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MICRC

09/08/21 10:00 am Meeting

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>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: As the Vice Chair of the Commission I call this this meeting of the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission to order at 10:09 a.m.

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

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

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

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

This meeting is also being recorded and will be available at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC for viewing at a later date and this meeting is being transcribed and 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, and unless your absence is due to military duty, please disclose your physical location by stating the County, City, Township or Village and the State from which you are attending the meeting remotely.

I will start with Doug Clark.

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- >> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.
- >> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Present; attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?
- >> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?
- >> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?
- >> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?
- >> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

Commissioner Vallette? Commissioner Vallette may be experiencing audio issues, but I can see for the record that she is present.

- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?
- >> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?
- >> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.
- >> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Ten Commissioners are present.

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: As a reminder to the public watching, you can view the meeting agenda at www.michigan.gov/MICRC. I will now entertain motion to approve the meeting agenda. Motion made by Commissioner Witjes. And seconded by Commissioner Lett. Is there any discussion or debate on the motion? Hearing none, and it has been moved and seconded, we adopt the meeting agenda, all in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

Opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and the motion is adopted.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Madam Chair, I would like to make a motion to reconsider under Section 9.4, under rules of procedure, Line Item 7 from yesterday, the approval of minutes for August 26th, the first and second meetings. That is a motion to reconsider, so I'm moving that.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Second.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We have a motion to reconsider under 9.4 of rules of procedure, agenda Item Number 7, for the September 7th approval of the August 26

meeting minutes from the first and second meetings, which has been moved by Commissioner Rothhorn, seconded by Commissioner Lett. Is there any debate or discussion on the motion? Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: For what reason are we reconsidering the minutes?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I guess new information we got the information after we...

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All right.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any additional discussion on the motion? Aye.

Opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

All right. The ayes prevail and the motion to reconsider is adopted.

At this point I would consider a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: From August 26, the first round or both first and second?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We can do them individually or we can do them together.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Is it appropriate to do them together, General Counsel, or should we move each one individually?

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Good morning to the Commissioner.

Standard practice or practice and custom of the Commission has been to move them independently.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Then I move we approve August 26 the first meeting.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right. We have a motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 26, the first meeting, the 1-4 meeting. Is there a second? Second motion made by Commissioner Rothhorn, seconded by Commissioner Lett to approve the meeting minutes from the first August 26th meeting. Is there any debate or discussion on the motion? Hearing none, let's go ahead and vote. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes from the August 26 first meeting, please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed, please raise your hand and say nay.

The ayes prevail and motion to approve the meeting minutes has been adopted. I would now entertain a motion to approve the second meeting minutes from August 26.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: So moved.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Seconded.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So motion made by Commissioner Rothhorn and seconded by Commissioner Lett. And Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I have a question. We are just approving them again?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: What was the change?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: There was not a change in the meeting minutes. There was a concern with how they were distributed and posted on the website.

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>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All in favor of approving the meeting minutes from the August 26 second meeting please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed raise your hand and say nay.

All right. The ayes prevail and the motion to adopt the second meeting minutes from August 26 is adopted.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Madam Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Apologies for the interruption. Commissioner Vallette, can you hear us?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes, I can.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Can you disclose your physical location?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I'm in Highland, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right. Without objection we will now begin the public comment pertaining to agenda topics portion of our meeting. Hearing no objection, we will proceed with public comment pertaining to agenda topics.

And, let's see, I'm sorry Department of State, how many in person public comments do we have this morning, if any?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Two in person.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much.

Individuals who have signed up and indicated they would like to provide in person public commentary will be allowed to do so. Please step to the nearest microphone when I call your name or number. You will have two minutes to address the Commission. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer. And first in line to provide public comment is number one. You are now invited to address the Commission.

>> Hello.

My name is Jason Peek. I live in Eaton County. I come before you today to ask we have some fair maps drawn nonpartisan fair maps drawn for people of the state.

As you guys know, they are all drawn wishy washy and funny shaped and would like them to be nonpartisan a little more fair to the rest of us.

So there should be really no safe quote unquote safe seats.

I think that makes it unfair, undemocratic so thank you.

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

Number two?

>> Hello, my name is Kristina. I come from Genesee County and the town of Grand Blanc. I'm before you today and first of all I want to say thank you for all of your hard work that you're doing this.

I know this is a very difficult task you have ahead of you.

I'm coming to suggest that partisan fairness is part of a community of interest. And the biggest one. The voters in the State of Michigan have you here today because they don't want you to just pay attention to population and density in certain areas. They want you to pay attention to partisanship as well. And that is a critical part of why you are all here today.

The goal to me and to many other people is to have more purple districts, not red or blue.

We have safe red and blue districts, that is going to happen regardless. But the number one community of interest that you should follow is partisan fairness at this point. So if you need to split a City, you need to split a City to make sure the partisan lines are fair and that we have more purple, competitive districts.

Our representatives in the state need to get out and be more active with the people in general and to represent the people in their districts in areas regardless of if they are red or blue. They need to be more purple.

Thank you.

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

That concludes our in-person public comment today. We will now move to the remote live public commentary. Individuals who signed up and indicated that they would like to provide live, remote public comment to the Commission will now be allowed to do so. I will call on your name and our staff will unmute you. If you are on a computer, you will be prompted by the Zoom app to unmute your microphone and speak. If you are on a phone, a voice will say the host would like you to speak and prompt you to press star six to unmute. I will call on you by your name.

Also please note if you experience technical or audio issues or we do not hear from you for 3-5 seconds, we will move onto the next person in line and then return to you when they are done speaking. If your audio still does not work, you can e-mail us at redistricting@Michigan.gov and we will help you troubleshoot so you can participate during the next public comment period at a later hearing or meeting. You will have two minutes to address the Commission. And please conclude your remarks when you hear the timer. And first in line to provide remote public commentary is Theresa Mitchell. Please allow a moment for staff to unmute you.

>> Good morning.

Can everyone hear me well?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> All right. Thank you so much for allowing me this opportunity.

My name is Theresa Mitchell. I'm a resident of Detroit, Michigan 48205. And I come before you today just to ask that or express my concerns in regards to the mapping to Metro Detroit as I've watched and seen that you've taken more time and consideration in northern communities and we just ask that you consider giving Metro Detroit a little more time so that the process is more equitable.

And the Metro Detroit not be treated unfairly as it has in the past.

And so that is all that I request is that the Metro Detroit area be given the same amount of time for its mapping process as other communities have been.

And so thank you so much for your time on today.

And I yield the rest of my time.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

Thank you for addressing the Commission. Next in line is Mr. James Galant.

>> Can you hear me, Madam Chair?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I can.

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

And as I was talking to you yesterday about, we have some newly found information too.

And I have the rules of procedure from the Commission on apportionment from 1980 or the 1960s, the 1970s, 1980s. And as we know the house fiscal agency has determined that proposition two did not create this Commission.

It merely revived that Commission from before. And it already had four republicans, four democrats on that Commission.

And all it did was it says right in the house report, it says that all it did was add in people that were not affiliated with each party.

But it does require somebody affiliated with that party to be a republican, to be a democrat.

So this is all going to pan out to where you folks that are just kind of, you know, said you, you know, you self-identify and that you affiliate, that ain't going to cut it.

You have to be a republican, you have to be a democrat, and then ones or not.

So rules of procedure if the 25% of the vote was got by a third-party, that party would get four members on the Commission, which has been changed, of course, with the amendment.

But that...the rules of procedure did allow the Chair to designate their own replacement if they leave the meeting.

They did do that, but they did it because of the cochairs. One republican and one democrat. So that is why they said when a republican is Chairing, they get to designate their replacement Chair that day.

And it would alternate every day. Every meeting would be a republican to a democrat, a republican to a democrat.

So these rules still apply.

And Jennifer Dettloff has returned and committed to you that she does not understand whether she is or not. So I would ask you to join me.

I have asked for a special meeting of the legislative council in order that they can review the bipartisan, bicameral body established by the institution and to determine what this wording means.

And I have also, the Michigan Bar Association published an Article that said that this Commission was created. And another Article said that the Commission...

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission, Mr. Galant. Your time has expired.

Next in line is Jordan Schimger.

>> Good morning, Commissioners.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Good morning.

>> My name is Jordan Schimger. And I work for a committee organization based in Lansing. This is truly a historic moment. It is the only time that community members have been meaningfully participate in the redistricting process to have our voices heard so that voting Districts are drawn in a fair, transparent way. Especially Metro Detroit where historically we have been objectified on political end in the process.

I'm commenting today because I see the value in the work that you are doing and this process of cocreation. You need Community members' wisdom and input in order to guide your work.

It's something you outlined as one of your critical success factors.

I'm commenting today because I want to uphold my end of the bargain.

I'm asking you to listen to myself and others that have already raised this concern even today.

Despite releasing a new schedule just the other day, I'm alarmed that you all are not planning to spend enough time to map the Metro Detroit region.

I know that you approached this process of thoughtfulness and care.

I have seen it in the way that you have been mapping Northern Michigan.

My question is how will you do that for Metro Detroit? Our diverse communities in this area have been in and we are asking for you to spend an equitable amount of time mapping a region.

I know that you all have constitutional deadlines to abide by. And that's why it's critical you pause now and consider are you leaving yourself enough time for the move populous region in the state? Thank you.

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

Next in line is Josie-James.

>> Hello. This is Josie-James can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We can hear you, but you are a little faint. So if you can turn up your microphone or maybe put your speaker closer to you that might be helpful.

>> Okay, is that better?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That is better. Thank you.

>> I may be a little late, but I did attend this hearing yesterday when you were working on Northwest Michigan.

And, in particular, I did submit some drawings for you regarding the 92nd State House.

And I just want to reemphasize that the City of Muskegon and Muskegon Heights are home to the largest population of African/Americans in West Michigan.

This cities are together and they should never be separated in accordance with Section Two of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which states no voting qualification or for lack of a prerequisite to voting or standard practice or procedure shall be imposed or applied by any state or political subdivision to deny or abridge a right of any citizen of the United States to vote on the count of race or color.

So, therefore, we are thinking that any attempt to redistrict Muskegon Heights will diminish the voting power of the African/Americans in West Michigan.

Now, it was actually very interesting to watch you reconfigure the 92nd State House because if I was correct what it did is it appeared as though at the end of the thing yesterday it appeared as though you took Newaygo County out of the 92nd State House.

And that you went directly north on the coastline of Lake Michigan and added two more counties.

Now, I have not crunched the numbers yet.

And it all went down too quick for me to look at.

But I just wanted to be assured that, you know.

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

Your time has expired.

Next in line to provide public comment is Matt Dame.

>> Hello. Can you hear me?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Matt Dame from Jackson County. I spoke with you one other time at the Commission's very first public hearing in Jackson, Michigan.

Being that the Jackson hearing was way back in May and seeing now how fall is almost already upon us, I wanted to take a moment to reiterate the prominent communities of interest that came out of your very first hearing.

As a board member of the region two area agency on aging I personally shared how the R2AAA provides services to the elderly in Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee Counties by Federal and state statutes.

At that hearing I also -- was also surprised to hear how many folks came to the microphone to share the same Tri-County area in Jackson, Hillsdale, and Lenawee as they are communities of interest.

One lady mentioned the Irish Hills Chamber of Tourism Group and incorporated the same Tri-County area.

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Another gentleman mentioned the Tri-County planning Commission.

Another lady mentioned how the local NASCAR track impacts the economy of Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee.

I also heard a very compelling community of interest shared from the Chair of the River Raisin watershed. And the unique differences that the rural watershed faces compared to the more urban watershed. He stated this watershed comprises the three counties I mentioned, Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee. But he also pointed to Monroe and the rural western parts of Washtenaw as well as part of Northern Ohio.

As the third ranked criteria in the Constitution, please use these communities of interest that you heard.

And that were submitted in writing to help guide your work.

Thank you for your time.

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

Next in line, and I apologize if I miss pronounce your name, Aisha-Zanib.

>> Hello, Commissioners. Good morning. So my name is Aisha-Zanib. I'm a board of director with API vote Michigan. I'm from Oakland County here in Michigan. This is probably not the first time that you're hearing this, but I believe it's really important that you are.

I believe it's really important that the Commissioners adjust their plan to spend more time mapping the Detroit Metro Area.

As you probably already have seen there is a significant number of maps and submissions from this area.

It's important that you, like, we don't just overlook the hard work of our communities putting this together, just as one of the panelists mentioned that she had.

Detroit Metro is, the Detroit Metro area is one of the most populous areas in the state with about 40% of the State's population living here.

I understand that yesterday we changed the number of days from one to three, but giving yourself three days to draw House Districts is just not enough especially now that we are including Saginaw and Flint within the Detroit Metro Area.

I'm worried that you're not going to give an equitable amount of time to this area.

And I'm urging you please reconsider spending more time mapping out the Detroit Metro area.

So that it takes into account all the intricacies that exist and that it's -- it is in favor of the people.

Thank you for letting me speak today and I appreciate your time.

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

Next in line to address the Commission is Horsh-Smit.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the purposes of the public record, that participant and the following participant number eight is not present in the meeting.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much.

All right, that concludes the first opportunity for in-person and remote public comment. Without objection, we will now hear from individuals seeking to provide a second two-minute public comment.

Hearing no objection, we will now proceed with individuals seeking to provide a second two-minute public comment. Individuals who signed up and indicated that they would like to provide in person, I'm sorry, remote commentary to the Commission will now be allowed to do so.

I will call on your name.

You will be provided two minutes as you were provided under the prior process.

And when the two minutes has ended, please conclude your statement.

First in line to provide the second remote public commentary is Mr. James Galant.

>> Can you hear me now?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, sir.

>> Okay. James Galant, Marquette County Suicide Prevention Coalition and these are my opinions.

And, Madam Chair, I believe that the Secretary of State supervised staff just cut me off in the middle of my sentence last time. And it seems like the last speaker was cut off in the middle of her sentence. I thought we went through this, that you get to finish your sentence. So please correct that for us.

There is a lot of misinformation surrounding this community being thrown around, and the prior speaker said that this is the first time that the public would be allowed to participate.

Well, that's not true.

Because the rules of procedure that I have in my possession, I got from the Michigan archives yesterday from the history museum, stated it's now, that the public has the right to participate back from when it was a Commission.

Said they can come and submit maps and everything.

And so this is not the first time this has happened. And this is, well, just like I said, this was already determined to be a reviving that Commission that already existed.

I realize Commissioner Witjes doesn't like to think that you should be making rules that apply to a future Commission. And that somehow that should not apply in America under our constitutional, you know, democracy; but that is how it works in America.

So those rules do apply here.

And I would ask you to please join with me, like I said, to request, and do it, of course, independently, to vote today to request that this legislative council have a special meeting in order to review the misinformation in the community in order that they can determine that, like I said, bipartisan, bicameral body created by the Constitution. And that is what they are there for. And to also ask them about this situation that needs to be this misinformation.

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And also about the facts that there is no democrats and there is no republicans on this Commission now.

There...nobody has verified anybody's a voting member of either party. But this is what is going to come out later because the Constitution and everything else said there will be a democrat and there will be a republican. So you folks hide and you self-identify, but if you are lying and then it comes out at the end, we didn't have two republicans, two democrats actually vote for that thing, you're toast.

And then I think you should be prosecuted.

If you are holding that information back, you are not actually a voting member of these parties because that is what the intention of the Constitution is.

And the intention of the voters.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you for addressing the Commission, Mr. Galant. That was cool. That concludes our public comment for this afternoon. However, I would like to mention that all e-mails and remote public comment are provided to the Commission before each meeting. Commissioners also review the public comment portal at www.Michigan.gov/MICRC website on a regular basis.

We appreciate everyone who provides public comment in whatever way they choose to do so. And we invite people and continue to invite people to continue sharing their thoughts, considerations and proposed maps with the Commission.

Next, I'd like to move on to unfinished business, Agenda Item 5A. Without objection, we will continue our draft mapping reconciliation of State Senate districts that was started yesterday.

I believe we ended with Commissioner Eid yesterday.

So we will be moving on to Commissioner Lett because Commissioner Kellom and Commissioner Lange are not currently available.

So, Commissioner Lett, you will be instructing the line drawers.

And, Mr. Morgan, I'm assuming you will be sharing your screen.

Thank you.

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

So this is the plan we worked on yesterday and I believe there was a request yesterday to bring up some shape files, some boundary files from the area around Lansing that was previously drawn.

Would you like me to do that? As a reference.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Sure.

>> MR. MORGAN:

>> MR. MORGAN: This is one version in the Lansing area.

I have it outlined in red then I believe this is another which I will change to blue.

And I think Commissioner Eid had talked about one area that included Shiawassee, I think.

Let me double check this.

So this is one plan that had Shiawassee County with the Lansing area and East Lansing and that is outlined in blue.

And then there was a different version in the area again that is the blue one and then this is the other version that was Clinton Eaton and the Lansing was in this area.

So I will put those two on.

And then we also have previously drawn districts in another area around Grand Rapids if you want to go that direction.

Which I could bring up.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No.

>> MR. MORGAN: No, okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT:

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's include where we are.

We finished 33 with Ionia County so we are up, what are we up to 36 is going to be our next number.

>> MR. MORGAN: 32 if we are counting backwards.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I'm looking at 33, 34 and 35 I don't understand.

>> MR. MORGAN: So we started in the UP and we renumbered what had been District 1 to District 38 and then we did 37, 36 so we are kind of counting backwards if you want to do that.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay, you are just trying to confuse me thank you.

>> MR. MORGAN: Only slightly.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Appreciate it let's put Eaton County in.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so starting a new District with Eaton County.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: And Clinton County.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay so that takes you to 188,000, 76,000 more needed.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: And then the balance -- show me what is, if you can, the population in the Lansing, you had your pointer, right there and it goes up into Clinton County.

See what I'm talking about?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't know if you can do that.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm not sure, be a little more specific please.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You have your pointer on Lansing and the green line is the county line and above that is what -- those two areas.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, okay, so Bath and then the small portion of East Lansing.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay are you contemplating taking those out?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: In.

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- >> MR. MORGAN: They are already in.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay if they are in, they are in.
- >> MR. MORGAN: Yeah.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Then so I am 76.

Meridian Township.

- >> MR. MORGAN: Okay like that.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, that leaves 32?
- >> MR. MORGAN: Yes 32000.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: What's to the left or west? East Lansing is 45.
- >> MR. MORGAN: Right.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Scroll to the south.

Zoom out.

What population do we have to the immediate east of at where your pointer was.

That is Williamston and Webberville.

- >> MR. MORGAN: Yes.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Williamston and Wheatfield.
- >> MR. MORGAN: Okay still need 22000.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: What are the Townships in the southwest of

Shiawassee?

- >> MR. MORGAN: About 16,000 in this area.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, no.

Let's take in the rest of Ingham County, which is where your pointer is, Locke and Leroy.

- >> MR. MORGAN: Now you are down 16,000.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: Okay.
- >> MR. MORGAN: You looked at those and that was about 13 just for your reference.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't want to go into Shiawassee.
- >> MR. MORGAN: Okay.
- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: What is south of Locke and Leroy? Ingham, white oak

Stockbridge, Bunker Hill.

Put those in.

- >> MR. MORGAN: Okay, that's negative 269.

That is within the plus or minus 5 that is 7,126 and that also does have a hole in it I thought I would point out.

- >> COMMISSIONER LETT: What is that?
- >> MR. MORGAN: That is going to be a portion of East Lansing or probably Lansing Township, 600 people.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well if it's Lansing Township it has got to go with not there.

Is that what it is?

- >> MR. MORGAN: Just a moment.

What I will do is I'm going to click the Township and assign it to another District so you can see what the boundary.

I will just click it as a Township and I will select the whole Township.

It's part of the City of Lansing.

So that portion is legally part of the City of Lansing but it's population wise it's about 600 people.

I'm going to undo this to get back to where we were.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Scroll down to Alaiedon.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Put Alaiedon in.

>> MR. MORGAN: These are the two pieces of geography that are part of Lansing City.

If you wanted to include them or if you wanted to move something out to keep it contiguous.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: And this is a 0 population area.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Madam Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We did get a comment on the 24th of August about division of Lansing Township you know that they don't like the west side of the Lansing Township because it's such a big area that the Township could be divided. It doesn't have to stay in one area, the east side of the Township is you know associates with the east side of Lansing and the west side with the west side that we can divide the Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Also to clarify it's the City of Lansing.

I believe Lansing Township is over here, just this small portion that is my understanding.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well the Township is on both sides.

It's split.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: My thought process.

>> MR. MORGAN: So here is the portion that's on this side.

So this area in pink is Lansing Township. And then the portions that are enclosed here are Lansing City.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: MC, do you know what that northern right there is?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I think it's the board of water and light and it's a municipal it's the development but they needed water and I think it's the some of the, yeah, I think we got the satellite view I think you would see it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Can they see the population? If there is like 0 population.

>> MR. MORGAN: There is about 600 in there.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: 626, Kent is telling me.

And then I can bring up a different view, a satellite view.

So when you add up these blocks.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Just hold it right there.

Let me look at the streets.

>> MR. MORGAN: 626.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: All right bring up the satellite view.

>> MR. MORGAN: Let me change the District color a little bit.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That is good.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I'm fine.

I did not realize college fields was in Lansing.

You can go back to our, quote, normal view.

Now I have to put that, can that go with Lansing even though it's not contiguous?

>> MR. MORGAN: My understanding is you would need to draw a District that is contiguous so either you would put this into District 32 or you could take out a portion of Meridian Township.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Put it in 32.

They probably don't even know they are in Lansing.

The other one is Lansing but it's no population.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, that's my understanding.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You can add it to 32.

>> MR. MORGAN: Because we made these changes do you want me to check the contiguity?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Sure.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so it doesn't show any discontinuity in the software.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You do a wonderful job.

>> MR. MORGAN: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Zoom back out and all right here is my thought process.

I don't particularly like the shape of this, but I think it's a good District because Lansing is in the center and that should have its own District and it has enough population with Lansing and south to take care of that.

So I'm open to suggestions or comments or letting the next person do it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: MC can I get your thoughts on it?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yeah, I'm hesitant to do that doughnut, the shape like you were saying.

I think splitting the cities has been my go-to.

So and I know we did that in one of the earlier versions.

So, yeah, we need to split Lansing.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Why?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It could be its own District but my hunch is we are packing voters in, they are too urban.

Again demographically only.

Not talking about voters.

I said voters, if I said that I did not mean to say it but what I'm thinking about is the demographics the racial makeup.

And I'd like to mix the demographics and yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Then we would have to know what the demographics are.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I think if you look at 32 right now, we can try to look at that and see and that is why I think I like the you know splitting the City more. But, yeah, that is how I would try to make this.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Fill in with a different color Lansing, down to the south county line.

In other words I'm asking for a new District.

>> MR. MORGAN: I'll correct the assignment of these Lansing's City precincts in a moment.

Including Mason in this area?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: That should be all right.

Okay that is approximately 50,000 under what a District is.

And then I have to adjust 600 people back out for this.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That is okay.

So we are looking at Lansing, that 31.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Is there a City at the bottom we need to throw in? Yes, that might get you closer.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So that leaves us 63% white 15 non-Hispanic Black, 4% Asian, 10% Hispanic, 36% minority.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Uh-huh.

And there are many Black voters in Eaton County in the suburbs and in the Hispanic too and that is what I'm thinking about is trying to keep those demographics like the voting, I'm trying not to say voting but I keep going there I apologize.

It's the demographics I'm thinking about.

Trying to keep those the people of color together who have asked us to keep them together so they can choose their representations. And I think it's the suburban areas around Lansing.

So my hunch is to draw Lansing. And, again, I don't like the doughnut shape, so that is why I wanted to sort of associate west side of Lansing and east side of Lansing in general and then we have got.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: In order to do that you will have to go way south or way north or way east or way west.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I hear you.
Yeah.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: MC, did you -- I'm pretty sure you just defined the definition of packing.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yeah, that we shouldn't pack, correct?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct you stated that you heard and I quote people of color want to stay together.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And choose their representation choose their representatives because it's the community of interest I'm thinking about. The Hispanic group but this is the Senate district so I think it will be harder.

So yeah, that is the only reason I'm sharing it.

It's a Senate District.

It's hard to do this.

And.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I would also point out that we are only looking at the 35% minority.

So I wouldn't really characterize that as being packed.

If it was like 60, 70, 80 I would be more concerned.

Commissioner Clark, you had a comment as well?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I don't consider this packed at all.

But if you wanted to add more minorities to that, what part of the Lansing area would you add?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: MC do you have the maps that Mr. Brace had previously given to us? It looks like it's really just the upper corner of Eaton has a pretty significant Hispanic population and African/American population.

And then Hispanic travels a little bit down into Eaton along what looks like maybe a freeway along there.

But it's mostly the upper northeast corner that I would say.

So I don't know what the community.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: John are you able to pull up Waverly District?

>> MR. MORGAN: Waverly District.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That is the corner Grand Ledge but closer to the line. Delta Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, okay so is this what you're looking at?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yes, Delta Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Put that into this District?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well can you pull that up so we can know what the distribution of population is? Demographics.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so let's do this, the quick way I'm going to do this is I'm just going to create a new District with just Delta Township.

And then you will see the results in that.

And then I will undo that.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you so much while Mr. Morgan is facilitating Commissioner Lett's request, I wanted to address that the packing and cracking terms while I know we are using them casually in this context they have significant meaning particularly to Voting Rights Act compliance.

And I just would like to highlight for the benefit of the public that based on the racial bloc voting analysis done by the Commission's consultant expert, that they were not sufficient numbers of minorities in the community that the Commission is currently discussing.

So that the Voting Rights Act would not be implicated in this area.

However, under the third criteria which I believe is what Commissioner Rothhorn was focusing on as far as communities of interest and that the maps shall reflect the state's diverse population, what I understand to be happening is that a conscious choice to not split the concentrated minority communities would be undertaken in consideration with a variety of other factors.

However, that it's more trying to respect the diverse population of that area and keep it intact.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you General Counsel.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: When I look at the numbers of what Steve did and then what we just did and including Delta, those percentages are basically the same. I mean, non-Hispanic white is basically two thirds and your minority is basically one-third.

Either way you do it.

I prefer and I know you don't like the shape but I prefer what Steve has done.

But I'm not an expert on Lansing area.

And I think I would defer to you and Steve.

>> MR. MORGAN: And also just to clarify for the moment I'm just putting Delta in its own District so you can display the demographic information easily.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So what number is that? I can't tell.

>> MR. MORGAN: It says 30 so this is just Delta Township.

So it's 33,000 people and this is the demographic characteristics of the total population and then the voting age population is here.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: So what I'm seeing anybody can correct me if I'm wrong but the Delta Township which is the Waverly area basically pretty much mirrors Lansing.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: That is why I was thinking of adding them to the Lansing area.

And we've got some comment from the Lansing community where I think people said move Eaton to Ingham but I think what right they are not talking about the whole County even though they mentioned it I think it's the Waverly area and it's the diversity that is in that Section there.

In the suburbs that I think is the, yeah, I think General Counsel said it.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I guess I have a problem understanding what you're talking about with diversity since it's even across the board.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Racial diversity.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I understand racial.

But where are you seeing the numbers that are different?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Sorry what I mean to say is because it is -- there are significant excuse me not significant because of voting bloc racially polarized voting analysis not significant in that way but because there are people who have commented people of color who said we would like to be able to choose a representative and we haven't had that if we follow the County lines that is why I'm suggesting adding it to Lansing and I hear what you are saying.

It could go either way.

It could go either way.

That's why I'm saying it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: From what I understand MC is saying that we have two significant populations, one currently sitting in 31 which is the Lansing District one on the eastern edge of Delta.

Is it Delta? Or Eaton.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Western edge.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Western edge of Lansing.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Eastern edge of Eaton.

>> KIM BRACE: Madam Chairman this is Kim Brace.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, go ahead Kim.

>> KIM BRACE: But I'm not able to turn on the video so if Sarah could, there we go start my video.

I do have the pictures that we had shown to you before that I could share the screen so that you can benefit from those if that would be helpful.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes Mr. Brace, go ahead.

>> KIM BRACE: All right.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Can we get them as an overlay too Kim is that possible?

>> KIM BRACE: It is but we are working on that possibility.

I don't have that set yet but I wanted to show you what I had shown you before.

So that you at least have the benefit of the information.

This is a map.

Can you see my screen here?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, Mr. Brace.

>> KIM BRACE: This is the overall majority minority map for the entire state which we can Zoom down in.

You can see in Ingham that you have less of a majority white population in this area but we can look down into for example the African/American population and you can see the concentrations in Delta Township and Lansing as was being noted on that side.

And then we can look at the Hispanic population and, in that area, Hispanic is a greater percentage in Lansing itself as opposed to Delta.

So those are your over all areas.

And we will ultimately be able to show docs and densities in terms of percentages on the Autobound system too.

But I just wanted to give you that information for right now .

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you, Mr. Brace, that is helpful.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: As I look at this, and what came to my mind was putting the minorities in a District by themselves I think lends itself more to the house than the Senate.

Just like we talked about on the lake side.

Particularly when you have it in Delta Township and in Lansing as well.

I mean that is another approach to have benefit from there.

Again, I'm not an expert in the Lansing area, so I will defer to you, MC.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID:

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm sorry Commissioner Rothorn.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: What I'm looking at we do want to add population to this Lansing right we have to go further south into a much more rural area.

So it's just again trying to capture the you know if we are going to make a funny shaped District the suburban areas where there are demographics that support keeping, yeah, the demographics together especially because we have got that comment.

So.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I mean I think it's a community of interest why split it if we don't have to and we are already looking for population.

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: John could you overlay the blue overlay that you displayed earlier?

>> MR. MORGAN: Sure.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So I mean I just got to say I like this blue overlay quite a bit. Respectfully, in my opinion, I think that this would be the better way to go. It keeps Delta Township with most of the Lansing Area. And it puts East Lansing up with Clinton and Shiawassee. Clinton and Shiawassee are currently in a Senate District. And I don't understand why we are splitting up Delta from the rest of Lansing when we know we have to split up the Lansing area just because there is too many people.

It's just a question of where.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well it's currently split.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I disagree.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The argument is the same, Anthony.

You're saying that Shiawassee and Clinton are together along with Eaton County now in the Senate District which is correct and Delta is split off from Ingham County. Everything I heard about Shiawassee is they didn't want to be in that same District again.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So what is important about keeping that separate in your mind, Steve? Is it just you want to keep the County of Shiawassee separate? I'm trying to understand what the resistance is of moving the minority communities together.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't have a problem moving the minority communities together period.

I don't have a problem with that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm trying to understand.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You asked me a question I don't have a problem with that Shiawassee County has repeatedly stated they don't want to be with Ingham, Eaton and Clinton County and said they want to be their own entity as a whole County.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Uh-huh.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: If we want to add voting blocs off of Delta County into Lansing, that can be done because all of the concentration is right along Waverly road. It's not very deep.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Right.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Into Eaton County.

So the idea is to bring them in to Lansing we can do it that way.

And I will say that looking at the population demographics it's not going to make any difference.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: When we drew this Senate District before we kind of used the river, did we not in Lansing as the separator? West side of the river was significantly different.

And that's why we took that approach.

So I think we should reconsider that.

I like Anthony's analysis of this.

And I think it would be appropriate to take another look at it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: John why are we not seeing 31 listed on there? I see 30.

>> MR. MORGAN: I understand.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm just curious.

>> MR. MORGAN: I will get it.

There it is.

So again at the moment I just took Delta Township out and then it was part of 32.

And it's just holding there.

I can put it back to 32.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm just trying to see the demographics in 31 right now.

>> MR. MORGAN: Without Delta Township.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Delta Township is currently in its own little 30 right.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is right.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Can we bring up 32 so we can see them both, yeah, there we go.

Okay, but then 32 so if you ended up throwing that number 30 in with what is our current 32, because that's where it was originally.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, I will do that so you can see that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You don't need to do it right now that is fine.

It makes it easier I was going to say you are taking that so now we have yeah so now that 32% or what was 15% which was over 30% for that little cube of Delta Township, is now reduced down to 4% and 4% they make up 18% of that community versus if they were included with Lansing if I'm reading this correctly you would have 15%, 4% possibly more and the 9% again possibly more because you are moving that community and that's 36%.

Which is shown on Lisa Handley's analysis is often enough for minority voters to be able to pick their preferred candidate.

So just something to consider with that rather than putting those voters in the upper edge of Eaton County in with District 32 where they are not going to have much, if any, ability to elect their own representatives.

If we move them in with Lansing as a community of interest, then they would have a greater impact as voters in terms of being able to select candidates that they prefer.

So those are my thoughts.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It seems that the will of the body is to have Clinton Shiawassee and the eastern part of Lansing as the District, put all that together and see what it looks like.

Numbers wise.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I don't know about Shiawassee I would not comment on Shiawassee at all.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I was going to comment on Shiawassee if you take a look at that population, they will either be in a Senate perspective and a house perspective probably with Lansing or Flint or Saginaw.

So they can't stand alone like they want.

Just because of population.

That's going to drive a different scenario for them.

So to me it's a function of whether they are associated with Lansing or Flint.

What I know about the area I would say they are more associated with Lansing.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: That's not correct they are more associated with Flint.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So before I call on you Commissioner Witjes, Commissioner Weiss has just pointed out if we pull out our existing maps and look at the existing District, the existing District right now is Shiawassee Clinton and Eaton together and that is something that Shiawassee in particular wasn't happy with.

I just heard someone else.

Commissioner Witjes go ahead?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I agree 100 percent with what Steve is saying I do not believe Shiawassee associates with Lansing at all whatsoever.

At all.

Now as far as keeping their own entity I believe that was more along the lines of a House District, which but just based on population there is no way they are going to be able to be their own Senate District.

But I do not believe based on public comment that we have received and also public comment that we received in the portal that Shiawassee county has any kind of association with the Lansing area.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well to say it doesn't have any, I used to live there and I associated so it at least had one person associated with Lansing area.

Basically Shiawassee splits in the southern tiers between working in Flint or working in Lansing.

And the rest goes north to Owosso and over to Flint so it basically associates with Flint who is talking?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn then Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We have a comment from you know W2712 pairing Shiawassee with Lansing what you were saying Steve.

So when people say the whole County, we got to get into the details here.

Not all of Eaton County associates with Lansing just the Delta Township.

It's so I think we have to right we have to get in the details here.

And so if we can split Shiawassee or even play with the blue District like I think we can massage it to make it feel better so we have more demographics and keeping people of color who want to be or want to try to create the representative or elect a representative of their choosing, that's I think the goal here, trying to yes split Lansing and the areas around it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So I agree that Shiawassee shouldn't be with both Clinton and Eaton.

But that's not what is displayed here.

It's just Shiawassee with Clinton.

A little bit of East Lansing.

Not Lansing not the rest of Lansing but just a little bit of East Lansing.

And the more rural parts of the top of Ingham County.

And I think -- I don't think it should be with both Shiawassee Clinton and Eaton like it currently is that is not my intention at all.

But I think having it with Clinton could be a good compromise unless we want to take it up into Saginaw which we could do.

But then that presents the issue with Delta Township as MC was just saying.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So what is below Ingham and Eaton? Is there I mean if we -- I'm just curious if we pulled that little bit of Delta Township around Waverly road and put it into Lansing and then gosh that is a bumper that Commissioner Wagner is not here because that is Charlotte and part of Eaton as well.

I'm just wondering if we did Shiawassee Clinton and part of Eaton the more rural parts of Eaton and put Delta into 31 which is Lansing we would have more of a kind of wrap around District.

But I'm wondering if that would be more groups more closely affiliated together.

So I guess what I'm trying to formulate in my brain is the objection that Shiawassee had to be with Eaton because Delta Township was also in that same group and they felt that that community of voters was overpowering their voice.

And if we move that group in with Lansing, based on that community of interest are we resolving that concern by keeping the more rural areas of Shiawassee Clinton and Eaton together and keeping the more urban and ex urban areas together as well, just a thought process.

And again this is not my area.

I'm just trying to think about some of the comments we received.

No thoughts.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No.

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>> COMMISSIONER LETT: All right.

>> What do you think?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think we could try it.

I think your thought process is correct with you know what I'm talking about at least.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Or even I don't want to block off Shiawassee by pulling into Livingston County but I'm wondering if we could you know maybe grab a little of Barry and pull that in as well and then have maybe Shiawassee and Livingston together.

And I'm sure Commissioner Witjes has an opinion on that because that is kind of his Howell area.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You could do Livingston and pull it with Lansing for sure.

Especially the western side.

That would be perfectly fine.

Their biggest quarrel I should say is not to go into Washtenaw.

They would align more with Ingham County on the west side.

If you need to grab population from Livingston that would be okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Any other thoughts or comments? Do you guys want to take a quick five minute break so we can kind of think for a second? Do we maybe want to stop here? We can always move on to a different area if we are sort of stuck here.

What do you want to do a quick break any one any one Commissioner Clark?

Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I like what we originally did the two districts we originally set up on this.

Where we use the river as the boundary line.

And the unfortunately we had to go into Shiawassee County.

They got a problem with low population.

They are going to have to get associated with some major Metro area.

There is no doubt about it.

So I like the original thing we set up, I think Steve and MC really drove that.

And I don't see moving Delta Township shifting any of the racial percentages at all.

Not at all.

So that's my opinion.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So you want to go back to what we have on the blue line there?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Eastern part of Lansing the blob next to it and pull up into Shiawassee and Clinton.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Shiawassee and Clinton are more rural and when you go east of East Lansing those two Townships are rural too. And so really the only Metro area you've got in a District is East Lansing, which is mostly students any way.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Those darn students.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: What is that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Those darn students.

Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was going to say I don't mind taking a quick five minute breather but I also do not believe we should move out of this particular area because we get in a roadblock every single time we will bounce around and not get anything done.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So Commissioner Eid then I have a question for Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This might just be a situation where, you know, we have a couple options.

And if we can make it so that those options are incorporated in the same area of these like four Townships that we are talking about, Shiawassee, Clinton Ingham and Eaton counties well then, we can move the things that we've all agreed on 38-33 we can lock those in and just copy them to you know whatever we move forward and copy the rest of whatever we move forward with, with like the Grand Rapids area too.

And just I know we are trying to be collaborative but I don't think that should stifle having a few different options going forward.

Because you know this option Steve's option might be the best one.

I don't know.

I think the public will have to tell us when we get to that point.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So Commissioner Lett and then I will call on you Commissioner Rothhorn.

I'm just wondering what your thought is about Commissioner Clark's suggestion where he basically is proposing that we follow the blue line that we drew previously which is rather than having Eaton be part of Clinton you're going to take that eastern part of Lansing and East Lansing and I think it's Meridian that is to the east I can't see the name and Shiawassee so you are in Clinton, Shiawassee, a little bit of what is Meridian, and then East Lansing together.

Are you at all interest in that or do you like what you have? I'm asking Commissioner Lett because this is his District.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I'm not married to any of them.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: And if the -- as I stated if it's the will of the body to have what we previously did, I can live with that.

It's in the long run probably not going to make a great deal of difference.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Did you not -- did you have any particular aversions to what we did before?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Would you be open to a clone and move this along or move it and see what it looks like and possibly move it back?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I don't understand what you said.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So we create a clone and then fiddle on the clone. Or we can just take off Eaton right now and go on Shiawassee and pull off the green area and see what it looks like. And see if there is any thoughts about that.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No, I think I agree with Commissioner Eid.

Let's pick one and stick with it.

Move on.

We've already spent too much time on this.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I agree, which one are we picking? That is what I'm trying to establish.

Are we sticking with this.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: You just stated it, the one we did before Clinton Owosso which is Shiawassee, the northeast of Lansing and a couple of four Townships down in Ingham County.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, so then you want John to move that back to follow the blue line? Okay Mr. Morgan can you do that for us, please? Did we receive any particular comment about that configuration that anyone is aware of after we drew that map? I'm just curious and Commissioner Orton you did have a comment at one point. Commissioner Rothhorn and then Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I was going to acknowledge as we are doing this it feels like we are into a rhythm again with a population and I think the challenge for us now is to understand the demographics and mapping with demographics and I think Sarah I was going to offer it before or ask Sarah Reinhardt to read the questions that she asks us before we go on break if we were going to go on break but we may be at a different place so I don't know if I need that.

I just want to acknowledge that is the hard part for me right now to make sure the demographics are in front of me as we are drawing and that is one of the reasons, I think we are doing this right now.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We did receive quite a bit of comments on what is outlined in blue on the public comment portal.

You know some people liked it.

Some people didn't like it.

I think more people liked it than not.

However, you know, I think the public we need to be a little careful with that because you know we have all seen what can happen with the public comment portal and you know people you know kind of manufacturing testimony on there.

But we also got reports from different news entities that came in our reports from Mr. Woods saying that it creates two more competitive districts than what our currently in the area.

So I just wanted to point that out.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The competitive districts is one of the things we want to create.

That is one of the items the public is really going toward us in all the hearings.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: It's not required.

But you know I mean I certainly would rather have more competitive districts than not competitive districts if it's possible while following all of the other criteria.

Which I believe it does.

I think this follows criteria three and criteria four and criteria one and two quite well.

But that's just my opinion.

That is what all of you think.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: It's not required in the Constitution but it is being required from the citizens of the state.

And to me that holds a lot as well.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I will say we may have gotten the purple District evaluation and it's going to be a purple District but somehow my memory of what our consultants have told us we actually have a partisan fairness right and we will be able to evaluate it only after we have the whole state drawn so I think one of the things right there are all sorts of opinions and different people so we are just doing the best we can with what we got and the demographics the number three criteria will lead us, that is what the people sort of asked us.

That is the Constitution what the people have said use.

So I think we are doing a good job doing our due diligence and I think, yeah, frankly this is the best we can do until we have a whole Senate plan and then run that partisan fairness and then, yeah do the best we can.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right so where does this get us number wise? 32.

>> MR. MORGAN: Just a moment, I'm going to check.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Discontinuities.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes.

Okay because just to clarify while I was asked to follow the blue line, the blue line had some discontinue -- dis-contiguities and I corrected those is that what you prefer me to do?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: With all that discussion this District is 7500 people over in District 32.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We could take out the airport and maybe put that back into, do you know what I mean by the airport.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: The little red Bob.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, the red Bob.

>> MR. MORGAN: That has four people.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I didn't think it had people in it.

>> MR. MORGAN: If you like what you could do is fill in the other District when you want to and then see how the two of them in combination appear before you make a single adjustment.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Does part of Grand Ledge go into Clinton County?

>> MR. MORGAN: 0 population.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I thought it might be an easy fix.

All right Commissioner Eid?

>> MR. MORGAN: You are contemplating taking a little population out of 32 ore leaving it until you see what adjacent District looks like.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Exactly so I yield.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right, so.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think we should draw that and see.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I personally like that and that is what we came up with before.

I particularly like this too because I know the last time we worked with Commissioner Wagner quite a bit about the Charlotte area and where she thought that should go. And although she is not able to be present today, I would hate to move away from that information and feedback she gave the last time about where she thought they should go.

Which is that lower portion.

So that would be my only concern is combining that up.

Because I know there was discussion about it and she doesn't have the benefit of being here today to further reinforce that but I don't want to disregard it either.

All right any thoughts, Steve, do you like it or do you not like it? It's your District.

You don't have any thoughts.

All right.

All right, Sarah take it away.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT:

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Ask me the questions.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Hi Commissioner Lett.

All right so why did this District take the shape that it did can you provide an explanation.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Because the majority of Commissioners felt that this was the proper shape for this District.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Beyond that can you describe kind of what your thought was about these specific populations that you wanted to combine?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The specific population takes in a representative mixture of urban and rural districts, a representative mixture of various demographic populations throughout the three counties.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Can you elaborate on how you took into account communities of interest in this area?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Communities of interest in the Lansing area are consist of the City of Lansing as a community, the City of East Lansing as a community, the University Michigan State University as a community, takes into consideration the Clinton County communities of Dewitt and St. Johns, the Shiawassee takes into the community of interest of Owosso as well as the southwest corner of Shiawassee County.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Wonderful and I think you may have touched on this a bit in your last answer but can you describe how you took into account reflection of the state's diverse populations drawing this District?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: It won't be different than what my last answer was.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: You mentioned that when you drew this District that you considered various demographic populations throughout the three counties. Is that okay? Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: We specifically looked at the matrix and the demographics that are set forth.

They are indicating 80.45% non-Hispanic white. 4.53 non-Hispanic Black. And 4.96 I panning. 5.04, I may have those right because I'm not seeing the Asian and then Hispanic is 5.04.

I took all of those into consideration in drawing these districts.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you, Commissioner Lett.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: At this time we will move on to Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Zoom out just a little bit more.

Thank you.

Well, my thought is since our lines line up and we previously went through all this why don't we just use the districts that we have in blue?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is a fine idea.

>> MR. MORGAN: In the area of Ingham and Eaton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

So I guess I will choose one to be in charge of.

The Livingston County I think that one is good except I see a little blue dot up there that is dis-contiguous.

>> MR. MORGAN: All of Livingston County.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: The whole blue direction we did previously.

>> MR. MORGAN: Portions of Genesee and Oakland Counties.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is the boundary there and I will look to see if there is a dis-contiguity and there is.

Okay so that follows the same boundary from previously drafted.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Looks like there is still a problem up there.

>> MR. MORGAN: It's okay it's the blue outline from previously.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: All right so I think we could get it a little closer.

Zoom in, yeah, Zoom in a little bit so I can see what that corner Township is.

>> MR. MORGAN: Milford?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No, up above.

Holly Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can you Zoom in to precincts so I can see the population?

>> MR. MORGAN: So you are looking at possibly taking out a precinct or a Township?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Uh-huh.

>> MR. MORGAN: Rose 6,000, Holly at 12000 and Highland at 19 and then the precincts will have you know smaller portions.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think I want to take out part of Holly so she can Zoom in to that and do precincts.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I was looking at Highland as a possibility.

I'd like to get Janice's opinion on that since she lives in that area.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Highland is more associated with Milford/Wixom. And they would go to Holly. Not as often. I mean, actually, Highland, Milford and White Lake all have the same school District.

And except for White Lake has five different school districts. But Highland and Milford have the same school District. And I know that is not something we talk about before. But I really don't think that Highland would associate more with, you know, Holly. And so they are both in the same County. So that's my thoughts on Highland.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Thanks.

>> MR. MORGAN: Would you look taking out a precinct or two in Highland with that information?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

So the very corner one where the population is 2751.

Okay can you Zoom in up there around the lakes? I don't like breaking up the water areas and yet there is no end to that so.

>> MR. MORGAN: You could look at these precincts here.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I would like to look at those.

>> MR. MORGAN: Should I undo that last one?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: You can.

>> MR. MORGAN: So these two would probably be about this boundary.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes, unassign those and let's look at that.

>> MR. MORGAN: There is the population 686 over.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can you undo those two, undo the last two things?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Once those precincts are added back in, John, can you Zoom out and show me the population of that particular area? Because I believe it was 12000.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: 19.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm sorry go north.

Holly Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Yeah, the District is currently about 6300 over.

And then rose is 6100.

Holly is 12000 and then 19.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: If Holly goes out, the Township of Holly goes out it tends to going to Janice and Milford then you would be negative 6,000 to offset District 32's 7,000 population at that particular point.

So we would be doing ourselves a favor.

>> MR. MORGAN: Then you would be down 6,000 and you are over 6,000 but it's still within the.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Correct credit but if we go negative 6,000, we would offset the 7,000 in District 32.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: John can you tell us what the aggregate is of the districts we've already done so if we are looking for people we may want to add to it, to this one.

>> MR. MORGAN: You also have the unknown Lansing District since that was not rounded up, we are not sure what that population is.

So as it stands it's 11,000 over.

So that is so that is the combined deviation of all the districts at this moment.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: So it would benefit us to take some away from this District or possibly.

>> MR. MORGAN: You still have the balance of the Lansing District.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Correct.

>> MR. MORGAN: To consider.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can I see it again?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, we have rose Township at 6100.

Which is close to the 6100 that you're over.

You got Holly and Highland and then you've also got the Townships in Genesee that you looked at here.

Fenton and.

Argentine.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think I want to take out Argentine.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark then Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: You know based on what Janice said, I would tend rather than do that I would tend to go down in that southern Township.

I don't know what the name of it is.

Highland.

And maybe take three fourths of that.

The bottom three fourth and associate it with Milford and she suggested.

Try to keep Highland as whole as possible but I don't think you can use the whole Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: Those two voting precincts gave you similar amount of population to what Argentine.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay go back to the way we had it.

>> MR. MORGAN: That is back to your 676.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Janice what is your thoughts on that?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Can I see it again?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would tend to take even another precinct off to try and make Highland as whole as possible.

And it's okay if we go short some because we are over from what was it 11,000 or 15,000.

>> MR. MORGAN: With these adjustments you would be over by 6,000 and it would cut it in half.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.

>> MR. MORGAN: And it's over seven districts.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'd like to hear Janice's thoughts.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Vallette?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Well like I said, Highland is really associated more with Milford and I know the population probably won't do it because we are almost like the same community, you know, and it's like Highland Milford.

So I mean Holly is you know there.

I think people do go to Holly but I think they go more east.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I have a question then.

Highland doesn't show up on the map so can you tell us, oh, there it is.

So that whole Township of Highland is what you're talking about?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: If you took all that out you could look for another town if you wanted to.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Why don't we do that Janice, you said it associates more with Milford than Hartland?

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Let me see the Zoom in a little bit so we can see the Township populations and go down to south Lyon.

>> MR. MORGAN: Now at this point you are looking at adding 13,000.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: In Highland Township there is a very prominent road being M59.

It's listed as west Highland road on here.

If this doesn't work, then what we could do is put everything kind of what like Commissioner Clark was saying we could put everything north of M59 and with the Livingston District and put everything south of it with Milford and the rest of you know whatever we end up drawing for Oakland County.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I know Hartland associates with Howell and Brighton.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We still have that District that area pulled out north out, can we scroll out a little bit? Oh, no, it's still back in.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: While zoomed in to the Township so we can see population can you look all the way around the south and east or south and west border? Okay pause just a second.

Zoom in a little bit.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: What Anthony just suggested really associates the southern end of Highland with Milford and the northern part is going to end up being associated with White Lake which is I believe were the two cities that Janice had indicated that Highland was associated with.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We've had many public comments that Livingston County wants to be together, many, many.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: We had that from every County.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Highland is in Oakland County and so is Holly.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: And Rose Township.

Those are all Oakland County.

>> COMMISSIONER SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Janice do you think it's a good idea to take north of M59 does that seem like a logical divider or is that something, yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: Yeah, it probably is.

Yeah, I think when we talk, we do say north and south of M59 Highland road.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: The only problem with that is the precincts don't go north and south of M59.

We can go to the blocks, but I hate to do that.

Let's at least take the top precincts of Highland Township, John, and put those back in.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I agree the precincts don't line up but that doesn't mean the county Clark can't change the precincts once we reset the District lines and that is one of their jobs that they are going to have to assess.

Yeah, all the county clerks.

They realize this, yeah.

>> MR. MORGAN: This follows the precinct boundaries and the population deviation.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So where is the population there that made it over?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: It's under.

>> MR. MORGAN: So I just added in a little bit.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: It seems like it was over and why we took that out.

>> MR. MORGAN: This area here is highly populated and this precinct this one will go down here south of M59 and this one here and this one here.

These are the ones that originally you took and said you didn't want to split the lakes.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Uh-huh.

Well, I feel like we should considering what Janice said, this whole Highland Township should be with Milford.

We need to find a different Township.

>> MR. MORGAN: You want me to undo this then and look for another Township?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You want to undo what he took off or the whole Township?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: The whole Township.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You want to take off the whole Township and fine another Township to add on, right?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> MR. MORGAN: Right, that is what I'm doing.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I thought this would be an easy, quick one.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I mean it could be an easy one.

We are still within the allowable population deviation.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Right.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Just depends how close we want to get to because with all of Highland off the rest of it is still you know it's not perfect.

And I would like to see it closer to zero, but you know I don't know how it's going to affect things down the line.

It might be better to reassess the specific boundaries as far as population goes after we have a full map.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We should have conversation about that.

Do we want to get as close as possible as we go? Or do we want to do the fine tuning later?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: My own intuition is respect the COIs and the boundary I say the people have given us as best as we can.

Of course we are looking at population but if we have that aggregate and if we see that we are over in some districts and under in others and getting close to 0 and keeping aggregate in mind that feels like the right way to go if we are over, under that is okay but as long as we use COIs contiguity and voting population and respecting the Federal laws.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, so thank you John.

Can you just slowly, yeah, go around all the Townships around that District and let me look?

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay, so up here, again, in Genesee, you've got Gaines, Mundy and Grand Blanc. And you got...that is right on the border of Flint.

Then you have over here in Oakland Township, Groveland, 6,000. Springfield 14.

We talked about Highland.

Milford down here is 17.

And then Lyon and South Lyon combined are quite a bit.

South Lyon by itself is 11,700.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think they associate with Novi.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and then let's see now in Washtenaw you have the top tier of Townships here Northfield, Webster, Dexter, and Lyndon.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay go to the, yeah, west.

>> MR. MORGAN: Stockbridge, white oak and then while we've accounted for these other Townships here in Ingham around Williamston, that District was overpopulated.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well, scroll down just a tiny bit.

Okay what if we took those four white Townships that are right under the green.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay and these are in Ingham County okay so that is 3500.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Anyone see a problem with that?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: If we were to do that it would mess up the partner District that we have with 32.

Then we would also be including and be putting you know we are already putting a little bit of Oakland County and a little bit of Genesee County with Livingston.

We would be adding part of Ingham County as well instead of maybe just putting a little more of Oakland or a little bit more of Genesee from somewhere else.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: What about pulling one of the border Townships that are in 32 right now? Because that's over by 7,000 if you take like that upper District, I don't know what the population is.

You need to see it but I'm just wondering if you grab like Leroy and Locke or burns and Antrim.

>> MR. MORGAN: You also have Commissioner Eid was saying that you haven't rounded out the Lansing District so you're not quite sure how that will turn out on population.

I mean we can look at that as well.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So, okay, undo what you just did.

Please.

And then change it to precincts so we can see what the east side of those two Townships are.

>> MR. MORGAN: The ones you just took out or the green ones or the ones in 32.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: The green.

>> MR. MORGAN: Okay.

In this case the precincts are the same as the Townships.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay.

>> MR. MORGAN: And Williamston has one precinct.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm going to assume Williamston associates with Lansing.

>> MR. MORGAN: So Locke and Leroy.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No I don't see any good solution.

Who has a good solution?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I was going to say one solution here is to leave it as is right now.

Because of the population off set that is probably going to have to happen anyway.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Good, done.

>> MR. MORGAN: You were contemplating taking a break soon.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We are at lunchtime right now.

So Commissioner Eid and then I will turn it over to Sarah Reinhardt.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Does this 31 right now it includes Holly Township, right?

>> MR. MORGAN: Yes, it does.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: We are good.

We could leave it can you Zoom out so we can see the whole thing? Yeah, we could leave it how it is.

If you were to do the M59 thing it would be over 1,678 people if you want to do that.

Not saying you should but if you want to it could.

Or I actually agree we could leave it as this.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: What time is it? We can think about it through lunch and then maybe.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right Sarah Reinhardt?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Commissioner Orton could you just describe why this District took the shape that it did?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay well mostly because we've had many, many public comments saying that Livingston County is a community of interest. They want to stay together.

So I want to keep Livingston County together but not enough population so we had to add a little bit.

So I added the areas that I felt associated with Livingston County for population.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Excellent that also answers my next question about taking COIs into account.

My final question then is how did you take into account reflection of the state's diverse populations when drawing this District?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I would like to defer to Steve on that answer because his answer was good and it's the same answer.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No plagiarism.

All right are we good? All right at this time without objection we will take a 75 minute recess.

Hearing no objections it is currently 12:04.

And we will take a recess until 1:20 p.m.

Thank you everybody.

[Lunch recess

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I call the meeting of the MICRC morning back to order at 1:27 p.m. for the purposes of the public watching and for the public record I will turn to the Department of State staff to take note of the Commissioners present.

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>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Please say present when I call your name and if you are attending remotely attend you are attending remotely and disclose your physical location.

I will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

Joining remotely from Highland Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Erin Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER:

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Richard Weiss?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Dustin Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Present.

I will turn to Juanita Curry.

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

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Department of State and we will continue the unfinished business the draft mapping of reconciliation of state maps and at this point we are with Commissioner Rothhorn.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Hold on just a moment Commissioner Curry can you hear us now?

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I can hear you, I have been hearing you all day.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you Commissioner Curry can you let us know where you are attending remotely from.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Attending remotely from Detroit, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

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

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: I can't see myself or I'm still muted.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You're not muted we can actually hear you speaking right now.

>> COMMISSIONER CURRY: Okay, I just can't see myself then.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right, so Commissioner Orton where we visiting where you left off?

>> MR. MORGAN: I'm going to have Kent bring up the screen and it will start in the same area in just a moment.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: And this is the general area where we finished off.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We were looking at 31 so can you Zoom in a little? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 31.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: That is what we had before.

Can I see on the active matrix what the other deviations were looking like? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: On all the districts?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay 31 is still 4.9% low or 13,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, can you Zoom back in to 31.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Do you want to look at total aggregate.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Math.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Look at the total and see where we are the balance on that excel spreadsheet.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The total deviations?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All right, the total deviation is down 2.83% or 7500.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So that is including 31.

Can you not include 31?

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, we are 5497 high total and 2.07% high.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay. Go back to the map, please, and Zoom in to 31, please.

I want to include 31 just that first, the northwest precinct I guess it is in Highland Township? Just that top one, yes.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I wanted to take a second to note for the record that because I'm the acting Chair if I need to step out of the room, I'm going to designate Commissioner Weiss to take over as acting Chair while I'm out of the room.

Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, I am going to leave it at that.

We were over before, so now we are under unless somebody has something to add.

And that was purely for population.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Excuse me sorry hold on just one moment, please.
Okay you can proceed.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: What you had before you were under by 13 now you are under by ten is that what you want to stay with?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Looks good to me.

Anybody else have any comments?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We should move on.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Let's move on.

I'm not sure who is next.

You got a comment Mr. Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: No.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: MC? Okay MC would you continue on with us?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I will.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Thank you.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I don't see the point of adding one little precinct to get 2000 population.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I like it but I kind of agree with that because being that we are over this would help take some of that back because we are under.

And it would tightness it up by what was it about 7,000 if we put it back the way it was? Thoughts? Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: My thought was that it's been stated on a number of occasions, I don't know that it's necessarily in Livingston County other than Livingston cone wanted to be altogether all the time is we are splitting a Township and that has been pretty well spoken that Townships don't like them themselves to be split.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, I remember reading quite a few of that myself. Well Janice sorry I didn't see you there.

>> COMMISSIONER VALLETTE: I agree I don't see the point of taking that small Section of that Township and putting it with Livingston County.

I don't see the purpose.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay we will undo what we just did, please, Kent. Okay we are under by 13,000.

Almost 5%, right? I think that is too much deviation.

But we will leave it at that.

People can fix it along the way.

That's what the group wants.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, did Department of State do we need to repeat? She is good, okay at this point we will move on to Commissioner Rothorn.

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>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Thanks.

John, can we try that southwestern portion of Lansing there, yeah, where you are.

>> MR. MORGAN: Kent is going to.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Kent, I apologize.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You want to start with Townships or precincts?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: What I'd like to do is highlight everything that is in that District that we drew that complemented 32.

So it's the southwestern.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: In the blue.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Correct it was in the blue, correct.

Just want to see what the population is there and the demographics, please, of that Section, or that draft District.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is now District 30 and the numbers speak for themselves.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Sorry, what I mean, Kent, is the draft District, the whole District, not just the Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I thought we were doing -- yeah, I got it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, is that getting too much? I think that is it.

Is that all right? About right?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, that looks about right.

And it looks like we are about 3,000 overpopulated; is that correct? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes 3279, 1.24%.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And so it doesn't quite balance out the large 5% but at this point it feels like we have drawn this one.

This is something we have done in the past.

The rationale I think I'm looking at the minority percentages for District 30 and, yeah, and this is...I think this represents and is reasonable.

It's a reasonable District taking into consideration the communities of interest for Ingham Clinton and the Tri-County the south central region and it's something we worked on and I think it's good so I will leave it at that unless there is questions or comments.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark then Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I agree with Commissioner Rothorn.

I think it's just what we needed here.

Thanks.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I also agree.

I like it.

The only thing I'm wondering is if we can, you know...now we have 30, 31 and 32 here, all with a little variance in population.

Maybe now that we have 30 down there on the map, we can maybe adjust the boundaries a little bit to get them a little bit more even on population.

Like perhaps we can make, you know, if we just change that line between 30 and 32 a little bit, maybe it would be more even in each of them. Does that make sense?

>> MR. MORGAN: I think they are both over now.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: They are over and about 10,000 over and 32 or 31 rather is the one that is under.

So the two overpopulated, almost balance the under populated.

So we are pretty close there.

So I guess yeah because we spent some time on it, yeah, I guess I'm thinking that I would leave it because they basically, the three between the three, they do kind of balance each other.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any additional comments? All right Department of State?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Hello Commissioner Rothorn.

Can you provide any additional explanation of the configuration of this District?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Any more than I already have?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: If you feel like you explained enough then that is perfectly fine.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: So my, no, I think I'm going to leave it the way it is thank you.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: How did you take communities of interest into account here?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It's the idea that the three counties, Ingham Clinton and Eaton revolve around the Lansing area and if there are significant minority populations that we've had the maps up, so that that community of interest trying to divide it in a sensible way, I suppose the sensible being based on the demographics and looking at the minority representation in each of the two districts that Lansing -- that Lansing is made up of.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I think that also answers my next question but I will ask in case you have additional information on that. How did you take into account reflection of the state's diverse populations when drawing this District?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right. So at this point we are going to move on to me I think, unless you have anything more to add, Commissioner Rothorn.

So can we Zoom out a little bit so I can see what we have here? All right, so can you pull it up a little bit so I can see a little further down and see Hillsdale.

There we go.

So I can see it better.

So I'm just going to move to that next area which is Jackson.

Yep, and if you can just follow the boundaries of what we currently have there and let's see what we come up with.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Appears to be one locality.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: See where the blue line is basically, I want you to run out to where it says Washtenaw and then carry it all the way over to Calhoun and just highlight all of that as we have the blue barrier line there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: What more are we adding to this? That appears to have 19% low.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Am I missing something?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: No that is what we selected but that is quite low.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We had a second plan, the original plan that was started with, there is two versions of two sets of plans.

Let me show the other one here.

Does that ring a bell?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I think when we got to this point, we were using the red outlines, not the blue ones.

I think the blue ones were incomplete.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Older, yeah.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I want to note for the record that Commissioner Wagner has joined Commissioner Wagner could you disclose your physical location that you're joining from?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Remotely viewing from Charlotte, Michigan.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay and I believe we have also at this point lost Commissioner Vallette is that accurate? Okay so we added one and we had one walk away.

All right, perfect timing Commissioner Wagner.

All right so can you add on the areas that are in the red? I want to see how that fills out.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: These four right here on the left hand side.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Take them off.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Take them off.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, take them off.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Actually these four Townships are in two different districts in the red.

But we will unassign.

Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: My memory when we were stuck in the area my memory is we were trying to figure out what City right the border districts, I think we were trying to draw a border District and we needed more population and we kept going further west.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Right because we didn't have enough population.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And I think we were, yeah, so it feels and I think we talked about Battle Creek versus Jackson and my memory said Jackson is probably more appropriate especially because of the comments we received about Hillsdale and Lenawee as a service area.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is 29 as it is in an early rendition. And it's 2.5% low or 6500 people.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, can you Zoom back out again so I can look at it more fully? And we carved out I think Dexter, yeah, there we go. We were -- I see what we tried to do.

Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I personally think that the District goes too far towards Ann Arbor.

The comments we got out of the Jackson hearing was that the far west side of Washtenaw County was had the same values as Jackson did.

But as you get further east, it gets to be more Ann Arbor.

Then the other comment I've heard, and we heard it again this morning, was the Jackson area is more Linked-In with Hillsdale County and Lenawee County.

So.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: That western Section of Monroe County feels like I remember in the Ann Arbor hearing right there was a gentleman that gave us sort of an idea about how to like the Monroe is definitely parts of it are rural but parts of it are down river and parts of it are not and parts that are neither.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: We had a recent comment that the I-75 corridor down in Monroe County was more like down river.

But the far west which was not part of his comment the far west I think is more like Lenawee and Hillsdale, yeah.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I thought we had heard people who said that Jackson travels to Ann Arbor, they don't go west.

Go ahead Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah so, I think we've heard multiple differ opinions. Some people think that Jackson should go with Hillsdale on Lenawee.

Some people think it should go with Battle Creek and some people think it should go with Ann Arbor.

And at our last Ann Arbor meeting we did have quite a few people that say it should at Jackson and specifically so like we have number six public speaker number six in person who talked about the Washtenaw Jackson connection.

They said this is a quote from that comment but they said 11% of Jackson commutes to Washtenaw.

That was also said by number 7.

And number 10.

And 14 and 15 and 13 were from Monroe like MC addressed that.

So yeah, we have a whole bunch of different comments.

We will just have to make a decision on how we want to do it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm constantly per using the communities of interest or public comment website when we are doing these.

A lot of comments that have been coming in lately have said that we are using the wrong overlay.

It's stating that this particular overlay was actually an alternate map that was drawn.

I don't know if that is correct or not.

But they suggest that we highly look into that and it could be a simple mistake.

I don't know if the red lines are truly a collaborative map that was made or if it's someone's alternate.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: This is one we worked only and remember covering out Milan and Saline and Dexter from Ann Arbor and the carve outs we work on collaboratively and same with Milan see the lower corner with the little bop out there, yeah, that is Milan.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That doesn't negate the fact we may have multiple maps but this was definitely one we worked on.

I thought there was another one where we pulled like Ypsilanti up around north Ann Arbor as well.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: You are correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think that would be the blue lines.

If I turn the red ones off it would be more along those lines.

This is unassigned.

I don't know if that was an oversight or just.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, and I don't like that map at all because it's putting Ypsilanti in with Monroe.

I mean if I remember correctly the biggest struggle was getting Ann Arbor to fit without going over which is why we ended up with this District looking a little hanky because we were trying to hit population without breaking up Ann Arbor because remember when

we get in Ann Arbor, we have all the little precincts throughout that are really difficult to deal with.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Do you want to highlight the whole area and see what districts might be possible? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Chairperson?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I mean the only change that I could see making to this is either going in Lenawee which I think people were clear they didn't want us to do or taking this westerly towards Battle Creek.

Which we could do that as well.

And pull it up away from Hillsdale.

But I need to Zoom in closer to see what the population difference is.

Basically I would like to compare how do we make these, I would like for you to select those Townships that are down, yep, right there.

What is the population compared to the eight Townships to the west.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area has 18,445.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Can you do the same on the other side? I think Marshall might throw us over.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 14,000.

It's 4,000 less than the sum of this.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay what are the two Townships right below that? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That's 17,630 the highlighted area.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Can we swap those two out and put it in 29 and take the lower ones off.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The puts you 2.76% low or 7324 low.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: What are the bottom two Townships? Where you just added underneath Marshall? So underneath, yep, those two what are the population counts there? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL:

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We are 7,000 shy right now? So why don't you add those in.

So that's closer.

What about Marshall with Battle Creek though? Commissioner Orton? I mean is there like a particular affiliation one way or another?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: They are both in Calhoun County.

So there is some.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Help me know why I think I heard you say you don't this think that hills day and Lenawee were a good addition or a good move to go south did I hear that correctly?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Well I thought Lenawee and Hillsdale wanted to be together but not up with Jackson.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Oh, I've heard that they want to be together.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: They want to be together.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: The comment I heard today to it's actually a service area and so I think it's not wrong to do it.

I just think we were trying to draw a border District and why we didn't do it early on. If we move, I don't think it's wrong to go south and sort of that Jackson, hills day Lenawee try County area seems like a pretty -- it's been there has been lots of comment about it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay but other people were just saying they didn't like it went south, that is why I feel like I'm hearing two conflicting things.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I apologize.

I don't mean to say that is the right way to go, it's not.

I just wanted to clear up the idea that it's not a good situation.

I'm sorry.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Chairperson? What is the intent to do with Dexter? I see it like maybe it's supposed to be in 29 or not? Right now it's nine and 29 and the red line shows it's being in 29.

Shall I put it in 29?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, that is a good question.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: As it's drawn it is included with the District that may be drawn around Ann Arbor.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I would put it with 29.

And then.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The District is 123 people low .05%.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: 123 people low.

Scroll out so we can look at it again.

Okay so I guess the question would be is there a preference to doing it more westerly or carrying it south around Hillsdale? Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I think there is a third option of going more into Ann Arbor as well.

I mean we've heard that you know some people think we should do that.

And I'm a little uncomfortable with putting all of Ann Arbor, I'm not sure if we will have to split it or not.

But I believe it's too large to put into one District.

So we are going to have to split it.

It's a question of you know where do we split it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: My preference would be to go south and not take that part of Calhoun County into it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, I agree with Commissioner Orton because and here is the reason we may need that population as we go further west. Because it is sparse in certain parts.

And as you recall the people in Kalamazoo don't want to be in the same District as Kent County and so we may need that population to help us get the districts to the right size. So I would tend to go.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right Kent can we push it back to how it was and take off the 8 Townships and refill in the ones below.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I have to add Dexter back.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Add Dexter back.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: .76% low, 2009 people.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm just going to leave it there.

I suspect we will do some readjustment particularly when we get into the Detroit area because of how Down River will flow down the coastline so Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: As I look at this, I think we got a couple of the Townships that are close to Ann Arbor that are more consistent with Ann Arbor values and way of life than the Jackson area.

Particularly the top two because it gets over to where Whitmore lake is which is somewhat of a suburb of Ann Arbor and down south to where Saline is.

Or just to the Lodi that area there, those are the ones I would question.

But I want some comments from some of the others.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, we talked about Lodi before and your work is sort of being you know it's currently mostly farmland.

But it is within that green belt area that Ann Arbor established and sort of you're getting what I would call McMansions on big farmer farms where you have lots of people who are either affiliated with the University in some way or another or the hospital and building very large houses in what used to be corn fields.

But that being said I just think the population of Ann Arbor is such that it would be difficult to include those in with Ann Arbor because the population is so large.

I'm just inclined to leave it for now knowing like I said once we draw Detroit Area, we will need to bump some of these lines around a little bit.

Go ahead Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Hearing Commissioner Clark talk about it if this in general is sort of like the Jackson or a Jackson District that heading south towards and taking more of the Hillsdale Lenawee instead of going further east, right, to sort of leave some of those and break up Ann Arbor and the Ipsi area in ways so we can move more freely over there.

And sort of associate this District with again I'm just calling it in general a Jackson District.

That is what I'm thinking.

That is what I'm hearing from Commissioner Clark.

We could move further into Hillsdale and Lenawee and Adrian is much more a Jackson area than north field, Lodi even though what you are saying is there is population but I think we can break up Ann Arbor differently.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm not disagreeing with you.

I just don't want to continue to cut down towards Hillsdale and cutoff our route at the bottom of the state which I think is going to happen if we do that.

Because I can already assure you, we are going to readjust how Monroe is currently drawn.

And that then we are going to have a large area with very little population.

Like Adrian, Blissfield and Tecumseh, we will have to incorporate in somewhere.

So these are not final lines yet so I just think leaving how we did it before for now, knowing that there is going to be some movement and adjustment probably makes sense.

But, you know, if everybody else disagrees, we can take it down to Hillsdale. But we will then end up with a little divot and we going underneath Hillsdale and back up into another County. Because we are not going to have enough population with Bloomfield, Adrien and Tecumseh to create a District on their own.

Any additional thoughts? Department of State?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Hello, Commissioner Szetela. Could you provide additional explanation on why you added some of these areas in?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I was sticking with the areas we had done in the provisional preliminary maps and those original maps were based on considerations of Jackson being somewhat affiliated with the west side of Ann Arbor.

And traveling down a little bit into the counties surrounding Hillsdale while not entirely taking over Ann Arbor due to the population size there that we are probably going to have to have a separate District there.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I think you touched on this just a little bit there but could you describe how you took into account communities of interest?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: We heard quite a bit of public testimony about Jackson County and Jackson itself and where it most closely aligns.

And we to some degree heard conflicting testimony but some of it said that Jackson aligned with the western edge of Ann Arbor which is why we tried to include those areas together.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Western edge of Washtenaw right.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Western edge of Washtenaw yes thank you for that clarification, Commissioner Rothorn.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: How did you take into account reflection of the state's diverse populations?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'll be honest with you I feel like that area isn't incredibly diverse to the point where we would be having Dr. Handley's analysis considered. So I mostly just focused on keeping the City of Jackson together.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: At this point we will move on to, where are we at, Commissioner Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Can you guys fill me in what you did while I was at the doctor's please.

Where we are starting.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So we just have been moving down the map sort of looking at the lines of the prior maps we've drawn and trying to meld them together. So we started up near Lansing area and have slowly migrated down to now we are down into the southeast and southwest portions.

Looking at we are looking at the I think this is our still our central map but we have some other maps that we can bring up as well like when we worked only the western portion. So the red lines are one -- the red lines are one of the proposed maps we worked on earlier but there are alternatives as well.

You can ask Kent to switch those out if you would like.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thank you Madam Chair.

Just looking at this, it almost looks like we will wind up painting ourselves in a corner. So I guess let's start on the Monroe and Lenawee are we going to keep Monroe in the Down River Section?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think that is up to you.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And what we discussed is that Monroe may have like maybe a County that is multiple associations so we may want to split the County and not keep the County whole because there are different parts of the County that affiliate differently.

Yeah.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Right, can we, oh, gosh, can we start with Monroe, please, Kent? And can you capture the Townships that are not on the water line, please? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Shall I start at Monroe District 28?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Yes, sir.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, a suggestion, Commissioner Wagner, I would use, and I've seen this in the comments, the I-75 corridor is the break in the rural part of the County and the industrial part of the County.

You will see the industry on both sides of I-75.

But not a whole lot further west.

And I think that's more agricultural.

So if I were to split that County, that's how I would pursue it.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Okay, so I guess, Kent, let's do that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I need to find I-75.

Can somebody help me with this? There is 75.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: So take everything to the left or take everything to the right of I-75 off of it Kent Ken yes, ma'am.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I figure that would be easier.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Is that what you had in mind?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Pretty much, yes, then if you could let's get the County to the left.

Lenawee.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Still need 87,000 people.

I should point out that Milan.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: They're not that fancy down there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Milan and Whitaker Townships are unassigned.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: What is the population in those, please, Kent?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Not very much.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Milan is 3800.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Milan too so you might as well grab that one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This Township is unassigned.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I know but I wonder if they would associate more with Ipsi.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Augusta is really rural.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I will grab it then.

Go ahead and grab Augusta, please, Kent.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Erin I think one of the things that Commissioner Szetela was doing is trying to keep that borderline, that border sort of community access open so if you continue west, you might be in a good opportunity.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I was thinking about going west from there.

So you where are we 76,000 and we are going to have an interesting time grabbing 76,000 from there.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: May I make a suggestion?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Yes.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: If you scroll back east, so Huron and Augusta or Huron and Sumpter are also both more rural areas that I think affiliate more closely with extra Township and Augusta Township so you might want to try to grab them too.

So that is just a suggestion there.

You are crossing other area but I think that is fine.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I like that idea better than going west, I think. Will you put Huron and Sumpter in there as well, Kent? Then if you could pan out a little bit so I can see.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We have received a lot of public comment about the down river area.

So I wonder if we could put check out some of those clusters so that we know exactly where they were talking about.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Being very familiar with that area we are not into them yet it's like 18 communities that stretches all the way down from Detroit.

So Gibraltar, River Rouge, Ecorse, Lincoln Park and Brownstown.

Trying to think what else they are, there are 18 total but they are not the two counties she just grabbed.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I guess we are going to have to go west. 50,000.

I guess start with Camden and grab all those to the right, to the east.

Or you can go right to left, I don't care.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Still need 43,000.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: You might as well grab all the way up north to Jonesville.

West to Allen and down.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are now at 22000 low.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I'm looking at Coldwater is going to be the most, the majority of that.

And my problem is I don't see how anybody in Coldwater can associate with anybody on the east side of the state.

And have the same especially now we are in the border area.

So how many do we have if we grab Coldwater, Coldwater Township and then Quincy, Ovid, Algansee, Kinderhook and California, so those bottom six.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area is 28,000 and you need 22000.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: How are we doing the rest of the population wise the cumulative deviation? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Cumulative I can calculate that real quick.

Just one second.

That is not right.

Try it again.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: We can eyeball it, Kent.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I don't want to eyeball it I want to read it and see what it says.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Looks like we are going to be below.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Does that look about right.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Let's see if we can make up some population then.

>> MR. MORGAN: The District as it is now is still 22000 under. So it's not a District within the tolerance at this point.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Correct.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Shall I assigned the highlighted area.

It has not been assigned.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Surely, yes.

I was under the impression you had already assigned that, Kent.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: .33% minus.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: That's not bad.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: That is pretty good Commissioner Wagner.

Hot diggity.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: You are hot diggity dogging.

Let's go back and look at the map now, thank you.

Can you pan out just a little bit so we can see the east as well? Okay thank you.

How we doing with COAs in this area? Because all I know of is everything close to me and like south is all rural.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: It is all rural.

Particularly since we carved out that I-75 corridor.

And it also or represents the border with Ohio.

Because you know the most of the District represents the border with Ohio as well.

The only concern I would have is are we painting ourselves in a corner as we get further west.

But I don't see any way to resolve that at this point.

I think it's a good job Erin.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Thanks.

Go ahead.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, my only concern would be with the population of Monroe and trying to meld that into down river.

I'm just worried we might have some difficulties there.

But we will have to see on that just because Monroe is not traditionally thought of as down river.

Wayne County is sort of Down River and Monroe County is considered separate.

But you know I'm sure we received other comments saying they are.

It's just sort of a one of those areas where we are going to have conflicting sort of conflicting reports on whether Monroe is Down River or not Down River but there is a lot of population in those areas particularly as you go up the coast so I just hope we don't get too trapped but then again like I said before these are always temporary maps and can move some lines if we need to.

Commissioner Eid and then Commissioner Lett.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I got to agree with what Commissioner Szetela just said.

I mean you know maybe some of that area could be considered down river like maybe part of Berlin, maybe part of Ash but the rest of it is no down river in the same way you know Allen Park and those areas are you know and Romulus, browns town and wood haven and this is an area we will have to pay particular attention to when it comes to communities of interest in the area because all we have been hearing for months and months and months is the racial makeup of these down river communities are different. And it's something we really have to look out for.

Because there are not you know there are not many Arab Americans in southern Monroe County.

There aren't many Hispanic or Bengali people in that part.

So I would be weary of just calling it all Down River.

Certainly some of it can be Down River but it's going to be hard to meld it.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Couldn't we also say that lake Erie coast is going to have more in common with Downriver areas kind of maybe?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes and no.

So when you get down to Monroe it was traditionally more farming mixed with some automotive.

When you get into like I don't know the environmental issues are very different is what I would say.

As you are in southwest Detroit and into the northern part of Downriver, they have significant environmental concerns there due to the industry that are quite different from Gradiel and Trenton. Even though they are all on the coast, it's different, different concerns, different areas.

And then again once you get to Monroe, Monroe has more industry particularly on the water.

So it's kind of an interesting mix in those areas.

So Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Yeah, I guess my question is why are we not including Berlin down through Eerie and including farmland on the west side of all of these counties? That doesn't make any sense to me.

And it looks like when you just look at it that you're setting yourself up for a gerrymandered District.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I can respond to that. It's because we got this I-75 manufacturing community corridor and we got the 23 corridor which is more rural community.

That was essentially shared with us.

I think we are just trying to respond to a public comments.

But, yeah, it's a draft and it will change.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Madam Chairperson?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: If we leave it as is and then later come back and incorporate that corridor in this, that significantly changes what we did out west because of the high population in Monroe area.

And that may dictate a whole redo with the redistricting on the west side.

So I think it's something that we should consider now whether this is the right approach or whether we should incorporate it into Erin's District.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Morgan did you have a comment?

>> MR. MORGAN: I was going to say if you pause at this District and go back to Grand Rapids you could fill in a portion of that and then you would come down towards the border with Indiana and then you would see just where things align and where they don't.

And to that point you know you can hold this District as is.

As a draft.

And then when you come from Grand Rapids and the west along the Indiana border you will see where it meshes and where it doesn't.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: That presents us from backing ourselves in a corner and think it's a good suggestion.

>> MR. MORGAN: One way or the other you will have to resolve it but that is probably in a way that will help you visualize the areas that overlap easily.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: We may not have a choice of including the Monroe corridor.

>> MR. MORGAN: If it does not move on the population as it's drawn you will have to move the population through the Lansing area you have already drawn or along the southern border with Hillsdale and that area.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think it's a good recommendation.

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>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right I'm not seeing any additional comments in the room.

Erin did you want to change anything or do you want to leave it as it is?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I want to leave it as is.

Recommendation for MDOS is keeping the border counters together as much as possible while also respecting the I-75 corridor and population count as well.

One question I did want to ask is when are we doing the partisan to see where we are at with that? If anybody can answer that?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I don't know.

Julianne, can you answer that General Counsel?

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

And the response to Commissioner Wagner's question the partisan fairness algorithms that are loaded into the EDS software, those functions can be performed when the complete statewide plan is completed and that will provide that information at that time. The partisan fairness cannot be run on individual districts.

>> Commissioner Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, Department of State has some questions for you.

>> How did you take communities of interest into account?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Well, I thought with the border counties that was one community of interest and the I-75 corridor I answered that as well. Plus community of interest in that area.

>> How did you take account reflection of the state's diverse populations when drawing this District?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I honestly don't know how diverse the population is in this District.

I honestly have no clue as to the diversity in this District.

I would imagine there is some, but I could not speak to what it exactly is.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right thank you for that Commissioner Wagner.

Are you satisfied Department of State?

>> Yes, unless another Commissioner wants to weigh in with the answer or response, sorry.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn did you have something you wanted to add?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I was going to offer I think Commissioner Lett did a nice job modeling it.

We do have a matrix there Commissioner Wagner, in 28 we do have the right, the representation of the diversity for the District.

And that is you know that we are looking at that.

And that was used when you were drawing it.

I think is probably a pretty good model.

So just to sort of offer those numbers there.

>> Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Again just reading public comments as they come in as best as I can, another one just came in stating that Monroe and Lenawee should be whole to what you were saying Rebecca.

And.

>> I'm sorry Commissioner Witjes can you speak into the mic, please?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I sheer can Monroe and Lenawee should be kept whole and in full.

And that might take the issue of the Downriver areas back into account where we don't have to worry about Monroe and we can take away parts of the west potentially that we added.

Again, I'm just reading these as they come in.

A lot of people seem to be watching us today.

So.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right I think at this point we are going to move on to Commissioner Weiss.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Thank you Madam Chair or Vice Chair.

All right, colored pencils and eraser please and take me to Ann Arbor and fill that whole Section in that is in the red please.

Those four Townships.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District 27 is 2.02% high.

5358.

We do have some little doughnut holes of down in the Saline.

I looked at it and it's like a dozen or so people.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Go ahead and fix those if you would.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Go ahead and do it now?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes, sir.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I can do that a quick check to make sure that is all of them.

There may be a couple more.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is a census block inside of 28 is 0 population.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It shows a dis-contiguity at 29, but I don't believe that's the case.

27.

I don't have a good reason why it's not assigning it right at this moment.

But we will figure it out.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I think we are nice and neat now.
District 27 is exactly 2% high.
5312 people.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: All right, I guess I kind of.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just a moment here.
I messed up 29 and somewhere in that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Everyone, at this point we have a Commissioner that needs to step away for a moment. And if that happens, we will break quorum. So, without objection, we will take a ten-minute recess and give everybody an opportunity to stretch their legs and move around.

It's currently 2:38.

Hearing no objection, we will return back at 2:50.

Thank you.

[Recess]

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you, everybody.

I call this meeting of the Michigan Independent Redistricting Commission back to order at 2:51 p.m.

Excuse me.

For the purposes of the public record, I turn it over to the Department of State to take the roll.

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

I will start with Doug Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Juanita Curry.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Anthony Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Present.

Brittini Kellom?

Rhonda Lange?

Steve Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Cynthia Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: MC Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Rebecca Szetela?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Present.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Janice Vallette?

>> 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: Nine Commissioners are present.

And there is a quorum.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you very much Department of State.

All right. We will continue with where we left off.

[Off mic]

I was going to say we lost everything.

So we are still live we just don't have the screen up.

All right so where did we leave off? Commissioner Weiss, were we with you?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Are you bringing up the map, Kent? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It should be up there now.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Did you fix the area there in white, you said it came out of 29? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Let me put that back I was waiting until we all came back.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So now we are back to 29 as .77% under, 2000 people, 27 is at 2% above.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: What do you have overlaid there the little dots? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: While we were on break Sarah Reinhardt asked if something maybe you would want to see and it was brought up, and this is a thematic map of race, Black as it tear -- it pertains to the total population.

I will bring it up again and look at it.

Basically each of these dots are for example that little dot there, there is 279 people that identified as Black.

And out of a population of 2615.

Approximately 10.7% of that Township well we are in precincts now let me put it back on Townships because that makes a little more sense.

So you see that it is pretty much self-explanatory. 1100 people identify as Black out of 9660, which that Township is 11.39% Black.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: I just wondered what it was.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Some people I think it came to Bay because of the interest in, you know, certain parts.

We can do that for the voting precincts if you need that.

The information.

And I think you see and it gives you an idea.

But for voting precincts, the smaller the feature the closer you have to be to see it.

To see the difference.

Shall I turn that off?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: It's okay with me, I just wondered what it was for sure. Okay getting back to my Ann Arbor area, I do kind of like what I have at 2% since Commissioner Wagner did such a wonderful job of getting us back down to a very small difference.

I have a little room to play now.

And in the process when she was doing hers, I did a little checking, decide to take the Ann Arbor area and I went into Dr. Moon's sheet she provided us and reading some of the comments.

And I agree with this is Ann Arbor surrounding area communities.

This community is diverse in race.

Education and income.

It reflects the makeup of the State of Michigan provides an opportunity for all voices to be heard and counted.

So I believe that's the comment I will take from Dr. Moon's report.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me throw an idea forward.

I see Dexter which is in District 29.

I see that more associated with Ann Arbor.

I'd like at it as a suburb of Ann Arbor really.

It's not that far out.

It's closer than Saline is which is also in that District.

So I my thought was move that over to the Ann Arbor District.

And it will short us a little over in District 29 but give us a little more flexibility going west.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I mean Commissioner Clark we do have a couple comments where they said please remove Dexter.

Dexter and Jackson is better and Chelsea because it's a smaller town.

They didn't want to be in such a big town as Ann Arbor and I don't think it's wrong to consider it sort of a bedroom community of Ann Arbor.

And there was again two specific comments that specifically said please remove Dexter when we had it last time.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: MC you are 100% correct.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Speak up.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I lived in Dexter a while ago and they are definitely a small, small town and like Chelsea.

And they would align more in that direction.

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>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right any additional comments? So are we moving on to the next person? Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, so I think what I'm going to do at this particular point...

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I do have just one comment on number 27.

It works and it works well numbers wise.

I think it works well for communities of interest as well.

But you know the one thing that I'm having trouble with is you know we are making a very what I believe to be polarized districts.

I think if we were to run the numbers which we will at a later point, I mean this District would probably be 70 to 80% you know one way voting just because of that's you know we are putting all the City folk together in Ann Arbor with Ypsilanti.

So just thinking it's something we should be aware of.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you Commissioner Eid.

I do think that's going to be a challenge as we move into particularly Wayne County. Because the reality is, is we do have these democratic pockets that are very strongly democratic.

But we also have republican pockets that are very strongly republican throughout the state.

And I would just state that you know again these maps are not final.

We are going to adjust lines and do partisan analysis and if need be, we can sort of Jimmy and move the lines around a bit to achieve partisan balance if we found out our maps are not passing those partisan measures of partisan fairness as it comes down. I mean I don't think we are unaware of it.

It's just I think we are focused on getting some lines down at this point and with the knowledge that we will be adjusting as time goes on.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All right, well I think at this particular point in time I am going to fill in the remaining border counties.

So the red District that is drawn right there, let's fill that in.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Can we also see the overlay for the Western District that we did as well? Because I know we have one that may conflict with some of these lines.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We have three different ones.

We can take a moment and figure out what matters.

There is one in blue.

I think at this point can we turn the red off? Okay it looks to me like it just goes west.

I want to temporarily turn it off so we can see the other options that have been drawn.

There is one called from August 30th.

These two are from the west.

So they go up higher.

So that was -- these were some of the work plans work districts that were drawn.

And you can see the red where they overlap.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Am I good to keep going? So I was still going to fill in the, let's see, Cass County, St. Joseph County, Branch County.

And I mean the remaining Townships with Branch County.

We will take the top row of counties there as well.

At least those hold on 1234567, 11 counties.

Sorry ten, I'm sorry ten Townships and the ones right above that as well.

And over to the west side fill in the red that's there as well for right now.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here I'm pointing at?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

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

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Including Schoolcraft?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: No.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 63,000 short of ideal your District is.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: All right, how many let's see let's look at Van Buren County, which is the furthest west.

I'm sorry, Berrien County.

I'm sorry.

But I want to.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 154,000 and you need roughly 64.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay, so what are the population of the Townships?

One minute while I look this over real fast.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We can highlight a group and the number will pop up.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Sure.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just tell me where to start.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's go over to Oronoko Township and Berrien Township straight down south to the border.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 33,000.

You would still need approximately 30,000.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's grab Oronoko, Buchanan and Buchanan City.

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You will need about 13,000 to be ideal.

Shall we assign those?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Yes, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are 4.9% low 13152.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's grab Pipestone, Gallan.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Dustin I want to offer there is a comment from the cluster that talks about since our County from north Berrien that specifically talking about north Berrien and Baroda and sort of a north, south split.

I can read it for you but it's comment 33009 in the supporting data Page 150.

And since our county is too big for one District maintaining the north south split is critical to preserving our communities of interest.

Yeah, so and if you want me for I can it says in north Berrien the north Berrien, yeah, so yeah, I guess as you go further north yeah there is a community of interest that may be helpful.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So where would you propose the cutoff to the north would be?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I am trying to read the comment to see if they actually do have that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Let's do this and take pipe stone off for right now. And then on the border Townships let's grab the remaining all the way over to the coast. Yep.

We saw it and the top two above that as well.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: About 8,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay so let's remove.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 2.87% high.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Give me one second.

MC does Baroda Township go with the north part of Berrien County?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It's hard to read from these north, south splits. I think we are going have to wait for public comment but I think what you have is a reasonable north south split at this point.

I don't have any further, yeah, definition.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Okay anyone have any thoughts as to what particular Townships to remove to get closer to 0, if not I will keep this as is for the whole fact now, we can work on the potential District for the coastline moving north and separating the north and south.

Any thoughts? As far as rationale goes, so I was trying to keep border counties whole.

Had to go north to grab some population due to the fact that the District with Monroe went over so far west and then we were having the discussion in regards to communities of interest here just now in the particular area with MC and myself to figure out where we should make the dividing line.

And as far as diverse population, this question always gets me.

Besides taking in communities of interest I don't know how diverse the population is on the border counties and Townships in Michigan.

So it's hard for me to answer that particular question.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: In terms of racial diversity at least, EDS and/or Kent is able to display that information visually.

So if you for future districts or in this District if you wanted to take a look at that information for review or consideration you are welcome to.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Kent for the labels that we have right now you have -- you can do three; is that correct? And one is the Township and then the one underneath is the total population, can we add one or two more to that? Or are we limited to one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: One more.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: One more okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Name, total population then we will get down to the data fields as your total population.

White alone, white combine and Black alone Black combine, Black and white, Native American and so on.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, all right thank you.

Did you want to see the heat sort of like a heat map?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: No, not particularly I'm just looking at the percentages at the bottom.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any additional thoughts, comments anything Department of State you need from him? We will move on to the next person who is Commissioner Clark.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you Madam Chair.

I'd like to do the thumb area.

I'm more familiar with that.

Since I live over on the east side.

So what I want to do here is take Huron County, Sanilac County, I can't read the one that start with a T, I can't read it Tuscola, take that.

I want to take St. Clair County.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That puts you approximately 7.7% high or 20,000 people over ideal.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: We are over? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Can we drop the map down a little?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I have a question for you, Doug.

When my experience when we are doing this is St. Clair County the lower portion of it to the where the point is does that align more with Macomb?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, it does.

So I would take those Townships out that are all Marysville.

So it is St. Clair, Columbus as well.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Follow something like that?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Where are we at now?
>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Follow-up question this is a City I really didn't know what to do with when I looked at it Sarnia it's a border City.
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: What is the name of the City?
>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Sarnia, I'm pretty sure that is a railway entrance.
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Sarnia.
>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That is the Canadian side, Port Huron is the U.S. side.
>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I'm sorry.
>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That is why you are throwing him.
>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I apologize.
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay so where are we at? We need to add.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Clark is that what you expected?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, so what I want to do is come down to 26 mile road, which is where Casco is and so forth.

And get the upper part of those Townships that are above 26 mile.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Above this line here?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes.

And 26 is the break between southern Macomb where you get the industrialized part and building up to that point.

But up further north, that is what I want.
And go left.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just a moment.
Is that what you expect?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: It is but I didn't have 26 mile road right.
It's where new haven is.
It's the southern part of new haven.

So, yeah, so let's get the rest of that, those Townships that we just.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, and below the two you just did.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Township or voting precincts?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Township.
>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Weiss?
>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Commissioner Clark can I jump in here a little bit quick?
>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Sure.
>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: After my District and Dustin's District I believe we are about 12000 on the plus side from the deviation I guess whatever you call it.

If you maintained what you had, that would put us pretty close to back to even because you were 12000 minus and we are 12000 plus.

That would almost put us back to 0 on the total population.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Hold on I have to look at the numbers right now I'm below.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: But you were higher or below that you were around 11 or 12.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: The point again is keep it where it is right now?

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Well that is what I'm thinking.

Even though you are low, it equals it out a little bit.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me take another look at the map.

Go ahead and finish up what you are doing, Kent, on the numbers.

That is a good point.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's 3.25 low as of right now, as it sits.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: If you go back and take out, I think the last one or two you did, it would be a lot closer.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: We are low now overall, we want to go the opposite way.

If we are low in population, we want to increase it.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: We are on the plus side, correct? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I will take another look at it here.

It looks like it should be.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: Because I was looking at the other maps we were drawing and we were up 12 high if I figured right and with what Mr. Clark had on his what he had going he was 12000 minus, that should have put us close to even I thought.

Maybe I'm mistaken.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: See what his comes up with.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All right we should be right now, catching a moving target here.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Plus side.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We are 2.15% high. 5712 people.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me go back to the map.

Good point, Richard.

So let's take out can you expand that a little so I can see? Yeah, okay.

I want to keep that.

Can you scroll up toward the top of the Mitten? Up to the very top of the Mitten.

Okay and then I want to go further west, towards Saginaw, Bay City.

Okay so let's -- this bottom, this row here, it has Gilford and Denmark.

And Tuscola.

Let's take those out.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This first column?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, take those out because now we are getting close to the Saginaw, Bay City area and we may be able to use that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is 8800 people.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 8800.

Okay, take the top three out.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That puts you at 2.87% high.

7600 people.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm still high.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Snow 3.9% low, 10,000 people low.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm low, okay.

Then let me go back down south a little over towards the lake.

Yeah, and there is two Townships that rich and Burlington.

Let's count those.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Which Townships?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Rich and Burlington.

Go east to the east of where you were.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: To the right.

>> COMMISSIONER WEISS: To the left now where you are at.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Go back up to where you were.

So you see right where your mouse is right now there you go.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's add those and see where we are at if I took out rich, I would be, no, oh, no.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 2.81% low.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm low so let's add burn side and north Branch.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: .75% low.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I think there is that brown City is maybe not selected or.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You always have the best eye for stuff.

You are like an Eagle eye.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Shall I assign those?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: How do you find those Cynthia? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, Brown City.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: There was a pea in the middle of the ocean and Cynthia saw it.

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>> MR. KENT STIGALL: .75% low or 1987 people low.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I'm low.

Let's look at the aggregate again.

Good point.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 2.5% high before the changes and it still should be about the same.

3.78% high.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay let's go back to the map.

Let me double check this, please.

G6-G19.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I want to make some changes on the map any way.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes.

Okay all right the far two western Townships, yeah, let's get rid of those.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are minus 2.55%.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: That is fine and go over to Deerfield Township, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Deerfield?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, add that in.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are .38% low or 1009 persons.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Okay, come down a little.

I want to take a look where we are at relative to 26 mile road.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Which direction?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Go south.

Okay stop there.

See I can't use Lenox. I could use Richmond. Lenox is just too much population.

I did not see that.

Yeah, let's add east China in.

And then we are going to have to delete one.

I think.

You are at 1% high.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's see what the aggregate is and if it's good we will leave it.

Because I can always add one more if we need to.

Which I don't have a problem doing.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It shows 5.5%.

Again let me look at this.

G6, 27, yep, 5.5% high, 14,000 people high.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let me look at the map one more time.

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I think we are going to stay with this but let me look at it one more time.

I want to ask the Commission a question.

The far western row that is up near the Bay and coming down there is five Townships, my preference would be to have those further south.

But if this appears workable to you guys, and not move it further south I'm okay with that too.

Is there any comments on this?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I have a question as to what are we planning on doing with the peninsula of Cottrellville Township, Ira, Casco, China, Algonac, Marine City, St. Clair? We seem to be leaving that peninsula dangling down on St. Clair.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, to me it should be with Macomb County, southern part of Macomb County.

And it would be connected so we don't have an issue with that. But that is where you begin to see the dense population and that more urban areas.

And right below that 26 mile road level.

So what I would have liked is to get Lenox and Lenox Township and Ray Township but it's just too many people.

So we are going to have to adjust from that.

So I would if nobody has any objections, I mean I don't have a problem with those four counties up to the north on the west side.

I don't have a problem with taking those out and adding some down further.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: You might want to look at the diversity. You might want to look at the heat map that the layers can be, those bubbles.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: 12000 in Lenox and another 3500 in Richmond and you are talking 16,000.

Another 5,000 in Armada.

That is 20,000.

We are not going to get 20,000 off from those four counties up north I don't think.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I was thinking more of a diversity because the rationale you are going to have to provide later, just thinking about that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well to me the diversity is that what we've got here is a diverse District because in the Port Huron area it's industrial.

And the remainder of the thumb area that we highlighted in this District is rural.

So we've got that diversity.

And we can break that diversity apart when we do the House Districts to keep the rural together and then have a mixture of the two.

That is how I would look at the diversity of this District.

Okay, all right, I'll keep it at this.

Any other questions from the Department of State?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I've recorded most of the things I need to record from your explanation.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you very much.

Madam Chair, Cynthia has a question.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So Commissioner Clark as I was looking at this, just kind of as the big picture, I'm wondering if I don't know anything about this area but do the counties and/or Townships that border Canada, would they have something in common and want to stay together?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well the ones that border are on the St. Clair river. And Port Huron being the biggest that is where the bridges are. So other than that when you get past south of St. Clair well St. Clair is still on the river. But you can't cross.

You only can cross up at Port Huron unless you are crossing by boat of course.

That is the only place, the two bridges up there.

So Port Huron is the key to that, the answer to that question.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay that was my only question.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I'm curious rather than keeping the five counties in Tuscola we entered into Lapeer and wondered why you are going south instead of west towards Saginaw?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I didn't go west because we are not assessing Saginaw, Flint and Bay City at this point until we get Bruce and Lisa in the meetings.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Right but I'm not saying go all the way in.

I'm wondering that one line where you stopped.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I questioned that I went too far west.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: If the population would have dictated it, I would have gone further south but the population did not dictate that.

And it would have gotten messy.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Let's take a look at those four counties the population on those.

So you got about, what, 1300 and 1500 that is 28, another 1500 that is a little over 4,000.

And then.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The highlighted areas are 6058 people.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: How many.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That can't be right.

Redo that.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 6058.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah so 6,000 I could have added one more county or one more Township down below and it did not make sense to split one and didn't want to split one and that is why I did that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any other comments? All right at this point we will move on to Commissioner Curry, are you still on? No, Commissioner.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Can I make one comment? Can we change the color on that? We have too many greens on the screen.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, sir.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yeah, that would help.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: What color would you like 25 to be?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Purple.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Purple it is.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER CLARK: Thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All you have to do is ask.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There is your purple thumb.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Can you make it a little lighter?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You are being particular.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I yield.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Now we would go to Commissioner Eid.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's go back to the Grand Rapids area.

Seems to be about what we have left.

So I'd like to recall when we were drawing House Districts in this area, you know, the way I saw it was you had the rapid six Townships of, Metro six, thank you, of Kentwood, Wyoming, Grandville, Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids, and Grand Rapids Township. And for those we were able to make out of those six Townships we were able to make five districts.

I think now with how we have districts 33, there is a way to make them have two Senate districts which I think is the way to go.

So would y'all rather me do the more inner part of that which would be like Wyoming and Grandville up to Walker? Or should I just start at the border of District 33?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It looks like we've got right we did draw it that way, is that what you are thinking? Filling in the blue the split north south we did it that way is that what you're looking at? We did do this with the Senate and we did it along the river.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is one of the overlays.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: This overlaps.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That was created on I believe August 31st, the second version.

There is a first version as well.

But it doesn't seem to be in this area.

Let me look at it again.

Yeah, it's pretty much the same in Grand Rapids, the two versions are the pretty much the same.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think we split it that way and I think it was Fulton road if I'm not mistaken because the minority District was south of that.

And we wanted to try to keep that together so that we could get a minority majority out of it.

And I think that was the logic behind it.

I'm comfortable with the way it is personally.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So does this work with the borders we previously drew on 33? Does all that work? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is an independent District in and of itself, it appears to be.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: But the one below it with Cascade, Bone, is that also its own District? And then there is one on top of it, also its own District?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I think the one on top is.
I think the one that is underneath it might not be.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It appears this is a District as well if I'm seeing these lines right.

Let me change the color of 33.

Maybe we can more easily identify the boundary.

So the 33 we have now runs to right here.

This District runs takes up a significant piece of 33.

Is that clear? This is appears to be a District.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So that top part that includes the northern part of Grand Rapids, that would work and then that bottom part would work too and then maybe for the last, the lowest part we would just have to reconfigure that to move more south or more wherever, is that what I'm seeing?

>> Uh-huh.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That appears to be it.

I say we could start on it and get a good idea of what we are looking at.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, we could go with this.
And I'm completely fine with going with this.

There is another option of taking like starting at 33 and going inward and we would have pretty much the same just instead of being split north, south, it would be kind of split east to west.

But I mean what do y'all think? We could go with this.

For the two Grand Rapids districts and I would be fine with that.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I think the key point is the north, south split.

I think we deviate from that then we are deviating from what the public has told us that the correct thing to do.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I think there is an east, west that could be managed.

Commissioner Eid.

And because we've done this and because it was a collaborative map, we put a lot of time and energy into it so I guess until what I am suggesting is because we've done this already and if it works, yeah, let's use it.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Let's just see if it works then.

So let's start with the more northern District outlined in blue.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: And let's just fill this in.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This shall be District 24 maybe.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: On our overlay it looks like we took this piece here.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You can take that one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is a census block so we took this piece here and put it in there I guess to get rid of that odd shape.

Continue to do that?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: So it's a part of that other what County is that a part of or sorry what Township? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's a part of this Township here.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Well how many people are in it? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: There it is.

I can see if there is population there.

We ran it straight down and I don't know because there is no population here.

We can check.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would say just put it with the green.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Okay, there is 37 people in it but that appears to be the District as we have it drawn.

We have to run a check to make sure we have not left any holes anywhere.

That is represented of 1.5% high.

I'm going to run analysis check to make sure we didn't miss anything.

We have some pieces at 25.

26, 26, 26, very few people.

I think that was from a prior plan.

Nothing in Grand Rapids.

24.

1.5% low.

4006 high.

1.51 high.

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Okay well good to me.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Department of State?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Ms. Reinhardt? Do you have any questions for Commissioner Eid?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: No.

So to clarify this is one of the same draft -- this is basically the same District that was drawn during draft.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: I have no further questions thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: At this point we will move on to Commissioner Lett.

You look deeply thrilled.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Let's do the inner City of Grand Rapids.

Put that in and see what it does for us.

Let's us a little more in the inner City and Wyoming east and something and all of that.

No use inventing the wheel again right, Anthony? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District 23 is .5% low, 1335 people, .5% below ideal.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: We worked on this before.

I'm satisfied with what we did before.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I fully agree with you, severe.

I think we had solid logic when we designed this before and based on population and based on what the voices of the citizens of Grand Rapids said.

So I concur.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any additional comments or questions?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: The rationale behind this is it's a compact District.

It is the City of Grand Rapids, Grandville, Wyoming, Kentwood, East Grand Rapids, it has 55% non-Hispanic white, 16.49% non-Hispanic Black.

4.51 maybe 6.1 Asian.

Looks like 15 or 18% Hispanic.

Two minority 44.

Appears to be a diverse population.

Contained within this District.

I don't know what the voting preferences would be once an analysis was done on that since I don't know what the cross over vote would be.

However, I believe that the mix of the population as it pertains to this District as well as it pertains to the state shows a diverse population contained within the District.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right we will now move on to Commissioner Orton.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can you Zoom out a little more so I can see all that is left? Okay, well, I guess I should probably start in the upper shoreline.

Can I see the County? Yeah, population.

Okay I guess Township.

Okay choose, yeah, that corner there that is all in the blue.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area is 58,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, assign that, please.

Okay let me just look at populations for a second.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You still need 200,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Right, okay so take it from there, clear down to the blue line, just, yeah, to there.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area is 110.

You will still need approximately 96,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay take hold on just a second.

Okay, take Zeeland and Zeeland Township and the one right under.

And then does anyone have any insight? Hudsonville and Georgetown with that? Or to the east?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Further south toward Saugatuck.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I would pull in Saugatuck.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Do that, please.

And Zoom out just a little bit when you can.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You still need 70,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, so if you take the rest of that blue outline down to the County border, what does that do? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That area is 27,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay assign that.

And maybe we can fit the rest of the shoreline that's left.

So try that.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Just a moment, it seems to be stalled.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Will it let you save it? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's working it just paused for lack of a better word.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: So would you save now just to be on the safe side and take the rest of the border? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm not going to do anything with it but at some point, it's going to stop processing.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Let it finish.

While it's thinking we have another item on our agenda we were supposed to discuss after the lunch break that we did not.

Does it look like it's good? Maybe not.

I don't know.

All right while the software is thinking why don't we bump up to new business item 6A utilization of the public comment portals or MGGG and EDS.

Yesterday executive Director Hammersmith indicated that the EDS my directing portal was going to be activated for the public to see maps on which the Commission is working.

The purposes ensure a faster turnaround to get the maps posted and available to anyone wishing to see them as well as assuring transparency.

Commissioners were asked to consider if there is an interest from the Commission and enabling people to make comments on EDS website or MGGG portal should remain the only place for the public to make comments so I would like to open up the floor for discussion and comments, Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It feels important to have the EDS map but I feel like we've already got enough, yeah, I would just not recommend and would strongly encourage us not to accept the feedback in the EDS portal.

But to have that lay over seems really important.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay Commissioner Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I just wanted to say I thought allowing the public to comment as much as possible as long as we can capture all of it and incorporate it is a good idea on my part.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton then Commissioner Witjes.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Why are we needing to complicate things with another place that the public needs to go? Why can't we just publish our maps? What is the problem? I don't understand.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I would suggest it just is easier probably to tie a map to a comment rather than someone having to go back to the portal and say oh, this map here.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I mean why do we need the EDS website map? Why can't we put the maps we are working on, on our website?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: That I don't have an answer to that question.
Commissioner Witjes?

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> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I think I know the answer to that one.

The shape files are too cumbersome to put on our website and you can't put them in the public comment portal.

So I believe Autobound edge has a way to push the shape files up to EDS portal for viewing and I think that is the reason why.

That was according to Sue I believe.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Mr. Woods?

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Commissioner Witjes is 100% correct and yesterday our Executive Director was sharing with regards to how we can be more open and transparent as relates to our shape files.

When it comes to our shape files EIS software we choose the PDF and each shape file takes about an hour to create that.

And then it takes a while to update the system.

So for efficiency being user friendly, being more open, being more transparent, they can take the work that you have done and then push it to the public comment portal.

So that people can look at it in real time.

They when you get the layers, they can add the layers.

And so it will be a very intuitive and interactive document and so the real question for the Commission is you know with this EDS tool being open and available to the press so they can see your workday by day, do we want people to comment directly on the map within that portal? Or would we want them to go to the MGG site and comment there?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: That was the next point I was going to say.

But I personally think that the more places you can give public comment the better and if you need to do an extra step to look at something then go somewhere else to make a comment on it, that seems kind of cumbersome and not the most efficient way to get people to comment on our maps.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: How easy and convenient would it be for people to get to the other site do they click and leave a comment and it pulls them over to our site? Or do they have to sort of click through a couple different things?

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: For hacking and cyber security purposes they have to register just like they do for the public comment portal then they would be able to access it from there.

So what we would do is similar to the public comment portal how you access that off our website.

You would do the same off our website for the EDS and it's called my Districting just so we have the same lingo.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Just to clarify for the current public comment portal, I think what director Woods was referring to there is no registration for the current public comment portal but there is an e-mail verification for comments to be posted.

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>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I'm just remembering how we so we can accept like when somebody draws a map for us and submits us, they do it through a different site and they just submit a link and they still comment in our MGG portal with that link to it.

So I feel like it's pretty user friendly and I just feel if we have it all contained, we talked about how we have actually I'll speak for myself, I have struggled with the number of ways that we've incorporated public comment and making sure I can sort of like check it off and see it all.

Like to have another place I mean I totally agree we want to encourage public comment. I just feel like because we have a way for MGG to get it to us and to keep it in that portal it feels like a good thing for us to sort of, yeah, have it all contained.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Yeah, I agree with Commissioner Rothhorn I think just having a consolidated in the public comment tool we had thus far might be the best way to go.

I also want to remind the public that there are also going to be more opportunities to comment on our draft maps once we figure them out.

And have a few options on the table.

We are going to have nine more public hearings that are going to be solely for hearing comment on the maps.

And I for one am going to care about that testimony that we get on those days more than just what is on our public comment tool.

So we have plenty of opportunities to hear the people.

That is what we have been doing so far and we are going to continue to do that.

I don't think we need to add a whole other tool on top of the tools that we've already had.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett?

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: Well, I agree with Commissioner Rothhorn and Eid that I would like to see the comments that they put on in one place so that we, the Commission can go to one place and see everybody's comments.

I certainly agree that we can put the maps on EDS maps on.

I have no problem with that.

That people can go look to them.

The only thing I would say regarding Commissioner Eid is whoever writes on those public comments has just as much weight as somebody that shows up and talks to us. They are all the same.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I agree.

I also think there is something to be said for us having control over those comments within our website versus having them on EDS' website if we are in control and we are

managing them and managing them as a Commission I think that's preferable to possibly having them on a vendor's website and having them provide us with reports that are separate.

I don't want to deal with that extra administrative step.

Sarah?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: And for the benefit of the viewing public I believe what Commissioner Szetela is referring to is the ability for an export end view of Commission or sorry of public comment is that what you refer to when you mean management?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Not implying that any comments are managed in the sense that some are removed.

No comments from the public comment portal.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I did not mean to imply that, no Mr. Woods, then Commissioner Lett?

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Once again, they will not be able to draw maps, just so we are clear.

This is a read only site of what the Commission has done.

Once again, I will repeat it's a read only site as relates to what the Commission has done.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: And then if they were to do that, they would be able to comment on the maps, on the read only site.

And so what we would do based on what I'm hearing from the Commission is we would identify the map so that they would go to the public comment portal to provide comment if that is the will of the Commission because they would have to be an identifier of the map on the EDS site so that you would know exactly what they are talking about if you do not want to enable that function.

Just for clarity sake.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Lett? And then Commissioner Wagner.

>> COMMISSIONER LETT: I move we have EDS post the maps on the site, read only and have an identifier so they can go to the public comment portal and make whatever comments they want to make.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Second.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Then I would clarify for the motion the public who wishes to provide public commentary can go to our site.

We have a motion and a second.

By Commissioner Lett seconded by Commissioner was that Witjes, okay, Commissioner Witjes to have EDS place the maps on a read only site.

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And then have map identifying information so that individuals who would like to provide public comment can then return to our Michigan.gov/MICRC website and provide commentary on the maps there.

Commissioner Wagner?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: I have a question because don't we have some of the public utilizing the EDS website for maps and doesn't that loop back into the public portal? I thought I saw someone using mydistricting.com on one of the public comments and if that is the case why can't we let them comment on those maps and loop that back into the portal?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Anyone have any knowledge about that? I've only seen District R ones out there but that certainly doesn't mean there aren't ones I have not seen.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Madam Chair.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: My Districting functionality is not enabled so it might have been external source or software.

There are several that are available to the public.

I think the encouragement is that the public would use the portal, the Commission's portal to draw maps but certainly they can draw maps on other software and submit them in that fashion but it's my understanding that the EDS functionality public facing has not been activated.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you, General Counsel. Is there any general debate or discussion on the motion?

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Let me be clear. The e-mail is a verification. There is not a name, address and zip code. You put in an e-mail to make sure it's a real person and not a robot on this site as well.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Wagner, did you have another comment?

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Only if someone will clarify what the motion is.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: So the motion is to have EDS use their my Districting portal to place the shape files and maps that we are working on, on their website where the public can view them in a read-only format. And then the public would be able to take a plan identifier, whether it's a number or other identification item, and bring it over to that MICRC's redistricting comment portal and make comments on those particular maps there. Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: Before taking this, we should ask what does EDS think and what would be the easiest for y'all as our mapping people to consolidate everything? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I've not been directly involved in this little project but I know a little bit about it or quite a bit.

It's generally considered good practice to put your public information up in easily accessible formats.

In mapping situations Google maps for example, everybody knows how to use it. And I think my Districting what they are proposal from City Gate GIS will be perfectly familiar to a lot of people as far as just moving around maps, seeing Michigan and seeing outline of the districts on top of maps as opposed to just a picture of a paper map like a PDF.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right any additional comments or questions all right we have a motion that is made by Commissioner Lett and seconded by Commissioner Witjes all in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay.

>> COMMISSIONER WAGNER: Nay.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay, by a vote of I believe it was 8-1 the ayes prevail and the motion carries all right so now we have resolved that item of new business I would like to we have about 15 more minutes left to map so I would like to use that time and hopefully our software is now cooperating so I will hand it back to Cynthia and back to Mr. Stigall.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Commissioner Orton it seems to be intact.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay good if you can scroll down and if you can take all those Townships well start with the two closest to the lake and all the way down into the surrounded by blue.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: South Haven.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: It's hard to describe.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Can I assume you want to go down?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: All of that, that is surrounded by blue, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Excuse me.

Just a moment I will turn on the labeling so we can see the numbers like there we go.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Thank you.

.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So 22 is 50,000 people over ideal.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: We are over, okay.

Scroll over a little bit more.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Out.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I just want to see the whole thing I can't read that how many over are we? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 50,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: 50,000, oh, wow.

Okay so that is not going to work.

Now I mean if we took off those inner Townships it's still not going to work.

We have to take off something big.

So if we go down, we have District 26 there.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: District 26 is 7600 high.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Can you Zoom in to the bottom part of 22? No, down in Berrien County.

So we will get to the population where we need to take off.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It's surrounded by 26 and 26 is high.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Right.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You will be limited access to any population you remove from 22.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay so let's look up north then.

I think we are bottled in everywhere.

Okay take off you want to say something? Yes, Commissioner Orton? I mean Commissioner Rothhorn? Commissioner Witjes, sorry.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: We can try the approach of the nice skinny one going up the coast and take off everything that is going into the center.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I don't think that will be enough though but we can try.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I would like to take a moment to point out you still have a lot of areas to draw so.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You could push it out east.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You are still going to have to do a lot more districts.

This is not the last District.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Right but I'm trying to keep lakeshore together because we have those two parts that are.

Okay, well I don't really want to do this but I will try taking off so there is just I don't know if I want to do that.

Scroll up just a little bit again.

Okay I would like some input from Commissioners like I really don't want to do a skinny District all the way up.

And I think we will have to take a substantial amount out of like the eastern side of Holland to get the population.

Would you rather see that or cut that into cut it north, south and take both of them more east?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: You could add the rest of like what is under 23.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, yeah, that is kind of what I'm wondering.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yeah, I would take off the southern part and go east.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay let's try that.
That feels better to me.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: How much do you want to take off the bottom?
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Scroll up just a bit, up more.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So you need 43,000.
You would be adding 43,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay take where the blue line is at Saugatuck take that down and south all the way over.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here?
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No south of Holland.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: South of Holland.
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Just the thick blue line there take everything south.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Everything south.
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah.
>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Including Fennville?
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, including those three Townships.

Now I want to go east to so everything up to District 24 and District 23.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All this?
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes please.

No.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That is 78,000 right there and you need 75.
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Okay, do that.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So right there you are .95% above or 2500 people above.
Less than 1% over.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Are we needing to balance over or under? Under?
And I'm over.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: It appears right now it's 7.5% high, you are 20,000 over.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Then I'm going to take out a Township or so.
Scroll out a little bit so I can see the overall.

And out just a little bit so I can see the population, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Am I in the right area?
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yes.

Okay so take the very bottom one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Jamestown?
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: No over.
>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: I can't read it Ow or over something.
>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: .

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>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Now you are 620 people under.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: I'm good with that.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: I would suggest taking off more because we are it's so high currently on the total deviation.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Rothhorn?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We have more Directors and if we keep the little Townships there, we do help that person from the Holland area who wanted to keep south of Holland channel, Lake Macatawa and Holland and suburban. So I guess we offer we can do it in other districts too to be under.

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Yeah, I'm good with it.

Ask away.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT:

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Sarah Reinhardt did you have questions for her before we move on to another District?

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Absolutely Commissioner Orton can you describe why the District took the shape that it did here?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well, I started up at Grand Haven because I didn't want you know to leave a hole there.

And came down and east because I wanted to include Holland with that.

But we couldn't population wise it made it difficult to go down the lake more so we went into the east.

And there is a community of interest.

MC, can you restate your...

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Sure. It was from June 23, C793. The Lake Macatawa area was divided along the County line. And they didn't want to be divided south of the Holland channel.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right. Commissioner Rothhorn? Do you want to try to do a District? You got about ten minutes.

You have to be speedy to do a District.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We can do this, we can do this.

Let's try let's see if we can do Allegan so we will stay well no, no, no.

Let's go to the urban centers I think that is better.

Gosh, which way should I go Kent? Where should I start? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Stack a bunch up and see what happens.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Let's do the suburban areas Cascade and just keep heading south and I guess south and west please rather than south and east. Cascade, Caledonia.

We are halfway there.

Yes, so what I'm looking at Kent are the Townships that have the orange you know precincts line and I'm assuming my intuition is those are more densely populated and create more of an ex urban area so if we can look for those.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: For the record Commissioner Wagner turned off her camera but she is still present.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Thornapple, Lawton, Dorr, Salem.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Let's not go to Overisel yet.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You have roughly 150,000 people to add.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We have to add a whole County, I think.

And so which county are we in? That is Allegan.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is Barry, Barry looks to be the only whole County available.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: And Barry is, so, yeah, let's do it.

Did you have a comment, Dustin? Let's add Barry.

And then that little Township just above it, yep, thank you.

And then west I guess would be Allegan.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: The whole County?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Whatever we need to and I want to stay so filling in from the west from Yankee springs so we do Wayland and Hopkins and Martin and Watson and move west, please.

Yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That will put in 28,000.

So you are still going to be 75.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Quite a bit more.

So, yeah, let's head towards the lakeshore, no.

Can we pan out? I think this is turning into more of a rural Battle Creek, it's not should I head towards Battle Creek? Okay I'm seeing not sure.

Okay, so let's go to lakeshore.

What do you think Commissioner Eid?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Eid?

>> COMMISSIONER EID: I would take the three I can't tell if it's three or four Townships left over there.

Yeah, the top, on the top left and the two on the bottom.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Salem and Overisel.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yep.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Then these two is that what was spoken?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Yes, I believe so.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, please and we will just head west to the lakeshore to fill in the remaining population as best we can.

Yes, please 3700.

So 37,000 so we will need all of it including Saugatuck so let's just take it.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: I'm going to select then you can decide if it's worth looking at.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Please, yep looks good.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 21,000.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Let's do those.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That gets you to 32 so you are 5,000 under.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Witjes?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: Just a question.

Did we nix the idea of doing lakeshore Directors?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: No I mean I would love to do it but I don't know how to get the population in.

If I do the lakeshore here right this center area becomes.

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: It's boxed in any way.

I'm just curious as to why we spent a lot of time working on lakeshore districts now we are not looking at it anymore.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I agree but I'm not sure.

Either go to the lakeshore or south to Kalamazoo and Battle Creek to pick up the population.

I did not hear any sort of affirmatives.

Can I call on Commissioner Orton?

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Orton?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well, I just see that this District goes all the way up to Grand Rapids basically.

And Battle Creek does not want to be with Grand Rapids.

We have heard that a lot.

So I'm wondering if maybe so we tried this, maybe start over and try the lakeshore.

What is left of the lakeshore? And then see how far in you would have to go just as an experiment.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Sure. And acknowledge we will have more sort of a doughnut we will have to play with later with Battle Creek and Kalamazoo?

>> COMMISSIONER ORTON: Well, I meant like erase what you did so far and just go up the lakeshore and see how far in it needs to go.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Can you erase everything Kent? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: We can make a number 20 and flip a coin and decide what you want to do.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, please.

So if you just continue up and let's do about two counties deep and take parts of 21, please to get the population to this point.

21 was the District I was drawing, yes, please continue.

Continue up further north.

Until I finishes 22 so let's do all three counties deep.

Yes, all three Townships, sorry, thanks.

So 182000, 183 is that what we are looking at, Kent? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Sorry just a moment it didn't do it for some reason.

I'm sure I made that error.

So we will continue all the way up to what was or is 22?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You still need 140 so.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yeah, let's head inland, yes, uh-huh.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Not to get ahead is that what you had in mind?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, we will go Township by Township heading east and we will stop at the row, that column north.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Bloomingdale, Gobles and Waverly?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: So Waverly, Bloomingdale. We will get some public comment to help us understand if Gobles belongs in this or not. And then we will head north.

I'm trying to stay away from the Kalamazoo suburbs.

It's less shoreline, right, but probably, yeah, let's go into the suburbs up here.

Let's go to Overisel, Salem.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Monterey?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, since we need population.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: You still need 112000.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yeah, and Kalamazoo suburbs versus Grand Rapids suburbs.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: I would move to up Grand Rapids because we know as Cynthia mentioned Kalamazoo and Battle Creek had issue with being associated with Kent County.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I like that so let's use so Kent from Allegan and the Township there we are going to head just take Allegan, nope, and we will go north, sorry, yes.

And then we are going to take in the suburbs.

So we will take Allegan as a City too.

Please.

.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: All the way up to Byron Center?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Correct and if we can fit in that, yes, that area around 23 between 23 and 33.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This area here.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: As priority.

>> GAINES CALEDONIA AND CASCADE?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, please.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That will be about right.

That's it.

Right at ideal.

You are .47 over.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Okay since this is a speed dating thing so we are going to just leave it at this.

And my rationale is because I love it and because it's speed dating.

No, it's because we are trying to do ashore line.

We are -- actually Kent can you put on the demographics, please, those circles that have the race, please? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: One minute and let it get loaded.

I think this is population over 10%.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: I'm looking at Hispanic primarily because Ottawa County.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is minority or Black.

Hispanic is what we need.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Yes, please.

There was a predefined configuration under the Black GT, yes, that one.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: That would do it.

So it should be lightened up.

Yes, so you see some, the small number, we can click on it and it will tell you exactly what you're looking at.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: What I want to do, this District I want to see how much, okay, so we are missing some okay but we've got some large pockets there, okay.

Fennville.

Can you head north, please? Around Kentwood, yeah.

Okay so we got Wyoming but that's a different District.

Okay, can you turn on the Black population, please? To see the label? Thank you. Preconfigured with, yeah.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Total population and then the Black population and the emblems are the Hispanic population represent the Hispanic population.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: The larger the circle the larger the Hispanic community; is that correct? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 397 people out of 9331 that are Hispanic.
So it's not a large population.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It's larger and can you -- how, yeah, let's go out a little bit towards the west to see what the rest of the District looks like, please.

It's hard to get a big picture.

But and can you move north, Zoom out please Kent and head towards Ottawa County.
That is a big one there.

Yeah, okay Ottawa.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Let me check the thematic layer.
No it's not showing what we think it should be showing just a moment.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Okay.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This makes better sense here.
We are showing for example what is displayed is the Hispanic population, the total population and the percent of that population the Hispanic population is of the total population.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Presented to the County total.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yeah, and we are looking at Townships.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: So that is a Township presented as a Township.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: For example right here that it should be Township Hispanic, total population that is 23% of total population.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Okay, thank you.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: So that is a better representation.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: So we were drawing 20 and I liked 20 in terms of population.

And with -- we have got a, yeah, I think I'm going to call this good.

What are you looking at Kent what do you see? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: This is not making sense to me Hispanic total pop 41% I mean it's not.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Do you think matrix is accurate then? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Yes, the matrix is accurate.

How this was set up is.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Is it just showing it on a Township level? Is that what that is? .

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: Like that is 26 is not 41% of the total population.

>>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: 1700.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It's pretty close, yeah.
Because half is 1400.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: My mistake, it does look at that.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: It's the end of the day.

We are getting there.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: You will add any descriptions for Ms. Reinhardt?

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Go ahead.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Go right ahead.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: Looking at oh.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Commissioner Clark?

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Yes, I look at the total statistics and I don't know if we aid to 21 or not but 21 is 100 and some thousand

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: We did eat into that and we can erase 21.

>> MR. KENT STIGALL: 21 you started and changed courses and went to 20.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Just leave it for tomorrow because we will pick up with that District tomorrow.

>> COMMISSIONER CLARK: Sounds good thanks.

>> COMMISSIONER ROTHORN: The reason we changed course was in an effort to try to keep that lakeshore District like we had done and I think we went north looking at the demographics too looking at the population around Grand Rapids and the suburban areas and they do associate with the lakeshore.

And we, yeah, we do have a lakeshore District here all the way down to Van Buren.

Is that Van Buren County? Berrien County all the way down to Berrien.

And we have Allegan and Van Buren if I'm not mistaken.

Pretty well grouped.

Which was a COI.

Of interest and I'm just going to say that feels good.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Okay.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: All right guys, that ends our mapping period for today.

So we are now going to stop at this point and we will pick this up again tomorrow.

And move on to agenda item 7 which is the review and approval of minutes.

We do not have any minutes to approve today.

Staff reports we do not have a staff report from our Executive Director but our General Counsel does have a staff report so without objection I would like to ask General Counsel to provide her report.

Hearing no objections please proceed General Counsel.

>> MS. JULIANNE PASTULA: Thank you so much Madam Chair and thank you to the Commission for receiving the report.

I have two items to briefly cover this afternoon.

The first is that allegedly there is a lawsuit that has been filed claiming the Commission has not met the constitutional deadlines.

I thought it was important to note that none of the constitutional deadlines have passed yet.

And it's also important to note that the MICRC has not been properly served with any pleadings under the Michigan Court rules.

Specifically 2.105, 2.107, or 3.301.

The second point I'd like to raise for the Commission's consideration is I'd like I'm very happy to report that the local counsel RFP responses were due today under the hybrid process.

The Commission has received three responses by today's 3:00 p.m. deadline.

Those will be reviewed personally to the procurement guidelines, adopted by the Commission and provided to the Commission as well.

So I just wanted to provide those two updates on those two issues.

And am open for any questions.

Thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Any questions? All right, hearing none we will move on to our staff report from our communications and Outreach Director Edward Woods hearing no objection please proceed Mr. Woods.

>> MR. EDWARD WOODS: Just a friendly reminder that tomorrow we are at Ferris State University.

Our meeting starts at 1:00.

We have two ways to get there.

Parking is limited.

So they do have shuttle service if you want to be picked up by the hotel.

So just let me know.

Or if you have to have your car or handicap accessible there is parking there.

But their preference is if we could just pick you up from the hotel.

Once again, we are meeting from 1-4 and then again from 5-8.

There are restaurants available during the break right there on campus that should be open.

So just wanted to remind you of that as well.

Thank you very much.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

All right without objection I will ask Sarah Reinhardt from the Michigan Department of State if she has a report.

Hearing no objection please proceed Ms. Reinhardt.

>> MS. SARAH REINHARDT: No report today thank you.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: Thank you.

Correspondence received in advance of our meeting today was provided along with written public comments to the Commissioners and our meeting materials.

It's my understanding that there are no future agenda items to share at this time.

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Are there any announcements? Seeing none we will move on to adjournment as the items on the agenda have been completed and the Commission has no further business a motion to adjourn is in order may I have a motion to adjourn?

>> COMMISSIONER WITJES: So moved.

>> VICE CHAIR SZETELA: motion made by Commissioner Witjes and seconded by Commissioner Eid. all in favor please raise your hand and say aye.

All opposed please raise your hand and say nay. The ayes prevail and the meeting is adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Thank you very much everybody.