aye.

All opposed raise your hand and say nay. The ayes prevail and motion carries

Without objection I would like to ask Edward Woods III to provide a report.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: We are at Grand Valley State University there is a parking pass you should have in your e-mail from Sarah Martinez and a self-assessment form we need with regards to COVID guidelines.

The Commission just so you know I did hear some concerns and they have been doing a robust recruiting effort to ensure that not only students but the community is doing that.

The same for central Michigan University and the same for Oakland University.

They also wanted me to alert the Commission that if there is an option that you want to spend more time mapping, that we can adjust our times both at central Michigan and at Oakland University to increase time for mapping if that is the Commission's will so I just wanted to share that with you with regards to that.

But please give us some notice because obviously we have to notice the meeting and talk to our contractor with regard to set up but just wanted to make that available to the Commission because they are really excited and put a lot of time ap effort and not just recruiting the students but also the public.

Oakland University said they really have really reached out to the surrounding communities and made that a big push so that the Commission can hear in real time with regards to the maps.

So once again just want to remind you we are at Grand Valley. Please remember to have your parking pass and fill out the self-assessment form for Grand Valley so that we can have a smooth process.

Once again thank you again so much for your support.

Another update we continue to be more open and transparent as relates to our mapping.

And we are looking to have a solution by the end of the week where everyone can access the map utilize free software to download the shape files as well and so that's a team effort so definitely want to give a shout out to the MDOS team as well as to Julianne Pastula and Sue Hammersmith and EDS team for coming together and trying to figure out the way that we could do it as smoothly as possible.

Definitely want to thank MDOS they continue to access the website but we really want to do a better job.

But one thing to meet the standard but it's another to exceed the standard and here as the Commission as you have directed, we are trying to exceed the standards for openness and transparency.

As relates to the public being able to access the maps and I would be happy to share that solution Friday once it's available.

Once again, thank you so much.

Appreciate that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you. Commissioner Orton, did you have a question?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I had a question.

The assessment that we're supposed to fill out is that something we need to have on our phone or print out or how.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Unfortunately I have not done it just yet but it's an electronic assessment and I will alert you guys a little bit later.

But it's electronic assessment that they have and it seems let me just click on it Commissioner Orton, it's pretty straightforward.

We just fill out the form and just they are similar to what we did at the University of Michigan so you might have to just keep it, don't close out and in this case, you do have to show it you can show it and that will happen but if anyone has any questions by all means feel free to call me and I will respond thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right. At this point without objection I will ask Sarah Reinhardt from the Michigan Department of State if she has a report.

Hearing no objection, please proceed Ms. Reinhardt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I have no report. But want to say congratulations Commissioners on completing your first draft proposed map today.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much. Correspondence received in advance of our meeting today was provided along with written public comment submissions to the Commissioners in our meeting materials.

It's my understanding that there is no future agenda items to share at this time.

Are there any announcements? All right. Seeing no announcements as the items on the agenda are completed and the Commission has no further business, a motion to adjourn is in order.

Motion made by Commissioner Witjes.

Seconded by Commissioner Clark.

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All in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the meeting is adjourned at 4:43.

Thank you, everybody.

Have a good day.