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MICRC

20240122-1000 Meeting

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>> CHAIR ORTON:

We appreciate the opportunity to be in Detroit.

As Chair of the Commission I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 10:11 a.m.

We are live streamed on our Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission YouTube channel. For anyone in the public watching who would prefer to watch via a different platform than they are currently using, please visit our social media at redistricting MI.

Our live stream today includes closed captioning. Closed captioning, ASL interpretation and Spanish, Arabic and Bengali translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. E-mail us for Redistriction@michigan.gov for additional viewing options or details on accessing language translation services for this meeting.

People with disabilities needing other specific accommodations should also contact us at Reidistricting@michigan.gov.

This meeting is being recorded and will be available at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC for viewing at a later date.

This meeting is also being transcribed and those closed captions transcripts will be made available and posted on the Michigan.gov/MICRC website along with written public comment submissions. There is also a comment portal and accessed by visiting MICRC.

Members of the media who may have questions before, during or after the meeting should direct those questions to Edward Woods, III, Executive Director for the Commission, at Woods E3@Michigan.gov or 517-331-6309.

For the public watching and the public record I can hear myself and it's distracting. I will turn to the Department of State 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 today's meeting remotely please announce where you are attending remotely from, I will start with Elaine Andrade.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Donna Callaghan?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry?

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

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: You can use the microphone, Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Marcus Muldoon?

>> MARCUS MULDOON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

Ten Commissioners are present and there is a quorum.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Thank you, Ms. Reinhardt.

As a reminder to the public watching you can view the agenda at MICRC. I would entertain a motion to approve the agenda.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So moved.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Moved and seconded, all in favor of approving the current agenda raise your hand and say aye.

>> Aye.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Any opposed raise your hand and say nay.

>> Nay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: The ayes have it and the agenda is adopted.

Without objection, I will ask MICRC Executive Director Edward Woods, III to introduce this portion of the agenda for the City of Detroit neighborhood planning department.

Hearing no objection please proceed, Mr. Woods.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Thank you, Chairperson.

Good morning Detroit!

Virtually and in person.

We are so happy to have each and every one of you here to participate in this democracy process.

As the Commission continues with its mapping we thought it would be very important to have someone from the City of Detroit neighborhood department to kind of give an overview of the City of Detroit as you know a part of the communities of interest deals with historical characteristics.

And those historical characteristics deal with neighborhoods.

And we are very happy to have Mr. Ray Soloman from the mayor's team who is the director of the department, and he will provide a brief overview at this time regarding the neighborhoods and then open it up to questions to the Commissioners.

Without further ado let's give a warm welcome to Mr. Ray Solomon.

>> All right, thank you, thank you, director of the department of neighborhoods for mayor Duggan's office first of all thank you for having me.

Definitely a pleasure.

Can you see the share screen?

Great.

I will hold this and go.

Again, thank you though.

Okay starting with the department of neighborhoods who we are.

We were created to, not sliding, wait a minute.

All right, the department of neighborhoods was created to be the direct link for the City of Detroit's block clubs and community groups, business owners, faith-leaders and residents.

14 a District manager and a deputy manager throughout the City District so there is elected official which is the City Council person and an appointed position which are the District managers.

So our original creation and going forward was to fight blight.

So we are over creating block clubs again fighting blight, also we Chair motor City make over and also we Chair Halloween and Dean, there are a few pictures of our neighbors participating.

So also provided a list of our District managers, also this list can be found on the City's website if you ever need to reach out to the District one and two managers and deputy managers.

District three and four.

Five and six.

And finally District seven.

So I was asked to bring how many recreation centers we have that are active, that number is actually 12, not 16.

And just put a couple pictures on here and a list of a few of those, the list is on the City's website, so we have bustle family center in District five, northwest in two and a brand-new Lennox in District Four.

Also we have 200 parks that are active.

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Just a list of a few Palmer Park, Scripts and Littlefield, which actually is going through a renovation upgrade again this year.

Also how many historic districts.

We have 41 historic districts.

There is actually a link here that shows a list here but Boston Edison.

Jeff Chalmers and old.

Business interests a lot of streetscapes have been done across the City here and two examples in the Bagley and the street scape which is a Van Dyke and Kercheval and City's website under planning and development and see the progress of those the Dexter Street scape is in progress, being done.

Here are some District maps where we outline the actual boundaries of the neighborhood.

So you have O'Hara park in District one.

Berg lasher as well as Schoolcraft and if you go to the City's website and search interactive maps this will actually populate for you so that is District one of a couple historic District.

District two a few historic districts would be Bagley and Dexter-Fenkell and College Park, Palmer Woods, State Fair area.

District three we have regent and far well and strong Bangladesh and Banglatown and next to that is Buffalo, Davidson. So, again, if you go to the City's website, you can see these different boundaries for the neighborhoods.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies for the interruption I just wanted to note for the record that Commissioner Szetela joined the meeting at 10:21 a.m. thank you.

>> District Four again a few historic residents, neighborhoods would be morning side, east English, Cornerstone on the far east eat on gardens back to the west and at the bottom of the map you see Jeff Chalmers.

And in District five you can see Indian village.

You can see Dexter.

Boston Edison.

River town.

Down below Lafayette park as well, a couple more historic neighborhoods.

And in District six to have it has a heavy Hispanic population.

Down in Clayton, Midwest, and Hubbard farms as well.

District seven where we have Franklin and pride and Littlefield community.

Nardin Park and others.

Also provided a map of the entire City kind of zoomed out so you can see the neighboring cities.

So in District one would be far left.

We butt up Southfield and farm Dale, move down to District two also butts with Ferndale and if you move down toward the east in three we butt East Point and down to District

four is Grosse Pointe and District five Grosse Pointe and downtown as well as District six you have River Rouge, District 7 butts up against Dearborn and Dearborn Heights. So with that I will open for questions.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I have a question.

Will we be able to get these outlines as an overlay for our mapping?

>> Yes.

They are available on the City's website interactive neighborhood maps, but I also can provide the link after the meeting, I can send it forward.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Thank you.

Any other questions?

I don't see any other questions but thank you very much, Mr. Solomon.

>> Again, thanks for having me.

>> CHAIR ORTON:

>> I can answer the latter part the maps are representative now of the neighborhoods.

I will leave it to the Commission.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Mr. Solomon was talking about the Detroit neighborhoods, their maps, their districts.

>> Those maps you had in process.

>> No, our maps are standard maps that outline the existing neighborhood boundaries, so they are available for both parties to view.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So next on our agenda is public comment period.

And without objection I will ask MICRC Executive Director Woods to review the public comment guidelines.

Hearing no objection please proceed, Mr. Woods.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Thank you Chairperson.

We want to invite those who want to make public comments to come to the mic when they are called by our MICRC secretary.

But we want to remind you of a few ground rules. First and foremost, this is a civil meeting.

You are to address the Commission as a whole, not anyone individually.

But the Commission as a whole.

You have up to 90 seconds, I repeat up to 90 seconds to state what your comments are.

It's very helpful if there is a particular community of interest or a boundary that you identify that in your public comments so the Commission can follow you.

And consider your suggestions as a part of the mapping process.

We want you to know we are happy that each and every one of you are here and if for any reason you come outside of the guidelines, the Chair may give you a caution with regards to that.

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And if you decide not to follow the guidelines, your mic could be cutoff, and it will prevent you from having public comment again.

We say these guidelines as a way of just showing the process and rules we have here, but the intent overwhelmingly is to hear from as many people as possible whether it's in person or virtually.

So that we can have a great contribution to this mapping process as it relates to the 7 districts that are in question and those impacted by those changes.

Thank you so much.

And once again we look forward to hearing from you.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Thank you, Mr. Woods.

Commissioner Vallette will facilitate the public portion of today's agenda.

>> YVONNE YOUNG: We will begin the public comment pertaining to map Ping, hearing no objection we will now proceed with public comment.

Individuals who have signed up

and indicated that they would

like to provide live remote

public commentary to the

Commission will now be allowed.

To do so step up to the mic and 90 seconds and conclude your remarks when your 90 seconds has ended, and you hear the timer.

Go to the public comment tool and share your comments in writing including any specific area of the map about which you are speaking.

The public comment tool is at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC.

And there is a public comment station here tonight or this morning with volunteers to assist you in assisting accessing the website if you would like assistance.

Additionally, if you have a time constraint or don't wish to wait please use the public comment portal.

First in line to provide comment is number one.

>> Okay, my name is Mary Ann Parnis and live in Huntington Woods. And thank you Commissioners for having to go through the process again.

I thought you did a pretty good job the first time, but I understand the 7 House Districts we are looking at, that were outside of the bounds as determined by the Court of Appeals judges.

My comment basically is I live in house District number six.

And I think that the drawing, the map drawing they did in our District was great and would really like to see that stay intact so I really want to encourage you to focus on the seven districts that you were told to redraw and try to have as little impact if possible no impact on the other districts.

I know there are some maps out there that have been provided by Michigan State University and also by Promote the Vote that do try to redraw just pretty much those

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seven districts and not have such an impact or any impact if possible on the neighboring Directors so I would love you to try to focus on that and also keep in mind partisan fairness is really important.

For us and for I believe for the people that voted for this back in 2018.

So thank you so much for your hard work.

Have a good...

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission next in line is number two.

You are now invited to address the Commission.

>> I'm Nina-Abrams from Huntington Woods. And I've been working in the South Oakland area for a long time.

And, again, you guys are doing a terrific job.

And thank you for putting your life on hold while you're working on this.

I'm urging you to please review the proposed public maps.

Mary Ann Parnis, I agree with MSU and Promote the Vote.

I'm sure there are others that are of quality.

We shouldn't go outside the boundaries of the seven areas.

One of the things I wanted to tell you about though that you did so well is when you broke eight-mile road and we have five eight mile breaks that I've been working with all the Commissioners from eight, 7, 6, 5 and 18.

It's been really a challenge and it's wonderful.

And it's worked.

And we are now thinking regional instead of just county.

So I don't want you to be afraid when you're doing 7 and 8 again you might break the eight-mile boundary.

It worked.

And I just think that you have so much work to do.

I'm urging you to look at the public maps which have, in fact, done all seven areas without changing anybody else and I think that's real important.

I think partisan fairness, this is your chance to do a better job than a four.

And bring it down and get it fair.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number three.

>> Good morning, I'm representing the 14th District in the Detroit side boundaries, to Hoover.

Eight mile to six mile.

And we are concerned.

We do T no not want to leave out of the 14th District which is the far well umbrella and we are trying to find out who designed the maps and how can we get a better view of it.

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Because we are just being informed of these meetings last week.

Maybe our ignorance but we need more information, and we need to find out will we be losing our representation in the House with our state rep.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number four.

>> Good morning my name is Jason from mount Clemens and thank you for putting your lives on hold and making sure the districts are drawn fairly.

The St. Clair District the 12 District already has representation with the State Senate.

To have an overlapping House District would most certainly create some sort of overrepresentation in the people in the area where they are disenfranchised typically areas historically of color.

And it's people from all over who need proper representation.

We have an obligation here to get this right.

Not just right for one side or the other but for everybody.

We don't need to waste time coming back doing this again in a few years.

If it takes longer to get it right and due diligence please do so.

Look at it from every aspect.

We are not here for yourselves but here to make sure that democracy is upheld.

Typically you're supposed to start with a joke, and I still got some time left even though it's not showing but I'm going to conclude with some humor and some of you are going to get it and some aren't but the high school football rules, thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number five.

>> Good morning.

My name is Nattaly and forgive my voice because I've been screaming for the Lyons.

I wish we had as many folks from the Lions cheering at this MICRC event.

But I'm here to represent the City of Detroit.

I am a long time resident and an advocate for Black leadership matters.

I would like to give a few public comments on ways that the redistricting process can be more engaging.

One, any districts with a Black voting age below 50 plus one is unacceptable.

Secondly, it's more important to get this done right.

Than to get it done fast.

And understand that you are under an order from the Court to make sure that these maps are using partisan fairness.

But when you're including this partisan fairness make sure that the Commission accompany any proposed maps with an explanation of how the maps reflect COIs and how any splits are necessary.

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Reflecting communities of interest does not require as recreating careful homogenous districts.

So as we are looking at these maps and as I was sharing earlier, the City of Detroit is currently working with the City planning Commission to have maps due by the end of the month.

Not just look at the City District boundaries for each community.

But look at the future maps and the current maps and also look at that as an overlaying process of how you can get things done.

Look at every possible way we can create partisan fairness and make sure that we are using VRA to support the maps that you're using.

Those are my comments.

Thank you for what you're doing, and I appreciate the work that you're putting forth.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number six.

>> Michael Howard Detroit native Warren resident.

My request is they are done to reflect partisan fairness but also make sure that you give communities equitable stakes in each District and not splice up communities like northwest Detroit or even business corridors that splits up and shares between Warren, centerline and Detroit.

The one thing that just cannot be done is restoring the eight-mile barrier.

Anyone that's ever picked up a history book can see quickly how problematic that has been it's detrimental not just to the City of Detroit but Warren and center line and detrimental to our region, our country, our state.

So please when you're redoing these maps just make sure if the District does dip down into Detroit make sure the Detroiters have an equitable state and not one fifth or meaningless portion.

I will end on partisanship with harsh feelings as enemies rather than neighbors and brings Government in action or gridlock.

It does not allow for good policy to take shape and move through the system to benefit people.

Partisanship hates compromise and gives birth to sound policy and actions in both Government and private life and breaks down rather than builds us up.

If we live in America with partisan make sure it's equitable and fair and don't restore the eight-mile barrier.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number 7.

I would like to have gratitude on redrawing the districts and I appreciate your effort to make a wrong right during the initial drawing of the maps a District of the Lake St. Clair

shores interests was established, as a dedicated student at Wayne state University I'm deeply committed to our City.

I witnessed firsthand the consequences of the existing District maps.

I urge you to leverage ability to select communities of interest that contribute fair Districting.

The decision to align St. Clair shores with Grosse Pointe raises concerns about its impact in partisan fairness.

Potentially diminishing the voices of individuals like myself.

Your thoughtful consideration in this matter is crucial and more inclusive in representation.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission, next in line is number eight.

>> Hello, guys. I'm Carlson Conley and want to thank the Commission for their work. My parents pastor a church in Detroit made up of Black Detroiters and finally had a chance to receive fair representation when the Commission was formed.

I want you to prioritize fair maps for people of color and prioritize partisan families, thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number nine.

>> Good morning Commissioners.

It's nice to see you again.

I cannot believe that I'm here again, happy to and also the meeting and I came to so many in 2021 and when I learned that this whole thing was happening I felt some pain in my gut and I can't imagine how you guys felt.

I have three messages today number one is I'm here representing the largest Latino in southwest Detroit.

Our community of interest is the Latino population in southwest Detroit.

And three messages.

One really quick as everybody said I commend you for your work.

Even with all the consolations I still believe this Commission is the right way to do things and I hope it keeps going and I'm sure there is going to get fixed in due time.

Number two is I want...we sympathize with the communities who are feeling disenfranchised and support them.

And, three, the most important message for you today is District one in the Senate and District one in the House are perfect for us.

They truly represent our community of interest.

And we are super happy with the result.

And those new districts that you created are the solution for our community being cracked for the last 20 years.

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So please keep them the way they are.

And the north side maybe we can go out a little bit but please keep number one House and number one Senate as they are because they solve the problem we had before.

Thank you very much.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

That concludes the in person public comment, we are going to move on to the virtual.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Vice Chair?

>> Good morning my name is Virginia Williams and what kind of bothered me is that I had to have someone to inform me about this meeting.

I drove down here; I want you to remember that being selected is no different than being elected.

You are making decisions that will impact people all across Michigan.

It appeared to me watching and paying attention to what has taken place previously that the Black vote were watered down.

That is unfair.

It is it's difficult to celebrate such a great hero in our land, Martin Luther King, and what took place then.

I would ask you to not pay attention to the empty room but pay attention to the broken hearts and disenfranchised people it will affect if these maps are not drawn in fairness. I appreciate the three young individuals that came and spoke, listen to them, they are our generation.

Just because the room is not full as I said, there is a lot of people watching and paying attention.

I would ask that you would move forward and contacting churches and community organizations as you are doing during election time this room would be full, thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

We are going to move on to virtual.

Public comment.

Individuals who signed up and indicated they would like to provide live or remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed.

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 that the host wants you to speak and prompt you to press the star six to unmute.

I will call on you by name or by the last four digits of your phone number.

Also please note if you experience technical or audio issues and we do not hear from you for three to five seconds we will move on to the next person in line.

And then return to you they are done speaking.

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If your audio still does not work you can e-mail redistricting@Michigan.gov and we will help you trouble shoot so you can participate during the next public comment period at a later meeting.

You will have 90 seconds to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line to provide public comment is Nada-excuse me if I say this wrong, Hanaooti.

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

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: They are not here okay next in line is Jenny Prius.

>> Hi, my name is Ginny-Preuss, and I live in Plymouth for access coalition.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication over the past four years, it's inspiring to see a cross Section of citizens working together to support democracy for all in Michigan.

My hope is to work as a group for what you face.

The voting access does voter outreach helping citizens understand voting rights and how they can vote and when there is confusing and delayed information it can discourage people from voting.

This is the case and I'm asking you complete the mapping process in an efficient and timely manner.

To that end I ask you consider maps submitted by the public with analysis and data rather than starting from scratch.

Fix the problems in the Court's ruling for communities to elect the candidates of their choice maintaining and improving the maps against other criteria.

Please do not redraw any districts outside of those included in the Court's ruling.

It's my understanding the districts can be redrawn to meet the requirements of the Court's ruling while leaving the surrounding districts intact and many experts will be submitting maps that fulfill all 7 of the constitutionally required criteria without trading them out for each other.

Thank you for your time.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Sandra.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Okay can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> Thank you good morning Commissioners my name is Sandra Elser, volunteer with Voters Not Politicians and a resident of Michigan since 1976 and volunteer with voters and politicians since 2020.

I was one of the people to get the ballot passed to create the Commission and so proud of you for the work you have done.

I followed your work since the beginning and appreciate everything you have done and are continuing to do to create fair maps for Michigan's voting districts.

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I understand that experts from MSU and Promote the Vote have drafted maps with the 7 districts that need to be revised can be redrawn using all 7 constitutional criteria without affecting other voting districts.

I hope the Commission will make an effort not to change the lines for other districts that way the new maps will be as disruptive to as few voters and representatives as possible.

Thank you for your service to the people of Michigan.

You're making it possible for voters and their communities of interest to choose their representatives based on the fair constitutional criteria.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is James Galant please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> Can you hear me? Yes, thank you very much. James Galant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition, these are my opinions. For the super majority of white people accomplished this racial gerrymandering, let me personally apologize to you for their shenanigans. The manner in which the white Commissioners are performing their duties is not, I repeat is not consistent with the values of white people in the United States of America because are values are contained in the United States' Constitution of 1776 as amended and Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised in 2020.

The biggest problem today is that Secretary Benson and the MICRC were instructed to follow Robert's Rules of Order by Mike Brady before you started in September of 2020, and you did not.

I repeat you did not follow Robert's Rules of Order from the very beginning, until today. On Page 366, Line 8, Robert's Rules says there shall be no debate before a motion with proper support to approve a specific action. Parliamentary common law in the United States allows you only one "Yes" or "No" question at a time. And your statement must be germane to the immediately pending motion.

Yet you still have no motions to approve the new court-ordered maps to replace the previously racially gerrymandered maps.

Also, in closing, the constitutional amendment of prop two of 2018 did not create, I repeat did not create the MICRC as Commissioner Szetela has alleged in writing in the Eid vacate document. It merely redesigned and retooled and renamed the Commission on legislative apportionment to establish, I repeat establish.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is I have Nada back on the list.

Is she here now?

Okay. Next in line is Mona.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Vice Chair Nada is available.

You are unmuted.

Feel free to start.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> So sorry I was my Zoom goes on gauge for my work.

My name is Nada we focus on civil engagement with Americans in the political process.

We recognize Muslim is home to diverse population of Muslims with different needs.

Dearborn is home to one of the largest Arab Muslim populations in the country.

The Dearborn has a population of about a hundred thousand people and at least 54,000 are Arab or Muslim.

According to our M gauge voter data majority of the Muslim population resides in Southeast Michigan and is home to 22000 registered voters and according to our data most reside from a precincts 1-23 on the east side of Dearborn making 17,000 of the voting population.

The east and south of Dearborn share more of faith and share adversity and like most BIPOC communities.

Keeping this intact and do not divide the community and it would be unjust because we need to be sure to have the municipal services to meet their needs.

It will help organizations and access to provide power and agency regardless of their circumstance.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Mona-please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> Good morning Commissioners, thank you so much for your time and the important work you're doing.

I want to talk about District 3 and 15 which represent a large Arab American and Middle Eastern population.

I urge the Commission to keep districts 3 and 15 intact.

They already do a great can job representing the Middle Eastern community.

The Commission did a great job with minority presentation in these districts.

Keeping districts 3 and 15 intact increases the chance at very more house reps and deprives us of the representation we deserve.

So again please don't change districts 3 and 15 and keep Melvindale in District three to conserve this community voting power, thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Dustin Witjes.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> All right good morning everybody.

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So I've kind of been awol but able to review some of the meetings that you had last week.

I want to start off by saying you're doing a fine job making the changes that you're making.

However, you should only be changing the districts that are indeed challenged in the Court order.

The egregious changes that some Commissioners are making go well and far beyond what is required.

And that needs to be stopped by the rest of you.

Second, and my last piece of comment I want to give today is that the almost one Commissioner in particular stated that they knew more about the Dearborn area than Commissioner Eid.

That's laughable at best.

And those kind of comments need to stop.

So the person who would though the most about that particular area would be him.

And I would implore each and every one of you to take his comments about the Dearborn area to heart.

Thank you and I'll be back later this afternoon.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Samara.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Samraa-Dearborn Michigan and thank the Commissioners for their time.

On behalf of the Arab American community of interest keep districts 3 and 15 as they have been originally drafted in 2022 and without changing them.

Both districts provide adequate representation of our COI and give us a chance of having equitable representation in the state.

Changing the boundaries for these districts is unofficially being advocated for by bad actors accomplishes two things and two things only, putting them in a new District and diluting the COI population in excluded area Melvindale and Dearborn Heights.

Essentially what this means is that the proposed changes to these districts would be gerrymandering in and of itself specifically to deny Arab Americans in Dearborn Heights and Melvindale for an equitable chance for presentation and our fastest in the county will be guaranteed a max of one representative where we currently stand a chance of having three.

This is by definition what redistricting at the foundational elements prevent and something our community is not oblivious to and bad faith actors for nominal representation. And I promise it will not go unchallenged in the courts, if needed, because they upheld districts 3 and 15 as legally viable. We are asking you not to touch these districts and the courts only instructed you to change the...

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

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Next in line is Alex McGuire.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> Hi, my name is Alex McGuire I'm connecting remotely from Sterling Heights.

I'd like to thank the Commission for their hard work making sure the voices of all Michiganders are heard.

I'm concerned there has not been enough consideration of the partisan fairness data that the Commission has available and drafting the new lines.

I especially prefer the Commission only redraw those districts the Court overturned. Our state's Constitution states or places partisan fairness above municipal boundaries and compactness and I greatly agree.

But I do truly believe that we can follow the Court's rulings and have partisan fairness. I don't see the two as mutually exclusive.

Again thank you so much for your hard work and for listening to me.

Have a good day.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Sarah, are there any more in person?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Does anyone else wish to provide public comment today?

No more in person.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: That concludes our public comment e-mail comments at redistricting@Michigan.gov or submit comments on the mapping portal off the Commission's website at www.Michigan.gov.

We appreciate everyone who offers public comment in whatever way you choose.

And invite you to keep sharing your thoughts.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Next on the agenda is the mapping process.

By the Commission.

And I believe that I am up because Commissioner Muldoon finished his turn on Thursday.

Does anyone else remember differently?

Okay, okay, for my turn I think I would like to take a look at the maps we have worked on so far.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Chair Orton?

I don't mean to interrupt, but can I just motion for a quick five or ten-minute recess?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Sure, we can take a five-minute break.

We will be back at 11:05.

[Recess until 11:05 a.m.]

It's 11:08.

Can everyone take their seat?

Okay, are the mappers ready to start?

Kent, are you going to share your screen?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, ma'am.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I would like to take a look at the maps we've worked on so far.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So on your screen is by date and then version number.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, I'd like to start with the first one and go through, but we don't need to open the original copies, I guess, because we often made a copy and changed it a little bit.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, that's what I suggest.

This is a copy of the last one, version six.

That is a complete plan and version fives with also done on the evening of 1-18 and that is a partial plan.

Which one do you want to start with?

>> CHAIR ORTON: The complete plan I guess.

From my recollection, we kind of have two maps basically.

One changes just the districts in question.

And a few around and the other one changes a lot of districts.

So I want to see one of each of those.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Madam Chair, this is somebody is going to have to look at it you know and tell me exactly which one it is.

I'll Zoom in to get a better...

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Autobound shut down and lost a connection.

Let me start it back up.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, thanks.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is the origin of the plan is 1-18 version six.

I don't know if this is exactly what y'all wanted.

Or.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I want to look at all of them.

So we will take a look around here.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This plan has the five and six edit.

And then one, two, this shows one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: If it's helpful my records reflect that version six from the 18th was the map that Commissioner Lange was last working on.

>> CHAIR ORTON: That's what I was thinking.

Okay, then can we look at another map?

I think the one that Commissioner Muldoon was working on last was version five.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This plan here, I will copy it and rename it.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Is this the one that had certain districts locked?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: When we copy it, they all become unlocked.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Do we know if the version five, the one that you copied, was that the one that had the districts locked?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: So, sorry, version five was the one, if you can follow me here, there is kind of a trail going back.

So if you recall Commissioner Eid made an off shoot of the locked version that had differences with Harper Woods.

And then Commissioner Kellom made a copy of that one, which I believe the districts were locked where she deleted several districts out.

So that's what this one is.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So on this one five and six have also been changed.

So I'm looking for one where we were not changing very many districts besides the ones that we have to change.

Do we know which one that is?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: There were two versions where I believe the districts were locked.

It would be the one Commissioner Eid created.

Which as I said, reflected changes in the Harper Woods area.

And that would be 1-18-24V4.

You might pull that one up and see if that is the correct one.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Is that what this one is, Kent?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes this is the 1-18V4.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Looks like there are changes in that one as well.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This appears to have at least some of the.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Perhaps I can be of some assistance.

We have a couple different versions right now.

We have this one that makes changes to the seven districts that were struck down by the Court.

Plus districts one, three, four, five, and six.

On the left side there.

This one does have that copy with a different configuration with Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods or Grosse Pointe with St. Clair shores. I believe the one you are looking for currently is 1-18-24 version one.

That map had the districts locked except for districts four, 13 and nine.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes, that is what I would like to see.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, the best I recall, the only edits to this plan is to -- okay the edits here are one, I think there were some was it done in three or is it just one, four, seven, eight, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; is that correct?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes, I believe you said that right.

Okay, so on this one, this is not the one Brittini was working on the other day; is that correct?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That's correct.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Can we -- can we overlay that one that we were working on with this one?

I don't know which version it's called though.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Are referring to the one that Commissioner Kellom drew during the last mapping session?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Okay, that would be version five from the 18th.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So, Kent, let me just explain what I would like to see.

I would like to see that plan we were just on where we interfered with as few districts as possible besides the ones that we have to.

But then I would like to see an overlay of that District that Brittini was working on. Because several Commissioners agreed that that was a good configuration for the Detroit area.

So I'd like to see that overlay on there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So this is the copy of 1-18V5.

Now I'm going to bring in as an overlay the previously mentioned plan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Orton just confirming if you wanted the overlay of the plan Brittini was working on?

>> CHAIR ORTON: With that direction I would like that direction.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Kent, I think you have that flipped then.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We will just look at it so we will know.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So at this point I think we are looking at what was the version five is filled in color.

And then version one from the 18th is the in red lines overlaid.

Where do we want to start?

I mean, what do we want to be editing?

>> CHAIR ORTON: What I would like is to switch that.

So that the map we're looking at is the overlay.

Switch them.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I can do that.

So essentially you want to be editing the -- that version one and not the version five is that where we are at?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

So if you can make a copy of that one.

And then the overlay from the other.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Bear with me.

Madam Chair, I think this is what we want to be looking at, is this what was desired?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

Looks like it.

Okay, let me just look at this a minute.

Okay, I think I would just like to work on this in the meantime.

Because it will take a lot of reconfiguration.

So see what I can do about this, and I will pass the time to the next Commissioner, which is Commissioner Szetela.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Can you guys hear me?

There we go.

Kent you can save and close this map.

Do we have partisan fairness available yet?

Do we have the ability to run the partisan fairness with the 2022 data yet?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes Madam Chair.

We do have, but I don't think we have run it on these machines here.

So it is just about ready to run.

We can run it over our lunch break and double check for you.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Okay so in that case I'll give you a list of three maps

I would like you to run partisan fairness on.

In the meantime, Kent, if you can open up 01-17-24V3.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Are we wanting to make a copy of it then edit it?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Absolutely.

We are not going to focus in the Detroit area.

So you can turn the neighborhoods off.

I want to focus on 18 and 6.

This is the I'm sorry the Jewish community of interest that I changed in another map that I want to reinvent in this map at the request of Robert Dindoffer.

So we're going to look at Southfield and we are going to take the municipality of Oak Park that is immediately to the east of it and add it into 18.

And I'm sorry Kent what version did you save this as?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm sorry, I'm at the point now we will move all of this Oak Park area into 18?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yes, please.
You can do it by the whole municipality if that is easier.
That last little bit of six is royal okay Township if you can just reunite this with seven.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Including this part of seven?
>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah, you're going to so that is actually a separate Township it's royal okay Township, that little chunk next to it.

Yes.

Right there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Into 18?
>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: No, I wanted those to go in 7 so royal okay Township just the two precincts into seven.
Okay now we go to the north and if you can assign that into 18.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So apparently this precinct and that precinct, that area are the same precinct.

So I have to do it by census block.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah, I would just use the blocks unfortunately and put that into 18.

All right if that is good we will go up to the border or the top of 6 and 18 and grab the precincts that are currently in 18 and put them into 6.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that the correct area?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yes please and you can take the entire yellow area going west.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that the desired change?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah can you expand the active matrix because I can see the percentage but not the number and it would be helpful to have that differential.

Thank you.

If we can pull the map up, there we go, so I now want you to go and continue into 18 and pull Bingham farms and those precincts along there into six.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yes so you will start there, go all the way to the west and grab the little divot of Bingham farms that pushes down into Southfield.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Too much?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: That's good and go ahead and grab all that and grab the block or you can just assign, that is fine as well.

So, yes, continue grabbing population because we need to balance these out and so let's go further down and grab that block.

There you go.

And I believe the last time we went across to the east and grabbed the three precincts, no, where, yeah, right there.

So all the way across there and line up with what you have selected.

And I believe that should be the right amount.

That's way too much.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, let me do some edits here.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So back out some of that.

So just grab the eastern most areas first, yeah, there you go.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Including this is part of that precinct or all the Township?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Assign that first and we will see how much is in that next area.

So that's within deviation.

So if you could just save this plan and let me know what the name of the version is I would appreciate it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The name of this plan is 012224 under score V2 under score HD under score COL.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Okay for the purposes of the public record I'm trying to reunite the Jewish community of interest between Southfield and Oak Park and that is the end of my turn.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So next Commissioner is Janice Vallette.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I'm going to pass.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay then it's Erin Wagner's turn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So which, thank you, which map are we working on?

There was one you were working on last week.

And I thought it was version four.

Where it appeared District Four was completely land locked and we had to scoot that population over.

Does anybody remember which version that is?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Is that the one Commissioner Kellom was working on?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I don't know if it was.

I know Cynthia had left it on her turn.

And I don't recall which version it was.

It was in my notes.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Meaning I worked on it or I.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: A you worked on it, Cynthia.

It was the one.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I believe I was working on version four at some point.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That's what I thought it was.

Can you bring that up just so we can take a look at it, please, Kent?

Thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So this is a copy of it.

And then I see districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 are edited.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: And what's the population in District Four?

Just.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District Four is the population is 92,198 which is .64% above ideal.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: This one to me and looking at it all looks good.

So that is not the one I was thinking about.

Honestly Cynthia, unless you have things you wanted to do on your turn that you wanted to incorporate, Commissioner Kellom's this is not the map that I was thinking of.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, thanks.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: I think version five was Commissioner Kellom's changes.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Auto bond is like Heinz-ketchup, anticipation.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It shut down again.

I'm restarting it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I believe it's the one that says p.m.

After V5.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So this plan doesn't have a District one.

But I do believe that District eight is the District that Ms. Kellom was working on.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: And where is the population?

Because right now we are seeing -- thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So District Four is .64% above ideal.

And District five is 14.5% under ideal whereas District eight is 5.9% over.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Does anybody have any good ideas between swinging eight's population into five since five was decreased and I think is that your area up there, Anthony?

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>> COMMISSIONER EID: I'm more downtown.

But there was -- Commissioner Kellom worked on this in the morning.

And then in the afternoon she worked further on this to make the version five p.m. that has that area mostly filled in.

So I don't know.

Are you trying to edit this one?

Or are you trying to edit the p.m. version that had most of this unassigned area filled in?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I would not like to mess with Commissioner Kellom's edits.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I see, I see.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I would like to keep rolling on whatever map we are electing to do.

Or I can pass.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It looks like five needs more population.

And eight has a little bit too much.

Five borders eight.

So if you overlay the neighborhood map, you might be able to add a neighborhood from eight into five.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Well, that's what I was wondering on that top left-hand side of eight.

So which map do we have that is almost ready to go that everyone that everybody has been collaborating on, changing the least amount of districts?

>> Was that renamed to 0122 version one?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm sorry Commissioner, what plan do you want opened at this time?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Erin, we think it's today's date version one.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Let's go ahead and try that one then.

That is the one you started with isn't it, Cynthia?

>> CHAIR ORTON: I believe so.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, it was opened up and created but there is no -- there has not been any editing done to it.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Where would you like to start, Commissioner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That's a good question because it looks like we need to swing population from one into, what is that?

7, 8 and 9?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Essentially, yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So let's -- I can see nine, where is seven and eight real quick, Kent.

Way up there.

So let's start on the east side of one and see what we can do without screwing with the Detroit neighborhoods and communities of interest.

So, Juanita, if you can help out too, that would be awesome.

And you're muted, hun, if you said anything.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm looking at everything and one of the things that is so confusing is there are so many maps.

And we are not putting them in our head which is which.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Well I tell you it's easier to remember names of trees than versions of maps with dates, so I got you there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY:

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We have to swing population from one back into nine and Kent, thank you.

Back into nine and then subsequently up into eight.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You know, I would probably do even Delray.

And that Central I can't even see it, that Central I guess it's Mexican town.

I would probably put it in nine because Delray is really not -- they probably got about ten houses over there.

Maybe a little more, a little less and put it up in to probably nine, if possible.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So you're talking Delray and the Hubbard farm, Mexican town and industrial in one.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes because Delray doesn't really have houses in it. It's been cut up and redid.

And there's all kind of expressways over there now.

And it's really not even a neighborhood hardly.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Right so go ahead and catch Delray in that too, Kent, and see what the population is.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: If you can just move that up because to keep Delray it looks like a lot of space.

But it does not have any really homes in it hardly.

Very, very, very few.

They take not even the markets anti think they had a place where when they can go for help and stuff.

That's gone over there.

And.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Is it going to matter if we put carbon works into that?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It probably would not matter if you take carbon works and Delray and move them up to Hubbard farms and Central southwest if possible.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Because we don't want to land lock Oak wood heights though either and it looks like, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That is carbon works.
I'm not familiar with that name.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I don't know.
This is what southwest of Delray?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Take Delray and move it up to probably Hubbard farms and Mexican town along with carbon works.

I don't think carbon works is -- is there very many houses by carbon works?

I'm not familiar with the name at all.

I'm surprised.

Is it near almost downtown?

Detroit?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Muldoon do you have any comment about that area?

>> MARCUS MULDOON: No.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think you can probably put Delray in Hubbard and west side industrial and even closer to Corktown because they are relatively close. And there's like I said it's not a lot of neighborhoods up in Delray at all.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So, Kent, what about Oak wood heights, Boynton and the ones to the south of carbon works otherwise we will have those an issue, not being contiguous with one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So move Oak wood heights Boynton and River Rouge into nine?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: What kind of population that we have that we are working with, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thank you.
Because that leaves one 13,000.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I know the Boynton and the River Rouge area. They have quite a few contiguous interests there.
And for us they are very close together.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The highlighted area 13,661 people which would make District one pretty close to ideal deviation.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I would say go ahead and move them in there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Kent.

Is anyone aware of any communities of interest we are cutting in to doing this?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't think there's that much of communities of interest.

What's in carbon works?

Anthony, do you know?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I mean I think when we were working on in the other day we were trying to make a District that combined the Down River Areas with the Claytown area and up west of that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: See I'm Down River. I'm in the Boynton area but I'm not familiar with that area.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Right, that's what I'm saying.

I think we were trying to make separate districts for the Down River industrial area and the downtown area.

Because now nine goes Down River, up, through bell isle and then up north, up to gateway.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't think the Down River Area should go that far up.

>> Plus you split parts of southwest Detroit, Mexicantown in two.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well Mexicantown is not far from my home.

How many maps do we have to have?

Because we are just working on so many.

So it looks like we are tearing apart what we have already done.

So is there a number that we should possibly make?

Or are we just continuously making maps?

>> CHAIR ORTON: That's up to us, Juanita.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

Well, maybe if you can just take Delray and move it to west side industrial and Hubbard. And Mexicantown.

Keep all those together instead of having so many little pieces.

Take those out, make them all into either Central southwest or Hubbard.

Hubbard farms then put Corktown, leave it by itself.

>> Was that directed at me?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: If you can take Hubbard, west side industrial and Central and Delray and make them all one.

See what that looks like.

Don't you kind of think, Anthony, they stick together and clustered together any how?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I mean, I think how it was before was better.

And I would say maybe going the other way for the population needed on District nine. Might be a better strategy.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: There is no population in District nine, that's what I'm saying.

It's very few homes in nine.

As far as Delray goes.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: No.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Carbon works where is that?

Is it the end of Delray going towards what, south?

I'm not familiar with that name at all.

I know where it is.

I see it on the map.

But just well, if you keep -- maybe we have not done this keep Delray, carbon works and River Rouge together then.

Because they kind of connect, the Jefferson kind of keeps them contiguous.

So Delray, carbon works and River Rouge can stay together more or less.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, here is nine carbon works, Delray, Mexicantown Hubbard Richard is in nine.

River Rouge is in nine.

Boynton and Oak wood heights are also in nine.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Where was Boynton before nine?

Did we check that, where were we before nine?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Boynton and Oak wood heights were in one.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well we need to be back in one.

That's where I'm at.

I like the way we were.

There is plenty of room in here.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just one moment and I will put them back in one.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: River Rouge and Ecourse want to stay together.

You can take Boynton, Carbon Works.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We have the neighborhoods slightly split up.

We can fix them if that is what you want to do at this point or continue working and then come back and clean them up.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At this point River Rouge is in District one, Ecourse is in District two.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: River Rouge and Ecourse always wants to be together for some reason.

I really don't want to split them up.

But this is not the map that I originally worked on, is it?

This is Erin's work.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: From what I understand, Juanita, and somebody correct me if I'm wrong, Anthony, is this was the one that Cynthia started working on this morning.

Incorporating Brittini's moves for Detroit last week.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well, I like to kind of keep mine the way I did.
The one that I started on.

But I mean.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I would just like to get our population.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Without destroying the COIs.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Right and I know River Rouge and Ecorse want to stay together.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Allen Park are kind of connected in a way.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I think you will have to keep River Rouge and Ecorse together.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yes, they want to be together.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We still are going to have to pull population from one to put it into both what nine and seven at this point it looks like.

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Also District eight.

So you have 7, 8 and 9 are all three light.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Do you want to keep River Rouge and Ecorse in nine, what is between River Rouge and the east side of one?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You can keep Ecorse and River Rouge with nine.

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So that blue line above River Rouge is the Township boundary.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay, yeah that pale line between River Rouge and Melvindale.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put River Rouge into two?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We will be open to the public where they can tell us if they don't like it, they can do this later on or tomorrow let us know if they don't agree. I mean, everybody is not going to be happy unfortunately.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: No, but.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We want to make them as pleasantly happy as we can.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I think River Rouge and Ecorse need to remain together. My question is to the west side of the Township line, does that need to stay with River Rouge?

Or would that make sense coming down as part of one?

Do you see?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let us stay to the west side a bit.
What would that be Boynton?

That area.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Boynton and Oak wood heights.
I remember there was some kind of public comment on Boynton but it was so long ago I don't remember where they go.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I wish you could remember because that is where we are sitting at the Boynton area.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Right.
But I think River Rouge has to definitely go with Ecorse.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Eid?
>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It's so ironic that even Oak wood heights, Melvindale all of them are so contiguously connected as far as distance.

But I imagine in their own ways they have different interests.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Eid has a comment.
>> COMMISSIONER EID: If you're trying to just normalize the population between these districts, I would suggest starting at District eight because you need population in District eight.

And then you can move south into District nine and into District one by kind of just shifting folks on the borders of those districts from one neighborhood, from one District to another.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I think we definitely want to keep River Rouge and Ecorse on this one and we can go ahead and skip over to what was that eight?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Right but on this one, District two is locked.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay, well that stinks.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Where is District two at?

Over there.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Right below you in the green, Juanita.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, I see.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Una related or unrelated note we were supposed to break for Noon and the interpreters count on those breaks.

So Commissioner Orton, could we break for lunch and then pick up after?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

We can do that.

So we will be back from lunch at 1:15.

[Lunch recess until 1:15]

>> CHAIR ORTON: As Chair of the Commission I call this meeting back to order at 1:17.

And we are still on Commissioner Wagner's turn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Can we Zoom back in where we were working at, Kent?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just a minute, I need to get the Zoom meeting. Commissioner Wagner, this is right where we left off.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Anthony, there is a lot of talk leaving Melvindale with Dearborn does that include Dearborn because Dearborn looks like it's three on that one.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Dearborn is three, that is the District they were speaking about.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: All right. Where to next, Ms. Juanita?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, if we put Boynton, Oak wood heights, Carbon Works and Delray together, how many -- what is the population there, Kent?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that too many? Leave River Rouge and Ecorse and take Boynton Carbon Works and heights and Delray if we put those together would it be too overly populated, or would we be around the target?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We can see. Let me see what we have.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We may have to unlock two first, Kent.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At this point I was going to get the numbers to have an idea what it would be.

The highlighted area including Ecorse is 30,351 people.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You said Boynton, Ecorse and what?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Boynton, Ecorse, River Rouge, Oakwood, Carbon Works, Delray. And this is part of this area up here is 30,351.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And we can go as high as 91,000, is that what it is?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay let's take it I'm some more. Let's do Central southwest.

Can you give me more of the screen on the upper.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay now Ecorse is locked because it's part of District two. Do you want me to unlock District two?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Only if Ecorse and River Rouge can stay together.

With what I'm calling out now.

Just to get an average of the population and just to see what it would look like if all of us because we are kind of like walk a couple blocks and are over each one of them.

So, you know.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Why not add River Rouge to two?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Because River Rouge and Ecorse are like cousins. They want to be stuck together and I understand it because they got a lot of contiguous things in common.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So let's try unlocking two and add River Rouge to Ecorse there and put Boynton, Oak wood heights and Carbon Works into nine.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's just take it up because do you know what we are all right in that line.

Line a straight line up so let's see what that looks like.

I don't think it's been done yet.

So maybe we will -- they will shoot it down if they don't like it, they can shoot it down tonight or tomorrow.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So River Rouge and in District two with Ecorse, that makes District two 5.7% high.

In District one is still 6%, 6.7% high.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: So if you add those together, what do we get? What kind of population do we get?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Boynton and Oak wood heights together is 6500 people. Currently it's in District one.

Do you want to put that in District two, or do we want to put Ecorse and River Rouge into District one?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Keep Ecorse and River Rouge whatever District they are in now, what is that, one?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It can be one. Is that the intent?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I can't see where was it at first? Do you remember, Erin?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Ecorse was with two and River Rouge is with one and I remember Ecorse and River Rouge wanted to stay together so if Ecorse let's take River Rouge in with Ecorse.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay I was thinking if we just took Ecorse, River Rouge, Boynton Carbon Works, spring wells, Delray, Oak wood heights if we keep that whole area on the side there, what would the population be?

Because it's like on one whole, you know, they are like a strip like, you know.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Put.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Boynton and put two in one, can we put two in one, Boynton and River Rouge in one I'm sorry along with the one, along with Boynton Oak wood heights, Carbon Works and see how much is the population with that, add in Delray if we need some more.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Runs over and two is over.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What does that look like, Kent?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Part of Lincoln Park is over here so I need to cut that out.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Lincoln Park can be a part of Melvindale and.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At this point District two is down 12.3%.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: So maybe District two, Lincoln Park and Allen Park go into South Gate.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Can you repeat that Allen Park, Lincoln Park then what?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: South Gate can they kind of be hooked up together?

Allen Park.

Lincoln Park.

And South Gate.

And Wyandotte together or is that too much.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: You say put them in 27.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Just put them in two.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay so you want South Gate.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Wyandotte with Lincoln Park and Allen Park.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At that point you're taking Southgate is currently in 25 and it will make 27 that much lower.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We actually have to take population from one to two.

Where is the population from one coming from?

Or is it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I thought we...

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We still had roughly 22000 left over.

Or 12000 left over in one that will have to do somewhere else.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We kind of wanted to keep one Ecorse River Rouge, Boynton and Oak wood heights and Carbon Works, I thought in that little bit of Delray, whatever is left, there are not many houses in Delray.

Can you see what that population comes up to?

And let it be one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay do we want to leave South Gate in 27 or put it in 22?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Which one is the lowest?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The population for South Gate is just 1.27% low.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I would personally leave that alone Juanita.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay let's leave it alone for now.

I will look at that.

I will pull an end to it and didn't know it was my turn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: It's not, I'm sorry I don't know Detroit very well.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I kind of know it very well, I'm just trying to, you know, get us a good equal population and keeping us all kind of keeping them all -- what I'm aiming out, Erin are contiguous, spring wells, River Rouge, Ecorse.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I understand.

I don't know -- would it make more sense to put Boynton and Oak wood heights in with Melvindale and then I'm sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No.

I think Melvindale is an Ecorse and River Rouge thing.

Melvindale and what was that?

Melvindale then Allen Park kind of do their own thing, you know.

They are kind of I keep getting tickets in Melvindale, I don't like Melvindale.

I'm just teasing.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: See if we can stitch one population into two.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Can you add Melvindale to Allen Park in two?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We can do that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

Let's try Melvindale into two.

And then just keep Boynton, Oak wood Ecorse River Rouge and Delray and spring together.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I need to unlock District three at this point.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Where is three at?

I don't even see it.

Oh, I see it, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: With Melvindale in District two, District two is 1.7% high.

And District three needs approximately 11,000 people.

District nine needs approximately 7800.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Erin, do you want to toggle that?

What do you think, Erin?

What should we do?

Take your voice, open your voice up, Erin, your voice.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I was muted sorry so take population from one and put it in three, nine and 12.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: From one.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: From one into three because we have 23,000 over in one.

And 10,000 almost 11,000 shy in three and nine is almost 8,000 shy.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Take spring wells how many is that in spring wells, Kent?

If we take spring wells.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

Spring well is that area is roughly 13,000.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: How much is that helping?

Or it's over?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is Carbon Works so we will have to change that out. It will probably be more like 11,000.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: What do you think, Erin?

Is that pretty good?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: If you back out just a little bit, Kent, Anthony does it make more sense to take an upper portion of one and put it in with Dearborn? Because I see like Dearborn.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No, it doesn't make sense to me.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: If you're going to take Melvindale out of three, then and this is what we have in a couple of the other plans as well, but it makes sense to put the rest of Dearborn into three to makeup for that population difference.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That's what I was thinking.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay that sounds pretty good.

Portions of Melvindale into Dearborn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: If you move that, Kent, that will put us 3,000 over in three I think if I saw it correctly and had them all highlighted before.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, we can do it one at a time.

And you want to put this 4335 into three?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I believe so, yes, if we are excluding Melvindale from Dearborn.

If it makes sense like that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So you need 6500.

How you go about doing that is you need, you know, roughly two or three of these precincts along here.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: And, Anthony, where is the dividing line?

Is there one that is going to be a problem in the area?

Arab American community, where that line is?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, the City is that thick, Black line.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You see it curves and it's like straight.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Right and curves.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That's the line right there.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Is that going to cause a problem if we move that over?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I'd have to see how many people are in there.

But you also have districts eight and nine that have different populations as well.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Right.

So working on swinging it.

So let's go ahead and move those into District three, Kent, because those are out of one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At this point District three is just .86% low.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: And we are way over still on one.

And where is our mass deficit in the next District?

So our mass deficit of people where we are over in one.

We have to move one population into eight and nine.

Anybody else want to take a crack at that?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You know, to get to eight you can go from one to nine to eight or one to four to eight.

Either way.

Juanita, should we call it quits on this round?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: If you're talking about moving.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We have to shift the population from one up through eight and nine.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You know, I think that would be more of Anthony's call, wouldn't it, Anthony?

Because you know more about Dearborn.

I know Dearborn stretches a long ways from south to north.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So that is over in three to the left there.

And we are shifting one and my fear is if we shift like Chadsey and what is it Condon there into one we will create an issue for these on the top border of three.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't think -- I would not shift Chadsey into that. I'm just trying to, you know, Dearborn is kind of large now.

I mean, the population is large.

And they almost can't they hold their own almost, Anthony?

>> COMMISSIONER EID:

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Without getting too many -- getting too much extra help in it?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: One more time, Commissioner Curry.

I did not catch that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: She was -- Erin was saying something about putting Chadsey high school or Chad see I can't even see it.

Where is it at?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That is just north of one in that little, no, to the right, Kent.

Over more towards nine.

Right there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I can't even see nine.

Oh, that is Chadsey-Condon.

I'm not familiar with that area hardly.

That is over near Corktown.

I don't know.

What do you think, Anthony?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I mean, I think that is more so with the Down River communities.

But I mean it's connected to one.

It's connected to four.

If you need the population on one, you can give it a shot.

And go from there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: See Dearborn to me is Down River.

So, you know, it's not too far from Down River.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We want to put this Chadsey and Condon in which District, nine?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm stepping back because I just don't see that yet. So let me step back.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That will still leave us 3,000 shy in nine. So even if we did move that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You will find a place; you will find something. You know, it's hard just moving a few, you know.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Seeing this without the COI overlay on top I don't know what I'm messing with.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That's what I'm saying because if we can see what we had at first.

I'm just going to step back for a moment.

I don't want to confuse it any worse than what it seems like to me.

I'm a little confused on how to do that.

Where is Rebecca?

Rebecca?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Anybody from the Detroit area that would have anything.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So let me try to help you out.
What exactly is the goal here?

Like are you just trying to normalize the population?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We are trying to normalize the population while keeping COIs intact.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Without messing with, you know, the boundary lines and precincts as much as possible.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And I think the only way we can really do it is to keep Dearborn almost exclusive for Dearborn because of the language barrier.

But I'm not even -- some of these places I have not heard of.

They are just newly named or what?

But.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Well, the other concern is since that whole curve there, Anthony, is the City of Dearborn, does that make any kind of sense to include them in one?

Or does that give them more political power in that area?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, if you look at the other drafts that we have, if you take Melvindale out of District three, which so and what y'all have done on this turn is you changed District two and three and you are going to move Melvindale from three and put it into two.

In our other drafts that we have where we also do that, we put all of Dearborn like that part of Dearborn that is now in one and what y'all are doing put that in three and then you put parts of Detroit into four.

And we organize from there.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We did.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I will just point out we do have drafts already that do that.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Just depends if y'all want to do that to this draft or, you know, that's what y'all are doing then you can do it.

But you can also move that is highlighted right now and put it into nine because nine also needs population and you're high on one.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Correct.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Another possible way to do it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Too many possibilities.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Start at eight because eight is low.

Take -- go from eight into nine then nine into one.

And that could also work.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Let's go ahead and try that.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Szetela has her hand up.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah, I was going to say I'm sorry I'm here.

I'm just trying to get my computer set up where I'm at but in general it's my belief that Dearborn has about 110 people in it.

There is no need to split it to make a new District.

I think the more you split it the more you are fracturing that community of interest.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Which we do not want to do.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: I would try to keep Dearborn as whole as possible would be my suggestion and combine it with Dearborn Heights which is another part of that Arab community of interest.

And between those two communities you have pretty close to a full District or two full districts I would say.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I agree with that.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: When you pull out parts of Dearborn and put it in Detroit you are fracturing.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We don't want to do that at all.

Dearborn as whole as possible.

And Detroit as whole as possible.

Geez.

Is that you, Donna speaking?

>> CHAIR ORTON: What did you say Commissioner Curry?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Is that Donna speaking?

>> CHAIR ORTON: No.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, okay, I'm going to step back for a while.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So Commissioner Wagner, I don't see you.

Are you there?

Now, I see you.

But I don't hear you.

It's still your turn.

I'm just wondering at this point we have had a few days of mapping.

We've come up with some maps that are either filled in or mostly filled in.

I wonder if we want to have a conversation about different types of maps that we want to create and put out there just an idea.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I'm good as long as we reunite Dearborn.

I don't think we need to mess with Dearborn at all.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And we also need to kind of keep Detroit as whole as it can possibly get.

So we don't -- they are the ones suing us, so we have to keep Detroit as whole as Dearborn or any other place.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Callaghan?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: I think we have three, maybe four maps at this point that have been completely filled out and are balanced from a population perspective. I would really be interested in taking those maps and critiquing them or evaluating them on getting everyone's input on the Commission as to how closely we have achieved the rest of the criteria.

So we will look at each map and say, okay, none of them will be perfect but on this map where we have done very well with a particular community of interest and where we may have fallen short.

And let's just get a list and a clear understanding for each one of those maps of what the strengths and weaknesses are and perhaps we can see after doing that if we want to pick one and try to improve it further or if we have one we think is good that we can set aside is my suggestion.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Pretty good suggestion.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Szetela?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Sorry, I needed to unmute there.

So I think historically at this point we haven't narrowed it down to one map because remember we still need to have a public hearing, hearing from Detroit and so in the past you just advanced many maps.

But what we haven't done yet is we haven't runny partisan fairness and looking at communities of interest as you suggested is a good idea as well.

But my other big kind of question is how are we handling a VRA analysis at this point? And I'm not really sure we have that process hammered out because it's not the process we followed in the past where it's been done real time.

So that is another point of potential evaluation that I think needs to happen as well.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I agree.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: We've had several questions regarding a partisan fairness, and we have currently scheduled Lisa Hadley coming in tomorrow to go over the updated partisan fairness process with us.

So I would move that we put off any discussion of partisan fairness until after Lisa Hadley has presented that to us and then we will be able to use it with updated information.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay so we have a motion.

Do we have a second?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'll second it.

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>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay we have a motion and a second to put off running partisan fairness numbers until after Lisa presents to us tomorrow morning.

All in favor of that motion raise your hand and say aye.

>> Aye.

>> CHAIR ORTON: All opposed raise your hand and say nay.

>> Nay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay the ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

It is still Erin Wagner's turn.

Szetela your hand is up, is it up again or still up?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: I'm not showing it's up on my end.

Are you seeing it as being up?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Let me try did that take it down?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Now it's down.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Okay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So it's Commissioner Wagner's turn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We are working with three, correct?

The City?

Because we don't want to mess them up.

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Wagner, the highlighted area is in Dearborn and is currently into four.

Do you want to put those in three?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Anthony, what do you suggest at this point?

I know Rebecca just mentioned something.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, yeah, I mean I would suggest putting that in three if you remove Melvindale from three and fixing the rest of it like how it is on a couple of the other drafts.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Let's go ahead and do that then, please.

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At this point District three is approximately 28,000 people high, which is 30% over.

You need to remove 28,000 approximately people.

While District Four, that can't be right.

Just a moment.

I'm sorry, that is correct.

So District one now needs 16,000 while district three needs to give away 28,000.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Which makes no sense.

So and what is that whole block underneath your 2862 is that Melvindale under your cursor.

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>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District three Franklin park is.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I'm sorry, Kent.

Just to the left of spring wells on -- from one that whole part right there, 2862 and 2211. Isn't that Melvindale?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Melvindale is south of there.

This is Melvindale.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Got you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So this is part of Dearborn, yes, it's inside of Dearborn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay and far west Detroit, that too is part of Dearborn?

To the left of Warren Dale so to the left of your cursor.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The neighborhoods that are in Black are Detroit neighborhood, far west Detroit, part of west outer drive, Rouge Park, Warrendale, Warren, Franklin Park are all Detroit neighborhoods.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay, help out, folks.

And 15 is sitting in what population down there too, Kent? I can't see it.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: This part of Dearborn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Anthony, Juanita?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: 15 is part of Dearborn, Erin.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay Dearborn Heights.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Part of Dearborn so I thought we was trying to keep Dearborn altogether.

And then make Melvindale maybe possibly Allen Park or Allen Park, Melvindale, Lincoln Park can all kind of be together.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Szetela's hand is up.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So, Erin are you looking for specifically back on Dearborn? Is that what the question is?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Want to keep all of the Arab American community together.

But we need to totally work the population in for all this other stuff too.

But we also have to respect Detroit neighborhoods.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Erin, portions of Melvindale, portions of Lincoln Park and portions of what is the other one?

They all have some Arabic in it.

There is not a lot, but they have some in it.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I had noticed like on the comments and everything I believe they had said Melvindale and Allen Park were part of their school District if I'm not mistaken, Rebecca, your hand is still up.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: You are correct on that, Erin.

That is the request.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That's correct, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So we want to keep their school districts together.

We don't want to mess with that.

So anybody with good ideas?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: A lot of them Dearborn people go to this Dubik, what is that, Anthony, the new school down there by -- what is the name of it, Anthony?

The new high school they built down there by, near the hill.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Rebecca you have your hand up again.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Again if you are trying to keep Dearborn whole the neighborhoods that are currently highlighted are Detroit neighborhoods, not Dearborn. I would find someplace else to put them.

I don't know where because I'm looking at this little map.

And then I would readjust the border between Dearborn and Dearborn Heights because the way that it is you're just kind of hacking away at the west side of Dearborn Heights and not thinking about piece of neighborhood identities.

And south of Michigan avenue is very different neighborhood wise than north of Michigan avenue so I would keep those parts of Dearborn together and take the southern parts of Michigan avenue and Dearborn and put that in Dearborn Heights and you have to grab a few precincts from Detroit on the northern border as well on the Warren area where you know the COI extends into there.

So in the map 292, the last map and people have commented on it and said that is the right way to draw Dearborn.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Let's go ahead and make sure we draw Dearborn right and draw Detroit right.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Detroit and Dearborn together you will be halfway there.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Do we want to move the highlighted into four, correct, just for now, Rebecca?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: I would, yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Sorry, Kent, we are giving you a workout today.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's fine.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Lift that mouse, lift that mouse.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Three needs approximately 12000.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay we are working our way that way.

You had a lot of reverb too, Kent.

So, Rebecca, and Juanita do you want to kind of do what you were just saying, Rebecca.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So if you take the western edge of Dearborn. Put that back into Dearborn.

You see that remember I talked about that little strip, Kent, along Dearborn Heights at the western edge?

You see the blue line along there, that diagonal line is Michigan avenue so go north of that.

So yes that whole area there.

Put that back into Dearborn.

And you can go all the way over to the blue line because that is the border between Dearborn and Dearborn Heights.

I would not go that far down because you are crossing Michigan avenue.

Okay so put that into Dearborn.

And what is Dearborn at population wise?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 5.4% or 4984 people.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So I would go down, yep, where you are south of there the precincts right along there where it's like looks like 1196, 1197 I would look at those two precincts, further north, right there, yep.

Just next to the 15.

So east of the District number 15.

Where there is that little hook coming off, select those two precincts.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The area highlighted is 7500 people.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: I don't want you to grab the precincts abutting Michigan avenue but grab the ones further south.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: 1196 and 1197 right to the right of what you just highlighted.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yep.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, I'm getting a lot.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: 2171 and 3108.

Up from there.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Up from there.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: For your right from there, please.

I think we are playing hot potato.

You're getting closer.

Yep.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So keep going right, to the right where your mouse is to the right, down, down.

Clear all that.

[Laughter]

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that it?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: No.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: It's just to the bottom of that.

It looks like a dinosaur eating something.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: There is a precinct that is 1196 and another one that is 1197 are the ones we are trying to get you to grab.

Just to the right of that, what you just selected.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That one and the one right next to it.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah put those into 15.

All right so now three is still a little high so grab one more precinct from there and put it into 15.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Do you want 2109 or 1244?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Let me go back to my numbers here.

I would do the 2109.

Okay.

And then 15 is now going to be too low so we need to grab north of Dearborn those precincts that are along Warren.

So they are in the Warrendale neighborhood.

Yes.

Right there.

Grab those.

So those bottom three, yep, and how much population is that?

So.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 8400.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Grab the two to the right of there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: These two?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yep, all right that looks good for both Dearborn and Dearborn Heights.

So I fixed that problem for you, Erin.

I can't help you with the rest, sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thanks, well I'm good for that.

I mean we've got more population to fix.

But somebody else can take a swap at it.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Our next Commissioner to draw is Commissioner Andrade.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I would like to propose that whoever wants to finish this map, I don't want to pass because I'm going to start a whole new map but if someone wants to finish this map, please jump in.

If we can do that.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Sure is there anyone who wants to work on this map?

I don't see anyone.

So we can simply save this map and if somebody wants to pick it up later they can.

But, Kent, can you tell us what it is named?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The plan that was just edited is 012224 under score V1.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: So what I would like to do is have a brand-new map can only the districts that the Court has said we needed to change changed.

Put the other ones locked knowing we might have to change like four and nine and some of the other ones.

But to start out with have them locked.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay so we will I need to bring in what is called the Hickory plan.

So I'm going to bring in the Hickory plan and delete the districts one, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Not nine.

One, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 and 14.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So here we have the districts, the Court found illegal completely erased.

At this point do you want to lock any of these districts?

Or just start with what we have?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I guess to make it nice and neat we will start with one of the Down River Area.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Did I hear you say you will start with one in this area?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: The way this is mapped it's not following convention and given difficulty with that it's a typo so you may want to correct that it should be 012224.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Good catch.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So I just took the Township of River Rouge and made it direct one.

At this point where do we want to go?

Turn on the neighborhood boundaries?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yeah.

Then you can use Boynton, Oak wood heights, Carbon Works Delray, spring wells, Central southwest, all the way up to Corktown I believe.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So right now District one.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes keep going up Delray, Central southwest, I believe that's the rest of Spring Wells.

And Central southwest.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Commissioner?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: That seems like what I was doing it first with Erin a few minutes ago.

The same thing.

But that's good.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yeah, I think it's very similar.

But I was getting myself confused with so many maps.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Keep doing it.

That's the way I was going when I was with Erin.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: At this point do we want to go west side industrial Hubbard Mexicantown, Hubbard farms?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I think I would take Corktown off of there for now.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Kent, nine was supposed to be locked.

But I think it changed.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yeah, and I'm trying that.

I'll get it back.

None of them are locked right now.

Did she say lock them all?

Or.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yeah, I just wanted the ones that were impacted be by the Court decision, so nine is locked and four is locked.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay Commissioner right now one is about halfway. It still needs 48,000.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Okay, if you could add the rest of Central southwest and I think I might have you add Corktown as well.

You can add north Corktown in there as well.

And then Zoom out a little bit.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Include North Corktown?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes, please.

And then add in, yeah, that Martin, that little corner.

And Claytown and Chadsey, Condon.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay Commissioner is Condon next?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's a part of Midwest is in four.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Put core City.

Can you Zoom out a little bit, please?

Yeah, put Midwest in with one.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Is District Four locked?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Unless anybody has a reason not to do it when we go downtown that little curve between nine.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Curry, did you have your hand up and want to say something?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I like, who is that Donna?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Elaine.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I like how Elaine is drawing that.

I probably would have went more to the right too.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I'd like to the Woodward like split the downtown that it hasn't been assigned.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think that is Woodward.

Is that Woodward?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Am I being directed to assign this area here to one?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: That is correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Do we want to include Greektown?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Not seeing the numbers on that without Greektown.

And include the rest of that like the rectangle from Greektown and the pie shape above and down to the river.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would suggest going, if you want to leave that that is okay, but I would also suggest possibly going more northeast into like the Goldberg, Otsego area.

You can also perhaps loop around the parts of District nine that are above it.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: What I was going for is trying to not unlock it at the beginning and then going.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I'm not saying to unlock it.

Keep it locked.

Go around it.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Maybe I can leave it off with not hitting the right population. I was thinking of throwing Woodbridge in number one.

How do you feel about that Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That could work.

You could do, you could honestly unassign the Downtown, Greektown area and do that whole area above District nine like the Woodbridge, cultural center, medical center, Wayne state area.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I guess now you can unlock nine.

We will take number one up through.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: What is that?

Did I hear you say take this area?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes Kent and put it in one?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: We can undo what I just had you do with the Greektown, but, yeah, go up.

Downtown, midtown, that's part of Wayne state but mostly.

That is Wayne state but it's...I'm sorry my arms are not long enough to both point out the map and keep my speaker on.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Did you ask him to unlock nine now?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes, I did ask him to unlock nine.

It had to happen sooner or later I guess.

I was hoping it would be later.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Highlighted area put it into one, correct?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: That's correct.

And then you can put Woodbridge in that.

Take off the downtown, the Greektown area that I made you add in there after you are done.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay the Greektown you do not want in one?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: That's correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: As well as you don't want the downtown in one, correct?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Right.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, Brush Park, do you want that in nine or one at this point?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I'd like that in one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Medical center is currently split.

Half of the medical center is in nine.

Where would you like that?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I would put the medical center in with one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL:

One?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

Then if we can Zoom out a little bit so I can see like the Midwest.

That area over there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that to do?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

I'd like to work on the corners of the Midwest Section.

If.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Excuse me?

Did you say put this into one?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: No, we need to lose some population.

A little bit of that can go into four and I know I told you to keep four up but if we can unlock four now.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay four is unlocked.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Okay starting from the McFarland into go the Midwest neighborhood.

Just a little bit.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put part of Midwest into four?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: More or less?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Just a little bit more.

That little Section, yeah, I think we could still put a few in four.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm going to highlight this area and you tell me if that's what you want.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yep, that's the area.

So if you could Zoom out just a little bit.

I would like to see nine down towards the bottom because we lost some of nine.

So to nine if you could add in Lafayette Park, Elmwood Park.

The rest of what looks like McDougall-Hunt, Kent, Rivertown or not?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Not Rivertown just yet.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area has 12000 people so you will be over 5,000 plus and I got the wrong number.

So just a second.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Can you Zoom out a little bit more?

Okay I'd like to start a new District.

Everything between one, nine and four at the bottom there, I believe that can go into eight.

Then we can keep going up the rest of Boston Edison.

Arden park.

North end.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Nardin Park, Dexter Linwood, remainder of north end, Gateway, Nardin Park.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yeah, those should go in eight.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Dexter Lynn wood is that going no eight or remaining in four?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: If anyone has anything that they.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think they should go together.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: What was that?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think they belong close together.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Are you saying Dexter and Lynn wood should remain with four?

Or they could go in eight?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Where is eight at?

Okay, I see it, it should remain probably in four.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Keep it in four.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Let's see.

They can remain in four.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area remains in four is that what I'm hearing?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Take Highland park and keep going north with eight.

And around to Oakman Boulevard, Russell Woods.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Put Highland Park into eight?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This open Russell Woods, Littlefield all this into eight as well?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

It looks like Highland Park went into four.

That needs Highland Park needs to be eight.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'll get it.

I just -- part of Dexter got moved as well.

Is.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area is south of Russell Woods and north of Nardin park.

Do you want that in four or eight?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Put it in eight.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area right here is part of Nardin park and right now it's split between four and eight.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Okay you can put it in Nardin park.

Is this Section just to the west of Nardin park like the south, is that also Nardin park?

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>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is Nardin, yes, this is Nardin.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: The other side of that Black line, yeah, that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm not sure what this is.

No, this is Oakman Boulevard that wraps all the way around.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: So Oakman should come all the way down to be eight.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: As well as Littlefield and Davidson and Northwest.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes, take eight all the way over to fill in those areas that are unassigned then we can keep going north to Ponta, Dexter, Fenkell and Welcome Village, those should be in eight.

And then we can put University District with Forest, Palmer Woods.

Green acres and garden home together.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All that area and garden homes.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Where do we want to go from here?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Let's do that.

I think if you could put the farms and greenfield park in with eight.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Andrade, it will still be your turn when we take up mapping again but right now it's time we need to move on to finish up our meeting here and then after dinner we will come back.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Okay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, so we have an Executive Director report today.

So without objection I will ask MICRC Executive Director Edward Woods III to provide his report.

Hearing no objection please proceed, Mr. Woods.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Thank you so much Commissioner Orton.

At this time I'm going to bring on Nate Fink our local counsel to talk about our mapping process and procedures.

We sent out a revised process and I'm sure either I or he will share the screen so that you can see those as they are being discussed.

So if it's okay Chairperson, we would like to invite Mr. Fink to present.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Go ahead, Mr. Fink.

>> Nate Fink: They Chairperson and can you all hear me okay?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> Nate Fink: I appreciate you.

I know you are right at the end here of this session, before the break.

But we had presented recommended changes to the Commission's mapping procedures.

The mapping procedures that were and still are in place have been adopted back in 2021.

And obviously the task at hand is different than it was back then to an extent and that you are obviously focused on just the House right now.

And just certain districts in light of the court's decision in the Agee case.

We made suggested revisions last week.

Commissioners asked if we could circulate those, and we made a couple additional revisions over the weekend and those were shared.

I can share my screen right now.

Or Edward, if you would like to share, if you already have it up, that's fine too.

So I can't -- if Edward was speaking, I cannot hear.

Is he going to share his?

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Sure, just give me a second.

>> Nate Fink: That's fine thank you.

If you can share the red line version that I sent yesterday that would probably be the easiest.

And most helpful.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Can you share with me the link for today?

>> Nate Fink: I do have it.

So I can go ahead and share it if that would be easier, Edward.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Please.

>> Nate Fink: No problem.

Okay can you all see it would be the PDF I have opened here?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> Nate Fink: Okay great, so this is as I mentioned this is a red lined version of the mapping process and procedures.

It does not show all of the changes from the 2021 version.

It shows changes from the draft that I sent around last week.

But again the primary purpose of the changes are to remove references to the Commission's consultation with the V RA and RPV consultants through the mapping process, because of the Court's ruling in the Agee case that the Commission should not be considering race during its line drawing process.

We think that it makes sense to just remove those references from the mapping process and procedures.

Through your mapping that you have been and commenced last week and are continuing this week you have been heeding that instruction from the Court, but we think it makes sense to formalize that in a document.

So I'll just scroll down as I go through Page by Page, this is just updating Page numbers.

This is the first Page.

And these are just some terms and definitions from the prior document.

And this Page here, Page three is the same.

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It just lists the constitutional mapping criteria that are directly out of the Constitution and then this Page here we added a provision.

This just lists a description.

This was already here.

This box here with the orange headings was already in the document, it just describes the different number of Senate districts, the ideal District size for each for State Senate and House and Congressional and we are not suggesting any change to that.

We have suggested some additional language that is right here in it is in blue line and I just highlighted it.

But this is basically a summation of the sort of procedural posture of where we are and notes that the Commission adopted maps for the three or State Senate, House and Congressional in 2020.

2021 and then in the recent decision from the Court, the District Court in the Agee case. The Court held that certain State House districts were unconstitutional.

7, 7, 1, 7, 8, 10, 14 and are all laid out here.

We make reference to the Commission appealed the decision to the Supreme Court.

And, unless the Supreme Court enters a stay, the Commission will proceed with redrawing the -- those districts I just mentioned and the Court has instructed the Commission to first address the House District, which I know here, or we note here.

And the Commission will then address the State Senate districts after the Court issues a scheduling order for that procedure.

So this is just a summation of what I just described.

And we think it makes sense to include that in the mapping procedures.

So then I will scroll down here.

This is just the link here to mapping session.

The 2024 mapping sessions, the prior map from 2021 had a chart that had the various states which obviously no longer apply.

Then if you look at Page six, this is the guidance for or suggested guidance for how to prepare for a scheduled mapping session.

And the only new the only revisions here or subjective revisions are in blue but from the red line.

And we suggest that the Commission include this provision which said to review the constitutional ranked criteria for redistricting we added the provision which says although compliance with the V RA and other Federal laws is mandated as part of the first constitutional range criterion Commissioners shall not consider as a factor in any of their mapping decisions after draft plans have been prepared and prior to any vote on approval of such plans, the Commission's retained experts and VRA counsel will analyze the draft plans for compliance with the V RA.

Now, that's already what the Commission has already voted to follow that procedure.

Before the Commission started its, this current round of mapping.

The Commission voted on that and decided to do that.

This will just implement that and incorporate that into the mapping procedure.

This is just fixing a typo in this Section Two.

And then in the mapping session procedure, we have included an additional provision here recommended provision in this note under the announce mapping area Section. Currently reads that regional lines serve as guidelines for initial mapping sessions and the Commission is not required to match strictly within regional lines and may extend across regional lines.

We added this provision which came from the Court's order which says however the District Court in the Agee matter ordered the Commission to then we are quoting from the Court's order submit to the Court and make available on its own website newly drawn District plans for Michigan House District one, 7, 8, 10, 11s12 and 14 and for any other districts as reasonably necessary to cure the unconstitutional racial gerrymander no later than February 22, 2024.

I added bold into the as reasonably necessary language.

And then I see Commissioner Szetela, I see her hand is up.

I'm almost done with my presentation, or I can answer a question if you have it now go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Either is fine whichever you prefer.

>> Nate Fink: I will finish this off.

Kind of repeating what is above so I will relate to what your question is.

So this language here under 2A, this is noting the fact that all of the districts and it's really sort of a clarifying point because the previous language noted or acknowledged densely populated areas versus less densely populated areas various barriers and the like.

But you are focused on a specific region pursuant to the Court's order we included or suggested language that says that the District at issue in the redrawing process are within the Southeast Michigan region therefore all drawings should begin and proceed within that area.

Then finally the recommended we have a recommended change similar to the one above in the sort of preparation Section of the VRA, which is under I guess Roman numeral 21A ranked criteria and adjusting lines from the Constitution and recommend including this language that said as noted above although compliance with the V RA and other Federal laws mandated as part of the constitutional ranked criteria Commissioners shall not consideration as a factor in any of their mapping decisions then it continues on which is the same language from above.

And then the remainder of the document we don't have any additional red lines.

So this is all language that was in the original document that had been adopted back in 2021.

Okay, all right, go ahead, Commissioner Szetela.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah I'm just concerned in that very first vague paragraph you added under the chart where you describe Agee and the procedure there.

There is a sentence that says that should the Court not grant a stay then the Commission is going to redraw maps, but we are currently drawing maps.

So I just would like that corrected to reflect that we are currently redrawing maps, or you know something to that effect.

Because it's not accurate the way it's described we are not waiting to hear then draw, we are drawing right now.

>> Nate Fink: I see what you mean.

I don't know I know you're not on screen can you see the document right here that -- I don't know if you are able to see what we are looking at, but I can read it to you.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Hold it up on my e-mail but hold on.

>> Nate Fink: I think I know which sentence it is and know the paragraph you're talking about currently reads unless the Supreme Court enters a stay, the Commission will proceed with redrawing the above referenced districts.

And so I think what you're suggesting is to clarify and I can tweak it to make it clear you are mapping, and you will continue mapping until you know unless and until the Court enters a stay, something like that.

Just to make it clear you are already mapping.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Exactly that is exactly what I'm referencing thank you.

>> Nate Fink: I will tighten up that language and send around a proposed -- ideally I would recommend that the Commission take this up right now with the caveat that we will change that to reflect what Commissioner Szetela just recommended.

Just that sentence.

And with that I'm happy to answer any additional questions, otherwise I will stop sharing and.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Are there any other questions for Mr. Fink?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I move we adopt these rules of procedure with the caveat to clarify what Commission Szetela was speaking about.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I'll second.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay we have a motion and a second.

Any decision.

>> Nate Fink: Sorry to jump in Commissioner Lange's hand is up.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I was just going to say.

>> Nate Fink: I don't know what you see from within the room.

I'm looking at the Hollywood squares here so I could see it pretty clearly.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Lange?

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>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I'm just going to say I'm not going to vote yes on anything.

If there is going to be changes in the writing I want to see the changes before I vote.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Any other?

Okay seeing none, we will take a vote.

All in favor of adopting this document with the changes as noted raise your hand and say aye.

>> Aye.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Any opposed raise your hand and say nay.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: No nay.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: No, nay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: The ayes have it and the document is adopted.

Mr. Woods, do you have anything else for your report?

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: No Chairperson.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, then are there any announcements from any Commissioners before we adjourn for the dinner recess?

Okay then we will adjourn.

If I can have a motion to that effect?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So moved.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Seconded.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Moved and seconded, all in favor or is there any discussion?

No discussion.

Okay, all in favor of adjourning the meeting until 6:00 p.m. this evening raise your hand and say aye.

>> Aye.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Any opposed raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes have it and we will be adjourned until 6:00 p.m.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Good evening. The Michigan Independent Citizens appreciates to be live in Detroit and look forward to hearing from you.

As Chair of the Commission I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 6:00 p.m.

This Zoom webinar is live streamed on YouTube on the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission YouTube channel. For anyone in the public watching who would prefer to watch via a different platform than they are currently using, please visit our social media at redistricting MI.

Our live stream today includes closed captioning. Closed captioning, ASL interpretation and Spanish, Arabic and Bengali translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. E-mail us for Redistricting@michigan.gov for additional viewing options or details on accessing language translation services for this

meeting.

People with disabilities needing other specific accommodations should also contact us at Reidistricting@michigan.gov.

This meeting is being recorded and will be available at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC for viewing at a later date.

This meeting is also being transcribed and those closed captions transcripts will be made available and posted on the Michigan.gov/MICRC website along with written public comment submissions.

There is a public comment portal that can be accessed visiting Michigan.gov/MICRC.

Members of the media who may have questions before, during or after the meeting should direct those questions to Edward Woods, III, Executive Director for the Commission, at Woods E3@Michigan.gov or 517-331-6309.

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Good evening Commissioners, please say present when I call your name.

If you are attending remotely disclose during roll where you are attempting remotely from.

I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order starting with Elaine Andrade?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Donna Callaghan?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry?

Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Marcus Muldoon?

>> MARCUS MULDOON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Present; attending remotely from Wayne County; Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

Present; attending remotely from Eaton, Michigan

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Ten Commissioners are present and there is a quorum.

>> CHAIR ORTON: You can view the agenda at redistricting.gov MICRC and now I have a motion to approve the agenda.

It's been moved and seconded.

Is there any discussion or debate on the motion?

Seeing none, all in favor adopting the agenda raise your hand and say aye.

>> Aye.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Any opposed raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail.

And the agenda is adopted.

Commissioner Vallette will facilitate the public comment portion of today's agenda. After Director Woods reads our public comment guidelines.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Thank you, Commissioner Orton.

Once again, we are excited to be in Detroit for our public meetings this week, once again our public meetings to hear directly from Metro Detroit residents impacted by the 7 districts being reconfigured that the Commission is currently doing.

We want to remind everyone you can direct the Commission as a whole and no individual personal attacks on any Commissioner.

And that no one is called out by name or insinuated in any shape, way or form.

You have up to 90 seconds to provide your public comments.

If for any chance that you're comments become rude disrespectful or attacking the Chair can rule you out of order.

And you could possibly be cutoff from finishing your remarks, asked to leave or given a moment to gather yourself together and conclude your public remarks.

Once again we are happy to have each and every one of you here.

I want to encourage your friends, neighbor and in the 7 reconfigured districts in the Michigan House of Representatives or anyone in general that is a Michigan citizen that we do welcome their public comments and input as a part of this process.

Thank you for coming whether you are in person or virtual and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you.

Orton

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: We will begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of our meeting. Hearing no objections we will now proceed with public comment.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would Provide public

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commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your number. You will have 90 seconds to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when your 90 seconds have ended, and you hear the timer.

Please go to the public comment tool and share your comments in writing including any specific area of map with which you are speaking. The public comment tool is at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC and there is a public comment station here tonight for volunteers to assist you to access the website if you would like assistance. If you have a time constraint or don't wish to wait please use the public comment portal. First in line to provide public comment is number one.

Number one, you are now invited to address the Commission. Your allotted 90 seconds have ended, please conclude -- oh, I'm...

>> Good evening and thank you all for coming back to Detroit. It's great to see the Commission here. So I'd like to make comments about the area of Detroit that I'm from as a lifelong resident of the Palmer Park area and specifically I'd like to talk about how the Commission has been handling some of the C O Is around that area that sort of straddle or cross the 8-mile border. In the past the Commission bluntly did not get it right with crossing 8 mile. A lot of the districts were not following communities of interest. I'd like to stress that does not mean you should abandon the idea of reconnecting these communities of interest that have been historically segregated by eight mile. There are places you probably want to keep things on one side or the other but should not pack of Detroit in districts south of eight mile you should be smartly and intelligently including communities that cross the border and I would like to speak about two and I have a short write up I will hand to you all that shows where some of the communities are.

But firstly for the Palmer Park area there is a LBGQT community of interest that crosses that border up into Ferndale.

The community of interest there is more than just that.

People who live in Palmer Park or Palmer Woods spend time in Ferndale. People on the other thing will go Livernois a real community of interest.

Royal Oak Township is a different municipality from Royal Oak and belongs with Oak Park and adjacent part of Detroit.

That means you should draw Oak Park down into Detroit and not up.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is number two.

>> Hi, Aaron from Clinton Township Michigan. In following and watching the Commission do its drawing of maps and everything, I think transparency should be held in the highest regard and when trying to look up the work

that was done last week I was not able to find it on the website and would like to be able to find you know, what work has been done so far.

And that would help greatly in trying to see if the Commission is actually doing partisan fairness and making sure that is also something that is being done.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide live or remote public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed.

I will call your name and our staff will unmute you.

If you are on computer you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak.

If you are on the phone a voice will say that the host wants you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute.

I will call you by your name.

Or the last four digits of your phone number.

Also please note that if you experience technical or audio issues and we do not hear from you for three to five seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and return to you after they are done speaking.

If your audio still does not work e-mail redistricting@Michigan.gov and we will help you trouble shoot so that you can participate during the next public comment period at a later meeting. You have 90 seconds to address the Commission.

Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

First in line to provide public comment is Nada-L.

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

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Second in line is Persy Johnson.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

>> Hello.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Hello

>> Yes, can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, we can.

>> Great, thank you for taking time out to hear me but I'm speaking on behalf of District Senate District existing maps House eight and no state eight and District House existing map five.

And my concern which I have always been concerned about is giving representation for individuals that live south of eight mile.

There is a distinct difference between the concerns of the City and residents that live south of eight mile, have a little more concerns than individuals that live on the north side of eight mile.

So there is definitely should be a map drawn that's going to give the power of the individuals who live and south of eight mile a vote, a good strong voice vote and not

weaken their vote where you got people on the other side of eight mile voting more with their concerns with the people that live south of eight mile.

And the maps should also be drawn up to represent the community diversity of the community.

They need representation that represent them so they can speak for them and, you know, it's just ought to be a concern, all right?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is James Galant.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

Mr. Gallant you are now unmuted and invited to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> All right. Thank you very much, James Galant, Marquette County Suicide

Prevention Coalition, these are my opinions.

And just had a couple things to talk to you about would be your mapping policy decision. You know, we have the issue about Robert's Rules of Order that we believe is required under the Constitution because Mike Brady instructed you to follow Robert's Rules of Order.

And now the document you approved is considered null and void on its face based on Robert's Rules of Order, Page 366, Line 8, there shall be no debate before a motion to approve a specific action, not unspecified future language, and that motion was out of order.

And also Mr. Fink's recommendations for the mapping policy document didn't include the requirement on Page 366, Line 8 for you to start the debate in the beginning, even to start mapping.

And also -- that's also in your Vice Chair policy that says the Vice Chair can be directed to facilitate the discussion that's before the Commission.

And it does not get before the Commission until there is a motion with proper support. And then it becomes -- and that is in your withdrawing a motion policy, says after a motion has been seconded, which begins debate, begins discussion, so you are already acknowledging you have to do it but are not doing it in practice, Madam Chair. And it's completely out of order. A point of order would be in order for any member like Member Lange or anybody talking about the rules. Please request a point of order and let it be explained to you.

[Alarm rings]

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Dustin Witjes.

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

Sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Please wait for staff to unmute you.

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

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Next in line is Ryan Reece.

Please allow a moment for our staff to unmute you.

Mr. Reece you are now unmuted and invited to address the Commission.

>> Permission can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> Wonderful.

Thank you very much for your continued service in this difficult time.

I thank you for the time to speak. I'm from House District 14 and I've been serving here congressionally for many years.

I've had the opportunity to see the difficulties that disenfranchisement of minorities in the area have caused.

And I think it is very important that we continue in the work to improve them.

At the same time just as important as maintaining the constitutional rules regarding watching for partisan fairness.

It is very important that we be mindful of all things as stated within the state Constitution.

And I would ask and direct on the behalf of my District that you continue to do so.

Once again thank you very much for your time.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is Abeed.

Please take a moment for our staff to unmute you.

You are now unmuted and invited to address the Commission.

>> Hello, can you hear me?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, we can.

>> Yes thank you my name is Abed I'm a District of or a resident of District three.

And I just want to make a quick comment about District three and the push for map 292 and I appreciate the effort all of you are doing.

It's my opinion that the map maintains the integrity of the Arab American community as a common community, common interests.

And maintains a solid voting block and representation for the Arab community.

I know there was a lot of conversation over the past few days about fracturing Dearborn and Melvindale as well.

I think the right choice is made on some of the maps including 292 and having Melvindale more in line with Allen Park and the Down River communities typically around the school District and the courts and the police departments, you know, sharing resources with Allen Park and the current makeup of 292 does allow you know for appropriations to be directed the right way, for issues to be addressed the right way and for the representatives to really be able to address the needs of the communities and

you know, urge you and to adopt the layout of District three that is currently you know the one modeled 292.

And again thank you.

We know this is not an easy job.

You all are doing wonderful, so we do appreciate that.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Next in line is 2902.

Please wait a moment for our staff to unmute you.

You are now unmuted and invited to address the Commission.

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

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you.

Next in line is Adell.

Please wait a moment for our staff to unmute you.

You are now unmuted and invited to address the Commission.

>> Hi good evening can you hear me well?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you my name is Adel-Mozip. I'm a school board member in Dearborn.

Here speaking on my personal capacity also in support of map 292.

The proposed map, I believe that District three needs to be -- needs to stay intact.

Melvindale should not leave Dearborn since they share a common interest that was researched when we had the first round of the Commission.

So I truly appreciate the Commission's work in getting District three where it is today.

And I do understand that you have a difficult job of balancing now the redrawing of the seven districts, which District three is not really effected by those seven districts but right now with the current work we see that Melvindale is going to be left out of Dearborn.

So we hope that you adopt again 298.

I'm sorry.

The map that I'm speaking to.

And in support of.

I truly appreciate your work once again.

And I thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

Sarah, do we have anybody else?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yes we have one more public comment in person and that is number three.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay, sir would you come up to the microphone? Hello. My name is Norman Clement. I'm a resident of Detroit, again guys thank you again for doing this year coming to Detroit.

My concerns are that we done this process many times before.

I know the Court has-enacted a stay for the representation.

But, you know, I live in district 14.

We have a representative that looks like me.

I was happy with that District.

I'm also concerned that how will this or how can we make this fair without impacting other lines of those other districts here?

That's my other concern.

But my other concern is are we going to make the lines fair and accurate for all representation especially Black representation in the City of Detroit and making it not gerrymandered and make it friendly.

I know you guys are going to do the best job you can.

I'm also concerned do not a fast job but a diligent job so representation can be fair and folks to their liking.

That's all I have right now.

I'm going to sit back and watch and if I have any questions I will come back up.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you for addressing the Commission.

That concludes our public comment.

Please feel free to e-mail public comments to the Commission at redistricting@Michigan.gov or submit public comments on the mapping portal of the Commission's website at www.Michigan.gov.

We appreciate everyone who offers public comment in whatever way you choose and invite you to keep sharing your thoughts.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Next on the agenda is the mapping process by the Commission.

Without objection, we will go back to Elaine Andrade.

Hearing no objection, proceed, Commissioner Andrade.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Thank you.

Can we bring up the 012224 version three, please?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is right where we left off.

I guess everybody can see it.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Okay, thank you.

Can you Zoom out a little, so we get all of the what used to be a seven?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: How far out do you want to go?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I think at this time I will pass it on to the next Commissioner.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, then that is Commissioner Donna Callaghan.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Okay, I think at this point I'd like to try something a little bit different than what we have been doing today.

I'd really like to go -- I think we got several maps that are completely filled out.

I don't know if them are perfect, the strong map or one we want to submit but I'd really like to see if we can get everyone to collaborate on an assessment of the maps that we have filled out completely today.

And identify what we think the strengths are and what the weaknesses are.

Based on the criteria that we are supposed to be using to draw these maps.

So I only want to look at maps right now that we have completely filled out and that have the correct -- the first two criteria met in full where the population is balanced, and the districts are contiguous.

And then do perhaps an assessment of the next criteria which is around communities of interest and just see the relative strengths and weaknesses of each of these maps meeting that criteria.

I think we decided not to look at partisan fairness just yet.

There's another piece of work that will be done on a different day.

But for now let's take a look at communities of interest and then if we need to at townships and boundaries and see if there is any map that seems particularly strong that we can agree on or at least get some good comments on or identify areas where we are really falling down and we need to make some changes how we are approaching the mapping.

So if you can go back to I want to look at one of the maps we did the least number of changes on first.

And I think that map is 011824 version one.

That's a map where we changed the seven mandated districts.

And we also altered districts four, nine and 13.

And so I'm going to ask everyone to give their input on how you think we did in terms of hitting the mark for the communities of interest that you know of from your personal knowledge or that you know of from the public comments and input that we received today.

Is there anyone who would like to take a first stab at maybe going through each of the districts here in this map and saying what they think is the strong point and what they see as a failing or a weak point?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Can we see the population on that map?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Looks like we have some work to do on the population on this one.

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

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: I thought we finished with districts four, nine and 13 changed?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I think that may have been 011724 version one.

And.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I opened up 18, 011824.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Yeah, we have 011824 version four also.

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That was with Harper Woods and St. Clair shores and Grosse Pointe changed.
Along with a few other changes from the previous day.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Do you want me to close this plan and open a different one?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Yes with the population that we will do.

Do you know which one it had with only those three?

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I thought it was 0117 version one.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Advocate for a new naming convention but we can talk about that at another time.

I -- we spent an inordinate amount of time trying to figure out which one of these weirdly numbered maps is which one and the numbers change from one day to the next.

For the public maps we publish that were out for public comment we actually adopted a convention of naming the maps after trees.

We have the Oak plan, the Hickory and Elm plan and I think everybody can kind of keep up with that.

I think it would be useful to do that here as well.

To have some tag that followed the map through the date and version changes.

Maybe we name them after flowers.

Or animals.

But we could have a Rose map, a Daisy map or whatever and wouldn't have so much confusion over which map is which.

So that would be a suggestion for me.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: That is the only one that I see that only changes the seven districts that we have to change plus the three that you mentioned.

But I thought we had fixed the population so I'm thinking maybe it did not get saved somehow.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I thought we had one where the population was good as well.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It was that one, that is the last one we worked on with that type of configuration.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Given we don't have that one I guess we will skip over that unless you think you can find it, Kim or whoever is running the mouse over there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Well, I can only go to I mean what we have.

We can download the shape files off the community link.

My Districting link.

These are the maps as far as I know that, you know.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Look at every one of them, can you do that pop them open and we can take a look at it?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, ma'am.

This one is complete.

This has five and six.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: That one definitely is not it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is not it is that what you are saying that I heard?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Yeah, that is not it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This V one is not it, is that where we are?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: We already looked at that one, right?

Oh, look at a different map from that day.

11824V2 is there a map?

Oh.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We just looked at two.

This is three.

Now this is 118 version three, but this shows significant changes in five, six, 7, 18.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: What does the population look like on this one?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think the population deviation is good on this one.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Does anyone claim this map as the one they directed?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I believe 18, this is where six and eight Commissioner

Szetela maybe.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Which one is this, version three?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Yes it's version three.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: This is one of the maps I directed.

This is 18 version 3, yeah.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: So that is perfect.

We can start with this one.

Commissioner Szetela, can you indicate which District specifically are changed in this map?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah, can you kind of move that over a little bit, Kent?

The matrix.

It's just hard to see.

Thank you, that's better.

So this is pretty much everything in the Detroit area.

Starting out from Grosse Pointe so ten, 12, 11, 9, 8, 1, those are all the ones that we drew in the morning.

As part of our morning drawing that day.

I'm pretty sure we also did 14 and 5 as part of that morning drawing.

And then 3, 15, 16, 17, I can't remember if I mentioned 4, 4, 19, 6 and 7 are all changed as well.

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And I believe was remodeled as well and basically capturing all of the districts that were ruled unconstitutional as well as all of those other districts where we had used the same methodology to draw them and therefore they have the same flaws.

And then in terms of preserving communities of interest I think we did a really nice job on this one preserving communities of interest and start at Southfield and Oak Park and 14 preserves the segments of the Bengali of interest not able to fit in nine.

East points in District 12 is put back with Detroit which is something that was highlighted in the Court's decision as the previous configuration not being appropriate.

For District ten we have all five Grosse Pointe communities together along with Harper Woods and a portion of St. Clair shores and preserving that lakeshore interest.

In district 11 we have morning side, East English Village configuration morning I'm sorry community of interest placed together again.

In District nine we have the Bengali community of interest of Hamtramck and those surrounding precincts kept together as we were requested to do so.

Same thing with District one.

We have the Latino community of interest which has been kept together for the most part.

District three, this is actually the configuration that the public commenters were talking about 292 configuration that they were mentioning is the best configuration for Dearborn and heights where you have most of Dearborn intact with the portion of Dearborn that can't fit into a House District put in Dearborn Heights along with a few remaining neighborhoods that are in Detroit that are -- have a high percentage of the Arab American COI in them.

District Four I don't think we have any community of interest there specifically that we were targeting but for 16 I would need to see the neighborhood map, but I believe that is where we put morning side, sorry not that Grandmont, Rosedale and Minock Park, I believe that community of interest is put together there.

And actually in eight we also have the Delray neighborhood which is kept together there as well.

So yep there they are. Right there is the Rosedale Park.

And then you can see Dexter, Lynn wood is put together in eight.

So there was a lot of attempt to keep those communities of interest together in this map.

Can you scroll out a little bit?

And then again this fixes those districts that we had previously stretched out and reached into the suburbs on.

And instead of now having portions of Birmingham reaching down into Detroit and portions of like Royal Oak reaching into Detroit we have more compact districts on this one.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: So a couple of comments from me just based on comments that I have heard.

You get conflicting comments, of course.

Some people say do this and the next person gives a public comment says exactly the opposite.

But I will note here there is a pretty strong eight-mile division with very little crossover except for ten and 14.

Also, District eight, when Commissioner -- when Brittini was drawing that District she worked very hard to pull in quite a few more of those neighborhoods into District eight that are currently residing in District five.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So I mean that is an adjustment we could make and make an alternative map.

You could slide four over into the bottom of eight, slide eight over a little more and bring five down.

I think as long as you preserve the community of interest that would be fine and make a good alternative map and that was actually something Commissioner Lange and I were kicking around, working on.

So that would be one thing.

I think that the big risk with kind of crossing that eight-mile boundary is I think it's fine if there was a community of interest such as the Bengali community in 14 or what we did in 12 or again with 10.

I think that makes sense when you have a distinct community of interest you are trying to keep together.

But I think if you are just reaching out without some kind of justification behind it, I think it kind of looks suspect at this point given the Court's ruling.

And I do think some of the public commenters today, their concern is partisan fairness. And a concern that if we do bring Detroit mostly within Detroit then it's going to impact partisan fairness.

I have already run partisan fairness on these on my own software and I don't think it's going to be an issue at all.

Every single map we have drawn is performing the same of the Hickory map we previously adopted so I don't -- I understand people have partisan fairness concerns and until we give numbers to the public they are there, but we are okay with partisan fairness especially with this configuration on District ten.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: We are not ready to address partisan fairness yet.

You may have some software but the rest of us don't.

I don't know what to say about that and looking at community of interest does anyone else have any comments on this map in terms of strengths or weaknesses or whether the changes were more extensive than they should have been to accomplish the goal the courts gave us.

I'm sure there is a balance there but is there any comments from anybody on that or no?

>> CHAIR ORTON: I have a comment.

I like how some of these districts are configured.

And I think we did a good job of keeping communities of interest that I know of together. And in most of the areas.

But I feel like the changes are too widespread.

Too far beyond what the Court order said.

Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I think the districts on this particular map represent the Constitution actually quite well when you look at compactness, it brought areas into a more compact, not stretched out.

We took a serious look at communities of interest in it.

The population wise were in the good, you know, the green zone there.

So I think over all it's a good map.

Especially from the community of interest standpoint.

There's been a lot of drawing going on where you're talking about neighborhoods and stuff that this is actually community of interest that people have given us, that the public has spoken to.

So I like it.

>> CHAIR ORTON:

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Juanita, do you have comments based on your knowledge of downtown Detroit or the Detroit neighborhoods?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Based on my knowledge, it's pretty well, some of everything mixed in downtown Detroit.

I'm hearing a lot of the Bangladesh and the Arab neighborhood and this neighborhood. Where is it that the Black neighborhoods are really located on this map?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Well, we are not using race at this point so we can't really point that out.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Well, I think they are the ones that is suing us, so I don't know what you're going to do with it.

I know we can't use Black, we can't use race, but I just asked where are they located. That's all, you know, like.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Are there communities that you know with strong ties due to a school or a park or a church or the way the streets are laid out or the way people have been together that we need to think about that's not being addressed?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We already spoken I think we already worked on keeping Ecorse and River Rouge together.

Melvindale, Lincoln Park and Allen Park more or less together.

So I think Brittini worked on going closer to eight mile.

And.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Brittini had the eighth District quite a bit different.

Particularly northern five in the eight District that she drew if I remember right.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We can start on another map if you guys want to. But I'm just concerned about, you know, I'm concerned about Detroit. Because that's where we are having a lot of problems with when it comes to mapping. And we can't talk about the race issue. But it's there.

And so you got -- we got to fix it some kind of way without speaking it.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Szetela then Commissioner Wagner.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah I was just going to add I feel like there are four good, complete maps that touch districts outside of the specific districts' names in the Court's order.

This is one of them.

I personally think it's the best because it is kind of the final as we were making changes and saving the alternative maps I think this is the furthest along in development.

I personally and I'm going to express this multiple times this the next week I think what we need to be actually presenting to the Court is two versions.

One version that touches other District, another version that doesn't.

So that the magistrate and ultimately the Court can decide what exactly they mean by the order because there is obviously differing opinions right now.

And I think that's the best approach.

I think in terms of you know, advancing one that touches other districts I think this is a great choice.

But I don't know that there's another complete, fully vaped map that doesn't touch the districts yet and I think that is what we need to focus on at this point because I don't know there is anything out there that is complete with the proper deviation.

This map has everything at this point, it's got the deviation, it's been run for any kind of discontinuity errors, anything like that.

I feel this is a great choice to present to the public and see what they think about it.

I think there is still room to go.

On working on those other maps that try to not touch those surrounding districts.

So that just kind of my thoughts on that.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I agree with you.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Thank you Commissioner Szetela.

Is there another map?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Wagner still has her hand up.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I was wondering why we are critiquing maps when we are supposed to be map drawing.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Because I'm getting confused what maps we have out there that are complete, and which maps we have out there that are making the same mistakes.

I hope it would be a quick look at the maps.

We have that are filled out and could get a consensus on the ones we think are closest and like best and make sure moving in that direction and not just propagating map after map after map, we have 12 maps out there and there is nobody knows where the holes are or what we need to be concentrating attention on.

It's my approach.

It's my turn so I thought I would do it that way.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: In my opinion this map changes too much.

And I don't think it does a good job of supporting the middle eastern community of interest.

But that as side, you know, it's an option.

We can talk about it later.

There are other options too.

Last week we had two copies of the same map.

They only differed in their adjustment of Grosse Pointe being with Grosse Pointe Woods or with Harper I mean sorry Grosse Pointe being with Harper Woods or with St. Clair shores.

And that is also a completed map.

And it changes some districts, but it doesn't go as far as this plan.

Those are 011824V4 and the other version is 011724V1.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Can we have one of those maps opened up, please?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Before we save this one, could we consider what Commissioner Callaghan suggested of maybe we can keep the naming convention but put another word behind it or something, so we remember which one this is.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioners, Commissioner Callaghan raised the suggestion of adding flower names to the different versions with me last week.

And to help me keep track it's something I've actually been doing in my personal log. So I'm happy to lend those flower names if it's helpful.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: I think that would be helpful to me.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Unless someone has an objection, Commissioner Szetela?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Like I said previously when we moved maps into the next phase that was when we gave them names.

And during this phase we kind of kept the numbers and just kept track of them, which of course I would encourage everybody to do.

So I just think at this point we shouldn't be using flower names because otherwise we are going to have go back to the 17th and rename plans to add in flower names.

Because we have maps going back to the 17th that are complete maps and so I just think it's going to, number one, create a lot of administrative work particularly knowing Autobound edge the way I do, I'm very familiar with it at this point.

It can be a bit finicky and when you go in and try to rename 20 plans you're going to be having it lock up and crash on you and causing all kinds of issues so I would just suggest we keep things the way they are.

Hopefully we can be moving some maps forward by the end of the week then we can start giving them names at that point.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Mr. Stigall?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'd like to remind anyone plans done prior to today have been posted on the public website with the names you see here.

So when we start to take that into consideration.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: We have public complaints and people can't see the maps and people are out there looking for them to see what we did today or yesterday and unless they are sitting watching the mediating they have no idea yesterday's date version one and today's date version four and I imagine it's somewhat difficult for them. I think we should just make a motion we make the change and if anyone would second it maybe was can just take a vote.

I don't want to spend all night talking about it.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: I agree with you and this map we don't have many going back to the 17th that are completed.

I like this map as for all the reasons Commissioner Szetela pointed out to us.

And I think this is a map that we need to definitely run the partisan fairness on.

And if we can maybe name it the flower name so that we can keep track of those maps that are complete and ready to move to the next phase.

Maybe that would be helpful for us.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So Commissioner Callaghan was that a motion?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Yes.

>> CHAIR ORTON: So we have a motion and a second to add flower names to the end of our naming convention for these maps that are completed at this point, that we are reviewing.

Is there any further discussion on the motion?

Seeing none, all in favor raise your hand and say aye.

>> Aye.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Any opposed raise your hand and say nay.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Nay.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay the ayes have it.

So we will add flower names to the end of our naming convention for the maps that are completed and that we review today.

Are you still?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Is there a second map filled out that we should open up and take a look at and see if we think that one is complete and when we want to run our partisan analysis on later.

And get some input on what people think about the map.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So before we do that, we should give this map a flower name.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Right, Sarah has her hand raised.
So, Sarah?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Yes Commissioners if it's helpful I'm happy to share my screen really quickly to show the family flower names that I've been giving to the various groups of maps.

And you can take a look at those and consider those if that's helpful.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Why don't we just call it Rose?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I like Rose bud.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Rose bud works too Erin, help me work on it.

You're getting fancy there, Sarah.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I was trying to go with flowers native to Michigan just like we did with the trees so some of these might not be as familiar, but they are flowers native to Michigan.

So the map family that we just looked at, that was worked on by Commissioner Szetela and Commissioner Wagner and Commissioner Lange is in the Lupine family.

The maps that Commissioner Eid was referring to originates from the Bergamot family and the off shoot that he created with the different -- difference in Grosse Pointe is the Trillium map.

So the next ones that you had discussed taking a look at were those two.

The initial map that you began working on one of them was part of the Aster family so you can really see the evolution of the various maps over the same days based on what flower family they are in.

And then the flower is the one I originated with Commissioner Kellom.

And Yarrow is the one begun today by Commissioner Andrade.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Can we please open up the Lupine map?

The Bergamot, I'm sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: If we are going to do names we should name this map a new name.

And this -- the way that you have it Sarah that is very helpful and shows the development but at this point I want to give this map a specific name.

And I would prefer Rose bud.

I think it's pretty.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Got that, Kent?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm not looking at the Autobound edge and the spreadsheet. I mean, when we come to it, somebody has to give me those names.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So it's 011824 version three is now going to have a tag on it Rose bud as well.

The one you just had open.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I just want to make sure I get it right.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: 011824V3HDCOL is now has a tag Rose bud on it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay I can do that.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Mr. Brace?

>> KIM BRACE: Yes, Madam Chair.

Open my mic.

Yes, my suggestion would be is, sorry about that, my suggestion is that the equivalent start that Sarah has done with the spreadsheet, if she could have a separate column with those flower names, that way we could sort on those flower names and everything else comes along.

But that will give us capabilities of sorting which ones and the history at the same time. Just an idea.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Happy to do that, Mr. Brace.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: If you finished naming the Rose bud map can we go to Commissioner Eid's map which I think was Bergamot.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It's not my map for clarity.

I think we all -- I don't think I even started this one but just.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: The community Bergamot map then.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That would be the 11724V1.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 117, all right 11724V1.

Name of this is what flower is this?

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Bergamot.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay the next one.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Can we take a look at that map?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's on its way.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: So let's check the populations first to make sure it's still a good map.

And would someone want to comment on the strengths of the map and why they think this is a good candidate?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: While this is a complete map this is I think one of the ones in the early development of the map we just named Rose bud.

So this again is touching outside districts.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This one changes District seven.

I mean the seven districts that we have to change.

Plus four, nine and 13.

Plus the addition of districts one, two, three, five and six.

It I believe it became Rose bud later on in the process.

But Rose bud changes significantly more districts than this one does.

I don't see any other changes to this besides the ones I just listed.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Excuse me, so Commissioner Eid, how would you compare this map to the previous one that we looked at in terms of communities of interest?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: The COIs are similar.

I mean, it just not as many other districts that were impacted by the Court case has changed.

You have District one being a Down River community of interest.

Heading up the river into but not quite the Detroit area.

You have a downtown Detroit area that goes up to Grosse Pointe.

You have the midtown area that goes north up to eight mile.

You have the Hamtramck and Yemeni Bengali with District nine.

Much of the same stuff that Commissioner Szetela listed.

Only it does not change as many of the districts on the outside portion.

And one of the biggest differences in my opinion is District 15 isn't changed here.

And in my opinion it gives the opportunity for this District to support two districts from this community of interest instead of just one.

That's just my opinion.

It also takes Melvindale out of three and puts it into two.

Which, you know, we can debate.

But it also has the Royal Oak Oakland County District, again, ending at eight mile.

We might want to talk about if we want to include some of the stuff we have heard today in public comment in there.

And then keep in mind there's the other version of this that has the difference in districts ten and 13 and their inclusion of what Grosse Pointe should be with.

>> CHAIR ORTON: I like District 15 in this map much better than the previous one where it was way less compact.

That's the notice or the thing I notice about this.

I do like that the districts seem compact.

I don't like that we changed some further out like five.

And six I think it is.

But I think this is an improvement over the one that we just looked at as far as the amount of changes that we made that weren't ordered.

Commissioner Szetela?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Yeah, could we get the neighborhood overlay on this?

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm sorry I'm going to change the color of four so it's actually...so it's more visible.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So my concern with this map is it does do more division of those communities of interest that were identified in the other map. So if you look in the kind of above Schoolcraft Southfield area you can see the edge of Grandmont is split.

So parts of Grandmont Rosedale Park are divided same with Dexter Lynn wood there was adjustment to the Dexter Lynn wood bringing it further west based on feedback from the public that is not accounted for in this map.

In District nine I don't believe this completely encompass the entire community of interest for Banglatown particularly the Hamtramck area then I notice we also took off a part of the morning side East English Village over near Grosse Pointe area as well.

Can you scroll out a little bit, please?

I'm sorry if I'm going fast.

I just know these neighborhoods pretty well.

So, yeah, you see we have that part of Cornerstone village divided off and put into District ten.

So I think in general this map just divides more communities of interest.

In terms of the Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, at this point we have a few public comments about this particular configuration versus the one that was in the prior map.

So far everyone says they seem to prefer the other map with a larger Dearborn District without that portion of Detroit in it and creates two good or two good strong Arab American COI districts.

So you know based on what the community in Dearborn is saying this is not their preferred configuration.

I would also add fundamentally I think any map that doesn't fix these outside districts is problematic.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: Any map that doesn't fix what?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: The other districts.

Can you scroll out a little bit, Kent?

So we can see more?

And can you take the neighborhood overlay off again?

I'm sorry.

It just makes it hard to see.

Thank you.

I still think the districts of 17 and 16 are problematic because they are combining Detroit with parts of the suburbs based on that advice we had received to do that.

So I think that that would concern me with this particular map.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: What about 17 is concerning what is specifically concerning you there?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA:

>> CHAIR ORTON: Mr. Fink?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Just if you notice I'm getting some feedback. I'm not sure where that is coming from.

>> CHAIR ORTON: While we are waiting for Mr. Fink to talk.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Okay.

>> Nate Fink: I can jump in here.

Are you getting feedback on me as well?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: No.

>> Nate Fink: I just wanted to take a moment to jump in just to, you know, reiterate what I've stated before and what's now in your mapping procedures that you should only be amending, modifying districts that the Court did not strike down as reasonably necessary.

So just make sure please make sure to keep that in mind as you are proceeding through this discussion, moving forward over the next couple weeks here.

And, again, as I said before I'm a bit of a broken record on this, but I just did want to take the opportunity to jump in.

I thank you for that opportunity.

But you know, you should only be modifying districts other than those that were struck down by the Court as is reasonably necessary to address the Court's concerns with the districts that were struck down.

The Court did not instruct the Commission to redraw the entire Southeast Michigan area.

So that's all I will say for now.

Thank you.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Did you have something?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: May I continue?

She asked me a question.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Juanita has had her hand up.

So you started talking when I was trying to call on Juanita.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I just wanted to say that the people that sued us was the Detroiters, the Black African/Americans in Detroit.

Now, you said we can't use race and I do agree.

But we can name Bangladesh, Dearborn, we know what race that is.

We know what Bangladesh race is.

We know what all the races is and when I mentioned just Black y'all said I was using race, what am I supposed to say African/Americans?

First we were Black then they named us African/Americans.

I'm just a little confused.

I'm not doing anything different than you guys.

When you say Bangladesh and Dearborn we know that nothing is in Dearborn but that particular race.

Nothing is in Bangladesh but the Bangladesh people.

And so when I say Black African/Americans then you say we talked about race.

How else am I going to explain who we are?

>> CHAIR ORTON: That is a difficult thing.

I was thinking the same thing when we were talking about Banglatown or Dearborn.

So, Mr. Fink, do you have any words for us?

>> Nate Fink: Well, first, I know Commissioner Szetela's hand was up and still up and I didn't know if she was trying to jump in on this point.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: No I was just trying to answer the question that Donna had asked me but go ahead and address this first.

>> Nate Fink: So what I will say is the Court opinion focused on the Commission's use of particularly Black voting age population BVAPs during its mapping, during your mapping process in 2021.

And I understand the frankly confusion about the difference between talking about other communities of interest and Black voters.

But the Court was very clear that the Commission should not be doing or using the same process that it had before where it was focusing on and using the Black voting age population information, the race data, which you have not been using any race data through this mapping process at all.

You have been talking about certain communities of interest that frankly under the census guidelines and other law are not necessarily considered race for purposes of redistricting.

But the Court was very clear that the Commission should not consider the BVAP information, any of the race data information.

And directed to Commissioner Curry and also to the broader Commission, there will still be a VRA check on the maps that are being drawn by the Commission.

It's just going to take place after the Commission has drawn the maps.

Mark Braden from Baker Hostetler the Court has designated him as and accepted he will be the VRA counsel for the Commission.

And after the Commission has completed maps, those will be provided to Mr. Braden who will do an analysis, a VRA analysis to ensure the maps do complete with the V RA.

So not as though the VRA will be completely ignored.

It certainly.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It's been ignored today because when you mentioned Dearborn, when you mentioned all the different races that we've mentioned today and just because I used Black, what else am I supposed to call us?

The thing is about Black African/Americans.

I mean, so if you can put all of Dearborn which is all one race and you can do Bangladesh as all one race and you can do other communities as one race, why you can't do Blacks?

Leave it all out and let us just kind of make some flowers.

Just call them all flowers instead of calling you can name your race, other races, different races but when I say Black you can't name that.

That's crazy.

>> Nate Fink: Right, but like I said I understand the frustration.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't need to be drawing no maps because I don't see how you will differentiate because we have the Black community spread out all over the whole mapping and you will find it somewhere in each community.

What we're trying to find is the ones that take up a large amount like Dearborn and Bangladesh and other communities.

But if you don't try to find it, we will be back in the same shape we were in before we went to Court.

>> Nate Fink: Like I said, I hear the frustration.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I don't want no sympathy.

I'm just trying to do a right job.

You can't do a right job.

I'm not -- Black is not even a race.

I'm just saying Black African/Americans is what they are calling Black African/Americans now.

So I said Blacks.

What difference does it make?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioners I apologize for the interruption I just wanted to remind all of our Commissions to try not to speak over one another.

It makes it difficult for the interpreters.

Thank you.

>> Nate Fink: I was getting feedback.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I will back off and you all can do this without mentioning.

You all can draw the maps the way you want to draw them.

>> Nate Fink: Commissioner Curry if I may I don't think you should be backing off.

I think it's very important to provide your very important perspective to the Commission.

And I would certainly not want you to back off.

And I understand the confusion, the frustration.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It's not confusion.

It's one rule against another rule.

It's not confusing.

You're saying the Bangladesh we know Bangladesh is all white or all nationality.

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When you say the Arabs and the, what is that the mid eastern are one nationality, so we all know that, so you know Detroit is the one that sued for their rights so I'm trying to say how we going to do this if we don't give them a name?

We got to give them some kind of name.

Just name them Juanita.

>> Nate Fink: In the law it's differ talking about nationalities like Bangladesh or people who identify as Middle Eastern.

It's different.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: How is it different?

We are all people.

>> Nate Fink: To be race.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: How is it different?

I want to know.

>> Nate Fink: This is how the law developed.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I just want to know how is it different because I thought all of us were people.

>> Nate Fink: I agree with that, we are all people.

I don't think anybody would disagree with that.

What I'm saying under the law and specifically the Court's opinion, the Court expressed significant concern with the Commission's use of race during its mapping.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: We used it all evening for every nationality but the Blacks and that is who did the suing.

We were calling Dearborn the whatever their race is.

We call Bangladesh whatever their race is.

We named all the races.

Now you want to give them flowers, but you can't put -- I don't understand how you will come up with this.

I don't understand how you're going to do it.

>> Nate Fink: Well.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And do it fairly because already you're not fair because if we give all of Dearborn every one of them over there is that one race, then we are giving them what they want.

If we give all Bangladesh what they want to stay together we are giving what they want.

But Blacks yet, you all have not put us together yet.

What are you saying?

We can't even name our names or say we are Black African/Americans.

We can't even say Black.

We can't say African/American, can't say nothing.

We have to be bold somewhere on this map.

Complain to me.

I'm not trying to be difficult.

I just don't understand your reasoning.

The reasoning of how you all are coming up with this.

>> Nate Fink: The groups that you're referencing and the concern that you're expressing about the identification of the Bangladesh community or Middle Eastern community for purposes of the legal analysis it has to be conducted here and the framework we are working under for this case.

Those are not the same as African/American for purposes of the legal analysis.

And the Court has said that this Commission cannot use race.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Then you should not use it at all.

No names, period.

>> Nate Fink: Like I said, and you can, you know, convey that to the Commission.

Those other terms are not.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm gone.

>> Nate Fink: I don't think you should pull away or leave at all, Commissioner Curry.

Like I said, I understand it's frustrating.

The legal framework is difficult to work with.

I understand that.

But.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You're trying to make me call us something else.

I don't know what to call us other than Black, African man's we can't be called a name.

>> Nate Fink: The Court said not to use race and there is a VRA check on the maps after the Commission has produced them.

And Mr. Braden will do that analysis and provide that information.

And I'm happy to provide -- I'm happy to provide additional, you know, feedback on that information or more guidance.

But, you know, the Court was very clear that the Commission's focus on racial, on the Black voting age population as I had said, the race data that was used throughout the mapping process in 2021 was not proper, not appropriate.

And Judge Kethledge.

>> Point of inquiry.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Point of clarity.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Was that you, Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: It was.

Mr. Fink, I'm sorry to interrupt, but is it possible for us to do a motion, pardon me, out of fairness for Commissioner Curry's concerns that we not discuss any race?

Not specifically one particular race but in doing our mapping to the best of our ability that we do not discuss any race whether it be Bengali, Arab, Hispanic, Asian, is that something that we could do a motion on?

Would it be appropriate?

I understand Commissioner Curry's concern.

So I want to know if we can do something to help with her concerns.

>> Nate Fink: What we are working with is the.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It should be all of our concerns if we are going to do a fair job because.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I agree.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: And thank you for being considerate but it should be all of our concerns.

I mean we could name every other nationality, but we can't name Blacks and that is the one that took us to Court?

I mean all I've been hearing is Hispanic, the mid easterns, the Dearborners, the Bangladesh but we named them all, all day, evening, all night races but we can't name the race that sued us.

That is crazy stuff.

>> Nate Fink: I understand again.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I know, Mr. Fink what you're saying, but you shouldn't have left there with taking that as I don't know you should have.

We are paying you.

>> Nate Fink: This was not an opinion issued by me.

This was -- what I'm conveying to you is the Court's opinion, which is.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I know it's the Court's opinion.

I know but I'm saying how can we name every other race and can't name the Black race?

The African/American?

I don't know how to do that.

That's what we are fighting for.

That's why we are here now, trying to put them somewhere on the map but we can't even name them.

We cannot say their name, but we named everything else.

And I'm not trying to be difficult.

Make me understand what is the difference?

>> Nate Fink: The other groups have, again, broadly speaking Bangladesh is the nationality.

And I don't want to get into the specific groups that you're talking about.

But they are not treated the same way and were not treated the same way by the Court in its opinion where it focused on or heavily criticized the Commission's use of Black voting age population data in particular throughout the mapping process during.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No disrespect to you but I understand exactly what you're saying.

I'm saying we are in a bind because we are trying to go and creep around everybody and creep around the Blacks and give everybody else their fair deal and it's not going to happen the way we are doing it and you know that that is why you keep interfering and telling us we need to not use race.

We have been using it ever since we started this.

All I've heard about is the Mexicans, the Bangladesh, the Arabs, the nationality and I don't have anything against the nationality but as soon as I said Black we can't use race.

We are a nationality too.

How you going to do it?

I'm through and I can't do it and I need to stay away.

>> Nate Fink: You shouldn't be staying away Commissioner Curry because you have a perspective, and the Court is critical of the Commission's use of the Black voting age population information throughout the mapping process in 2021.

And instructed Judge Kethledge instructed during the remedy hearing, I believe it was the remedy hearing that the Commission shouldn't use race during the mapping process.

And I see there is a couple of questions.

Looks like from a few different Commissioners.

So and I'm happy to address them.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay so yeah we have several hands, I think Commissioner Szetela is first.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: So Juanita I don't know if this helps.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It ain't going to help.

Just leave it alone because I got a little bit perturbed.

You won't help and the fact we can't use it.

Just leave it alone because we are going everywhere please in every different nationality but the Detroiters.

The poor folks that brought this whole thing to the stage.

We have addressed, we put the Dearborns together, the Bangladesh together, the Mexicans together, we put every nationality but where are we at on this map that we can say we are whole somewhere?

Instead of scattered in 50-11 different places.

That's all I'm saying.

You got to do it right.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: You're not wrong Juanita and I understand the frustration.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I was just going to say I can understand Juanita's frustration as well.

Personally I think there's just one race and it's the human race and it's the ethnicities we are involved with.

And ethnicities tend to bond together as communities of interest.

So I completely agree with her.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: You all I have no prejudice in my body, in my mind, and in my heart but you got to be fair.

And that's all I'm saying.

You can use it for everything but Black African/Americans and then you say you can't put us on the map anywhere.

We got to be scattered.

Put us together with the whole bunch of us.

You can't find all of us because you have scattered all of us.

The Bangladesh don't want to be scattered. The Dearborners don't want to be scattered. The Mexicans don't want to be scattered.

Why are you scattering us?

Give us a place.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Juanita I don't know if that helps but that is why we are trying to use the neighborhoods so we can identify communities.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: It doesn't work, my dear.

It doesn't work just saying the neighborhoods.

I mean that is an insult.

>> Nate Fink: Commissioner Curry if possible I would like for the Commission to be able to continue with the mapping session this evening and I'd be happy to continue the conversation with you any time that it's convenient for you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I think I was very clear Lange LAN point of inquiry again.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Go ahead Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Thank you.

Mr. Fink you're saying that the Court was very specific about the BVAP, and I am going to bring up, again, that during the Court trial the -- one of the Judges was very specific too to concentrate for this Commission to concentrate on communities of interest.

Now, if Juanita is familiar with the Detroit area, which she is, and there's a community of interest and that community happens to be Black, then what's the problem?

As long as we're not discussing BVAP for looking at a percentage or something, if it's based on a community of interest, what's the problem?

Because I have to agree with her.

It is the Black voters of Detroit, the reason why we are here.

And I have to agree with her.

So if it's based on community of interest, just as all the other races or heritage or whatever you want to say, areas were based on community of interest, then what is the

difference if it's a community of interest of a Black population or if it's a community of interest of a Bengali population, as long as you're using it appropriately.

As long as you're not basing your lines on a percentage of a population but an actual community.

Is there a difference in that especially when the Judge told us to concentrate on communities of interest?

>> Nate Fink: Well, to be clear, the Court said not to consideration through the map drawing process.

I agree with you.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: All the maps, erase them all, because all of them racist.

>> Nate Fink: Commissioner Lange I agree there is a distinction between using the, you know, broadly speaking there is a distinction between using the Black voting age population data as you're going through and looking at the actual numbers as opposed to the broadly speaking communities of interest.

And what I would recommend is that the Commission move floor ward with completing its mapping tonight.

And I can try to provide hopefully if the Commissioner Curry is willing to talk to me I would be happy to talk to her.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm not willing to talk to you after this is over with. I'm not willing to speak with you because everything we do we should do it publicly.

>> Nate Fink: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm not ready to go behind closed doors.

>> Nate Fink: I can do it publicly with you and I think Commissioner Szetela has a question.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: If we go back to mapping I wanted to follow-up on the question that Donna had for me.

>> Nate Fink: But and I can try to provide you with, you know, clearer feedback on that, you know, to commence with tomorrow.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I'm not understanding what you're saying.

I know exactly what you're saying, Mr. Fink.

I know what you're saying and how you're trying to say it.

I'm not misled in that.

I understand perfectly what you want us to say and not use the words Black or Black African/Americans.

I understand that.

But if we can use all the other nationalities what do you think that is?

We have been doing this for two days now that I know of.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Thank you Madam Chair.

It's quite clear that this is a highly emotional subject.

And that's fine.

We've heard the same argument from each of these individuals that have been talking at least ten times.

And my mediation practice I always used the rule of three.

Once I've heard it three times nothing is going to change.

At this time I would move to suspend this to bring this entire session to an end.

End the session.

Go back to our respective residences or hotels.

Calm down and come back tomorrow and pick it up where we've left off.

Hopefully not at this very point but back to mapping.

If I have a second we can go from there.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Is there a second for that?

>> I'll second it.

>> CHAIR ORTON: There was a motion and a second to end our meeting.

Is there any discussion?

I see Mr. Stigall's hand, I'm thinking that is a mapping issue.

Go ahead.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Before we close out of here for the evening we need to make sure we have the plans named the way exactly like you want.

The plans that -- everything that was touched today is going to be uploaded tonight.

And I'd like to be sure we have the plans named in the convention you expect.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I'm happy to work with you on that, Mr. Stigall.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Great Commissioner Eid, did you have your hand?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I just, Juanita, I want you to know that I hear you.

And I completely understand where you're coming from.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No, this is not a Juanita's thing.

This is for every Black African/American on the face of this earth.

It's not a Juanita thing because personally, personally I don't get offended if you don't ever call my name or my race.

But I'm thinking if we are there for the Black African race, we must do what they want done.

Just like we have done it for your neighborhood.

For other neighborhoods.

For the Bangladesh, for the Mexicans, for everybody.

That's the whole point of them taking us to Court because we weren't there.

Come on.

We can't look the other way now.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Commissioner Szetela?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: I was just going to ask Kent what was the last map we had open.

I believe it was 011724V1 and I think maybe we can start with that in the morning rather than add a flower name.

Oh, you added Bergamot to it, all right.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, I don't see any other discussion, so all in favor.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Can we do a roll call please?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Roll call vote on ending the meeting now.

>> DONNA CALLAGHAN: The meeting or the mapping session?

Do we have more after that?

Okay.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: This is a motion to adjourn; is that correct?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Okay, all right the motion before the Commission is to adjourn.

I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order.

Please state "Yes" or "No" for the motion.

A yes being a motion -- the motion to adjourn so a yes being to adjourn.

I will start with Marcus Muldoon?

>> MARCUS MULDOON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> CHAIR ORTON: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Elaine Andrade.

>> ELAINE ANDRADE: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Donna Callaghan?

Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rhonda Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: No.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: There are four no votes and seven yes votes, the motion carries.

>> CHAIR ORTON: Okay, so the meeting is adjourned at 7:36 p.m.