

Commission on Redistricting

Thursday September 2, 2021

Start Time: 5:04 pm

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Commission Members

Mariana Cordier (Chair)

Arthur Edmunds (Vice-Chair)

Imad Aldean Ahmad

Laura Ard

Keshia Desir

Valerie Ervin

Jason Makstein

Nilmini Rubin

Samuel Statland

David Stein

Council Staff

Pamela Dunn

Planning Staff

Corinne Blackford

Nick Holdzkom

Erik Westbrook

Absent:

Jeff Zyontz

The meeting began at 5:04 pm.

It opened with a greeting to the Commission by Chair Cordier.

Next, the Chair requested approval of the meeting minutes. The August 11 meeting minutes were approved without amendment.

Corinne Blackford, Demographic and Employment Research Specialist with the Planning Department, provided an update regarding the Census data release. She informed the Commission that Census data (in a legacy format) was released to the State on August 15. Ms. Blackford expects the Planning

Department to receive the County data from the State by the end of the first full week in September, and expects the mapping tool to be updated and running with the 2020 Census data by Monday September 13.

The Chair asked if the Commissioners had any observations or remarks regarding upcoming public meetings. It was noted that 25-30 meetings have been attended or are currently scheduled to be attended. The Chair invited the public to reach out and request Commission attendance at any upcoming meeting, directing those interested to the Commission webpage where Commissioner contact information is located. Cmr. Statland offered to summarize comments he's heard at meetings he has attended and send to the Commission. He requested other commissioners add their observations to the list.

The conversation on meeting attendance led to a discussion of the Commission's upcoming schedule and the proposed work creating maps. Several Commissioners reiterated their desire to work in groups. The Chair clarified that groups must be formed organically by Commissioners reaching out to each other, and that no group is allowed to contain more than 5 members in order to abide by the Open Meetings Act.

With respect to a schedule, the following timeline was suggested and supported by the Commission:

- September 13 - mapping tool updated with 2020 Census data ready for use by Commissioners
- September 23 - meeting to discuss use of the mapping tool with updated 2020 Census data
- September 30 - deadline for subgroup map selections
- October 6 – meeting held in-person to review subgroup and individual map selections
- October 13 - finalize maps (2-3) for public comment
- October 20 - public hearing on maps
- October 27 - vote on map for Council report
- November 3 - meeting to finalize report with map for delivery to Council

The meeting closed at 6:34 pm.