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MICRC

11/05/21 9:00 am Meeting

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>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good morning, Michigan.

As Vice Chair of the Commission, I call the meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 9:02 a.m.

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

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

Our live stream today includes closed captioning. Closed captioning, ASL interpretation, and Spanish and Arabic and Bengali translation services will be provided for effective participation in this meeting. Please E-mail us at Redistricting.gov or details for language translation services for this meeting.

People with disabilities or needing other specific accommodations should also contact Redistricting at Michigan.gov.

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

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

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

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Good morning, Commissioners, please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose you are attending remotely and Unless due to military duty disclose where you are physically attending from. I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order starting with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

Anthony Eid?

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> VICE COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT:

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 9 Commissioners are present. And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Ms. Reinhardt. As a reminder to the public watching, you can view the agenda at Michigan.gov/MICRC. I would now entertain a motion to approve the meeting agenda. So moved. Motion made by Commissioner Rothhorn. Seconded by Commissioner Vallette. Is there discussion or debate on the motion?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I do.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would like to add two items to the agenda please. The first one is to approve the 11.4 version of the mapping process.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: As item 6A.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: And the second is to revisit the process of individual Commission members submitting maps.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: From yesterday.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: From yesterday yes.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We will add that as 6B thank you Commissioner Clark. Commissioner Lange do you have additional additions?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: No, mine was basically his second.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good, thank you. So we have the motion made by Commissioner Witjes and seconded by Commissioner Vallette to amend the agenda

with item 6A under new business 6A approve the mapping process from 11-4 and 6B revisit the process for submitting Commissioner maps. Director Hammersmith?

>> MS. SUANN HAMMERSMITH: I believe Doug made the motion to amend and I don't recall if there was...is there a second to that?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Oh, I apologize you are right we had a motion to adopt the agenda.

>> MS. SUANN HAMMERSMITH: You need to amend first.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Rhonda.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I will second it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you Commissioner Lange. I apologize for jumping that. So we have a motion to amend the agenda. All in favor of the amendment to add 6A and 6B as presented please raise your hand all in favor raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay. The ayes

prevail and amendment to the agenda is adopted. Let's concern to the agenda and agenda as amended is there any discussion? We already discussed it and amended it all in favor of adopting the agenda as presented please raise your hand and say aye. Opposed raise your hand and say nay. The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

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

Individuals who have signed up and indicated that they would like to provide in person public commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so.

Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your number. You will have one minute to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer.

I will note for the public record we do have Commissioner Eid with us at 9:08 a.m. First in line to provide public comment is number one.

>> Good morning, Commissioners thank you for this opportunity to speak to you. My name is Ted I'm a learn term resident of Saginaw Township in Saginaw County. I would urge the Commission to draw the new districts both Congressional and legislature to recognize the communities that actually live together and therefore have common interest. Those communities are neighborhoods, Townships, Counties and local regions that share common living conditions, economies and lifestyles and also struggles, problems goals. Please do not divide communities that work play and struggle together for the pretense of partisan fairness. Maps that divide communities with unnatural boundaries are just a different form of gerrymandering in my opinion. And that leads to no one being represented because the communities voice is diluted among separate districts combined with others that have District interests, different

needs and different problems. That just leads to the possibility of political manipulation. Thank you.

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

>> Hi, my name is Susan Anderson and I represent a group called blue brigade that has over 300 members. And what we would like is the Congressional maps to have a little bit more work. To them. Some pieces are really good. But for fairness please take the southeast portion of the birch map and combine it with what you have done in drawn in West Michigan in either the chestnut or apple maps. The other request we have is that you use map 06677 in the Lansing area for State Representative districts which will put Delta Township back in Eaton County thank you for much for this opportunity.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number three, please.

>> Good morning.

I agree with my colleague Susan Anderson, number two. I'm Cheryl Hayes. Ingham County and I campaigned door to door for prop two to get fair maps and a level playing field. The current proposed State House maps including the revised Pine provide advantage to one party. And I'd like you to consider map 06677 for the Greater Lansing area. I'm asking you to prioritize partisan fairness to get to close to 0 as possible on the bias scores. And over 1% is still too much. Please do not approve a map that gives an advantage to a political party. We passed prop two to get fair maps, so parties win seats in line with their share of the vote. We are counting on you to create those maps. Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Commenter number four, please.

>> Yes, name is Jim from water town Township in Clinton County and the map drawn has a heavy emphasis on large student body if it's MSU Cooley or other LCC. I find that inconsistent with the community interest of water town and Clinton County.

In fact, in May I came before this group and suggested exactly that those large student bodies not be included in rural organizations. Like Clinton County and water town Township but they were. That is not consistent with common interests, common values of our community.

In fact, the large student populations are transient. They leave after they graduate. But during that time they can vote. They have no consequences of the votes that they made because they no longer are part of the community. Whereas the communities of water town and others in Clinton are firm communities. They do not move. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number five, please.

>> Good morning my name is John Snyder. I am a Lansing resident and have lived in Michigan entire life. I just want to say that I am impressed with the Pine V5 map. I like

how you have been listening to folks. And are trying splitting Lansing into five to see how it affects the rest of the state and how that helps your work and I think that it has shown to you as well and what you have seen is that it's working well. We still have about a 4.3% divide in partisan fairness. And efficiency score. I know you guys are going to do work to get that closer to 0 as you continue today and thank you for the work you are doing.

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

>> Good morning I'm crystal Boyd Sarah Howard's legal assistant. We understand this Commission deeply desires the final maps end up being collaborative options. You know if this body does not obtain the constitutionally required vote for a map a resolution procedure will settle it potentially ending in a random drawing. You set a deadline Monday to submit maps for public comment period. You attorney advised you no changes can be made to maps without going through public comment again because of that it's highly likely that only maps submitted by Monday collaborative or otherwise will be possibilities for you when it is all said and done. If this Commission ends up in a scenario where one or more maps are decided by the resolution procedure possibly a random draw, it is supremely you have as many maps as possible in the mix that satisfy the Constitution. Because of that we urge at least one of you to submit the fair maps project state legislature map the shape files are 48749 and F8750.

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

>> Good morning, Commission. As you know, my name is Sarah Howard and I represent the AFLCIO fair maps project. We think of course that my client's maps do the best job of satisfying the Constitution. You don't have to agree with us to submit them. If the resolution procedure happen the maps deserve to be in the running. Realistically they won't be if one of you does not submit them by Monday. It does not den great the hope that collaborative maps win to acknowledge what could happen, please we ask at least one of you to submit other viable options like the fair maps project maps and allow the public to comment on them. The partisan fairness advice you received yesterday was wrong with all due respect to counsel. The Constitution does have a specific 0 requirement as to partisan fairness when it prohibits quote disproportionate advantage in the plain language. You must reflect communities of interest but it's impossible to reflect all communities all the time if that were your only criteria you have yet to draw a map that does not favor republicans on all metrics except for the seats votes ratio.

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

>> Thank you very much and have a good day.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You too. Number eight, please.

>> Hi, my name is Niki. I'm a Lansing resident and here to talk about the Pine map version five. I'm happy with the work that has been done thus far. The State Senate map is great and for the Pine map efficiency gap needs to come down below 2%. 4.3 right now is unsatisfactory, 2016 election was a close year and looking at the map and turn out might be helpful 2016 democrats lost by 2000, 2018 they won by 400,000. And comparing the maps will bring down the gap and create a more fair map. Looking at the districts in Detroit last night and that board of suburbs I don't think they will be empowering the people we want to empower so please comply with the Voting Rights Act and revisit those areas. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I'd like to acknowledge we have Commissioner Curry with us. Good morning. Would you like to tell us where you are joining us today from?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Juanita Curry and I'm attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Nice to have you with us.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Number nine, please.

>> Good morning, Commissioners I'm Michael Davis junior redistricting for promote the vote I appreciate your time and hard work in this process and it's more important than even to give fair equitable maps and idea as chance. Forward looking approach to data anticipates VRA and have Detroit and Oakland will have a Black BVAP and Kent County similarly accommodates the growing Latino population. Making it had a Pine Sol another viable option. These were few there were few of many maps with the level of consideration we put in and ask you to look at the data and narratives that promote the vote provided. I promise the maps are fair for Michigan and they do away with some gerrymandering that exist in some of your current maps someone will do the right think of us who call Michigan home who have a few quality maps to consider and add P6782, 6783 and 6784 in the pool for 45 days of comment thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. . Do we have number ten with us? And before number ten speaks forgive me I want to acknowledge that Commissioner Kellom has joined us at 9:19. Nice to have you with us please go ahead.

>> Good morning I came here to express a general concern about the independence of the Commission. I expressed a concern in previous two hearings. And first of all I was looking at the maps that split it's basically the Commission still in some area did gerrymandering so the proposal was sold to the people of Michigan in 2018 that is going to be an Independent Commission that will eliminate gerrymandering. Oakland County is split in three districts two districts could do. U.S. District Macomb is split in four districts, two districts would do. Again I express that in the last hearing in Grand Rapids the Commission is biased for democratic party. We have four democrats four

republican plus two independents who are democrats based upon their activities. I'm not going to name the names I named them last time but you know who they are. All right so this issue needs to be resolved. Self-identification is an independent doesn't work. Better vetting criteria needs to be implemented by this Commission.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe we have number 11 and 12 who have joined us so number 11, please.

>> Kathy from the City of Midland. Thank you, Commissioners Wagner Lange and Clark, for hearing the voices of the thousands of flood victims in Midland and Gladwin Counties and working to put forward the Pine version five State House map. Can you please apply the same logic and simply make a tweak to one of your existing Congressional maps? Just a tweak. At least to give an option that puts Midland County back together and in a separate District from Flint because both cities have different needs from the Government. The Federal Government recently awarded the Midland Gladwin region 54 million dollars to aid in flood recovery and mitigation. A perfect example of how unified representation in our Government helps a community of interest. I'm not asking for a major overhaul. I'm simply asking that you do for our flood victims what you've done for so many other communities around the state when you've heard differing views. Tweak the map to provide another option. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 12.

>> My name is Bill Schuette, some have advised me not to say anything fearing the Commission would get mad and punish my hometown but that is what is occurring I stopped being intimidated but I bullies long ago. Disenfranchise Detroiters it fractures Midland and County of Midland and do three bad things, three bad things, one separate mid myth health main campus from the rest of the operations to the north and west. Two separate Dow companies headquarters from employees related businesses in Midland and Gladwin. And three diminish Dam repair and flood reduction efforts as Midland is trying to recover from three monster flood in 86, 2017 and 2020 that people have lost count. Three bad things would be political gerrymandering. Don't do three bad things. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe we have no 13 at the moment. So we will now move on to remote public comment.

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

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

If you experience technical or audio issues and we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move on to the next person in line and then return to you after they are

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

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

First in line to provide public comment is James Gallant.

>> Hello, this is James Gallant, Marquette, these are my opinions. The mapping process is approved rules of procedure. They need three days prior notice to be amended. Now, the it sounds like you folks can submit your own maps while the AFLCIO maps are not your maps unless, of course, you like to take ownership of them.

Now, a recap of the violations of your oath of office. This, in my opinion, in this country is institutionalized bullying tag team style. AKA Dutch polar model from the kingdom of the Netherlands. This is how they do it over there, but this is unconstitutional here.

The Chair came to an action item on the agenda letting deliberations, alleging that deliberations had been carried over from the prior meeting without approving a motion to postpone. Rothhorn said he was going to facilitate. The Chair then segued into Szetela merged maps that did not exist the day before. The members were allowed to unilaterally stop debate by simply calling the question until Eid's point of order which benefitted himself. The Chair did not check the rule book.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number two, Loida.

>> Good morning, Commissioners. Thank you so much for all of your hard work that you have put into these maps. I want to thank again Commissioner Brittini Kellom and Juanita Curry from Detroit. I'm also a resident of Detroit for your hard work on the Magnolia map but there are still missing voting rights districts. We currently have 12 and your changes to the maps do not hold the 12 voting right Districts that are needed for Detroit and its representation. I also want to point out and op-ed published today in the Detroit free press talking about the critical consequences that these maps have on the Flint water crisis cities like Flint and Detroit and others in the state. Please consider your Voting Rights Act when you are continuing to edit these maps. Please consider looking at promote the votes maps that do consider the voting rights districts in the cities of Flint and Detroit. We will be making additional edits to the Mongolia map to reflect.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number three Anthony Skinnell.

>> Hi, Commission, yesterday towards the end of the meeting working on Senate maps the Chair edified the idea of options for Ann Arbor and Jackson in your Senate map. Reminded me a couple days prior the Chair would take on the burden to create such options for Detroit in another map type what happened the dog ate the homework you are getting paid for this and y'all worked on the Congressional one day and one and

done when you can did it someone drafted it not from the area looks like it and you want it done in your review debriefing process and calls in question the validity how you incorporate public comments and subject to your own partisanship prejudice and it's just a public perception you are giving preference good or bad towards people so you have really fostered this dynamic and this process has failed people of Michigan. Obviously, you probably don't feel that way because you don't live where I live and you probably are going to have to live in the District that you have drawn for me. So I'm really disappointed on what you have done and this is a waste.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Doug Floto, number six.

>> Sorry I had to click through a number of things. I'm Doug Floto from Commerce Township. In looking at the latest revised State Senate map, it's very close to the current State House map which was developed in the gerrymandered style of the republican party. And it still favors disproportionately the republican party. I would wish that to get closer to a 0 efficiency map for the area and reduce the partisan bias towards the republican party, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. I believe our next commenter is number 7. I just have an e-mail address, I don't have a name.

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

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay so number eight Doreen gardener.

>> Unmute good morning.

I would like to thank you for allowing me to address you. I would like to ask that you continue to produce fair and equitable maps. Do not approve any map that does not comply with the voting rights right. We want to see more Black and Brown voices elected to Michigan not fewer. Your job is to get as close to 0 on the partisan bias as possible and we are still not there yet and asking you to please continue on that vote.

Also, no one on the Commission should vote to approve a map that provides disproportionate advantage to one political party over another. So I'm asking you please, please to consider all of these options and remember as you are doing these that it's not about politics, this is all about people. I'm also concerned about the maps that are being drawn in the Kalamazoo County. We need to make sure that those also are fair as far as so that people of color have an opportunity to get elected to office as well as the party. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number nine, Mary Murphy.

>> Hello hi can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> Hi, thank you my name is Mary Murphy I'm from Oakland County southeast Oakland County and thank you for letting me speak. As you know I spoke before and my concerns are still regarding partisan bias. Equity and the Voting Rights Act. I feel

that your Congressional maps and your Senate maps are on their way but they still have not met that goal. But the house Michigan house maps still continue to have partisanship towards republican party. We volunteered. We walked. We did a lot of work to try to get these to be fair maps and I have faith in you that you will continue to do your work. And you will bring the partisan bias down close to 0 as possible. That is your job. This is for the people of the State of Michigan. Not any party. And I thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number ten Andrew Lawrence.

>> Yes hello. Lorenz. Start my video. Hi Commissioners thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today. I'm calling from Royal Oak Michigan. We really need one person one vote. And no minority rule in Michigan. You know the current Senate map have 3% bias based on 2020 election turn out and throwing out 150,000 votes. One person one vote. And as Doreen said your job is to get close to 0 on partisan score as possible if we are over that we still have work to do. Community of interest is not an excuse to pack voters in fewer and fewer districts to weaken their voice. It's not fair if we can win majority of the seats and losing majority of the votes. We voted for prop two to rid of the rigged system and want maps that create a level playing field and to echo no one on the Commission should approve a map that Goetz disproportionate to one political party. Thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 13, Sharon Teamer.

>> Good morning I'm Sharon and a resident of Oakland County in Farmington Hills Michigan. Today I would like to address the Commission in hopes the new maps having partisan fairness. Let me make sure of having partisan fairness. So the State House map has over 4% advantage that would clearly favor one party over the other. How fair is that? What I would like to see is the maps having less than a 1% advantage for each of the political parties. So there have been and there has to be an equal opportunity for both the republican and democratic candidates during elections. And I would like to repeat there have to be an equal opportunity for both the republican and democratic parties during elections. And the only way that can happen is by partisan fairness. I thank you for your time and consideration.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 14, Theresa Reed. Theresa, we can't hear you yet.

>> Okay can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> I'm participating from Ann Arbor sorry about that glitch. First of all I want to thank you very much for your hard work and really complicated and challenging task. The name calling by some commenters talking about bullying when we all have the same opportunities to speak highlights for me the difficulty of your work. Like other speakers I

worked hard to pass the anti-gerrymandering prop two in 2018. I want to speak primarily to the point of stressing the constitutional requirement of partisan fairness. The breakdown of our political culture can only be repaired by ensuring that every vote counts. Democracy only works when every voter knows that her vote does make a difference. Like other speakers I urge you to work until partisan bias scoring is 0. To this end I do support promote the vote maps and the AFLCIO fair maps project. I think both astutely address both communities of interest and partisan fairness which are hard to balance but partisan fairness first. In order to heal.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 15, Michael fields.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Michael, if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> I thought I had unmuted hello this is Michael fields from Gladwin County. I would like to thank you for your time and consideration allowing me to speak before you again today. I heard a lot of talk in the meetings that I've been in about reserving community of interest. And I acknowledge that Community of Interest have some import in your decision making. It is not important enough to push those of particular parties into fewer and fewer districts making their voices smaller and weaker. This is what some people are wishing to do. It's the way it has been done in the past. No one on this Commission should vote to approve a map that gives disproportionate advantage to any one political party. How is any map fair if one party can win the majority of seats while losing the majority of votes. Please make each District as close to 0 partisan bias as possible. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 16, Peter Zirnhelt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Peter, you are unmuted and free to address the Commission.

>> My name is Peter from long Lake Township Grand Traverse County. I wanted to first thank the Commission for its efforts in this regard. I urge that no map be adopted with on its face suggests gerrymandering. I urge the Commission to get as close to 0 on the partisan bias scores as possible. The Commission should not vote to approve a map that gives a disproportionate advantage to one political party. And finally I urge fair maps that create a level playing field. Thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 18, Lucas-Camacho.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can.

>> Thank you for the opportunity to address the Commission. I'm very concerned I hear the talk is we need fairness, fairness, aka rigging for the democrats. That was quite a kaboko the AFLCIO put out saying we need to put in maps that are basically going to rig for democrats. I don't think Michigan voters voted in this Commission to

have communities broken up. I think Jackson County for example should remain with Hillsdale and Lenawee. That's where we do the region two planning Commission. If regional planning is good for it and Whitmer's emergency orders were good for Jackson Hillsdale and Lenawee that clearly shows that we are a COI community of interest are a priority. It's not this partisan fairness. This is an attempt by AFLCIO voters not politicians. Let the record reflect the democrats that passed this had the intention of gerrymandering as all the commenters have spoken. Thank you for the time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 19, Sue Hadden.

>> Hellos thank you for letting me give comment. I would like to thank the members of the Commission for their hard work and success in creating a Senate map cherry two with partisan fairness and communities of interest. Particularly impressed you were successful considering the fact that there are so many people trying to sway you in each direction. I am thrilled I will be in the same District as my friends along the I-94 corridor. The map ensures there will be no wasted votes and politicians who represent us will have to be responsive to our community. It does not favor a political party one person equals one vote which is the goal of the 14 and 15 amendments. Please protect partisan fairness. And don't let opponents have us move backwards. I'm concerned about the house map Pine five. But I have confidence that you will improve it to have the same fairness as the Senate map. Thank you so much. I can't imagine how hard your job is.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 21, LaCracha Handy.

>> Good morning, Commissioners, resident of Flint Township in Genesee County. Partisan fairness is a community of interest that is why the people of Michigan voted for the proposal that created the Commission. Maps need to include fair representation for Michigan's diverse population. A fair map does not benefit any political party. Communities of interest is not an excuse to pack voters of a particular party into as few districts as possible to weaken our voice. People of color have the right to be heard. Again please don't forget about Flint. Black vehicles have rights too you know. We want fair representation right along with everyone else. I thank you for all the hard work that you're doing to create fair maps. I know it is a difficult task, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 22, Bridgett Cooper.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Participants through number 28 are not present. Apologies through 27 are not present. So next in line would be number 28.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Very good Jerry Walden.

>> Hello, I'm Jerry Walden am I on now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, you are.

>> I'm a citizen from Ann Arbor, Michigan. I want to thank you for your work. And I want to also say something about fairness. As many others have. We are all very

wishing we are going to have a fair maps. The Senate map cherry V2 seems to achieve that. I'm glad that Washtenaw and County and Jackson County are united. The Congressional and house maps are not, are favoring the republican or minority party and I think you can do better. Promote the vote has maps that score well on political fairness. I hope you will look at that. We need to strive hard to obtain fairness to help heal our divisions, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 29, James Scott.

>> Jane if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> My name is Jane Scott and I'm a 32 year resident of the City of Midland. On behalf of the thousands of flood victims in Midland and Gladwin County I want to thank you for proposing Pine version five stat house map recognizing flood recovery and reduction needs. I would ask you to tweak the apple map at the Congressional level to align with these community needs. Currently there are no Congressional maps that do this.

In fact, all the Congressional maps keep the City of Midland with Flint. Our cities have different social, economic, cultural and industrial needs. When this Commission has heard differing views around the state, you have provided alternative map versions. Please do the same for your Congressional maps for Midland. Keep Midland County with Gladwin County in a separate District from Flint. And thank you very much for your time and all your efforts.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 30, Linda Pell.

>> Hi, my name is Linda Pell a long-term resident of Calhoun County. I want to thank the Commissioners for taking on this important and complex task. I urge you to keep the cities of Battle Creek and Albion together in the same State House District. Over 16% of our County population is Black with the overwhelming majority of people of color living in these two cities. Splitting the cities apart greatly diminishes their ability to have a voice in state governance. Many organizations in these two cities share a mission of strengthening the Commissioner education and health prospects and making them a clear community of interest. This State House District is a competitive seat. Evidenced by a 50-50 split between democrats and republicans elected in the past three decades. This District clearly meets the standard for partisan fairness. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 31, Colleen.

>> I'm from Brownstown Township in Wayne County. The Michigan State house needs the same partisan fairness in adherence to the Constitution that was shown in drawing the Michigan Senate maps. I appreciate the public comments were considered when drawing the Pine version five map and I support that map for the State House. Please continue your good work. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 32, Soh, Suzuki.

>> Good morning, my name is Soh. I'm a resident of Detroit. First of all I want to thank the Commission for considering our neighborhoods to be put together. That's the east side of Detroit. East English village cornerstone village and morning side. So I appreciate the fact that they are in the same districts for the house and the Senate as well as Congressional District. However, I am concerned that many of the districts on the east side of Detroit are stretched out into Montcalm County and I don't believe this serves the interests of Montcalm residents nor Detroiters. I would appreciate the Commission concerning keeping the municipal County boundaries as part of the consolation in making these boundaries. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. No. 34, Holly Hughes.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you. From Muskegon County I would like to see the apple map. The apple map will keep the lakeshore communities of interest with Muskegon being the anchor with Ottawa and Allegan. Please allow Counties to stay as whole as much as possible. The other two plans are not conducive to communities of interest. The birch plan puts Muskegon with an added dozen of non-lakeshore Counties. The chestnut plan unless gerrymandering is edited out it should be rejected because it's just carving up the west side. Apple is the best plan of the three. If this Commission wants to put Grand Rapids in the lakeshore District, please keep Muskegon and Ottawa County whole and place communities of Grand Rapids, Grandville, Walker, Sparta, Township and Byron Township in it. Please adopt the apple plan. Thank you for your consideration and have a great day.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 35, Cilla.

>> Yes, thank you very much for letting me talk today. And for all your hard work. I live in Ann Arbor. And I really like your design of the maps combining some parts of Ann Arbor with parts of Jackson. It shows a compact map balancing constituents of those two towns. I'm really supporting partisan fairness since otherwise we will get back into gerrymandering. We don't want to put all the constituents voting for a certain party together in one District. So there are only few left for balanced representation in other districts. Please balance the presentation for politicians to be elected except extreme views which is happening right now in some districts in Michigan. They will be better equipped to negotiate agreements with members of opposing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 37, Emma.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Hello.

>> Can you hear me, okay? I'm Emma. I'm 22 years old and lived in Southwest Michigan my whole life. Thanks for allowing me to speak today. I want to say these

maps are clearly gerrymandered for democrats under guise of partisan fairness.

Michigan is not a blue but purple state and elected three democrats and republicans on the top of the ticket do not rig the maps of one party or another like you are doing now.

Give everyone equal opportunity to compete and a chance to have their voices here.

You were created to draw fair maps but they split cities and communities in

unreasonable and partisan ways the maps are obviously gerrymandered and far worse than the last maps the Commission proposed. Please don't do this to our state. Thank you so much for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 40, Barbara Spice.

>> Hi, I'm Barbara Spiece from Waterford Michigan. I as everyone else very much would like to speak in support of partisan fairness. I've voted for decades with the maps gerrymandered so that it took one and a half democratic votes to elect someone to every one republican vote. So I think partisan fairness has to be upper most in your mind as you finalize these maps. I do support the birch map for Waterford Township. It keeps Waterford intact which has not happened in the past. And related to our communities around us that we have similar economic and other interests. So thanks for your work. Thanks for being willing to serve and thanks for letting me speak. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: You're welcome you are welcome and welcome and 42, Jennifer Austin.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Jennifer you are unmuted and free to address the Commission.

>> I'm trying to start my camera. Like the thing is right over top of it. There we go. Hello Jennifer Austin City of Midland yesterday the Commission voted to move forward the hickory ap map with the goal to improve partisan fairness Skoals but it only improved them by decimal points that is not enough. I've been watching meetings closely and when the partisan fairness are read my heart sinks 5% of republicans is not good enough. I ask that today you take your best partisan fairness maps from each category and improve them with the stated purpose of drastically improving partisan fairness scores. 0 is the goal and realize that is improbably. Make what changes need to be made and Bay City of Midland house direction to make the most fair maps you can possibly create. Respect COI and other criterion and do what was stated the other day and give options. We would like to see a Midland Bay City House District and provide the people with the best partisan fairness score you can. Give them the option to comment on a map that achieves the purpose of this Commission a map that reflects the electorate and strives to partisan fairness and does not benefit one party disproportionate.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 43 Angela Osborne.

>> Good morning.

In being a lifelong resident of Taylor Michigan I'm very concerned about the redistricting maps. Historically Taylor we have only had one State Representative and you know we have shared that representative with Romulus and a small portion of Van Buren Township. And Romulus are neighbors we have common interests so far as Metro airport. Historically the south end of Taylor had a larger concentration of minority voters which I'm you know very afraid that would be not properly represented if we were, in fact, included with many of the cities south of Taylor. Taylor would be split in three separate districts right now. I can honestly believe that if Taylor were to be represented by a representative from Monroe that person would not understand what our needs would entail and how would a State Representative in Taylor understand the issues a rural farmer would encounter. I also mention -- no audio.

>> Hello, can you hear me? Hello, my name is Tarun-Aggarwal and wanted to say thank you so much for making a more partisanly fair State Senate map and now I just wanted to say that now a fair State House map needs to be drawn more fairly. That is 4.3 efficiency gap is a bit too high and too much favor one party. So I really am urging and asking you to bring that partisan fairness gap close to 0 as possible and really comply with the Voting Rights Act for minority majority districts. And to do follow with the AFLCIO maps. So thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 46, Bill Kipf.

>> Yes, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you, real quickly Monroe County and the current house maps you have drawn is sliced up in four representative districts that would be very imperative to the residents of Monroe County. We are much more rural in nature and have differ needs than Wayne County by taking the northern half of our County splitting it in three and moving part of that in the Wayne County area would give us poor representation and help with the economic development plans we have going. We feel we would be left out and don't have people who care about Monroe County. The current situation of two House Districts has been working very fine and very helpful for economic growth and for legislation. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 48, Korey Morris.

>> Hello, good morning, Commissioners. My name is Korey Morris. I'm a Taylor resident and I'm concerned about the Pine V5 map. The City of Taylor is divided into three districts at the State House District level. This division places Taylor residents in the south end of the City predominantly Black part of our town at the mercy of voters all the way down in Monroe as previous commenters have stated. I would suggest keep the current District with Romulus and parts of Van Buren. Taylor has 60,000 residents

and simple. I hope the Commission can keep my hometown together. Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 49, Thomas.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: That participant is not present. We will move to number 50.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay Kareem.

>> Thank you for allowing me to address the Commission. I'm a lifelong West Michigan resident currently in Grand Rapids Michigan. I'm also with the greater Grand Rapids Branch of the NAACP. Michigan is a changing state and maps must be drawn to reflect the full diversity of the state and the growth and communities of color. The current plans are heavily gerrymandered along partisan lines. And they pack Black voters in a few districts and dilute their political representation. Statewide. Since 2010 there has been a substantial increase in the Black population in several districts. Black population increased in nine Congressional districts more locally the Black population increased in 19 State Senate districts and 71 State House districts. Any maps enacted must ensure communities of color are adequately and fairly represented. The current MICRC plans fail to do so. We are in favor of the apple maps. As relates to Kent County. We do ask that this group comply with the Voting Rights Act. Thank you for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 53, Margaret Shankler.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, it made me rejoin. So I'd like to thank the members of the Commission for hard work and success in adopting the Senate map cherry two. Version two. That is better for partisan fairness at 2% efficiency gap than the previous maps while still considering communities of interest. But I think some of the speakers who think efficiency gap of 2-4.2% in favor of republicans is somehow rigging the process in favor of democrats. This points to how accepted partisan gerrymandering is in our state. My current Senate District is 70% democrat and I am a democrat. If my concern was partisanship, I would be unhappy my District is no longer safe but I take the purpose of prop two to heart. Fair means fair. It's important for democracy and voter participation that every vote counts. I believe our District has low turnout because things are a sure thing. Other speakers I urge you partisan bias is 0 to all ma'ams and support promote the vote map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 54, Liz Ratzloff.

>> My name is Liz I live and work in Washtenaw County and have lived in Southeast Michigan all of my life. I wanted to thank you for the work that you're doing to reach

partisan fairness particularly in the State Senate map. Unpacking Ann Arbor is really important for partisan fairness and I urge you to apply the same principles to the house and Congressional maps. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 55, Cindy Wier.

>> Weir. Good morning, Commissioners can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Okay, good morning, my name is Cindy and I'm from Midland City. Any way just wanted to say this morning that Michigan voters passed prop two to rid our state of a rigged system. I'm so happy that our legislatures were not drawing the maps this time around. For their own political gain. Any way please get to close to 0 as possible. If you are over 1% you need to have more work done. No one on this Commission should vote to approve a map that gives a disproportionate advantage to one political party. I trust the Commission will do the right thing and tune out all the noise and draw fair maps. Michigan voters expect 0 partisan bias from this Commission. Competitive Government is good Government and will be good for all of Michigan. Thank you for all your hard work and I trust you will do the right thing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for that trust. Number 56, Adam Benjamin.

>> Hello, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> Okay, good morning, Commissioners thanks for allowing me to comment on your redistricting efforts. I want to thank you for all the work you put in to creating the new maps and prioritizing partisan fairness. Especially in the State Senate map cherry V2. I think that map demonstrates your Commission to partisan fairness. As a resident of Ypsilanti Township, I'm really happy to see Ann Arbor be unpacked into two districts so that my community and Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township has more of a voice in state Government. I hope you will apply the same principles and values of partisan fairness to the State House and Federal Congressional maps which I think still have quite of work to be done on them. Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 57. No, number 60 Amara-Vear.

>> Number 60.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, please address the Commission.

>> Thank you. Hi, I live in Ypsilanti Township Washtenaw County. I want to note I'm pleased with I-94 corridor solution on cherry V2 as majority of my family live in Hillsdale County. I believe that it creates an actual possible competition in this new District. As I know many family members who are in a minority party in Hillsdale really some who wouldn't even bother to run since they would always lose. I hope your refined map has our comments in consideration will ensure all people regardless of party feel empowered to participate in democracy. And shape our future. Thank you for the hard work that you're doing designing our future for the next decade. I dreamed of this

Commission since high school when I learned how gerrymandered maps dominated so many states including our own and I trust you will aim for low bias scores thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 63 Erica Peresman.

>> Good morning thank you for allowing me to address the Commission today. My name is Erica and I live in Birmingham. I voted for prop two in 2018 along with millions of other Michiganders. We voted to end partisan gerrymandering and replace it with fair maps. Fair means no political party has an advantage. Neither republicans nor democrats should have an advantage in the maps that you are drawing. However, the Pine State House map has a 4.3% efficiency gap. It benefits republicans on all partisan fairness measures. There are other maps that have been submitted that have been talked about today, the promote the vote maps the AFLCIO maps and other maps that achieve way better partisan fairness measures. I know that this is a difficult task. Balancing all of the constitutional requirements is certainly not easy. And you will not be able to make everyone happy.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 64, Viviana.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Viviana if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me? Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> I'm a proud homeowner in the south side of Lansing since 2018 and grew up in the area since age 11 thank you for drawing the maps I'm sure it has been a difficult task. I would like to thank you for splitting Lansing in two Senate seats and listening to every resident in the Lansing area to unpack the Lansing five. This will help close the gap between the gap between parties this is the same type of fairness we need to see across the state Pine V2 has 4.3 efficiency gap and I would like to see the gap go below 1% so everyone across the state feels equal representation and comply with the voting rights act and make sure there is equal majority and minority representation. We want everybody to feel represented across our state. Please do the right thing for our neighbors and yours and draw the maps fairly and equally and not gerrymandered. Thank you so much for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 67, Hayg.

>> Can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> My name is Hayg a professor at Wayne state University and live in Detroit and working with ethnic and minority communities on redistricting. Keeping communities of interest is a higher priority than issues of partisanship and want to strongly commend you for your work in that area. Specifically for keeping the Latino of Grand Rapids together in all the maps and commend you for keeping Bangladesh together and prefer

apple and birch for the community. Apple and birch are fair to the Romanian community and Arab community you kept the community together and apple and birch and in the cherry Senate map. Those maps are very good but the Pine house maps splits Dearborn the heart of the Arab community between districts 3 and 4. Please fix this and keep Dearborn whole. No matter what changes you end up making to the maps Commissioner I urge you to keep Latino Bengali and Latino as you have so far. The third highest priority in drawing maps and essential, thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 68, John.

>> Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> Election fairness is a concern on the electorate in the State of Michigan one person one vote is the goal. I propose the redistricting maps on the basis of political gerrymandering. It perpetuates the concern of voter fraud and unfairness. I see Oakland County Macomb Washington Wayne Counties split up. I favor redistricting and respectful of the communities. One redistricting in a manner that splits in a manner that splits communities in a manner that perpetuates political fairness. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 69, Daniel comfort.

>> Hi, Commissioners, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Wonderful thank you so much for your time and your work this morning Commissioners happy Friday sure do appreciate all the hard work you have done in the important area of civic life current resident of Ypsilanti new homeowner and lifelong resident previous to that of Ann Arbor Michigan. I want to speak out in favor of the current maps two particular regards most importantly I want to speak of unpacking of Ann Arbor as an overall good as a resident of Ann Arbor I can tell you it's really quite a diverse town and those interests can be really represented by unpacking the districts so I admonish the Commission to maintain unpacking of Ann Arbor. I want to speak out in favor of the unification of 94 corridor between Ann Arbor and Jackson as somebody who spends a lot of time commuting on the 94 corridor, I can speak with quite a bit of confidence saying they are a united community of interest having them together is better for both communities electorally community and culturally thank you for your hard work happy Friday everyone have a nice weekend.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Happy Friday. Number 71, Dina.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Great, my name is Dina and I live in Troy. I wanted to reiterate that these maps will impact us for ten years, so their importance is tremendous and appreciate what you are doing. As it has been noted these maps must have less than a 1% advantage to anyone given party in order to be nonpartisan yet every proposed map means republican by much greater than that. This means these maps are partisan by

definition. Even in map Pine version five which thankfully keeps Troy whole rather than splitting it we see 4% statewide republican advantage. It's concerning to me that in a democratic leaning state we somehow keep ending up with maps that lean republican. Our Constitution requires they are nonpartisan with a little more work I'm sure you will get there. Thank you for your commitment.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. We are going to return to Denise Miller.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Denise if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Hellos thank you all for doing all your good work. I was really sad last night to watch what went on with hurrying up and making maps. I'm very sad to see the palm map come out because I think it's totally one sided and there is a little joke about people eating out of the palm of someone's hand. I think you guys need to do the right thing. I think a 0 is where we need to be. I voted for prop two because I want to see that 0. I believe that the people of Michigan are tired of gerrymandering and I think you guys have a job, you're getting paid, and you need to do it right. Don't stand on party lines. Do your job. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. We are now going to return to our in person public comment, number 13 when you're ready, sir.

>> Thank you because my glasses will fog up and I can't see what I wrote. Dear members of the Commission we are chartered to have maps with the Voting Rights Act and communities of interest. Frankly politicians could do all this but we know what the self-interest is and ask you to set that aside. But again they can get voted out. You're here. Law requires you to have public meetings and protect communities instead of politicians. And when you folks meet in private that hurts. And ask you to abstain and refrain and just not do that. Michigan does still retain 13 Congressional seats and those seats belong to all of Michigan instead of 3 protected seats for multi-generational politicians whose family in one case has 90 plus years in DC. This leaves ten seats for the remaining 10 million of us. I'm from Ann Arbor. We have been split within Washtenaw County in the cherry map. The only visible community of interest is reasonable access I-94 and all the construction barrels.

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

>> Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We would love to hear you on the public portal if you submit the rest of your comments. Thank you for coming. We will return now to our live remote public comment, which is number 72, Judy Herrick.

>> Hello.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: We can hear you.

>> Thank you. Hello, Commissioners, I'm Judy from Caledonia, Michigan. I don't know much about the rest of the birch map but I do know that the configuration in West

Michigan is not acceptable. The map already what's a high bias in favor of the republican party. And completely disenfranchises minority communities in Muskegon, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. I supported Voters Not Politicians and support the work you are doing on the Commission. I urge you to please fix West Michigan, the apple and chestnut maps provide some options for how to do this. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 73, Andrew.

>> Hi, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes.

>> I want to thank you guys for the work you are doing and letting me speak. I do want to push back against some of these assertions that these partisanly fair maps are somehow gerrymandered. I think folks are used to have the maps stacked in their favor and if they can't win on fair maps that is theirs to deal with. I want to you know I know I'm beating a dead horse saying partisan fairness is important and that a 4.3% efficiency gap is just unacceptable. We you got close to it close to 0 on the Senate map and I think we can do it on the house map as well. Let's just get those numbers down to 0.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 74, Sonya Patrick.

>> That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we have number 75, Mari-Rymar.

>> Hello, hi my name is Mari-Rymar from Ypsilanti I would like to thank you for your work in drawing a more partisanly fair State Senate map. Thank you for taking our feedback seriously and making connections. I ask you please do the same with the State House map and reduce the 4.3 efficiency gap. Our Constitution mandates that districts shall not provide a disproportionate advantage to any political party. A 4.3 efficiency gap in favor of one party is still too high. I also thank you for listening to the voices of residents in Detroit and to please continue complying with the Voting Rights Act while drawing the maps. Another way to improve democracy is to stop the process of prison gerrymandering at least in the State House and stat State Senate if not at the Congressional level because our state laws already require Counties cities and towns to exclude people in state prisons who are not residences and it should be the same on the state and house Senate levels. Redistricting community in Pennsylvania has already acted on its own account incarcerated people.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 76, Max Lewis.

>> Hi, Commissioners, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> I just want to start by saying thank you all so much for the incredible amount of work you have put into it at this point. I know this has been a long slog of a process but we are really grateful for your dedication as the maps get more complicated and the decisions get harder. I do want to remind you all that partisan fairness should not be

sacrificed for the sake of communities of interest as we all know communities of interest are inherently a subjective measure. So saying we should dismiss a quantitative measure of partisan fairness for the sake of subjectivity is not in line with the Constitution and it violates sort of the spirit of this entire Commission and the Voters Not Politicians movement which is the reason we all here. Lastly, I just want to say that partisan imbalance in our maps has been a plague for our state for generations. In my opinion you all are heroes if you can fix this. Please stay vigilant and stay on top of it and don't settle a compromise for anything. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 77, Micah Perkins. Bless you. Gazoontite.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: If you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Apologize sorry about that my name is Micah Perkins and live in Grand Rapids Michigan. Thank you for the extra work you put in for the Grand Rapids area in the State House and State Senate maps. Our community is very well represented on those final maps. My concern is with the Congressional maps. All three still have a very heavy republican bias and are unacceptable from a partisan fairness perspective. I urge you to continue working on another Congressional map option that is more fair and balanced. It's important that my area of the state has at least an equal chance for partisan fairness which it has not had for such a long time. Thank you very much for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 78, Anastasey-Manolatos.

>> Hi, I'm a resident of Chester field Township I want to thank you for your work on the palmer fair Senate map and increase the partisan fairness of the State House maps. 4.3% efficiency gap is too high in favor of republican party and also wish you to encourage south Michigan districts regarding Detroit. That being said I also want to address a few previous comments regarding that partisan fairness is gerrymandering. If you consider partisan fairness gerrymandering then you have been clearly reflecting of the fact you have been benefitting from previous gerrymanders by the legislature that have drawn their own maps. So if partisan fairness is gerrymandering to you, you are reflective of the problem of gerrymandering. So that said, please adhere to the Voting Rights Act and please consult AFLCIO fair maps project for redrawing the State House and Senate and submit the maps and consult of your wishes but use the maps for finishing up your work. Thank you for your time and have a good rest of your day.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 79, Jill.

>> Good morning.

In regard to the current Michigan house Pine map, I'm dumb founded by the deliberate dissection of Counties that should remain intact. Allegan County population 120,000 is

being divided into six districts. Lenawee County population 99,000 is being divided into four districts. I realize that those Counties need to have some of their constituents in a different District but this is ridiculous. As for districts 11-19, what would possess you to think it's a good idea to cross County lines when there is no justification to do so? No one wants their communities chopped up. In both of these cases how can any representative effectively represent their constituents? You are literally breaking up communities for the sake of partisan ship and gerrymandering and that can happen to the person who just spoke before me. If that is what this Commission was tasked to do, I would like my vote back and like common sense restored thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 80 Kyle.

>> Hello, my name is Kyle. I'm a lifelong Michigander who was born and raised in Warren. I just want to say I really appreciate all the hard work the Commission has put into making these maps. I know the work has been tiresome and sophisticated. And I want to thank you all for proposing the State Senate map cherry that has decent partisan fairness. There is a Lake of partisan fairness in your proposed state house map Pine. The current State House Pine has 4.3 efficiency gap that is much too high. This 4.3 efficiency gap unfairly favors one party. Please draw State House map that brings efficiency gap as close to 0 as possible so we have partisan fairness. And remember partisan fairness is not gerrymandering. Also please ensure you are complying with the Voting Rights Act particularly in regards to districts containing Detroit. I urge you to look at the AFLCIO's fair maps project maps for more information. Thank you so much for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 81, Alex.

>> Good morning, Commission thank you for your excellent work on this very difficult task. I'm from Ypsilanti and in my opinion, this proposed District map is a substantial improvement especially District 15 which is along the I-94 corridor. I'd like to I guess speak to the folks who have commented that people living in these areas don't have any interest in common. I could not disagree more. I-94 is one, if not the busiest and vital corridors in the state logistics and vital goods. During this time of unprecedented supply chain problems I think it's more important than ever to shore up our communities along this corridor and to you know, really focus on our similarities more than our differences. I think we have a tremendous amount of interests in common and again I applaud you for doing such a wonderful job in this very difficult task.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 82, Christopher Graunstadt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Christopher you are unmuted and free to address the Commission.

>> Good morning, Commissioners thank you for your time and efforts here. First, I want to appreciate the efforts that are represented in Pine map version five. I'm a resident of Troy Michigan and I'm delighted to see that my community remains intact in that version of the map. Secondly, I would also echo the comments made by many others about the importance of partisan fairness. Despite my comments about maintaining my community of interest in Troy I think the overriding priority and the entire intent of anti-gerrymandering effort is directed around partisan fairness so we encourage you to keep moving with those efforts. Again thank you for all of your time and effort in this task which can sometimes be mundane and thankless but many of us support the work you are doing and look forward to the final results of being fair and balanced. Thank you so much.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. Number 83 Tyler Wagenmaker.

>> Good morning, I'm pastor Tyler I'm a lifelong resident of Ottawa County long time pastor here. I want to talk about briefly the three Congressional maps. The apple birch and chestnut. The apple map first of all thank you, thank you, thank you. I look at that map and I'm like you really get West Michigan in that map. And it so appreciate the apple map. And the thoughtfulness and especially really recognizing West Michigan for what it is a really unique special place. The birch map I guess still awful, awful, awful on the birch map. It's awful because my small congregation again is divided into three Congressional districts. Separate ones. I done have a large congregation three different Congressional districts, I'm like the chestnut map again I honestly look at this map and I say it looks like someone has a manipulative political agenda when I look at this map. I said this is not what we wanted at all as citizens. So.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 84, Tina Catron.

>> My name is Tina I live in Troy Michigan. First of all thank you for the opportunity to speak with the Commission today. I appreciate all your hard work during this process. I'm sure that this is and will continue to be a daunting task. First, I want to say that I agree with many of the comments that have been made here today. It's been very educational to learn about the concerns of other communities. Because I live in Troy Michigan, I you know think the overall goal should be to create fair partisanship within the maps mainly to respect County lines. So as an example, the chestnut map in the State House group of maps you know, groups you know it shows like what we want to see in this area. So Oakland County communities should not be grouped with Macomb County communities. So my recommendation to the committee is to draw the maps without partisan bias.

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

>> That participant is not present.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Do we have 86, Alexis.

>> I'm a lifelong Michigan resident and want to thank you all for your hard work. This has not been an easy process and we are all still learning as we go. We saw so much improvement in regards to partisan fairness for the State Senate map and I'm really happy with the way the Commission has clearly listened to the public about how important partisan fairness is. And unpack the Lansing five. It's so important for our democracy for you to keep that same energy and try to get the efficiency gap down as close to 0 as possible. Because while 4.3% is better than it was before, it's still too high. This is not gerrymandering. It is incurring a fair process and giving everybody an equal voice. Thank you so much for your time.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 87, Sarah Woolsey.

>> Hello, Commissioners, my name is Sarah and I'm from Grand Rapids, Michigan. I took a look at the Congressional maps that were submitted for final approval along the comments on those maps. Each map as you know has a mix of positive and negative comments and we also have heard that about each one of those maps here today. If you improve partisan fairness, keep the communities of interest together that you're hearing about and increase the chances of consensus. Although the birch map does appear better over all it does split up minority communities here in West Michigan in separate Congressional districts and none of these are competitive. The west part of the apple map does the best job keeping communities of color together and maintaining partisan balance and chestnut is good as well. I put together two maps and submit them to the portal IDP8747 one is a combination apple birch and one is chestnut birch map consider making one or both of these maps as final options. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 88, Jacob Inosencio.

>> My name is Jacob and I was born and raised in Jackson County. Since May you have got a ton of comments from both Counties near me Jackson and Washtenaw County. In support of connecting Jackson and Ann Arbor along I-94 community of interest. You are getting an organized attack against you for partisan current and former elected republicans and campaign operatives including the county GOP Chair and I think it's important to know this is an organized effort and against my community of interest and against your hard work which is outlined to do the exact opposite of what is being contested here. So I just think it's really important you know that. I think the politicians are upset with you on either side you are doing your job because they want the safe seat and you are working against that for the sake of voters and for the sake of partisan fairness. So I just want to thank you for your work and thank you for your efforts on this. And as a new young voter I really appreciate it.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 89, Karen Santelli.

>> Hello folks can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Hi Karen from Cascade Township again. I'm so glad you listened to the Cascade community and making the changes we asked for in the State House and State Senate plans. Thank you, thank you. You're truly listening. I just wanted to make some brief comments about the Congressional map for West Michigan. I really like the apple version two map. I think it's the best for West Michigan and keeping Ottawa County whole. And combining the very similar cities of Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo. I think apple is great. However, I do understand it's not popular. Outside of West Michigan. I've been hearing comments and following these meetings about birch map being more favored there. And I encourage you just to look at the taking the best of both worlds and don't throw out the good with the bad. So I like apple V2 for West Michigan and maybe look at components of birch for the other part of the state for creating your Congressional maps. Thank you for what you're doing.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Before we move on to the next one, I want to acknowledge we do have our Chair back here with us who has joined the meeting at 10:35 so Katherine Daligga.

>> I'm in Ypsilanti City thank you all for your time and dedication to this challenging undertaking. I have qualified support for the State Senate map cherry two and Lyndon these improve somewhat over earlier maps on partisan fairness metrics and endorse the divisions of Washtenaw County. The State House and Congressional maps as proposed however still need work. I'll suggest for example all of tiny Huntington Woods be in one House District. Based on standard fairness metrics all the published maps still lean unduly republican. Proposal two was designed to create a process for fair redistricting. Fair districts create the realistic chance for the party winning the most votes statewide to win the most seats. I urge you to honor the principles behind prop two create maps that eliminate partisan bias fulfill the main dates of the Voting Rights Act. Thank you all for your hard work.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you. For that appreciation. Number one excuse me 91, Elizabeth Benyi.

>> I'm from Calumet, Michigan. And I appreciate the hard work and you rising to the challenge of the work that was ahead of you. I would like to recommend that you really work hard at trying to avoid the partisanship in the state Congressional maps. The late great highly respected Ronald Regan-abhorred racial gerrymandering there are numerous videos on YouTube where he speaks to these issues. Although your work is nearly done, the task is still not completed. Please work very hard at trying to address the partisan bias that is in the Congressional, the state Congressional maps. Thank you for your hard work and despite all the challenges on behalf of the voters.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 92, Allen Scott Ells.

>> I did it. Hi, can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can. You did it.

>> Okay, my name is Allen Ells I'm a resident of Saginaw County Michigan. I want to speak in support of the proposed plans that you've done with the goals of partisan fairness and getting the partisan fairness scores as low as possible. The Commission was given a difficult task. Revise Districts to be fair to both parties in essence you're recommitting to a purer form of democracy. Where ideas contest and money is less of a dominant factor than it is now. The proposals I've heard discussed this morning undoubtedly are not perfect but they are worlds ahead of what we have now. We are too often one's vote is made meaningless by gerrymandering in the candidates of one party are virtually guaranteed victory. The goal is to be neutral. I come from Massachusetts which is the inventor of gerrymandering. And I encourage you to recognize that in the long run it's not healthy, it was not healthy then.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 93, Daniel.

>> Good morning, Commissioners can you hear me.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> Thank you, good morning my name is, Danny I was born and raised in Jackson Michigan. And this Tuesday the people of Jackson elected me as mayor in a nonpartisan election. I was disappointed to learn that some of you are stereotyping our entire County and trying to give all of our representation to the same community of interest and rogue voters less than half of the population of our County. Jackson County's rural voters got their representation in the Congressional map and I'm happy for them. Urban and suburban Jackson voters asked to be put in with Ann Arbor and other cities wall long I-94 and the State Senate but some of you want to take our representation away. Please do not allow one community of interest which already has its representation to veto ours. Please do not stereotype Jackson out of fair representation. Please hear our voices. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 94 Bridgett.

>> My name is Bridgett and I'm from Ann Arbor. We in Ann Arbor are tired of being packed into dense districts when in truth the people who work at the University who work at the hospital and have interests in common with downtown Ann Arbor come from areas that extends outward in all directions. So go with maps that split Ann Arbor. This is in the interest of the wider community. We deserve our votes to count as much as anybody else's. I would also note partisan fairness is not to be interpreted as fair enough not to be thrown out by the courts. So we would like partisan fairness to be actually fair. I also want to say what an absolute joy it has been to watch you take into account the tens of thousands of Michiganders all of the state who brought their concerns to you. This is so different from the totally secret and politicized process that

happened in 2011. And mostly I want to say please be successful. We need you to so we need you to succeed at this task so please you are the heroes of 2021.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 96, Julie.

>> Good morning can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Good morning yes.

>> Yes, I've been watching your hearings. You have called out republicans for participating in the process yet all the maps proposed for the City of Midland and Midland County come directly from the Midland County democrats talking points. With the exception of the Pine V5 State House map there are no State Senate or Congressional maps that keep the City of Midland with the rest of the County and the District with our Gladwin neighbors. Midland's flood recovery and reduction needs are not partisan. As we've said since this process began in May the flood waters don't care what party was voted for but what does matter is that making sure all of our voices are heard and that our area maps are representative of our community and its needs. With that please tweak your State Senate map and apple Congressional map to include all of Midland and Gladwin Counties in districts together and separate from Flint. All voices need to be heard.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 98, Marcy Paul.

>> Good morning I'm Marcy Paul from West Bloomfield and I've been watching this process intently because I strongly supported prop two like millions. And I was tired like most people speaking today of seeing the party that got the most votes statewide continue to be in the minority in the house both the house and Senate, State House and Senate. And this remains my main concern because the flawed analysis that you're using is producing the very issues that we tried to solve in prop two. For instance if you look at 20 -- using the 2016 election if it was applied to your current house map republicans won by 10,000 votes and would have at least 18 seats majority. But if the 2018 results were applied where the democrats won by far more substantial 10% of the vote, they would have the same 18 seat.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 99, Evette McRoy.

>> Hello, can you hear me now.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Yes, we can.

>> All right, good morning.

The Commission has heard from hundreds of people asking for better representation for Detroit. Now that your experts say you can go over 50% for the number of Black voters in a District, this should make it much easier for you to make the necessary changes to improve representation for Detroit. It seemed that what was holding you back from making big changes was your interpretation of the VRA. We want communities of

interest considerations you gave to the rest of the state. There has been plenty of testimony from people who have talked about neighborhoods and local communities that exist within the City. Listen to your Detroit Commissioners. Look to the AFLCIO maps for inspiration. They reflect our City well. We need you to redraw Detroit. You cannot approve a map that doesn't accurately reflect the communities that exist within Detroit. Redraw Detroit. You spent hours debating other communities around the state like Midland and Ann Arbor. We would like to see that same thought here and consideration.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 100, Douglas.

>> Hello, Doug glad to be number 100. Thank you for your work. I ask you to keep Livingston County whole. I ask also on behalf of our people here in Livingston County when the Commissioner maps are issued and given that they become available to the public as quickly as possible. So that the people can look at them when they need to. I just also ask that when these maps are taken in that they are not taken in from outside people. And I think it would be very unfair that we come down to draw the map out of a hat.

If we draw the map out of the hat all of your work in my mind would be very almost as nothing. And so come.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 102Art-Reyes.

>> Good morning my name is art Reyes a lifelong Michigander and resident of Genesee County. First, I'd like to speak in support of the cherry map version two. And to thank you guys again as I have in the past. For the hard work that you're doing. You had a lot to unwrap from really the last 20 years where we've had gerrymandered districts. So of course some people are going to be very upset that the maps no longer look the way that they did when they were purely politically motivated. Unfortunately these same people are also the ones who have introduced and forwarded voter suppression bills in the State House. And State Senate here in Michigan. We need to make sure we are getting to a point where every District is competitive so we can have work that's done for the people of Michigan. And not for one particular party or the other. So please continue to attempt to get partisan advantage that is close to 0% as possible. Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN:

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Connie Cook number 104.

>> Good morning.

I'm Connie Cook. I'm a voters not politicians volunteer. And I have spoken to you before. Today I want to point out that your success with redistricting will be judged in the future by the public, by the media, by historians, by only one number. And it's the

partisan fairness number. If you get it down to 0, or very close to 0, in all the maps, the story will be that Michigan's redistricting process succeeded. If you don't, they will say you just created new gerrymandered maps to replace the old ones. That one number is what really matters, so please prioritize it. And thanks for the great work you are doing. I'm so grateful that you're not engaged in partisan bickering, good job, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 105 Lisa.

>> I'm Lisa from Northville Michigan. I'm a democrat. But I'm not asking you to draw maps that favor democrats or maps that favor republicans. As yesterday's NBC news Article stated republicans are trying to manipulate your Commission in their favor by concentrating on communities of interest. These pack democrats and prevent partisan fairness. Don't let them manipulate you. Fair districts help those parties minimizing the election of extremists. Michigan has seen a rise in extremists after ten years of gerrymandering. On January 6, Americans, American saw an insurrection but an extremist faction stop the cycle and draw fair districts. It's good for republicans and democrats. It's good for Michigan. Most importantly it's imperative for our democracy.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 106 Ann.

>> Hi, my name is Ann and I live in Midland County. I know you have heard a lot of comments these past few months and from watching these hearings you have done a good job of offering communities alternative versions of maps. I'm sorry. When there are differing views. Unfortunately for the thousands of flood victims of Midland and Gladwin County, there are no Congressional maps that keep the entire Counties of Midland and Gladwin together.

In fact, there are no Congressional maps that separate the City of Midland from Flint. Please don't discriminate against our community by not offering us the same consideration. Please tweak your apple Congressional map to give the victims of Midland and Gladwin Counties a chance to have their voices heard.

We need unified representation at the Congressional level. Midland and Gladwin Counties should be kept whole and together in a Congressional District that is separate from Flint. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 109.

>> Good morning. First thank you for your service. My name is Calila Spencer and I'm a homeowner in West Bloomfield since 2004 and live in a gerrymandered District and serve as the Chair of the legal redress community for NAACP and secretary of Detroit NAACP and pleasure of serving as board president for promote the vote. It's not a political organization and has gone through great lengths not to get caught up in Commission politics and try to serve as a resource and there is a path for Michiganders and fully expect the Commission to follow it. I encourage you to consider promote the vote Congressional and house maps in final deliberation because they are fair and equitable. No map is perfect but Congressional map does a better job with advocate and fair represent takes for communities of interest and making sure no political party

has unfair advantage. Please submit the maps for the final portal for consideration and again thank you for your service.

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rosa, if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> Good morning I'm Rosa holiday from resident of Bay City. And I'm very concerned about having fair representation. We have a chance through you to receive that. So far, our maps have been favoring republicans by a large margin. And so that should be changed. We have been gerrymandered for over a decades. And if you can draw maps that reflect a 0 bias and that would be great for all of us here in Michigan. And so I want to thank you for the maps that the birch version two Congressional map for our area the cherry version two, Senate map. And if you can work on that Pine house map. But thank you so much, Commissioners, for your work and I really appreciate what you are doing, just do the right.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Amanda Oster number 113.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Amanda, if you can unmute you are free to address the Commission.

>> Can you hear me now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> Perfect thank you. Thank you, Commissioners Wagner Lange and Clark, for hearing the voices of thousands of flood victims like myself in Midland and Gladwin Counties and working to put forward Pine V5 State House map. I would encourage you to take another look at the Congressional maps to put forward an option that keeps Midland and Gladwin in entirety together in one District. There are currently no Congressional maps that do this. All of the proposed versions put the City of Midland with Flint. Flint has competing interests from ours and would dilute the voice of thousands who need unified representation please tweak your maps and keep Midland and Gladwin Counties together in a separate District from Flint. Over half of our community voices have been dismissed give Midland a Congressional District that puts us back together in a separate District from Flint. Our communities are vastly different why are there no alternative maps that provide this option for the public's consideration? Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 114, Richard Williamson.

>> I'm Richard Williamson from Grandville and Kent County thank you for your work on the State House maps your work on Pine map version five truly reflects the public comments of West Michiganders and creates fair and representative Districts. Thank you. It is appreciated. As you finalize the State Senate maps, please refer to public comment and keep Ottawa County mostly whole and Kent County mostly whole. When

you draw Kent County districts, please do not combine fair outline farmland with downtown Grand Rapids. They do not share much in common. Rather include the gather Rockford school District which is largely composed of suburban developments. This is a much better community of interest. Map P7 excuse me map P8747 best achieves this. Again thank you for your work creating Pine map version five for the State House. Please carry that same attention to detail to your state Senate map and refer to P8747. Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Next in line is number 115, Robert Dindoffer.

>> I am on, but I don't have the link. It's not.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you so we can hear you.

>> Okay great, thank you. So let's start. I would like to request that you take a look at some of the Detroit neighborhoods and some of the Macomb County neighborhoods in the State Senate map to make a few minor shifts that will make some communities whole. The first one is in the north end of Detroit. North end neighborhoods should be made whole. You could do this by shifting a little bit of population from five to six basically making those Detroit neighbors on the north end whole which was requested at the TCF center. The end result of this, these shifts will be more of the Chaldean community can be put together in Sterling Heights as well but step two is to make Macomb Township whole by moving population from five to two. That will make another community whole. Third step either make Shelby or Oakland Township whole moving population from 16 to or from 16 to 2 in the State Senate and the fourth one with move population in Sterling Heights from 6-16 to move more of the Chaldean.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 116 Meagan R.

>> Good morning, Commissioners first and Foremost I want to thank you for everything that you have been doing so far in this process. I'm not here to talk specifically about maps but more about the process. You guys moving forward. I know that the Commission is going to have a conversation today related to individual Commissioner submitting maps for the Monday deadline. And I just would encourage you under the wonderful stance of transparency you have so far that if you guys continue to have the deadline Monday at Noon that Monday afternoon that those shape files and all of the information for the maps submitted by the individual Commissioners be published on the website for the public. Thank you, guys, for your time and appreciate all that you're doing.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 117, Yousif-Yousif.

>> Hello Commissioners. Good morning. It's Yousif. I support apple V2 and Magnolia for house map. I appreciate Commissioner Eid for being persistent and giving Chaldeans a bigger voice. Thank you, all Commissioners, for approving Magnolia for publication. I want to thank you all for all your hard work. You Commissioners did a

phenomenal job on impossible task that is music for my ears to hear people complain about your maps. As I said you know when both parties complain. Please, please only approve the current maps that are collaborative and published we don't want the nightmare scenario discussed yesterday. Reminder community of interest a higher priority than efficiency gaps and there is not a subjective measure. I'm not subjectively Chaldean. Thank you again for all your hard work I will continue praying for each one of you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Number 118, Jake S.

>> Hear me now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, we can.

>> There we go okay thanks. So yeah, you folks have been putting a lot of work. This has certainly been a long call today so thanks for that. I would also like to ask for the Commissioners individual maps and shape maps be posted after the Noon deadline on Monday. So yeah, thanks for giving me the opportunity to talk appreciate it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is number 119, Darryl, I'm going to kill it so we are just going to say Darryl C.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Darryl, if you can unmute yourself, you are free to address the Commission.

>> Daryl if you can hear me and you can unmute yourself you are free to address the Commission. It looks like Daryl may be experiencing audio issues, I would recommend we move on to the next participant.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you miss Reinhardt. Next in line is 120, Joanne.

>> Am I speaking now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> Okay I'm Joanne I'm a resident of Washtenaw County. And as a citizen I'm very grateful you made this Commission especially you are soliciting and listening to feedback like this. I'm speaking in support of the current State Senate drawing cherry V2 for District 14. As a Chelsea resident I appreciate having the rural areas balanced out with the cities along I-94 corridor. These rural and City residents actually have a lot in common and this will help us find that. I'm pleased to see that the positive comments on the map to this District far outweigh the negative. Thank you very much.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is 121, mark Payne.

>> All right good morning, Commissioners thank you for your work. My name is mark Payne take a minute to submit individual maps. You can now submit in your individual maps have a robust VRA analysis that includes voting patterns, voting participation primary da, da, da that and Black history and studied and apply your VRA lawyer said you can have 55% BVAP for community purpose. I look forward to your maps. Please

make these available to the public on the portal and the my Districting aspect as well. My community of Detroit has true political cohesiveness, thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is oh, is 26 Pamela.

>> I'm sorry, today I'm Pamela and I'm the vice president of the Michigan State Board of Education and the Chair of the Michigan State conference NAACP health and education committees. Today I ask the Commission to continue to improve the maps drawn to make sure that the voices of the community of interest yet fighting for their Government systems to protect health water air and land and ensure some access to equitable education and economy is not weak in the community of interest where the median household income is upward 2.5 times lessen that the state and poverty is upward 3.5 times greater and African/American Hispanic population is 2-3 times greater the community of interest where we have adverse health conditions at higher rates talking COVID-19, infant mortality, lead poisoning, cancer, et cetera. A community of interest where over 65 years after Brown versus Board of Education children still had to sue their Government for right to literacy, schools classrooms with teachers, books, heat.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission. That concludes our public comment for this morning. However I would like to mention that all e-mailed and mailed public comment is provided to the Commission before each meeting and the Commissioners also review the public comment portal on our www.Michigan.gov/MICRC website on a regular basis. We appreciate everyone who provides public comment in whatever means they choose to do so and invite you to keep sharing your thoughts community of interest and maps.

As has been our practice without objection we will I'm sorry Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm not objecting to the normal practice of taking a break but I do want to see if it would be appropriate to discuss the amended items on the agenda first before we go into our mapping process today after we return.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: I guess I'm thinking about for myself I'm a little nervous about it. I would like to start with a positive thing. I guess what I'm saying that is my personal like I'd like to finish mapping and then take do it like we did yesterday.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: This definitely affects mapping and I think it needs to be discussed before we map.

>> VICE CHAIR ROTHORN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: But again we can you know talk about that once we return.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, Rhonda did you have something to say?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: I was going to say I would be in favor of that also.

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>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so without objection we will now stand in recess for 15 minutes. It's currently what? Doughnuts. 11:07 a.m. so we will be back at what do we want to say? Let's say 11:20.

[Recess]

>> CHAIR SZETELA: As Chair of the Commission I recall this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission back to order at 11:22. Will the secretary please call the roll.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Sorry about that.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Please say present when I call your name. If you are attending the meeting remotely, please disclose where you are attending remotely and disclose where you are physically attending from. I will call on Commissioners in alphabetical order starting with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

Anthony Eid?

Brittini Kellom?

>> COMMISSIONER KELLOM: Present.

Rhonda Lange?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> VICE COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

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

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: 11 Commissioners are present. And there is a quorum.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would like to have a motion to new business items that were added to the agenda.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Before you do that because approving the mapping process, which is 6A, might alter based on 6B do we within to go straight to 6A and I'm sorry the other way straight to 6B.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: 6B then 6A.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay again General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Good morning to the commission the 6A is the mapping process or the discussion for clarity?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 6A is the mapping process.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I would just offer that Commissioners have requested and I have spoken to litigation counsel and are preparing a memo regarding the questions presented yesterday at the meeting and will have that by Monday morning and will distribute it to the full Commission immediately upon receipt. There for I would recommend that you hold both discussions in abeyance to Monday and set a meeting on Monday that way the Commission can have a relevant discussion and proceed on the advance of litigation counsel. That applies to yesterday and the mapping document which is proposed to be modified based on the motions so I would offer those for the bodies consideration thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Is there a reason we cannot push it to the next scheduled meeting which is the Monday prior? When is our next meeting? November 18th.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Two weeks.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: The issues as captured are whether in regard to the submission of individual maps by Monday at Noon and whether those maps go forward with or without the individual maps going forward with our without a Commission vote. So I would offer that the Commission would need to have that guidance prior to Monday at Noon and that the Commission would need to receive and react to that guidance before the individual Commissioner maps would be published. So I don't believe I would not advise waiting until two weeks after the deadline to.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: If the deadline is at Noon and we have Noon we have a bunch of public comments and it goes past Noon and we push everything back.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So my thought on that is because of that because of what she is suggesting realistically individual Commissioners will still have to have maps in by Noon. And if we pivot on the decision and say that was not necessary, that's not preventing any one from in December that is kind of what I'm thinking. Realistically we are going to have to have them in by any way and if that was in error and we want to

change it then there is no harm and no foul on having them published. Because we still have the ability in December to then bring them. So that would be my thought process. Is that Monday is not going to give people if they haven't you know haven't done their map enough time to get it done.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair if I can jump in so thank you for those thoughts. So the reason and I'll just give my impression so Monday at Noon is when the Commission self-imposed a deadline to have maps submitted. So you will be receiving your legal opinion prior to that. Even if you meet after 12 Noon, if the action of publishing or not publishing or how the individual maps are published or not published and by that, I mean whether they are going forward automatically, whether it needs a Commission vote all of those questions the answers you will have those answers by that time. So those decisions, again, if you needed to modify a decision, if you wanted to say no we are good and publishing everything in this manner but if you are not in a meeting, you won't have the opportunity as a full body to do that so it what's to be in a meeting. The publication at Noon is or the deadline of Noon is just the deadline at Noon. Again, because you have your anticipating this legal memorandum it would not be appropriate to publish anything or do anything until the Commission reacts to it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lange?

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: With all due respect I would kind of like to know before Monday. There has been calls that have gone out to our mapping people. And it just seems like if it's not of dire, you know, if we don't have to hurry and if we can wait until after the 45 days if we don't come to an agreement then submit the maps. It just seems like knowing one way or the other the sooner the better and waiting until Monday just seems like a waste to me. But whatever the Commission wants.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you so much Madam Chair that is an excellent question Commissioner Lange. Let me be clear the Commission has voted to have Monday at Noon be the deadline for Commissioners to submit individual maps. What I'm saying is that the Commission should proceed under that because it was a duly adopted motion during yesterday's session. What I'm saying is that the Commission should have the benefit of the legal opinion that is requested before action is taken whether to public those or whether to not publish those but I think creating the maps for those Commissioners that want to do so should be done and should be submitted Monday by Noon. It's just a question of moving forward at that point. I hope that was clearly stated. The question about December 30th, I would encourage everyone to see these as completely independent questions going forward. So what is going to be addressed on Monday is the individual Commissioner maps and the manner in which those move forward to the 45 days of public comment. And that is separate and apart from again the subsection 14 and the questions there because that is at the end of the 45 days, so for litigation counsel's purposes and addressing the Commissioner's

immediate needs the individual maps and going into the 45 days is what you will receive guidance on Monday. And I would encourage, again, that a meeting be scheduled on Monday so that the Commission has the benefit of the legal guidance and can ascertain at that time after having that guidance how it would like to proceed. Which again may be publish the individual maps and they just move forward. I certainly don't have any presupposition what the memo will say because I'm not writing it.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I'm assuming Baker Hostetler will be available on Monday to answer Commissioner questions?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair, I can definitely check put that question to them. I did not ask that question. In our meetings. I'm certainly happy to do so. I would, however, indicate that the guidance will be provided under privilege. And so if the Commission would like to discuss. Those attorney/client communications that would need to be convened in closed session.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well, to the last comment that is totally inappropriate. All of these discussions regarding these questions have taken place in open meetings. And the advice that I expect to get from Baker Hostetler should certainly be also in an open meeting. There is nothing here that we are discussing that hasn't been discussed and talked about. We are not talking about litigation strategy. We are talking about an issue that has been brought before us and before the public and they have heard it.

The second question is has Baker Hostetler been presented with a written list of questions to respond to? General Counsel? That is a question.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA:

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Go ahead General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you so much Madam Chair and to Commissioner Lett question you can have non-privileged discussions in open session but I would disagree. I think when your litigation counsel is identifying legal risks and issues that that would in fact you would not want to have that conversation in open session but certainly there are in your Voting Rights Act counsel and I had numerous discussions of topics in open session. But if you were going to have a discussion about the privilege materials then definitely. But be that as it may the conversations with counsel, yes, a list of written questions all requests for services to either your local counsel or litigation counsel I put into writing. There are no requests for services that are forwarded that are not put into writing. I believe that would be inappropriate to do that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So I would request that you forward that list to Commissioners so we can review the list. I also think the issue of the closed session ultimately, we have to vote on that on Monday any way. So because we have to have, I believe a two thirds vote to go in closed session so question with cover that issue on Monday. So I

think that the topic on the floor right now is are we going to defer discussion on 6A and 6B until Monday? Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So I would say, yes and I would make a motion to add a meeting on Monday. I'll withdraw my first motion and add a motion to add a meeting on Monday for discussion of these items.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't know what time though.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we start at 9:00 or 10:00? Because we are already set up in here and I don't know if they break down over the weekend.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: We should be able to start at 9:00.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So start at 9:00 and we got to bake in two hours for public comment so maybe 9-1 does that make sense? I mean I would say we got to bake in two hours at least for public comment.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's do tentatively you can do 9-3 and if we need to if we are done early, we are done early.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: What is your motion.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Add a meeting on Monday the 8th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Motion made by Commissioner Witjes seconded by Commissioner Vallette. Whoooo. Is there any discussion or debate on the motion?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I'm not participating in debate. I would just offer that Commissioners have until Noon with which to draw their maps and submit them so that might be a consideration as well.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Or we could just change that date, to Tuesday. You know.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: No because there is all sorts of things that happen on the back end when we submit maps and we don't want to crunch Michigan Department of State on stuff like that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let me change it then have a meeting on Monday the 8th starting at 12:01 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Are you withdrawing your initial motion?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Initial one is withdrawn.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I have not withdrawn it now we have a Monday meeting from I'm sorry 12:01 p.m. very specific to 6 p.m. in Lansing I'm assuming.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Do we have a second?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: What are we changing.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: The time the maps are due is Noon.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Two hours of public comment prior to that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That's true.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You are going to be drawing your own maps while listening to public comment? That doesn't seem like a very good thing to do.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: I think if you don't have your map done by 10:00 on Monday you're not getting it done. So I don't have a second yet but Janice are you suggesting we do 10-4 and that would give us the two hours until Noon or what is your thoughts?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Okay 10-4.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we have a motion that has not been seconded. So motion and a second to have a meeting on Monday from 12-6. We have a request for a motion to amend is that what you're making motion to amend the time from 10-4.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Please turn on your microphone Commissioner Vallette.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Second to motion to amend seconded by Commissioner Lett. Any debate or discussion on the motion to amend? All right, all in favor of amending the times of the hearing from the initial motion from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. please raise your hand and say aye. All opposed raise your hand and say nay.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Nay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we have two nays. We have 13 here? Do we have 13? We have 12 by a vote of 10-2 the ayes prevail and move to motion to schedule the Monday meeting as amended from 10-4 p.m.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair please excuse the clarification and Commissioner Lange was the second no vote just to confirm?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right any discussion or debate on the primary motion as amended? Which is to schedule a meeting on Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All right all in favor raise your hand and say aye. All opposed raise your hand and say nay.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Nay.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: By a vote of 11-1 the ayes prevail and the meeting will be added to our schedule. At this point it's appropriate do we need to do a motion to postpone the new business until Monday or just.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair, if the items on the agenda are not addressed, they are automatically put forward but certainly the Commission can just request that it be listed on the agenda, that the Executive Director will prepare.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay thank you very much. All right so I think we have kind of resolved that topic for now. So let's kind of recap where we are. So we I'm sorry Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So what time does that meeting end?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 10:00 a.m.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: End.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: 4:00 p.m.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I motion to change the time where individual maps are due from Noon until 4:30 p.m.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, we don't have a second on that right now. Do we have a second on that motion? All right so.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I'll second.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So we have a motion by Commissioner Eid to move the due date or time for submission of individual maps until 4:30, right? 4:30. Any discussion or debate on the motion? Go ahead Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well, the reason I think that might be a good idea is because the conversation Monday might change people's minds on if they are to submit individual maps or not.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well, the only thing that would really change is whether or not they are going to submit it at Noon or at 4:00 because they are not going to know what our decision is. So if the decision were to change, and they didn't have to submit on Monday at some time, and could submit them at any time they would be taking a big chance. So if you leave it at Noon rather than 4:00 we are helping out Secretary of State's office and there is no question then that they are going to have to get it in and if we change and they can get it in at any time they have already got it in. Potentially depending on the outcome could maybe put in another one for all I know. So that's the reason I would oppose shifting it to 4:00.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay let's go ahead and vote unless there is additional comment. All in favor of shifting the deadline until 4:30 for individual maps raise your hand and say aye. Yep, this is a motion to shift the deadline for individual submissions of maps until 4:30 p.m. on Monday one more time all in favor raise your hand and say aye. Opposed raise your hand and say nay. By a vote of 11 or I'm sorry 1-11 Erin voted no too so by a vote of 2-10 she voted yes by a vote of 3-9.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can you specify what your vote is?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I voted no I voted yes, I was with Anthony.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You're with Anthony that is fine.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: And Madam Chair again unless it's a roll call vote the vote count is not into play so this motion by a voice vote was clearly the motion failed so if there is a question about the voice vote then a roll call vote would be appropriate but voice votes they carry or they fail.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right now we have that issue resolved we can move back to our deliberations recapping where we were at, we worked really hard this work and we

have advanced three draft Congressional maps, we have advanced and three draft so the Congressional where chestnut birch and apple and advanced three State Senate map palm Lyndon and cherry and three house maps Magnolia hickory and Pine version five. At this point is there any interest on working on additional maps anyone have anything they would like to propose or bring forward. Go ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Before we move on you made a request for the written questions from General Counsel.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: To Baker did we get a response ton that from General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: My response earlier was yes and my response now is yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Just one second. All right.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: What was your last question.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Is there anything else we need to cover or propose additional maps or work on maps.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm working on one now we should have within 30 minutes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: You want it to be collaborative map or submitting individual?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Absolutely collaborative, yeah.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm making the changes right now.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: So what map is this?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: A Congressional map and the intent is to put Gladwin and Midland County together.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay what map are you working off of?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Working off of chestnut.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Kent can you bring up chestnut and direct him that would be efficient for Kent to make the changes and create a copy or a clone. Correct because that other map is locked. Commissioner wise?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Would it be wide to have Commissioner Clark take his laptop since he has been working on it and maybe easier to do it that way.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: If he would like.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I can do that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Make sure when you direct Kent you have your microphone on so the public can hear what you are saying.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I will be done in a second.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Are there others besides Commissioner Clark's? I see Anthony has his hand.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid your microphone is not on.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I thought we had an understanding we were going to compromise on the Midland thing including it in a house map which is what we did. I'm just not sure this is a wise route to go down because then okay we changed on the Congressional map well then, I think what is going to happen is somebody is going to change it on a house map too to make it included in the House District and that is not the route I want to go down. I think it's just going to complicate things moving forward so.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would agree Commissioner Eid on that fact. We discussed at length the areas in Midland and how we would configure these items, and specifically address the Midland situation in the House Districts.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: My recollection of this was the discussion dealt with the Senate and the house map, but we never included the Congressional in that.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: That would not be my recollection. Yeah, and honestly if we are going to do this, and it's going to advance, I am going to want to go back to our house map and restate that Bay City, Midland and take Midland out of because I think if we do it in one then, we are not going to honor what we discussed a couple days ago, then we should change the house map as well.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay, I will withdraw it.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Madam Chair, was that voted on? Because I don't recall a vote. Was it voted on? That was left one way in the Senate it would not be in the house? Or it would be in the Senate and a certain way in the house?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It was a discussion that we had.

>> COMMISSIONER LANGE: Was it voted on? Because I did not vote on it and that is not something I would have agreed with.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think the vote, well, I can't recall. I'm going to withdraw the map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, we did not vote on it. We did discuss it at length. It might have been in one of the sessions where you weren't here earlier in the week. So Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, I was just going to answer Rhonda's question. We discussed many of the very controversial areas where we've heard multiple requests for two different things or three different things. And we decided we would try to work on, yeah, compromise by giving some people what they want in one map and other people what they want in a different map.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: It was in the spirit of, you know the recognition that there are three sets of maps we are doing and we can't give everyone everything they are asking for in every map because that is impossible. Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I apologize for the confusion. My recollection is wrong.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right, anyone else want to work on a collaborative map or can we move on to our meeting minutes? I think we are done mapping, yeah. Whoooo.

All right. Next on the agenda are the minutes for approval from the October the 22nd public hearing in Grand Rapids at the DeVos place and the Gaylord public hearing as well. The minutes have been provided to the Commission prior to the meeting. Are there any edits? Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Move to adopt.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Can we do them one at a time?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: May I have a motion to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2021, Grand Rapids public hearing. Motion made by Commissioner Witjes and seconded by Commissioner Lett. All in favor raise your hand and say aye. Opposed raise your hand and say nay. The ayes prevail and meeting minutes from October 22, 2021, Grand Rapids public hearing are adopted.

May I have a motion to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2021, meeting in Gaylord?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So moved.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Motion made by Commissioner Witjes, seconded by Commissioner Lett. All in favor raise your hand and say aye. All opposed raise your hand and say nay.

All right, it looks like we do have a staff report today starting with Executive Director Hammersmith. You are there.

>> MS. SUANN HAMMERSMITH: I wanted to thank everybody for all your work. Everybody has worked very, very hard through this process. And it should be a day of celebration of the effort that has been put in to making fair maps for the State of Michigan. So I applaud you. And I'm very proud of this Commission and the work you have done. And I just wanted to be able to say that today.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: I can always talk, Madam Chair. No, I would echo the Executive Director's comments and it's just amazing to watch the Commission work through the process as a team. And it's a very exciting day for the Commission. Congratulations.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you. All right. If our communications and Outreach Director, Edward Woods, III, has an update we would allow him to do so.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Two thumbs up.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Anything else you would like-to-add other than that? Okay, the man of many words is only got two thumbs today, that is okay.

All right. Next, we will move to Michigan Department of State. Without objection, I will ask Sarah Reinhardt from the Michigan Department of State if she has a report.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Just want to echo the words of your Executive Director. As someone who has been a part of this process from the application period through today, and who has held each one of your applications in my own hands prior to the random selection, it's really been a treat and an honor to have witnessed what happened here. And congratulations to all of you.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right. Correspondence received in advance of our meeting today was provided to members of the Commission in our meeting materials. There are no future agenda items to share at this time. Does anyone have any announcements?

As the items on our agenda are completed, a motion to adjourn is in order. Go ahead, Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: A question for General Counsel. If the Baker memo is as it comes out determines that our process that we developed for the 45-day period in the maps to be submitted is against the amendment and the Constitution, have you -- has General Counsel requested that they provide what the process will be, that would be pursuant to the amendment and the Constitution?

>> CHAIR SZETELA: General Counsel?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you so much, Madam Chair. Yes.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: All right. Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I move to adjourn.

>> CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you. Commissioner motion made by Commissioner Witjes, seconded by Commissioner Eid to adjourn. Is there any discussion or debate on the motion? All in favor raise your hand and say aye. All opposed raise your hand and say nay. The ayes prevail the meeting is adjourned at 11:54 a.m. Thank you, everybody.