

**Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission
Round 2 Public Meeting #4
September 20, 2021**

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For, and that would be the right time to come back for more serious look at the Southern Maryland about on the Senate.

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And that would be the right time to come back for more serious look at the Southern Maryland about on the Senate. Montgomery county and Baltimore are officially the next two things that we're going to be taken up, and they'll take a lot of our energy.

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But I think that Southern Maryland and Prince George's in particular but also under which is still largely on resolve.

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These are issues to tie together and that we want to consider protecting potentially in the light of each other.

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And also just want to say that I know we're getting some questions no testimony will still be heard tonight from everyone that has signed up so not to worry about that.

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Doug, trying to see if I can enable us the interpreter out perfect, we go.

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Perfect. Excellent.

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Okay.

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JOHN. Do we have the right agenda up the agenda on the website is different?

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Oh, yeah.

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I got the glorious chat. Yes. GLORIA You all scheduled for today. Yes. GLORIA You are I'm just trying to john Can we put the other agenda because that one does actually mentioned that floor is speaking this evening.

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Korea. Korea is on the current agenda.

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Oh, because this is Kristin said this was correct. Okay. Where does she go in, check, check, it's on the website The back is added here instead of having to go through that just tell me where it's at, and I'll, I'll, I'll put it up, it's right before

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public testimony unless the CO chairs would prefer to have her go after public testimony.

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So it's before right now it's before public testimony Yes,

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what is it going to say just. Gloria Aparicio Blackwell.

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It says Hispanic community concerns presentation, and then its glory Aparicio Blackwell ethnic community concerned. Alex catch this discussion is permit that we have flipped the order and house the public pacifiers go first, followed by.

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GLORIA is, and I should ask. GLORIA if she has an opinion on that too but it's not a good idea. Do you think, yeah, I think we need?

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GLORIA Yeah, she's available. If she's not available I think she should go first, because I think we originally told her she will go first. Maria Could you be in touch with Gloria to see a weather going first is it is important for her schedule or whether

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Is it important for her schedule or whether she would rather wait until after the public discussion, we have, we have the agenda here and it's fine to stick with it?

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I'll just send her a message very quickly.

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But as it is on the agenda. Right now, Gloria is first, she said. She served right she's after the meeting process, but she has before the other fires.

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The question is whether we are afraid to change that for the convenience of the public pacifiers, or perhaps not, we, we can stick with the agenda and that's also fine.

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I can always change this very quickly.

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GLORIA said she would like to do before the public testimony. Okay, fine. we'll go with us.

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And with that, it is 601, and we do have a quorum.

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Walter if you want to get things started.

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Okay.

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Thank you Welcome to this public meeting and working the middle of the Maryland systems which can commission.

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We began each meeting by reducing ourselves and starting with the three chairs. My name is Walter Olson from Frederick County, my day job is with the think tank in Washington DC.

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Morning. Good morning.

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Good evening, everyone.

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My name is Kate Hetherington, and one of the co chairs. I am president of our community college and I reside in Howard County.

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I'm Alex Williams from Prince George's County and one of the co chairs. Thank you.

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Good evening, Jay Amin from Anne Arundel County and professional development consultant. Thank you.

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Hello, I'm Mary Clawson, I'm a retired federal employee and a resident of Anne Arundel County. Thank you.

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Sorry about that. Hi, I'm Kim Cummings, resident of Dorchester County, circuit court employee for Dorchester also with land records and licensing. Thanks.

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I'm Jonathan Fusfield, I'm a communications manager for a research firm. I live in Montgomery County.

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Good evening, William Thomas I'm a senior principal systems engineer for the Department of Defense, I'm also a grassroots organizer, and I live in Baltimore City.

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Thank you and our ninth commissioner will be joining us, she is Cheryl Brooks from Baltimore County and I'll give her a chance to introduce herself when she comes.

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Kristin Fleckenstein who usually presides on the technical support side is out this evening with an emergency issue and we are in the capable hands of Maria Sofia.

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So thank you, Maria for stepping in on this.

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Our next item on the agenda is the meeting process and policies, this will be a brief discussion of how testimony takes place, especially for those who might be new to the process.

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Listen, because the instructions are important, Maria would you like to take that over?

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Yes, thank you co-chair Olson, and thank you to the rest of the commissioners. As co-chair Olson said my name is Maria Sofia and I'm in for Kristin Fleckenstein this evening.

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And this evening, I'd like to welcome you to the fourth public meeting of round two of the Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission. Please note that round three will begin on October sixth, during which public testimony will also be heard by the Commission.

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This meeting is being recorded. As we begin there are a few matters to share regarding the rules and policies for this evening's meeting, as well as some tips about the platform that will assist our speakers and understanding how the zoom platform will

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work.

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This meeting also offers Spanish interpretation. To listen in Spanish, you will note that there is a box on the zoom control panel at the bottom of your screen for interpretation, please click on that box and select Spanish.

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We also ask that speakers speak slowly and clearly to facilitate this.

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There will be a three-minute allotment for speakers so that everyone who wants to speak may speak. When there is 20 seconds left of your speaking time a screen share will come up on the screen with a countdown timer. Inappropriate speaking, attire, behavior

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or background will result in removal from the meeting, without an option to rejoin. Anyone registering to speak after 6pm last night, should ask to join as a speaker in the chat section as your name may not be on the list of pre-registered speakers. You

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will not be able to share your screen or any maps as they must be submitted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

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If you did not register to speak but want to, you can request to do so in a message to the panelists via the chat feature.

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There is a control bar at the bottom of your screen. Select the chat box and then send a message to the panelists, indicating your name and county in which you reside, the raise hand option should not be used to request to speak.

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Speakers should ensure that their name is listed properly, and if not, please change it to reflect the correct name. This is because we have to move each speaker from attendees status to a panelist, so that they may speak.

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Please note the participant list is not public to protect the privacy of those calling in due to their phone numbers being listed. Pre-registered speakers will go first, then chat request speakers will be called In order of request. Speakers providing testimony

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should be aware that they will be made a panelist when it is their turn to speak, which will enable them to unmute and turn on their camera. There may be a short delay while the speaker screen posts from attendee to a panelist, this is normal.

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The speaker will see a screen message indicating that the host would like to promote you to be a panelist. The speaker needs to accept by clicking the join as panelists button.

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We will wait about five seconds for the speaker to go live.

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If the speaker does not join we will move on to the next speaker and come back at the end and call on anyone who missed their time to speak. Once speakers are finished, we must move them back to being an attendee.

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This may result in the speaker seeing a spinning wheel or message on their screen, indicating their rejoining the meeting. The speaker is not being removed from the meeting. The zoom platform is simply changing their screen.

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We know this is a lot of information, but we want to assist you in understanding how this meeting will operate so it can go as smoothly as possible, with that I would like to turn it back to the host for this evening's meeting, Commissioner Walter Olson, who

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serves as one of the co-chairs of the Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission. Commissioner Olson?

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Thank you Maria. Our next item of business,

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we are happy to have a presentation from Gloria Aparicio Blackwell.

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She is the advisor, unpaid advisor on Hispanic issues to our commission, has been serving in that role for some time. We invited her to present on Hispanic and Latino concerns in the redistricting process, particularly after the new Census numbers would

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show a very substantial rise in that community in Maryland. So welcome Gloria Aparicio Blackwell.

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I'm promoting her, she's just coming in now.

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Good evening, everyone.

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Maria, did you get my link for the presentation? We did, John's going to screen share your presentation real quick. Buenas Noches everyone, I wanted to go first because I know you're eager to hear from St. Mary's County, so I didn't

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want to take too much time, and get ready for the wonderful testimonies coming up.

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In the meantime, let me give a quick introduction. So once again, my name is Gloria Aparicio Blackwell. I am a community engagement, professional. I'm American resident.

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I came from a town from two to water, Venezuela, 44 years ago, and I have made Maryland, my home in 2017, I began to do some research in terms about sensors, and we were approached by the US Census Bureau to discuss about how do we count our community

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particularly undercounted immigrant communities as well as college students. So I began the process of addressing those areas.

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Did you have the presentation?

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Yes, he's pulling it up right now. So I'm trying to cover some time here well, so they can begin that.

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Excellent.

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So as you can see that we are growing, where it is a growing population, and you can see the tree as an representations of all the flags of US Central America and South America so could you go next.

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And we're going to be giving you a quick overview, I know that we should be presenting maps and making sure that we can showcase how the Latino population can be represented in the different districts that you are going to create, but I wanted to give

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you a quick overview, who are we, What is the community what is the Latin x, and the Hispanic community. And as you can see is that I presented to you once again the flocks.

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Venezuela right now and here. So that's something that you put it in perspective. So next slide please.

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So, with the census grows and what I'm what I'm seeing right now so in the nation in this, the United States. We saw the number that we have 62 million of Latinos in the US, the state of Maryland, the population have grown to 12% is around because we're

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66.2 million around 744,000 Latinos in the state of Maryland.

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They are concentrated. I'm going to say right now Baltimore City, although is set a percentage increase, we have seen tremendous growth in that area, as well as Montgomery county, 21%, and bring George's county.

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Recently, we have seen that is emerging communities, and the emerging communities are in Frederick County a 16 16.4 Howard County 58 15.8, Charles County, 13.7, as I said before, Baltimore City have grown also is exponentially.

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In, and this data, not talking about just the age, the voting aging, we're talking about the entire population. And I mentioned you here the elementary school enrollment you're saying, what does it have to do with redistricting.

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Well, I'm going to tell you that the pre-K to 12 or the K through 12, that Latinos right now is 30%.

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So this is something that it is a growing population that in 10 years, we're going to have more people voting in the, in the process. Next.

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So the map that I'm going to be using, I took the liberty to thank you for sharing with me. This is the American 2020 census data maps adjusted to the voting age population by pressing.

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So this kind of give us a snapshot, where are we, And as you can see that concentration in the middle of the area of brain George's, Montgomery, we have some sprinkled around in Frederick as I said is emerging communities, Baltimore City, and also Annapolis,

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as another areas that we enter Anne Arundel that we're getting the growth and Charles County, as well. And this is basically driven by the affordability, that all these areas that are becoming more populous and, in this case, have more as becoming a little bit

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too expensive to live in. So that's something that we're seeing changes. Next.

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So who are we in general? Well, in general, I'm going to tell you we're not monolithic, we're not all think alike, we're not all voting the same exactly the same.

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We're not thinking in a way that everything you're going to be very predictable, as I mentioned to you were coming from very different countries. So that's going to be a very different in order to make the assumptions about our community.

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The only thing that we can have in some commonality I will say the Spanish language, and that even is still. Right now we are getting some new languages injected with a dialect from indigenous community.

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There are also now come in here. And why is all of this influx of many Latinos come in, particularly in the area of Montgomery and bring George's and is basically because that's an area where you see families that are coming.

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You know that the, the, all these countries has been impacted by wars by natural disasters by economic situation. So they are coming where the population is going to be.

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And what about better place to come to the areas where I can see that are a lot of people from a Salvador because that's one of the main communities that you can see also in these areas from Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and also the other part of brain

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George's you also going to be finding the Mexican community. So is a variety of all those is Central America and South America, they're coming to this wonderful place that is the state of Maryland.

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And also, you're going to see that you don't see him too many other or other communities which is the multigenerational now with Colby, I guess it's going to be in every community now in every family and I might have multigenerational because the economics

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major impact and now you have the grandmother, the uncle the different families living together in one in one place. And this individuals are coming in a way where I can be where I can talk and span is where I can find my, my areas of connectivity

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that we have something in common. So commonality mean in the sense of my spices of the food that I eat and the and the rituals and the custom that we that we celebrate in our countries we can find it in one place.

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As a matter of fact, when I talked to students. I usually say you want to do a study abroad if you go into any place in South America, Central America, I recommend you to come to Langley Park I recommend to you to Go Gators for, I recommend you

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go to Baltimore City, so you can have a sense that you are in those country, away from those countries so that's the beauty of this.

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And then we get the entrepreneurs, and they are entrepreneurs so that's also the other aspect that we have seen in the Latino community. Now, we are all not undocumented we're here that boat, we're here there are documented they will have individuals

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that are us born. So those are individual some of those characteristics that we had to keep in place particular for this, as we are looking about the voting access.

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We with the pandemic we see that essential workers were coming from that community in rows. And why is that because we're in the service area we're in the construction, when the healthcare and the hospitality industry, many others community are as well

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but today we're concentrating in this group, and I'm going to say that I'm very excited and thank you for giving me this opportunity to talk to you today, because this month from September 15 of October 15 we're celebrating the Hispanic Heritage Month

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shouldn't be just one month it should be every year and every day, but one, one of the areas that I've tried to emphasize Why is so important. This community has to bring to the state of Maryland to the nation.

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Next one.

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The other aspect that I will tell you about that who we are, as I said we're not monolithic so we're not going into the same religion, but majority a good number calculate a good number evangelicalism Japan a witness.

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So that's also another aspect that brings to the table. The food diversity we can have food from all over the places as I mentioned before, from all these different countries as a competition I will say you that we always the Venice one on will compete

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with the Colombians for the rappers and the producers and all of that. So that's something that we have as a way to showcase who we are, what we do. And of course sports and soccer and baseball, even for me a baseball has been very good to me.

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And of course sports and soccer and baseball, even for me a baseball has been very good to me. So that's something that we really are emphasized that the importance of this community.

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And why am I telling you all this, because these are the community, interest, and this is what they believe and this is what this community, want to preserve and of course the families, the Sundays, of being with the family so that's very typical in our

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our community go to church, to go, and then go to a restaurant or to have a picnic and all of that. Next,

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get to the next.

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So what are our concerns, what are we looking for an elected official or for an individual that is running for office to represent this community. When we are challenged by health care benefits when we don't have health care we don't have a sufficient,

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or we cannot afford to receive health care.

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That is a problem with Colby 19, we just saw all of that we saw that the Latino community was heavily impacted, because they were in the service industry they had to go out and work and be exposed.

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And some of them were having an underlying conditions, and some of them were already have a didn't have a preventive medicine or preventive care. So that was a higher, higher risk, reliable transportation that's another aspect that they are looking for,

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for this drawing to make sure that when we have an elected official can be thinking about. We don't need only transportation for rush hour but we have this community that can go at every different odd hours so reliable transportation is going to be key

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because they may not have access, because they are making minimum wage to have their own vehicle, having everything that takes in order to have reliable transportation.

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So that's very critical food insecurity we saw it in every community but here we can also see it at a higher level. And once again, is very the food insecurity that we have, we don't have so much supermarket is coming to the area is usually the

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prices that they will be going is the little store that will take a store, which is very important. But in this case, we're not having an access as is in other communities have that, that opportunity and privilege, affordable housing is one of the main

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ones that I think that every elected official will be bombarded with his questions Why are you going to be doing for us, in order to get this, this access overcrowded schools.

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And once again, doing the work of the census is about getting the people counted that they will be bringing the funding and the resources are located to this community, if we don't have a voice for this community.

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We're going to continue to have those issues, impacted by education, where he's not going to give them the access to success. To get to the next level in the economy of scale.

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So programs are critical in terms of getting the language. Language Acquisition is not easy. I'm going to tell you that I've been here for 34 years you can still hear my accent, and I tried some time to make sense.

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I'm here having calm brief finish your sentence, because I have to say it in another language is not as easy as we sometimes think it is.

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So for us it's very important to have this college access and workforce development is the ticket to success I am a firm believer that this is the only way that you can get out of poverty and having to contribute more to the, to the state and to the nation.

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Next.

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So here is, so we have the families we have everybody coming together, everybody, enjoying the beauty of been in this country and being in the state of Maryland receiving information about Colby receiving information about what it is to be completing

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the census form, receiving information about college education, and where you were facing Colby and you didn't have you were facing foot in security. Those axes were there for the kids to be an exercise and enjoying the sport and being away from computers

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all day long for classes and all that I've been in TV. Here we have an opportunity to do that next.

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So what is equitable for the, for the Hispanic and Latino community, as you can see you, the graphic that I have in a corner right there.

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Yes, you can give the access to be putting in the community, per se, let's see, we are moving people from some aspect of Mongolian to be going into Howard County where the number of for them to be represented, they're going to be minimal.

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They might have so Max's has something to, to be served. But when you have equity per se. In this case, not only given that the access to be in another district, but it also gives the access that they know that they will be able to be a representation

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of having the ability to vote at this moment is what is it what percentage, are you using what it to represent the community that are living in, because you can be in any district, but if you, if you're pressing me nothing to the electoral to the candidate.

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Let me tell you something that individual will not even be considered and not even being heard about what are the challenges and what are the concerns that they need to be.

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So what do we want we want fair representation we want elected officials that listen and care? We were like political opportunity people that look like me to be serving and those that are serving right now which are few far between.

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at least can also tell us that, how is the road that to be travel and to be able to be an elected official, why not having this community showcase as we do for the middle Italy in Baltimore, or having China town that is in DC for having this community

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to be represented in those in the heart of the places that we have seen today.

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And also be considered Marylanders, they are merely net Marylanders they are growing year, they are not all recent immigrants, they are part of the fabric of this, of this beautiful state.

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So am I asking you is to draw a map that preserve culture, diversity and give political representation? This is my plea I can give you the analytics, I can give you lines, but I'm going to tell you the story of this community that you didn't have the

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chance to listen to hear in public testimonies, as you did it in the past. Next.

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So here's the map.

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So as you're doing this.

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Reminder we're running out of time so just take a couple more minutes please. Excellent. So what I'm going to give you the community of interest here is to preserve this aspect of population density, the family structure as I mentioned to you bring George's

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and in in Montgomery, as the most populous areas, and if you can preserve that 47 be is one of the districts with a district 18 will be very important to preserve that community, as well as the area for the East County, which is the majority of the population.

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Once again, is about percentage of the population in those areas that they have the access, and they will be considered in the voting process. next.

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and this is what I would like to recommend once again that the equal population. Be pop representations and press and preservation of community interest.

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next

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one once again the state of marriage number four in the nation as the most diverse state. We should be a model showcasing a fair and equitable process.

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Next.

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Thank you. And I want to acknowledge the people that helped me to put this presentation together community leader's historian nonprofit face space that Britain and such a common cause and local government.

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And we're delighted to answer any questions if you have any. Thank you so much. Miss Africa block well for that presentation, and like to ask for questions from commissioners that also from a professor in it personally our, our consultants who I know

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to attend to some of these issues as part of his job.

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In a commissioner want to ask.

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No questions I just want to thank Gloria for that wonderful presentation, gave us some history and some facts that we need to know. So thank you so much.

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GLORIA Thank you,

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thank you on behalf of all of us, but

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there was, I think, Professor personally is raising his hand.

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I think so much, and this is wonderful. That was the, the suggestion you made about retaining state legislative stuff district 47 be is a kind of concrete recommendation that we can execute what that potentially the commission decides it's worth doing

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actually, are there any other districts like that that you have in mind that you think would be important to retain or create, to accurately represent the Latino community.

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I'm sorry I was the system kicked me out and I couldn't hear your questions I only heard the 47 be well so 47 BU I think that that's a concrete suggestion for us, for the commission to consider, because that that's a particular area.

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Are there other suggestions like that for particular districts that currently exist that you think are important to retain because they've been accurately representing the Latino community?

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You know that's been kind of a challenge at this moment because I know that the overpopulation that we have you have 750,000, people that you have to kind of keep in the district.

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So we are trying to, so I'm getting I'm going to be providing some suggestions later on, right now what I wanted to just to showcase. So, the history behind the Latino community but 47 be there was one will be concrete, so right now we're trying to

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it out, what the other areas will be, we're going to come up with that I will be submitting that very shortly. Okay. And when you do that one thing that might be useful is when you look at the Latino communities and Montgomery county in Prince George's

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County. There's almost sort of three communities along, you know, depending on how far you go it could be four or five but three large communities. And so thinking about whether

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whether districts should be drawn around those each of those communities or trying to stretch districts to get as much of the combined community as possible.

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And the reason I asked that is because it may be, you know, I've dealt with this around the country in many different contexts, and part of the question is, you know, do individual sub communities have a particular group with Is it important for them

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to be together, or is it more important to try to maximize the number in a particular district if that is what you think is important is because if you look at this, take a look at the senate districts that have been also proposed that are part of our

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record right now and see whether they do a good job of representing the Hispanic community in the way that you have suggested.

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Excellent. We'll do that and so right now. One thing that will say is to find that representation that definitely will give them a chance to have a voice, so that's the challenge, that's the thing that we will like.

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So, but definitely will get back to you on that.

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And Professor of Brasilia I just had a quick question. You mentioned, the number of 4727 not leave and Gloria mentioned 47 zero difference.

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No, I said 47 be 27 be. Did you say 47 was 2747 47 between our team.

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It's in the northwest corner of Prince George's County.

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Yeah, I didn't hear you. Thank you.

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Thank you. Yeah.

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One of the questions.

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Thank you. You did an excellent job, and I appreciate you doing the presentation.
Thank you. Thank you very much for tonight, very much thank you to all of us.

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Okay.

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We now turn to the public testimony, part of the evening. And we have a substantial sign up the list and wanted to say a word or two about questions that many of those on the signup list may be concerned about.

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First, many are reacting to draft preliminary amounts. It's worth emphasizing that these are indeed draft and preliminary they are not things that the Commission has decided to do, and it has decided to look at, among other alternatives and the process

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very much encourages the public to call other alternatives to our attention so it is welcome to talk about ways in which you think the mouth should be different from the initial draft that was put on.

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We are aware that there have been sample template, emails that have been put out, and that many people have written emails based on those templates, I can say that although the numbers will get our attention.

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At some point, for all of us. Notice that it is versions of the same thing.

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And there can be overkill on saying the same thing, many times.

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It is beyond that some of you who heard for the first time, may not be aware of some of the basics about the Maryland citizen's commission. We were appointed by Governor Larry Hogan, as a nonpartisan nonpolitical citizens volunteer panel with three.

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three Democrats, Republicans and to independence. And we have been given specific marching orders in the governor's executive order not to look at political party information such as registration or passport and not look at the place of residence of any

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incumbent, not to consider the interests of political parties one way or the other. So, in preparing your testimony remember that we cannot respond to or pay attention to information in those categories.

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So with that, Maria Do you have to list the signup list of who is offered.

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Maria is having issues with not being able to unmute after the screen was shared so sometimes that question is to. Correct, correct.

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And if, if, Maria is, is, is amenable to it, I'll just go ahead and call the first person, thought would be fine. And do you have to sign up less than yourself.

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I do.

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So, please let us know the first name, Senator Jack Bailey will be our first, and he is going to be.

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Looks like Maria is doing that he is going to be

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promoted to a panelist let me find his name

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there yet is senator really, you're going to be promoted to a panelist you may unmute and if you wish, turn on your camera.

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Welcome Simon shock Bella.

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Okay. can you hear me now?

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Yes, thank you. Okay, thank you very much. I'm sorry jack Bailey, good evening commissioners, I represent district 29, which is the southern part of Calvert County, and almost an all of St Mary's County.

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Thank you for the opportunity to address you today and for the work that you're doing to bring fair congressional and legislative districts to Maryland.

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It is imperative that you keep one thing in mind tonight. And that is we want you to keep St Mary's together. I am here today to express my concern and a concern that I've heard from many St Mary's County residents in recent days.

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Regarding the draft senate Matt proposal that has been published by this commission for decades, the entirety of St Mary's County has been represented by one senator in Annapolis, because St Mary's County alone does not have enough population to be entitled

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to its own senatorial district. The district that I currently represent also includes part of Calvert County, and at times in history, it has included a small part of Charles County.

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It has been an honor to represent the residents of Southern Calvert County, as well as St Mary's County. For the past three years, and it would be the same honor to represent the residents of Charles County, as well if given that opportunity.

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The Southern Maryland delegation works together on a variety of issues that affect all three counties, but St Mary's County has its own unique set of issues that are best addressed by having one senator representing the entire county.

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This plan is presently constructed with several portions of Mechanicsville Oakville Hollywood and California from the rest of St Mary's County. The area being carved out includes part of St Mary's County innovation district and include St Mary's County

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Airport, and the University of Maryland at Southern Maryland, which the St Mary's delegation has worked hard to help support the growth of this area and separating parts of it from the rest of the county. Just don't make sense for the future economic opportunities offered by this

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offered by this region with the Naval Air Station Pax River and the associated businesses and contractors, we are now one of the largest employers in the state of Maryland, I think we just are now second this split of St Mary's County has the potential

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to create a variety of a structure and obstacles for the military base, and the related businesses that are the backbone of the economy of St Mary's County, almost 80% of our workforce is associated with any aspects river, and we need to maintain co-head

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cohesive government representation to continue to support this large economic driver, which affects the entire state of Maryland, our constituents who for several decades have known who their state senator is simply because they live in St Mary's County

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will now have to know which side of this arbitrary district line. They live on, to find their representative for those living in this carved out portion of the county, they will go from having a senator focused on the entire county to one representing

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a part of St Mary's County, and a Rondo, and all of Calvert County, this will work against the interests of St Mary's County residents, having access to approachable and available representation, which I believe should be a priority of state government.

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This objection is not partisan in nature. It is only about ensuring that the residents of St Mary's County had the representation that they deserve in Annapolis, well I know that some splitting of counties, isn't inevitable in any plan I firmly believe

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that St Mary's County should continue to remain together at the State Senate level, a model that has worked to benefit the county, and our residence for decades, there's quite a few people who have signed up to testify tonight.

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Please hear them and hear that we need to keep St Mary's together. Thank you, commissioners, for your time. I'll answer any questions. And I look for your attention to these concerns.

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Thank you, Senator ballet, are there any questions from the commissioners.

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Hearing none, thank you again, Senator.

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Walter. I'm back. Okay, We got it fix. Our next speaker is delegate Matt Morgan and delegate Morgan.

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You are now analyst.

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Okay, do you hear me.

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We do. Okay. Thank you for having me again commission.

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Thank you all for serving on this commission I know it's a difficult job to do these redistricting maps, I know they seem to make no one happy. I do want to address the map that was just released by the Commission, and I think the reason why you have so

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many people testifying was September 14th Matt dealing with state legislator redistricting. And that's why computers jumping around with me.

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Well zoom issue.

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Um, for last 40 years St Mary's County has been pretty much kept in tack, and as whole during the redistricting process. We've had a lot of growth down here in St Mary's County, as well as all Southern Maryland, and I think a district is about 331,000

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people. Now, St Mary's County makes up about 313,000 people. So, in the past we've always had a small section of Calvert county or a small section of Charles County.

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Now I do want to give the commissioner, a benefit of the doubt when I saw this map. Currently with us having a small portion of Southern Calvert County.

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Maybe they thought that taking a portion from St Mary's and adding it to Calvert, and in Toronto was acceptable but really, I don't think that took into the community needs.

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And what this community, actually, is like down here. If you're in South County Calvert, there's a good chance that you go, almost daily. In some cases, over the St Mary's County, the cross-Tom shots and bridge and basically that's where your shopping

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and a lot of people work over here because the base.

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But if you're from the area that's getting drawn into the paranormal encounter County District, that's attached with an Arundel County. If you're a resident of Mechanicsville Hollywood, California.

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Very rarely do you ever drive over the Calvert county or even north of Prince Frederick, I mean, they attach these communities but communities like Dunkirk or shady size or even Edgewater, they're just dissimilar communities and fully support and a Rundle

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army is fully support Calvert county being a whole district, but that district could easily move north further and the ANA rumble County, because they're already there, rather than taking a section, which really is the economic engine for St Mary's County,

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out of St Mary's County, leaving us a huge,

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gigantic district, a rural area, comparing this with the map I'm looking at it from the southern tip to the corner up there and Charles county that would be point look out to Indian Head, it would take you about two and a half hours to drive that and

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it looks to be about the third largest district in the entire state.

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to be about the third largest district in the entire state. And it just doesn't, it just breaks up communities. And much like your earlier speaker doing a presentation on equity with the Latino community look like mining communities deserve to stay together.

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And if you're in Najimy or welcome quarterback area that I know extremely well because I grew up there. Very rarely do you head down to St Mary's County to Leonard town, or to Mechanicsville or any of those areas.

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So I would just ask that the Commission going forward, take a look at some of these rural areas. I know it's a problem you make adjustments up north stuff starts coming downstream, and we take the brunt of it in the rural areas, but I would simply just

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ask the key St Mary's intact and home during this redistricting process and I think you again I'd be happy to answer any questions that committee because I know this is the second time speaking in front of you once on the congressional redistricting as

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as well.

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Any questions.

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No, I don't have any questions.

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Alex Williams, I want to see that.

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Good to see good. Yes, I assure, both the deli Morgan and Senator feeling that we are certainly going to take into consideration. These comments are very, very helpful.

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We show you. We serve be listening. Well, you know, I realized this is a pulmonary draft map but um I also experienced in Annapolis has told me that once you see something, you know if they're asking for citizens input citizens need to give input because

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if you're mentally impacting them, you know, snowballs roll downhill also. So, thank you. Thank you.

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Thank you delegate Morgan.

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Maria who do we have next. Our next panelist is Guy Martin, Dean Martin you are now a panelist.

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starting you're muted

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smarting if you can find a good thought you're unmuted now.

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All right.

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Thank you very much for the opportunity. Can you hear me, we can?

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Okay, my questions were relating to preventing a dilution of the representation.

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Where are we going to be able to stay with say state delegates at 30,000 persons to 33,000 person, where they were only 34,000 in the last decade.

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Now the question would be, as far as the state senators. There is no real constitutional mandate that we maintain the same number of delegates, every decade same number of senators every decade to prevent dilution in the pacing of the vote, which may

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even help those previous gentlemen as far as a delegate state senator, where if you can reduce the size of the senate districts to perhaps even to delegate state delegates first state senator, one for 66,000 or 60.

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To 66,000 persons per the rule really is that they're only the same number of persons per legislator in the legislative body.

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all the districts in the legislative body.

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I'd like to ask is, is there any chance you can look at the title to section to be the United States Code where it's the method most equal proportions.

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Because there does seem to be a lot of dilution of the Federal say in the federal house.

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And that title does grant to the President the authority to sign people but in that very federal statute. It also in section two B.

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It says the method most equal proportion.

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And since we are the citizens that face this injury of a delusion of representation where Berlin had eight representatives in 1792 with 237,000 persons elastic a with 5.7 million.

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We're still eight.

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So the other point would be as far as legislative bodies in the court rulings.

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Is there any way you representing us can get our equal say where we were 1% hundred 21,000 persons?

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For our house member.

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Other states had one for 500,000 persons. I found no one who wants to live in a separate thousand- or 900,000-person district, when there are people with 500,000 person districts.

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We have to figure out how we could get to an equal number among the 50 states.

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We've run out of time Miss Martin, our high would point out to those who are watching the screen also that the congressional mouth that flashed on it is not a mouth, from the commissioners, is a map submitted by a member of the public and.

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So, don't want to mislead people about where that map came from it came from submission from a member of the public but thank you Mr. Mark them for your comments and your suggestions.

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Oh, they are gaining 50,000 more person for district, it is a delusion. Yeah, I think you're going to find that our car Commissioner cannot change that aspect of the federal system you would need federal action in Congress or through a constitutional

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amendment but we appreciate quite which is good one.

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Maria.

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Next name on our list. Yes, so we actually have a couple people that haven't shown up yet - Vontasha Simms and Demba Ndiaye, which means, Miss Linda Dorsey Walker is our next panelist, as Dorsey Walker you are now a

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panelist.

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Good evening. My name is Linda Dorsey Walker.

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I have the unique opportunity of having visited nearly every single county in the state of Maryland during my career working for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and also in social services.

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So I have the perspective of one who has seen constituency groups and minority groups throughout the state of Maryland, and I'd like to draw on that experience, as I have prepared my map to propose new horizons group congressional redistricting map follows

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basic principles of redistricting specifically compactness con congruent continuity and flex the Express wishes, a various community of interest that you've heard from whenever possible attempts were made to create districts in which entire counties were

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kept in tech, you've heard some people talk about that tonight, and almost every case where a district was split it occurs just one time. In fact, as many as 19 counties on my map that I've proposed have been kept intact.

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In total, and only five, have any splits at all.

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So therefore, the map does respect reflect and respect one of the governor's wishes and some of the wishes expressed by the people who have come on over these months.

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This map respects the wishes of many of the Eastern Shore residential that you've also heard from tonight, stated that they have historically been linked to portions of Southern Maryland areas like St Mary's County Calvert county portions of Charles Kelly

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and lower and Arundel County.

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Therefore, a decision, as you can see was made to cross the bay and respect that 16-year tradition of keeping those areas together, communities of interest.

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Now, we also heard from at least one or two people that there are certain areas of Charles county that are much more urbanized than they have been in the past, and therefore have been there areas need to be respected as well so that this map includes

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that more urban Northwest portion of Charles County, as part of District five connected to Prince George's County, and has that district extend from Prince George's County, up to and including Annapolis, nearly one third of the proposed district, eight,

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and Montgomery county is Hispanic it concentrates their power and force in that county in a way such that it will allow them to potentially have as many as well not only to have the opportunity down the road of potentially mounting a strong congressional

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effort, but in a second map which I will also send for what they will have at least two legislative seats, a small portion of Baltimore County is shared with Baltimore City, not to the southwest, as it's currently the case, but instead to the south,

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east, where it picks up important African American areas that have been overlooked in the past, Turner station, Cherry Hill, going down into Brooklyn and northern Glen Burnie.

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You'll also notice that even though most of the geography of Baltimore County, with would be a part of District two, it would be linked to Harford County, and it would give more focused attention with just those two counties hooked together on some of

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the younger, urban transparent military populations, that's around Aberdeen and Edgewood Arsenal and Bella and have the grace. I think that will be to their advantage.

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Even though half, more than half the land is in district two. It's only half of Baltimore County's population because the other half will be in district three, and will be linked to Howard County, that will put up will connect us and concentrate a

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lot of the Southeast Asian population that we talked about, and respects their presence in northern Catonsville going out to Ellicott City going over to Columbia, and that will allow district three to mostly be comprised of Howard County, Baltimore County

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and go down into portions of an Arundel County.

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I believe finally that this map has been presented, that's presented for your consideration does make an earnest effort to significantly change what exists in the gerrymandered situation that we have now, but obeys many of the all of the redistricting

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rules, and I thank you.

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Thank you, Ms. Dorsey Walker, just to confirm. We are speaking about math number 125 I believe for those who don't know that's one of 360 I'm sorry, one of the three six thank you for back to the here's duplicated 1236 and 1237 on the exact same map but

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for some reason they've been given two numbers that thank you very much for that correction.

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I'm happy to answer any questions anyone might have.

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I'm sure no no, thank you once again, Miss Darcy Walker and Maria who is next on the list. Yes, so we have another person that has not shown up, Mr. Jay

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Smith. So our next speaker is apologize if I butchered his Benjamin Sheva Chuck, Benjamin, you are now a panelist.

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Are you able to hear me?

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Yes, thank you very much. Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, my thanks to the Maryland citizens redistricting commission for hosting this opportunity to provide input on the preliminary draft legislative district map.

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I resided in California Maryland with my wife Cheryl, I've left active-duty service in 2018 after more than 20 years in the US Navy and became a Maryland resident for my entire Navy career I voted as a resident of the state of Oregon.

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Now that were established in Maryland, I greatly value the opportunity to be connected and active with local politics.

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That's why these decisions about legislative districts are so important to me.

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My last two assignments in the military, whereas the commanding officer of Naval Air Station Patuxent River, and as a Naval Air Systems Command inspector general I greatly appreciate the incredible support our Navy always received from the communities

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and elected officials across St Mary's County.

01:04:49.000 --> 01:05:01.000

They are amazing teammates and meeting our mission of research, development, testing evaluation as the CEO of the Navy base with 20,000 employees. Some of them from Calvert county coming my officemate comes from Calvert county every day.

01:05:01.000 --> 01:05:05.000

When you combine the military government and contractor personnel.

01:05:05.000 --> 01:05:12.000

It's vital for us to interface directly and regularly with those in office whose decisions impact and enable our mission.

01:05:12.000 --> 01:05:25.000

My wife is a teacher, a staff member at St Mary's Ryken High School, Leonardtown. She's the director of the school's international program. She coordinates with families across the county host and befriend 20 international students, these young people

01:05:25.000 --> 01:05:33.000

came to our county for a great college prep education. And we want to keep them supported by the elected officials who live here around them.

01:05:33.000 --> 01:05:40.000

The proposed map that I've seen has the potential to drastically alter St Mary's County, it will rely on several neighborhoods, including mine.

01:05:40.000 --> 01:05:53.000

According to a more regional approach to state government. The central area of St Mary's County that I call home from Mechanicsville sell through Hollywood to our residents in California would be separated from St Mary's County and reassigned to vote

01:05:53.000 --> 01:05:57.000

in a legislative district with Calvin and Arundel counties.

01:05:57.000 --> 01:06:07.000

I don't understand why this is being proposed by the Maryland citizens redistricting commission. I'd like to hear an explanation from the commission for this extraction realignment of my neighborhood.

01:06:07.000 --> 01:06:12.000

Perhaps you need to add some populations to delegates district 27.

01:06:12.000 --> 01:06:19.000

If it's for another reason. Which I think that just moving population around is isn't logical.

01:06:19.000 --> 01:06:23.000

If it's for another reason I'm eager to hear the Commission's rationale.

01:06:23.000 --> 01:06:36.000

This change you're recommending will have a negative impact on our St Mary's County citizens by separating us residents like me would be, who would be artificially bolted onto a district primarily focused on serving California, and around the counties

01:06:36.000 --> 01:06:41.000

will not be better served by our state, elected representatives under the proposed redistricting.

01:06:41.000 --> 01:06:49.000

I've always been thankful to see how available and accessible our St Mary's County officials are

01:06:49.000 --> 01:07:01.000

senator Bailey recently gave me timely response to a question I had just before he headed out to his, his child's soccer game. I know I can contact them easily, and it will not have to leave a message at any at an office that's hours away.

01:07:01.000 --> 01:07:09.000

These redistricting changes will impact our businesses and citizens since we will no longer have a cohesive form of representation.

01:07:09.000 --> 01:07:19.000

My fellow citizens in our county commissioners would have to work with a variety of legislators across this proposed Southern Maryland region, to get help with local government accounting issues.

01:07:19.000 --> 01:07:22.000

sec you've reached the end of your time.

01:07:22.000 --> 01:07:41.000

Thank you for your presentation, and other have been inquiries about why does the commission, hold public testimony to three minutes, especially when one of our own advisors was given time for him or Apple presentation, we have kept that three minute

01:07:41.000 --> 01:07:58.000

rule throughout, what is something like 10 public hearings now. And it is a requirement that hundreds of people before you have often asked to observe so we understand your concern but please.

01:07:58.000 --> 01:08:02.000

Thank you for your patience and understood thank you for three minutes.

01:08:02.000 --> 01:08:07.000

Thank you very much for your time. Thanks.

01:08:07.000 --> 01:08:22.000

There was also in charge a question about whether everyone who submitted written comments, which we value greatly everyone could come on up and read, I assure you that we will read them all, and that definitely goes for the large files as well as the

01:08:22.000 --> 01:08:39.000

small files, my comments about prepared multiple submissions doesn't change that in any way all submissions.

01:08:39.000 --> 01:09:02.000

Yes. Our next speaker is Jay Smith. Jay, you should be now a panelist.

01:09:02.000 --> 01:09:04.000

Hello, Can you hear me.

01:09:04.000 --> 01:09:04.000

Yes, we can.

01:09:04.000 --> 01:09:25.000

Yes, we can, sir. Thank you, I appreciate your time this evening. Let me speak on the matters at hand here as a 20-year, blue collar union member in DC, living in St Mary's County, I feel I have a unique perspective on why these lines should not be redrawn

01:09:25.000 --> 01:09:31.000

taking us from St Mary's and putting us into either and Rhonda or Calvert

01:09:31.000 --> 01:09:40.000

20 years aside DC started to notice the national flavor of politics, bleed out into our county levels.

01:09:40.000 --> 01:09:59.000

The school board we used to go to, and Charles County started proposing these CRT kind of ideas and things like that and as soon as St Mary's a traditional Christian community has representatives that are more geared towards national level politics, as

01:09:59.000 --> 01:10:17.000

in, you know, transforming how people think and feel about education communities and cultures that would greatly impact our traditional rural area. And, you know, we saw the low-income areas of DC.

01:10:17.000 --> 01:10:27.000

They were torn down so high-rise hiring condos to go up those people were relocated areas like Lexington Park PG County.

01:10:27.000 --> 01:10:40.000

And when that happens, you see our local representatives in the newspaper, I read a story last summer and St Mary's times, a local St Mary's delegate was saying.

01:10:40.000 --> 01:10:57.000

The reason for minority crime and poverty was because of white racism and that is a quote from his interview in the newspaper. So, like I say, DC politics looks like it's trying to bleed out into the rural areas, and I'm not a fan of that.

01:10:57.000 --> 01:11:05.000

And I'm sure plenty other people in these areas will tell you that as well.

01:11:05.000 --> 01:11:09.000

Thank you, Mr. Smith, for your comments.

01:11:09.000 --> 01:11:27.000

Maria. Yeah. Our next speaker is keep it simple. Ed you are now panelist.

01:11:27.000 --> 01:11:30.000

Can you hear me.

01:11:30.000 --> 01:11:39.000

We can hear you. There might be a sound problem. So, please say more, or whether there's a sound issue.

01:11:39.000 --> 01:11:46.000

Okay, um, I'm Katey Sagal, and I live in Nanjemoy Maryland which is in Charles county.

01:11:46.000 --> 01:11:50.000

Is that good. Yes, you do some good now. Thank you.

01:11:50.000 --> 01:11:55.000

Okay, great. Okay. Um, I'm referencing.

01:11:55.000 --> 01:12:22.000

Basically, the, the, the map of St Mary's that reaches up and grabs part of Charles County and comes around and grabs Nanjemoy where we're Island, and the, the issue is that mixing Nanjemoy, which is very rural very middle class, lower income with an

01:12:22.000 --> 01:12:31.000

area like St Mary's County, which from an economic development standpoint is thriving

01:12:31.000 --> 01:12:34.000

would not be a good, good match.

01:12:34.000 --> 01:12:47.000

And the reason being is that we're already the redheaded stepchild of Charles County. So if you if you post out.

01:12:47.000 --> 01:12:58.000

In this way, it's going to make it that much harder for us to figure out which part of the government is supposed to be assisting us whether it's us.

01:12:58.000 --> 01:13:06.000

And I think it will leave the door open for a lot of finger pointing that this was supposed to take care of that are that was supposed to take care of that, and so forth.

01:13:06.000 --> 01:13:13.000

And then looking at St Mary's as being part of it being given the calorie counting.

01:13:13.000 --> 01:13:27.000

Sometimes, doing what is the most simple is the is the best way to go, it creates less unintended consequences.

01:13:27.000 --> 01:13:36.000

And based on the definition of these areas contiguous and compact.

01:13:36.000 --> 01:14:00.000

Yes. The map is contiguous, but it's not compact when it reaches around and crosses the county like it does so, I would just ask, and I know this is a difficult job, and we appreciate all the work that, that you folks are putting into it, but to mixed

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enjoy in with St Mary's, and then to get part of St Mary's to Calvert it just seems like just leave Nanjemoy with Charles County and give part of St Mary's.

01:14:12.000 --> 01:14:18.000

Take it back from Calverton lead it was Sumerian, it's just very simple and clean that way.

01:14:18.000 --> 01:14:24.000

I thank you for your time and look forward to the next hearing.

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Thank you, Ms. Stickel

01:14:28.000 --> 01:14:30.000

Maria was the next.

01:14:30.000 --> 01:14:57.000

Our next panelist is Betty Ann Quade, Betty you are now panelists.

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squeaking need to unmute yourself as you can find the button.

01:15:01.000 --> 01:15:04.000

I got that. Thank you.

01:15:04.000 --> 01:15:05.000

Sorry about that.

01:15:05.000 --> 01:15:12.000

My name is Betty Yun Quaid I own a restaurant I MC breeze restaurant on the Patuxent River.

01:15:12.000 --> 01:15:40.000

I am concerned that if we are pulled over into the Calvert county up towards and Rundle county that we will no longer have a voice for things like our, you know for tourism economic development things in our area of I feel like we will be lost without

01:15:40.000 --> 01:15:49.000

representation. I, many people have already spoken about keeping St Mary's County

01:15:49.000 --> 01:15:54.000

together you know keep it together. And I'm in total agreement with that.

01:15:54.000 --> 01:16:15.000

I also own a house in the same area it feels like the last speaker just said it feels very forced to be moving in part of Charles County, and to be extracting part of St Mary's County to move it over it just makes more sense just to keep it all together.

01:16:15.000 --> 01:16:24.000

So I just, I'm questioning why we would want to break up the county in that manner.

01:16:24.000 --> 01:16:38.000

So, you know, to have some reasoning for that. I don't see any benefit for having a representative that you know lives an hour and a half or two hours or that, you know, would be elected maybe from Anna Rundle, that's about two-hour drive from where we

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we are an hour and a half. Anyway, drive from where we are.

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We wouldn't know who to contact we've had multiple natural disasters hurricanes; we have many restaurants on the river that have been flooded to the point of being closed.

01:16:54.000 --> 01:17:08.000

Some for an entire season and some for three and four months, you know, who do we reach out to when we need immediate assistance and things like that, so we know our elected officials down here.

01:17:08.000 --> 01:17:24.000

They live with us. We're familiar, and I feel like our voice. We have no voice, if you just arbitrarily It feels like kind of push us to another portion of the state.

01:17:24.000 --> 01:17:29.000

Becky was cleared.

01:17:29.000 --> 01:17:54.000

Maria, Could you tell us who is next on our next speaker is lamps Johnson, Mr. Johnson, you are now a panelist.

01:17:54.000 --> 01:17:56.000

Can you hear me.

01:17:56.000 --> 01:18:01.000

Yes, we can. Okay, my apologies I don't have video I'm having some difficulties with that.

01:18:01.000 --> 01:18:06.000

However, I would like I am a resident of St Mary's County.

01:18:06.000 --> 01:18:17.000

I'm a lifelong Maryland or I was born and raised in Prince George's County went off to the service, lived in

01:18:17.000 --> 01:18:29.000

Northern Virginia for quite a few years while I was serving, and then once I got out, I now a tech professional for over 35 years, and I do have familiarity with Charles County.

01:18:29.000 --> 01:18:38.000

I have family that live in Nanjemoy Maryland, and like, as I said, now I live in St Mary's County.

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And I find that each of the three counties have their own unique

01:18:48.000 --> 01:18:58.000

challenges and unique variances of what they require their elected officials and legislators

01:18:58.000 --> 01:19:11.000

to have to represent them and their needs. For each for their communities. So I would just my, I would like to see based on the map that you guys have put forth for the 914 21.

01:19:11.000 --> 01:19:23.000

I would just like to be firm that I would like to see not only St Mary's County remain intact, but I'd like to see Calvert, and I'd like to see Charles county, and I'd like to see PG County stay intact.

01:19:23.000 --> 01:19:43.000

I know it's a challenge because of the, the, the diverse number of population, between the various counties. But again, I think it's very important that the elected officials and legislators for each of those counties remain close to the people to their

01:19:43.000 --> 01:19:52.000

constituents, so that they can listen, and they can care, and they understand the community's unique challenges that they represent.

01:19:52.000 --> 01:19:56.000

And that's pretty much all I had to say.

01:19:56.000 --> 01:20:02.000

So I just want to be officially put on the record and I'll also add that to my comments.

01:20:02.000 --> 01:20:06.000

Thank you, Mr. Johnson.

01:20:06.000 --> 01:20:27.000

Our next speaker is Robert Speer, Robert, you are now a panelist and Robert also has a map, he submitted on that number 1035. And I believe he putting that up as well.

01:20:27.000 --> 01:20:30.000

Okay, can you hear me.

01:20:30.000 --> 01:20:32.000

Yes, we can.

01:20:32.000 --> 01:20:34.000

Okay.

01:20:34.000 --> 01:20:55.000

Um, yes, I submitted a map, actually I submitted a map that you're looking at 1235, which gives a hint of what I am what I am proposing, but the hand drawn map that is part of it's actually on page 10 of the handout that I sent you, is much more useful

01:20:55.000 --> 01:21:10.000

for describing this so anyway here's my basic thrust on. We should have as our, as are organizing principle for any kind of congressional districts as well as legislative districts.

01:21:10.000 --> 01:21:26.000

The idea that we have equal populations as much as possible. In each district that people live, who live close together, should be in the same district, and that we should ignore all other considerations when I say ignore all other considerations when

01:21:26.000 --> 01:21:47.000

I meet say is that when you start drawing maps based on somebody's community of interest or to favor one particular community you inevitably disfavor other communities, and we would all be better off and we have a long history of gerrymandered, not only

01:21:47.000 --> 01:22:00.000

districts but county borders. The go through throughout the 50 states borders that have been drawn for political reasons or for a particular immigrant population at some point in time, and so on.

01:22:00.000 --> 01:22:09.000

We would be better off if we ignored all of those and simply used proximity, I define proximity as people who live in the same zip code should vote in the same district.

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Now, zip codes of course our collection of mail delivery routes they're not geographic so the Census Bureau created zip code tabulation areas to surround zip codes with borders.

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And I would like to use the ZCTA so unfortunately the software that we are using for your that the Maryland registered in commission is using has counties and voting districts and census tracts.

01:22:34.000 --> 01:22:49.000

But it did not have a zzT as I spent hours on this map trying, trying to get it to match my, my own maps with those easy days. But since you don't support ZZD as I couldn't really do it, and that's why my hand drawn map is probably a better representation,

01:22:49.000 --> 01:23:06.000

you can actually see the suggestion. So, my idea is that you, you start and draw the longest line you can between any two parts of the state that have not yet been assigned to a district initially that would be from the upper northwest corner of the state

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down to the southeast corner, and then you pick the western end of that as the starting point and then you draw your district by adding zip code tabulation areas to it, it will end up with above the, the district one that I showed, and you do that all

01:23:22.000 --> 01:23:24.000

the way across the state.

01:23:24.000 --> 01:23:40.000

You draw a new line after you've drawn each of each district. So I hope that you will consider this, it certainly I think is better than trying to balance all of the communities of interest that we clearly have, but you guys are doing an absolutely outstanding

01:23:40.000 --> 01:23:43.000

job, and I think you.

01:23:43.000 --> 01:23:48.000

The citizens of Maryland thank you for your help and service to spare.

01:23:48.000 --> 01:23:59.000

Our next speaker is Howard Thompson, Mr. Thompson you are now an analyst.

01:23:59.000 --> 01:24:02.000

Yes. Can you hear me.

01:24:02.000 --> 01:24:03.000

Okay, yes.

01:24:03.000 --> 01:24:12.000

Okay, thank you like to thank you for the opportunity to give testimony this evening, and like to thank the commission for their service on this board.

01:24:12.000 --> 01:24:14.000

It's very important.

01:24:14.000 --> 01:24:31.000

I live here in Hollywood Marilyn Ellis development district is within the new border lines of your new proposed redistricting plan, the cooperation between touching whoever Naval Air Station, which he wants this district, the supporting contractors that

01:24:31.000 --> 01:24:41.000

back up the Naval Air Station, and the supporting businesses need our local government team to keep cooperation balanced.

01:24:41.000 --> 01:24:43.000

No disrespect.

01:24:43.000 --> 01:24:54.000

But they are not familiar with the day-to-day operations that between the Naval Air facility, and the business and contracting world that is supporting them.

01:24:54.000 --> 01:25:00.000

It's a fine line that are representatives of followed with a diversity within our community.

01:25:00.000 --> 01:25:14.000

Also within the residential deserts, along with the innovation district needs support knowledgeable, to help us the road to that matters.

01:25:14.000 --> 01:25:21.000

Please consider the minimum redistricting bound,

01:25:21.000 --> 01:25:25.000

County, and I thank you for your time, Stephen.

01:25:25.000 --> 01:25:40.000

Thompson. Before I like before I go to our chat, our chat sign out the ones that have been able to

01:25:40.000 --> 01:26:01.000

to be called I need delete the base more von cautious and Devon and Daya Derek Adams, Marcus Castro, Melissa foreign Stephen Addison Sean mine, miles of any of you are on this call please, please let us know so that we can make sure that you've testified

01:26:01.000 --> 01:26:31.000

but we have not been able to find you in our list of attendees with that. Our next speaker is Todd Morgan, Todd you are now panelists.

01:26:39.000 --> 01:26:46.000

Good evening. Can you hear me now? Yes, we can. I apologize I'm technical glitch.

01:26:46.000 --> 01:27:03.000

Many people know safety for your time, other than redistricting committee commissioners and from St Mary's also defense contractor, and I believe breaking up St Mary's County will be detrimental, not only to the community but to the state.

01:27:03.000 --> 01:27:14.000

I'm not sure if you're quite aware but tax for is a fortune 500 company in terms of dollars, and as center Bailey and Captain chef Chuck noted by one of the top five employers in the state.

01:27:14.000 --> 01:27:25.000

It's critical from our point of view, both as a contractor, a commissioner to have representation understands the needs of this community.

01:27:25.000 --> 01:27:38.000

It's been very difficult over the years, sometimes to address that, particularly in the Annapolis arena. And as the map is drawn Now, we could be represented by an individual from Antonio County.

01:27:38.000 --> 01:27:49.000

Some of you may remember the great wind turbine debacle we had a number of years ago, when Governor O'Malley thought that we could just throw some turbines out in the Atlantic Ocean and everything to be fine and dandy.

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And it literally took intervention from Congressman Hoyer as Senator Mikulski to show the detrimental effect of not understanding the vocal needs to this community.

01:27:59.000 --> 01:28:17.000

So as we look at the 20 to 25,000 jobs at the base provided directly. I think about 3000 every encounter for the rest are here in St Mary's. It's important that we keep this, this, this functional unit working together, and operating the smooth and cohesive

01:28:17.000 --> 01:28:28.000

manner, such as the needs and concerns of the community, the needs and concerns of the Navy and the needs and concerns of the community can be addressed in a hole.

01:28:28.000 --> 01:28:35.000

And with that, I want to thank you all very much for your time this evening and your service to our state. Thank you very much.

01:28:35.000 --> 01:28:37.000

Okay, come on commission and Morgan.

01:28:37.000 --> 01:29:05.000

Our last speaker is John Patterson from Baltimore County John, you are now a pin list.

01:29:05.000 --> 01:29:16.000

Can you unmute

01:29:16.000 --> 01:29:22.000

We got your video John still don't have your audio till you got it.

01:29:22.000 --> 01:29:24.000

Okay.

01:29:24.000 --> 01:29:28.000

All right.

01:29:28.000 --> 01:29:39.000

So, my thing is relevant to the discussion we're just having.

01:29:39.000 --> 01:29:48.000

I'm four counties being separate districts as much as possible.

01:29:48.000 --> 01:29:53.000

The thing that's holding it up, is the equal population requirement.

01:29:53.000 --> 01:30:06.000

You didn't have that you. you could have people could have their

01:30:06.000 --> 01:30:12.000

there, there's their counties being a separate district.

01:30:12.000 --> 01:30:28.000

So, the, I have a thing called the Franklin divisor process it's based on three principles portion which is no rounding of a portion of the states and county populations redistricting whole counties are the basis for establishing districts with county

01:30:28.000 --> 01:30:36.000

leaders getting recommendations. We don't have the county leaders, giving their input here.

01:30:36.000 --> 01:30:54.000

election of multi delegate districts. We need multi to delegate districts and have, but there be countywide at large candidates with open primaries and voters with a single boat cast and each election.

01:30:54.000 --> 01:30:55.000

The.

01:30:55.000 --> 01:31:13.000

Let me look at St Mary's County and see what my program would do there to Mary's County has 113 958 people in it. According to the New census, the divisor.

01:31:13.000 --> 01:31:25.000

For the census is 130 for the Senate for this and the senate

01:31:25.000 --> 01:31:27.000

map to ever send it map Up.

01:31:27.000 --> 01:31:30.000

up.

01:31:30.000 --> 01:31:34.000

We get up

01:31:34.000 --> 01:31:40.000

quite as to which send it out there are multiple throughout, two, three. Okay.

01:31:40.000 --> 01:31:45.000

Don, Can we put 1038 up

01:31:45.000 --> 01:31:50.000

through for now so it takes

01:31:50.000 --> 01:32:00.000

the divisor you take, you take a state population divided by 47 votes, and you get 132,000.

01:32:00.000 --> 01:32:18.000

And that becomes your bogey, and instead of making everything have to do that shit.

01:32:18.000 --> 01:32:20.000

Okay.

01:32:20.000 --> 01:32:28.000

We're running out of time, but I'd like to ask is, if Tom could protect your mouth and then there's another mouth that we should catch up.

01:32:28.000 --> 01:32:46.000

Before we move on, but is there a chance to projection, or John Patterson's mouth for at least a few moments before we know good, okay, you'll see, you'll see that I've got separate counties, as Charles County.

01:32:46.000 --> 01:32:52.000

St Mary's County covered County are all separate counties.

01:32:52.000 --> 01:32:55.000

Patterson you out of time.

01:32:55.000 --> 01:33:02.000

Those who like can find them out on the public map register or can screenshot it here.

01:33:02.000 --> 01:33:13.000

The, and you will notice the population variances which appear in the black boxes under the number of the district and that will give people a lot to chew on but.

01:33:13.000 --> 01:33:23.000

While we are waiting, I would like, if John could call up math number 1036 to display after Mr. Patterson's mouth.

01:33:23.000 --> 01:33:32.000

JOHN Is that something you can get. The reason is that several speakers earlier.

01:33:32.000 --> 01:33:48.000

Speaker Linda Dorsey Walker presented a bunch of boring I guess to a title next up the map that she was referring to did not appear on the screen I'd like her to have a chance to have her mouth display ad for a minute or two, so people can take a look

01:33:48.000 --> 01:34:01.000

at it again can screenshot it if they don't want to go to the website and can have a chance to save it. Save it for reference.

01:34:01.000 --> 01:34:10.000

And then after we've had that chance to share Mr. Patterson's mouth in the store Sue walkers now, we can move on to what may be the last comment or the evening.

01:34:10.000 --> 01:34:14.000

Thank you again, Mr. Patterson for your presentation.

01:34:14.000 --> 01:34:32.000

Yeah, well to carry on possible that we can go back over the rules of engagement bars, maximum mission and been able to present the same time because apparently there's some misunderstanding as well how this will work in the future and check.

01:34:32.000 --> 01:34:37.000

Yeah, I, I may not have all those answers myself.

01:34:37.000 --> 01:34:56.000

Maria man, and staff may have some of that, but could we. In the meantime, john could you get mouth number. 1036 up on the screen so that people have a chance to look at a while we're talking about procedural issues.

01:34:56.000 --> 01:35:00.000

Good. Okay, now.

01:35:00.000 --> 01:35:07.000

William Did you have a question on foot formula and more specifically as to what we can.

01:35:07.000 --> 01:35:19.000

What we should talk about on the public map submission of records, it has been a learning process I know and has first time that we're, we're dealing with it at this kind of scale but

01:35:19.000 --> 01:35:24.000

Maria, do you have any comments about the timing issues, um, yeah.

01:35:24.000 --> 01:35:37.000

Yeah, so just for everyone's knowledge when people register for public meetings. There is a registration in the registration there's a section where people can submit the map number.

01:35:37.000 --> 01:35:52.000

If, and we ask that people submit their maps, before they register for our meetings so that way, they get that number back from our team when it gets uploaded to the website so that they know what that Unique Identification Number is so when they register,

01:35:52.000 --> 01:36:06.000

we have those identification numbers. Tonight the maps that were immediately that were able to be shown were because people, when they registered had that identification number and we were ready with those maps, along with the names of the people that

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registered. So, if anyone had registered and then submitted a map that identification number was not with their registration, so that that's probably why there has been a little bit of a US going back looking at the maps because we asked that people typically

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that they register after they get that map ID number so we can make it go more smoothly. So if that clears up any confusion.

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That may be help.

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Thank you, Maria. And again, just for the record, or the map currently displayed on the screen is number. 1036 I believe by comment or under to IC Walker.

01:36:45.000 --> 01:36:58.000

Maria Did you mentioned that there was one more silence we had we had one more sign up in the chat David Willem Berg, from, I believe St Mary's, David, you are now a panelist, and channel.

01:36:58.000 --> 01:37:19.000

Just screens.

01:37:19.000 --> 01:37:20.000

me.

01:37:20.000 --> 01:37:22.000

Yes, we can.

01:37:22.000 --> 01:37:26.000

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak tonight.

01:37:26.000 --> 01:37:34.000

My name is David Willenbourg I live in Hollywood, Maryland, which is the section of concern for many tonight.

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But such as St Mary's County, be moved over to, I believe, Senate District 27. The proposed map I'm talking about is the September 14th map 2021.

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I would just like to just add to Commissioner Morgan's comments that you know we need a person here that represents us who's really committed to the community.

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I have concerns if there's a senator that lives, hour and a half from here and that's his home, or her home, that they may not necessarily be the have the commitment as somebody who's local.

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And so, when you get difficult problems like the windmill incident. I mean, proposal a couple years ago.

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It takes people who are very committed to be able to sit there to protect the assets here in St Mary's County.

01:38:32.000 --> 01:38:46.000

I think we're going to be not as well represented. If we do not have a senator, and state delegates that are local and are close to the problem at hand.

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That's all I have to say I just thank you for again for the opportunity, and good luck with your

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search for the right solution. Thank you.

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Thank you, Mr. Willenbourg,

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reaching the end of the commenters.

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We now move on to the next part of the program listed as review of draft illustrative maps with expert.

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And we've, we've got several possible agenda items that I hope we can get through this evening.

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That may seem somewhat unrelated to each other.

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Let me start by talking about our chance to talk more about publicly submitted congressional mounts we realized that not all of the publicly submitted congressional maps have come in yet there's still a few more days, we realized that not some of them

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are still being processed and.

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But we requested the commissioners, as of last Friday to look at the ones that had come in by last Friday and to fight for us those that they would like to discuss among the four commission and this might man, that the entire mouth has some excellent

01:40:01.000 --> 01:40:20.000

quality it might mean that one corner or one county of the mouth, has a good solution to a difficult problem, or is in some other way, worth looking at and the commissioners have responded with the numbers of 10 minutes, which I hope are on deck, ready

01:40:20.000 --> 01:40:38.000

for us to look at them one by one. Let me emphasize here that for a map not to be on this list, does not mean that it is not influenced us or been discussed, we have looked at all the maps, some of the maps that are not on this list, have in fact figured

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in our discussions, and we may already have picked up an idea from a particular mouth. So, the public maps are pervasively useful if I could call it that they are.

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They've helped us in many different ways but with thought I'd like to call up the 10 congressional mouse. We will post on probably for another day that the legislative maps that people have proposed to the website but.

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The first one is 10 o to find out the number right, 1002. And I'd like to invite those commissioners who fly them out says something they wanted to discuss.

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Feel free to jump in and lead the discussion because we don't want to hear.

01:41:24.000 --> 01:41:40.000

Especially why it's not worth it from a positive standpoint as a good way to open so with someone like speak on 1002.

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Yes, I can speak from our conversation we're sure about the split that is proposing is Matt from Baltimore County, I'm pretty sure she's not don't like them.

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Yes.

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I think that's.

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I thought that was the first thing that came to my out so thank you will.

01:42:02.000 --> 01:42:07.000

And because Cheryl is not with us.

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Thank you, in particular for making her voice heard at one remote because we will see other maps that also split up possible iconic quite a bit and we should keep that in mind.

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Any other comments on your materials and I am, I just wanted to comment that you know I added a surface level.

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The eastern shore district heavily covered here also reached across to a majority of Antonio County.

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And, you know, and obviously there's a transportation linkage with the grid with the Bay Bridge but I'm concerned that maybe in rural county is going to be kind of cut in half and a good portion of the county.

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You know, and then for therefore is associated with Eastern Shore and maybe not getting a fair chance of representation in that particular respect so

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thank you good can marry anyone else want to speak to that point.

01:43:11.000 --> 01:43:13.000

I all speak up.

01:43:13.000 --> 01:43:36.000

Yeah, and I think it would really put together two pieces of Maryland that are not closely associated the dense population in that portion of and Rondo county that includes around Annapolis is quite different and the also the commuting to DC and Baltimore

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makes it a much more urban centered population and different requirements from the agricultural nature of Eastern Shore so I am not in favor that split

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my comments area very I'd like to say thank you that I do agree with you in regards to the animal account a population being much more different than the eastern shore.

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Thank you.

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Any other comments or should we move on to one of. I was gonna say that split in Montgomery doesn't seem as indicative of Montgomery, in general, it's in all our discussions and data it seems to point towards more towards a split being closer to Frederick

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as opposed to Howard.

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I was certainly back that up I think that the district of Montgomery, that is across the river from Howard is not really a great community of interest bridge it.

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I, it's, it's, it's quite a few different kinds of community on the left on the right side, I just don't think this does well I'm committed to Pinterest issues on that part of my camera, but.

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Any other comments.

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Okay. Can we move on to 105?

01:45:13.000 --> 01:45:16.000

comments.

01:45:16.000 --> 01:45:33.000

Guys do have a comment that I, this would not be a preferred math for our county. It's in four different congressional districts so I'm saying the obvious I think here but, but my notes say next to this number of my notes say kid.

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up cash or any other comments. I'll copy and paste my same response for sure, from a previous map, and just from Baltimore City standpoint, I don't like how it's, it doesn't make sense how to map and split, but in one city.

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Other comments. Yeah, I agree with both those comments from Kayden William, and I think that George's as it is seeing beer District Four would have more in print in a government county that you would go want.

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So, I just agree with that.

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I also feel that Western world is getting a little too much of a government county is coming too far too far down, and for the reasons that cadence said I agree with Kate

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judgment in terms of that.

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It's hard to tell from this tie up and but I think that part of Montgomery county grabs is the more agricultural area.

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So it is a bit closer, but you're right it I don't know if it should be coming that far down in Gmail account.

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It looks physically mistaken to me because I think there's just too much population in that slice of Montgomery but again these maps are not always

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made to be consistent with equal population and we always need to keep that in mind.

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My concern was Baltimore County, this split there does not seem to do service to buy me in Baltimore City and also the splits in Baltimore County seem excessive there.

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Any other comments or should we move on to one Oh.

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um, I guess I'll offer some comments here I

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you know I was I was it looked interesting enough to me that, you know, again, not knowing exactly where there's population splits that are achieving, you know equal population.

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But,

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allowing for the fact that some central counties are going to get split. You know, it looked like Baltimore City wasn't kept intact with some Jason, you know, reaches a Baltimore County, of course the county itself was heavily split up so that's not ideal.

01:48:26.000 --> 01:48:40.000

At the same time, there were some areas of and Randall and Howard that at least are compact or at least seemingly compact or contiguous and, and then Prince George's and Montgomery the heavily like Montgomery may not look as favorable but they look like

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at least if they were crabbing population centers that they might, at least be in the spirit of the DC oriented markets, and an eastern shore.

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But

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I had a concern about this one as well its power county is now in five different areas of the state, Montgomery, Baltimore and around the Prince George's it's all over the place.

01:49:10.000 --> 01:49:15.000

Baltimore County has five splits.

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Yeah, the donut configuration around Baltimore City, this doesn't make sense, doesn't make for a compact district at all for that blank green.

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It will probably boil probably will be categorized as a croissant don't have to stay back the Hetherington right this is our map humor it's coming out now, I see it's the hours are wearing on.

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You also, it looks like it's just too much, and the local county congressional district five.

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And I think it's unfair that to analog.

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There are no further comments, we can move on to 10 610.

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Colors are different here.

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And it may make it harder to interpret but notice that there is a split in upper Carroll County, and I'm going to take the prerogative of the first comment to say that if there is a consistent complained about the old gerrymander that I've heard is that

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Carroll County or parts of Carroll County should not be long for the eastern shore, it's a recipe for non-badness for making it difficult to represent the different areas.

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I think there's an interesting concept here of in the DC area of doing the crossover district between Montgomery and Prince George's in such a way as to wrap around the entire city border.

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I don't think we've seen that another mouse, but that doesn't mean that I would view it as, as a good map overall

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would agree

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journals.

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Any other comments.

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I also flag this one I did like some of the aspects around DC, and it was just different something hadn't seen before, and I didn't know if we could explore that further.

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But as far as the rest of them that goes, because it's okay I I'm following it it's just not the perfect man, but I feel like we could use part of it.

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I agree with Kim they're definitely parts of it that are intriguing.

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Before we move on, Judge Williams, do you have any has the other representative votes.

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The to close in DC suburban counties, do you have a view of how this will be received the shortest doesn't reflect.

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Well, I probably don't see my comments that kills me.

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Yeah.

01:52:33.000 --> 01:52:55.000

Okay. Any further comments or should we go down to 1021.

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This is another one where Howard is in multiple congressional districts.

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If I'm doing this correctly, It looks like 1234.

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If I conveyed on the western part and congressional district one.

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I'm mostly most of that I'm okay with.

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Well, it's it to me it gets too cute it has the look of compactness, but it just does, at least one more kind of split than it really has to, I think, if you're going to split Carol vertically.

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You need some better upside than this is my view.

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Yeah, I think.

01:53:54.000 --> 01:54:14.000

Walter what you said I think it probably gave me a little bit of an image of compactness or geographic kind of separation, but it was respect to political subdivisions and counties and as Kate said Howard kind of gets significantly chopped up as those

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Baltimore County and Prince George's so in that, in those respects it's probably not as favorable.

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Yeah, I agree, I agree with Jake.

01:54:27.000 --> 01:54:44.000

I also say Baltimore City is, you know, unnecessarily got a slice taken out of it, just to be added to Baltimore County which really doesn't need the additional population.

01:54:44.000 --> 01:54:48.000

Ms. But wouldn't in the city would doesn't make sense either.

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There's no need for

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any further comments or swimmers on to.

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I guess 1024 hours next.

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24 is another example of Howard County being in fourth congressional district so big no to this one.

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I don't know why the door is not technology, rotate the Baltimore City district a little bit and.

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eastern corner to southwest and then we pulled from our rumbles and bled into how would Kelly.

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Any other comments.

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We ready for 1027.

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Yeah.

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Well, I have the same count again about Howard County you know I would love to see some submissions where I think it seems like the big chunks are taking care of first and then when they get the Howard can it's like okay let's just split this up for different

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congressional districts which just doesn't make sense.

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But there's still time to submit so probably custom views on that we'd like to hear them.

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Yeah, I think, Howard and Montgomery obviously and Baltimore get significantly chopped up here.

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I think I was looking at Baltimore City and seeing that you know it was going out to the southwest and to Howard didn't love that part that it went into Howard where I thought if you had to reach out, can it go to the west and southwest.

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Is that the right direction? So it gave me something to think about.

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And that was, you know, willing to understand that maybe you know that the Southern Maryland piece climbs up into Prince George's and Rondo and that may just be the reality of something that splits up this way but so yeah and also looks like.

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The fifth congressional district golf from Southern Maryland, up through portions of fresh George's Texan a lot of a lot that's just too much,

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too much.

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Are we ready to move on to 1034?

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I thought we just did 1028 2728 of the same kinda like 1035.

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Seven were duplicated I think 2728 look the same to me. 1034 is next couple weeks. Yeah.

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We need to hear from you are not

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three.

01:58:53.000 --> 01:58:55.000

Alright, this one.

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Howard is, in to, to which seemed better.

01:59:01.000 --> 01:59:12.000

But Baltimore County is in five, which yeah does not sound better. Yeah, that's not yeah, it's tough on Baltimore.

01:59:12.000 --> 01:59:34.000

Any more comments otherwise we'll go on to 1037.

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This may be the same as 1036, I think it's the same one we saw earlier, if it's the same. Oh, we didn't, we didn't see 1036 I don't think but oh you mean saw earlier Oh right, back yeah and then couple of comments section we did see his mouth.

01:59:47.000 --> 01:59:59.000

Yeah, and the couple of comments section we did see his mouth. We haven't had a chance to talk about it. Yeah, I think it's a duplicate of those two, because I think you recognize it being the same submission.

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Yeah, it.

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I mean, the first step that jumps out is down around dollars divided into five pieces.

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Worse than now so I don't go for is bad enough, five is worse. Is that is that Charles County split up. Yes, is a split of Charles. Yeah.

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Yeah.

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Yeah, there is the one thing about this one that

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has some value is in when Baltimore City is contained in its whole unity and extends to the east through Baltimore County, it picks up that rest of the important international port area of marine.

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The Dundalk marine terminals, and then extends also down to that area of Sparrows Point in eastern Baltimore county that is now becoming another hub for transportation.

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So, as an expansion place for Baltimore County. I mean, excuse me for Baltimore City. I did like that.

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Picking up that southeast piece.

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Say other comments.

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We didn't talk much about crossing the bag among ourselves that is, and I don't know if you want to reserve that for another time. Other conversation.

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Oh, that's a good segue into something I was going to bring up anyway, which is that there had been taught that we would move from what we're on now which is analysis of public maps into the question of, should we be trying to finish the best mouth, or

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even vote on the best map tonight, and for.

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There was an impression.

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At one point that we were going to do that, but one of the commissioners asked us not to go so quickly because another proposal or two.

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He thinks ought to be considered and maybe within, maybe in within the next day or so. So I would like to respect that by saying, if we start here, we've still got a good amount of discussion Dawn of the Congressional maps, we can take up as early as Wednesday.

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The next steps of.

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What do we think of more radical changes like changing the cross to bear with districts, what do we think of other thorough revamps to switch to a different base idea?

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And on from there if we stick with the existing mouth or the refinements or tweets.

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That was the discussion that we might have had tonight but I cannot everyone is comfortable. Deciding Paris earlier tonight and I'd like to respect that.

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Yeah, I agree with Walter, and I want to say to our listening wives that we have really looked at all of the maps I have looked at every map that has been submitted by the public.

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And I think that we probably can reserve. Any further questions or discussion about crossing or not promising, the Bay of maybe for Wednesday. And, again, everyone has important views, I've taken into consideration, everyone's views.

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and I'll think about it again next day or two, I'm going to try to submit myself.

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A couple of maps deviating a little from our base map that we have, but we can say that discussion for I think Wednesday.

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From the standpoint to give everybody.

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Another couple of days to reflect. And as I said I want to make it very very clear that everyone's views are very, very important. And that's what I like about this commission that we've all respected, we respected each other's views.

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And I hope that we can continue to do that.

02:04:21.000 --> 02:04:41.000

Okay. And let me echo George Williams, by giving a big thank you to all members of the public who said that in mouse, we know how much work. This was we benefited tremendously and our mission from being able to see your work, your ideas and your contribution

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so thank you once again to all of the members of the public who, who did this. And we also realized warm outside edge come in that window is still open. Well tears before we anchor, we also give a special thank you to Maria, and her team who stepped in

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and really appreciate the, the, how agile, they were pulling the maps up and dealing with some of the chat conversations to know we have asked for civility.

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So hopefully people will maybe next go round, be mindful of that. But you you've done an amazing job. So thank you, Maria and thanks to john and everyone else Doug, very nicely done.

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Thank you. Thank you, Dr Hetherington, I appreciate that. Absolutely, Yes, thank you

02:05:28.000 --> 02:05:32.000

for bringing that up computed tomography and salsa.

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Oh, not a problem judge Williams not a problem at

02:05:39.000 --> 02:05:53.000

this point I'll text talk about we are at eight o'clock. I don't know whether they were also Don jabbing brought up relatively small number of meetings in which we have to finish off a whole lot of business, including moving on to the delicate mouse.

02:05:53.000 --> 02:06:09.000

Unless someone's squawks. I'm going to take it all as content to move on and try to get some more business done, and the business that we talked about giving priority to.

02:06:09.000 --> 02:06:24.000

We need to change our plans we were going to address the Baltimore area senate districts, but without Commissioner Brooks here. I don't think we should go ahead and do that I think we need to wait for a chance for her to participate fully.

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So, there are a couple of possibilities there are there are districts in Howard County that have changed since we last saw them as Professor Priscilla has drawn a couple of new versions.

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We might be able to get a quick consensus on top. One possible downside is that they might tie in with Baltimore County and certain words.

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So I don't know whether that's necessarily the right thing to the other thing I would bring up is Montgomery county, which we were going to tackle next, and I thought before everyone is signed in, I asked, Jonathan whether it will be okay.

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To begin our conversation and if we are lucky maybe reach a consensus on the age senate districts that will fit in in Montgomery county, it would be a big important part of the map to get done.

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We've had some discussion of it already. And it's not an acceptable way for people to go to move on to discuss political economy and see how far we get with it tonight and power.

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Walter I just wanted to say I'm fine with that. Just to let you know that I will not be able to attend the Wednesday meeting.

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Because it's complex with my final meeting with my board of trustees so I have to give priority to that.

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But a professor facility and I've been emailing back and forth with ideas about Howard County, and he's come up with some really great ideas and acceptable to me so if that moves for whatever reason to the next meeting.

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I've already given my feedback that I'm in supportive ones come up with wonderful and I think I may have seen some of those maps and I assure you and just, you know, I think, account is well on the way toward it.

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approval but oppressor personally we haven't had a chance to hear me much this evening. But, you know, Montgomery county. Well, I believe, and now we are all here.

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When you need to unmute yourself.

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I thank you very much and I've enjoyed this, this hearing.

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I thank you very much and I've enjoyed this, this hearing. Um, let me think well let me let me, let me show my screen, this, this is going to be the most recent map that I have sent around.

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Well, I guess it's the penultimate map that I've sent around, this is one that does not that that has this way that it addresses Howard County.

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But the Montgomery map has been.

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As you can see, everything's been brought under 2% deviation. And so, let me, let me just, I think we've discussed it before, but I'll just sort of, I'll call it the kind of census places here so you can see what we're, what area we're talking

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about.

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So the way that this is constructed is that you have three districts in the middle one that is German town one that is Gaithersburg one that is rock fell, though, one he changed since the initial draft is that Rockville now is sort of oriented and taking

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North Bethesda, Bethesda, and Potomac are basically their own district, but this is just a little bit split down Wisconsin Avenue here.

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And then, and then there's this area to the west that it picks up.

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I we continue to have friendship heights Chevy Chase Kensington.

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Most of silver spring into coma park in one district. Okay.

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And that we've discussed that's sort of an interesting question whether that's the right answer, but district 13 is the, this is what I was asking worry about earlier today, right is about retaining the population.

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In one district as opposed to maybe going over the county line. So this is a roughly 40% Hispanic voting age population district.

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Okay, and so it unites the Latino communities all the way up here going down in a real I mean it's a long district but it's relatively compact as things go district seven is, you know, Eastern Montgomery county.

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And that basically is, is it.

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I want to say just generally since I've sent you several drafts of different maps.

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Now that we've uh, I pushed it down to under 2% deviation. These are extremely tight maps and by that, I mean, if you add another principle if you add another change, it has cascading effects around the map.

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And so, that's not a problem, you can contain all those changes in Montgomery county. For instance, but I'm enjoying the, for instance, I just as we were here tried to see if we could solve the St Mary's issue.

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And the answer is if you can solve any issue, you can you know you, but there are tradeoffs. And so the tradeoff there is one more district that would go from.

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Well, a district that would go from Prince George's County into Charles county, for instance to pick up the extra population. Once you if you were to unite St Mary's just as to give you an example.

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But here if you want to just talk about Montgomery that this is the basic philosophy but behind this version of the plan

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is that do you want me to go there.

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That's sounds good comments on commissioners.

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I have one comment just in general.

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I know we're down to the 2%, but it seems that we are overpopulating the dense areas of urban, and we are under populating the more agricultural less Urban Counties is just sort of the way it works out when we get into these tight, tight or percentages.

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Tighter percentages. So, the, it's not consistently the case that. But the thing is, once you have Montgomery county, as one as one unit where you don't have any that are crossing the border that all of these have to be overpopulated right and so it's

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just the way that the math works. But you'll also see that. So, I mean, Prince George's This is just as urban as Montgomery county, but these are all negative districts.

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So, it really just depends on the number of county breaks and negative district Forgive me, just say that again.

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What is, what do you mean by negative district, negative, negative, it has fewer people under, under perfect population equality. So each one of these numbers underneath the, the district right and that negative 1.87% means it's 1.87% below perfect population

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equality.

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And these districts up here are 1.51% over.

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Okay, I mean these are all just so we're clear just in the kind of like pantheon of census. These are all basically equal right there since we're a year after the census.

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This is basically equal districts at this point, or at least that you can't really tell their level of inequality, but the but just to Commissioner clauses point.

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Right. Montgomery county is going to have overpopulation here with Prince George's County it's under on here it is, it is over, but you know you look at like Baltimore and there's some that are under some that are over.

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And you do have, in the eastern shore. Um, Let's see here that these are these are negative.

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Let's see here that these are these are negative. And you can, we can, I can also change I mean, for example the problem.

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The population percentages on the eastern shore are almost totally governed by this split here, right. So if I were to take district 45 and bring it up a little bit, right, because you'll notice this as this is over, populated.

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took it back to Mary's original question, which was about population differences within Montgomery county. I think what she was getting at is, isn't there a way to maybe take 1% away from district Tanner district data and attach it to district six so

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that the more rural part of the county doesn't seem to be winding up in a different population category, than they have more built-up parts of the county.

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So, I thought about doing that so this would be the natural one.

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We can do that that will push it above.

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2%.

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As an example, we can I could try to do you know that one will do it.

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So then six is over.

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So that that would do it. If you want to say you'll see that in six will be point nine 5% over and negative point five 6% will be district seven.

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Very without satisfying your concern or yes has that was what I was wondering about since that seemed to be the one that was hurting, and they were already a rural area with a big pot with a big area but a smaller population, just said she's hurting.

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Just so we're clear generally areas want to be underpopulated right because then you're overrepresented So, but nevertheless we can easily solve that problem so should I make this change.

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Why don't you go ahead, it will answer your Leisure World they'll be?

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I mean, for now, I mean, that I've given you other versions that we need to look at you know for Howard and like I'll remember that, but I'll remember that concern.

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So now, now this one is under populated.

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At the same time, because I don't have a fire a large-scale map in front of me. I didn't want to break up Leisure World if what you did before shipping Leisure World.

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In one district.

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Give it, give it back to them, don't break them up so without them detailed maps, it's really difficult to make precise well this is I think does put leaves your world, pretty much, I mean that leisure world's not obviously and incorporated municipality

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so leisure world's okay it's right here it's actually leisure world's on affected by this it's a it's a little area right here next to me ask a couple questions.

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And that's was referencing the Voting Rights Act what's the implications of the volume right jack, Emma government County, and also in Howard County.

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Okay. Well, um,

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none of the districts that are in Montgomery County are either majority black or majority Latino, there is but district seven, in fact that this may have been a change that we just did district seven is 38%, black, and

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and 17% my tea now, so it's majority minority. Right. And as district 13, which is as I said 40% Latino and 19.8% black. I'm so, so we are keeping the minority communities together.

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As I mentioned, you know district 13 does a good job of getting the Latino community. In fact, if you'd like I can show you the if, but only if you're interested, I can show you what the, the.

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So, by the way, This is the African American areas.

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I'll just take the district layer off so you can see right these are the African American areas in Prince George's County and in Montgomery county so that every American community is united in district seven here.

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And then if we if we put on the. If you like to see where the Latino community is, I can just it'll just take me a second.

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So just click off that so you can see the area and Wheaton, which is a high Latino concentration. Right.

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District 13 goes all the way from the border to come apart, up through here. Right.

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And, and that's how it's 40% Latino, um, the other areas you've noticed I mean like, like in Gaithersburg, there is a not insignificant Latino community and so that is kept hole in there.

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For the most part, by just by respecting the city lines. And so this is why I asked.

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I keep saying, I usually I'm using a first name but that's also because I don't know her last name Gloria.

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And she was mentioning before, right. Should we, is it important to keep the communities within the counties together, as opposed to say crossing the county line in order to create even a larger Latino district.

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I don't think the Voting Rights Act requires that in fact it would be a, we'd have to do some more research on that. In terms of what would be possible.

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But, but this does better than the existing districts in terms of keeping the Latino community in Montgomery county in one district.

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Ask. GLORIA to respond to that and of course anyone in the public can respond to that question as well. So she's still on.

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I don't think she is now Gloria is still on, go she is, oh sorry for like I can promote you to a panelist if you want to answer that question. That would be great.

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Send me a message if you're okay with that or I don't want to. from Oh perfect.

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She is yes.

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Yes. All right, I promoted her she looks, I just didn't put her to a super bear.

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And we're and we're in Georgia jersey on that, you know, a hot Latino population

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is messed up here.

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If your microphone or something.

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Now my sound is that could be Gloria just got on gorgeous unmuted so it could be that I didn't do anything.

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You hear me now.

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Am I the only one that trouble hearing custom personally?

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We just have one person speaking everybody else.

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Again, the question is, is it is in at ninos a heavy Tino district in Prince George's County, is that 33 okay now.

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Now, I'm not sure.

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How about now. Very good. Okay. I'm use a different microphone. So basically it so let me just show the Latino community and in Prince George's County and what, and I think we still need to work on that in the current map, but you'll see that there's

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you know one community west of Hyattsville going up that you know is, is cohesive and then there's another here in Riverdale Park Woodlawn Evanston and like, and so currently, we've got, I think three districts that are around 30%.

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Let me see.

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Um, so, just some districts 3334 and 35.

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I'm just showing here the statistics on Latino, so district 34 is 30% District 33 is 37% District 35 is 25%. Okay. And so we can try to try to get a little more in here I will say that will come at the expense of this being, These are 34 and 35 are also

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majority African American.

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And so there's a bit of a tradeoff between creating one more, one, it's got it's, it's going to be hard to create a compact Latino majority district and even if one more to do that it probably would not be Latino citizen voting age population.

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But so what we've tried to do is try to keep the communities whole within these districts, so that they have the kind of influence the Korean was talking about before, but I think this is, this is where we could value, some, some public criticism or

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comment is how best to cut up the College Park area, and University Park Hyattsville, and these areas because that that those are the areas of high Latino concentration, and then just to be clear, this is, you know, areas have the average American concentration

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concentration and so once you once you take out these areas.

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Or you move these districts to respond to that it's going to change the demographics of the surrounding districts, through physical Brasilia, you're right.

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The area of the Riverdale is heavy. The population is getting is growing in that area as well in Hyattsville, there was a large increase as you just mentioned.

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And I think that of course the Langley Park is. I usually will call that the mecca of the Latino community, I think that that's something that we need to be finding a ways to preserve those areas but a highest veal and Riverdale are growing, so if any

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way that we can get that those communities in some way to have a good representation that will be great, what you did in Montgomery out, I'm kind of a don't have so much issue or maybe checking with normal my community leaders but so far you are

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kept keeping them kind of together so I think that's a good combination right there.

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Thank you. And so just so we're clear about what we've done here. So district 33 does. If you'll notice, so this area of Hyattsville mainly Park, and Riverdale is all in the district together, so it is it is all there.

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Okay, it's part this this Southern Hyattsville part is not in there because then it's got up the hard part is that it would loop around, and we might lose continuity here but with that's something we can talk about it really depends on how compact

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the commission wants to make the district, so you'll see that this district 33 gets the Latino community that's here in Langley Park and west of Hyattsville gets Riverdale Park, these other areas that are near New Carrollton now are in a separate district,

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so this is East Riverdale and Woodlawn and Emmeline. And so thinking about the right what part of the problem here is that there's also a tradeoff between drawing that getting all the Latino population and then also respecting all of these little cities,

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because all these, these are incorporated areas and that's one of the criteria that the governor has in the in the in the commission but if the if the commission wants me to do a little, even as a demonstration to try to do what would be somewhat

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non compact treatment of these, I'm happy to do that.

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But as we've done it right now, you know, district 33 is substantially Latino it's now, 37.4%, so we can probably push that up, you know another few percentage points but there may be tradeoffs and, but what other option.

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Right, is that, if, if you want district 33 to go down south to pick up like this area, which have highlighting a concentration in in Hyattsville, and it will split Hyattsville as a result.

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Then, then Riverdale Park could be united in its own district you would essentially rotate these districts around.

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Um, but I do want to emphasize that this will, this will have an impact on the majority black districts in the plan I because I've been playing around with this quite a bit to try to see if we can.

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Basically, when you send an impact. What do you mean with that?

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If we take out the Latino, so, so these districts are just barely population equality, right there 1.36% under. And so if we take out the Latino population here these districts have to find population somewhere.

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And so the only, they can't. They can't go south because all of these districts are underpopulated. Right. And so the only place to find people is up in the north area some somewhere here, and that is not an African American area, so it's just something

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to consider. I mean it's just a tradeoff.

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But then if you take that population, then the their voices might be diminished then to boost their Latino vote then the Latino vote in that case, if What if he's taken by the other will put it, if we're adding to the heavily black population so they

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might not be an access for them. It will be kind of a.

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Awesome. So that's why that's why this district 33 that we have here I think is, you know, trying to do as best as possible because it, the areas.

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Right, because there are substantial Latino communities up here also in Konterra and yet, and some of these other areas. So I joined this whole area together, as well as going down to rare now.

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And so, you know, we can try to push it up a little more part of the problem is like the right in here is very heavily populated. and so and so, you know, University Park and so it's hard to include these areas and one district without

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this and then that diminishes the overall Latino percentage in the district. Can I put in a word for how brilliantly I think, Professor personally has respected municipal ones, it is part of our marching orders?

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I know how hard it is because I've tried my hand at drawing maps in areas like Western Prince George's County is incredibly difficult, and I can only take off my head and admiration, how he has managed to avoid some of the splits that I thought were impossible

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to avoid.

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Thank you, Professor you mentioned earlier about the compactness of Latino community and how we, I guess the word you sacrifice some of the two fives a lot about is how much effort does it take to show the difference in what you're referring to is that

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something that we can show the public like right now just so you understand the constraints that we're tied to one join these maps. Tell me, tell me what would you like me to show you were mentioning about the competitors of the Latino community and that

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particular that you're showing right now right and how writing tried to pull down it would.

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The population variances would change.

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Right, well.

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So let me just show an example of District, right. So, so if we were if we were drawing a district that was trying to gather together all the Latino areas that we've been discussing here.

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All the way to New Carrollton, and these sort of in Seabrook in these areas.

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This is

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sort of the district, kind of District we're talking about here.

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Okay, so we, so part of us we got to make sure that we get, we, you know, if you go to the border of Washington. You got to make sure that you get all of this and so not all of this is going to be Latino, but you have to connect it.

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Right. And so this is a district that is 51%.

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But you know, let me just push it down to where it will be like population equality. So this is, this is now 1.89% deviation 52% Hispanic population voting age population.

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And so it's like this.

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Right. And, and ways in they've got to make sure I get that in there.

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And so in doing that right it breaks up University Park Hyattsville New Carrollton Bladensburg some of these other municipalities.

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And it's not even though it's a 52% Hispanic voting age population district, this is going to be for citizen voting age population will be much less. And so that's and that's the criterion for the Voting Rights Act, but, but again, you know, this

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is something that I think the commission could consider and decide whether it's the kind of district that that you'd like to try out.

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If I can just wait.

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We were not planning on making this much progress on Prince George's County, although it is certainly useful to get a lot of these thoughts on the table.

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Since we won't be deciding Prince George's County for at least one more meeting.

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Maybe we can talk about this and take pick up the thread down.

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If we get, Montgomery, Howard.

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We will have made tremendous progress for tonight and, and we might not get my camera and once we get back to it at some point.

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Okay, I mean, was that a cuter. To me, it was.

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Unless someone else really wants to pursue the Prince George's one changes in more depth, even though we have a future meeting that will be devoted to them. I was just hoping to steer it back to Montgomery county the areas that we hope to finish tonight if we can.

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if we can. And, and if no one else will say so I like nearly all, with a few exceptions of the suggestions and the drop mock draft now but Montgomery county is just about my absolute favorite because I know how difficult it is to balance the cutting

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of the three central Rockville Gaithersburg Germantown contained within a district, without doing violence to the other five districts in the county and I think this doesn't brilliant job of keeping the municipalities and being split is part of that,

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but this postseason president.

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All of the eight districts in Montgomery county.

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Yeah. Yes.

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If I'm if I had to point to one district which would be controversial, it's the it's the district that that goes from, from Chevy Chase and friendship heights all the way to come apart in Silver Spring, that sort of area here.

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But if you draw a district like this, and you have a district that that that has Bethesda in it, then you're, this is what this is going to look like.

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Unless you wanted it to go very long, all the way up to Rockville.

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I mean, the, the philosophy here is that rock North but says North Bethesda is sort of oriented toward Rockville. This map keeps almost all of Bethesda itself in one district and all Potomac in one district.

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Again, Bethesda, just so we don't overstate this but does that and Potomac are not incorporated municipality So, so, you know, I don't think in the governor's order that you are required, but just as we think about the regions the areas right these are

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examples and so this keeps the Chevy Chase is incorporated and churches villages, and so does keep those whole as it does Kensington up here.

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Priscilla Can you kind of discuss why

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district 12 would be controversial. Well, I don't want to overstate the case, it's just that, that

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demographically, and like, I don't know. I don't want to say culturally, I've known. I've known this area quite well you know Takoma park and friendship heights are just, you know, they're both DC suburbs right there right on that on the edge.

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I'm just saying like in the way that people sometimes think about Chevy Chase is being more united with but says Bethesda as opposed to come apart, but you know look at that level of controversy it's kind of like you know you can't, you know it's not

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like we're talking about you know Slavia here I mean this is you know these are actual you know places that are close to each other that that, you know, people go, go from one neighborhood to the other to get dinner and the like so it's not, it's

02:38:35.000 --> 02:38:46.000

not that controversial. I'm just saying that I could easily see someone in Chevy Chase saying hey I want to be with the pathetic that I wouldn't want to be with the place on these, so.

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Okay.

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Thanks.

02:38:51.000 --> 02:39:01.000

Walter What are you looking for here Are you looking for us to say we concur and then we can move on, or

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if we do concur that it would be great to get closer. But I'd like us to go on Aaron, any concerns or questions and a at which we've had, you know, from a couple of different directions, about possible things that could be improved ways in which

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Yeah, it sounds like unless we're getting really tired that we.

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No one is saying anything other than that so my suggestion is that we, if we can curve and we allow the public again if they have comments on this this is an opportunity for them to, to make those comments and sense either call it a night or move on to

02:39:57.000 --> 02:40:11.000

Howard if you wanted to move on to Howard, I don't know, I'm in the same places, Professor facility and the one quantum is in 12, because Chevy Chase and Takoma park are like polar opposites in many ways.

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But besides that the, the rest of the map, in my mind, for Montgomery county. Looks good.

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Let's look what can we do with silver spring, what can we do with silver spring, where is that

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it's a district 12, I mean it depends how we define the boundaries of silver spring.

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Which part of silver spring. Yeah, part of it as a district 13. And part of it is in District 12.

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Yeah, I think, to comment on Jonathan's note about Chevy Chase and to come apart. There's no place else in Maryland like Takoma park so whoever, whoever you put to come apart was right, is gonna say they're not like us, which is good because Maryland

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is a diverse place.

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So I think considering this county had almost had precisely eight districts.

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You've done a great job in in formulating and keeping together the important municipalities.

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The only reason I wouldn't want to revisit Montgomery county is, if something happens in PG County, or Howard County to make us need to cross the border.

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But otherwise, I like that no borders crossed.

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Any other comments.

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No. Yeah, generally agree with what Maria said, I'm looking carefully at the festival Silesia statement a couple of meetings ago that Prince George's will have seven and a half districts, which means that we've got to make a decision about where is that

02:42:07.000 --> 02:42:21.000

half court is going into up and Rundle is if we're wondering how what is the quality, or what will it have to go into Charles based on your night isn't a part of that.

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What we determined with Southern Maryland though.

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Yeah, I think we have to make a decision there before we can really determine where Prince George's has to cross over.

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And that there are real voting rights concerns and thinking about that. So, we just need to be aware of that and you know so right now the current version has a district 32 that goes over into Fort Meade right and this is a majority African American

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voting age population district right that's the one crossing of Prince George's County, if, if the commission was interested, right in dealing with what we heard today.

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Right. The only Joe so if you put all of this population back into district 41. That means this will be overpopulated it means 40 will have to come down and 39 we'll have to.

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We'll have to come and take the population here, right in. There's no other way to do it, you can just add back the population from St Mary's that that was taken in District 31 you'd have to go from Prince George's County into Charles county and make

02:43:39.000 --> 02:43:58.000

that crossing the small border between California and Charles could be used for a crossing of districts conceivably right and then you open it would go, it would go away at this is because this is I think I can tell you exactly I think it's 18,000 people

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we're talking about that. I mean this is a significant mean this is why the folks are justifiably concerned it's

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it's 15,000 people, that's here, in order to make up for that if you were just to go into Charles, right, you'd have to go

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about that far, so that you could essentially keep this St Mary's whole but then, then we'd have to rethink all, I mean, then this looks kind of strange.

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I mean you could do it right because it goes, this goes along the coast here, or along the water.

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And so that you could take this part of Charles County, and then Charles county would be would be have one full district in two parts of districts.

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And then this area and St Mary's would be united.

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And obviously we could, you know I could try to

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get other parts here as necessary to try to make it more compact but remember this then you see district 31 would be go down this way and then over, over this way.

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I think, more surgery would wind up and down on Charles, because it's just, it doesn't address the complaints about lack of compactness of 41 It simply means that Nanjemoy is still in there are you know there are there are a lot of issues to talk about

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of reconfiguring Charles in such a way that there is no longer a coherent district, taking in all of the Waldorf area, and being oriented toward the fastest growing areas that are more commuting into the DC area I thought there would be real risk of having

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to rethink that with, who knows what sorts of wild would you like I can show you I've done a map that that that does that if you want to see what that looks like.

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Would you like to see that?

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Sure. Okay, so I'll just.

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So this is one that would deal with

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So, So this deals with the.

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Keep St Mary's Hall, right, district 40. Now, is this direction and decreases the black population there a bit but not to wear would violate the Voting Rights Act district 39 and we could smooth this out a little bit but then the population basically

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that was over here, right, it's transferred into district 39 here.

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And then, and then it has this has cascading effects, all the way around the entire plan here.

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And so then you have a prince you have a breach of the border with Prince George's County and Charles here as well as one that's up here.

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It keeps the same number of majority minority districts that were in the previous plan.

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You'll see it changes the shapes of a lot of these districts up here.

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So this is a longer district, we could figure out, you know what, whether that's the right way to do it.

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But that's, that's an example of what could be done in order to deal with the St Mary's concerns.

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The compactness for effective anywhere. Others challenges me well district 39 will be somewhat less compact, but I can, I can try to work on that.

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I don't think I don't think the compact I mean it'll affect the compactness of this district here. I'm on some scores but I tried to do this in a pretty compact way.

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And, you know, would

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continue to work on it if this is something that the Commission was interested in.

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I wouldn't be in favor of trying to keep St Mary's County whole. If we, could I think the arguments that were made were very compelling especially the fact that St Mary's County has one of the largest employers in the state, and having a, not having

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their representative in Annapolis split is a good idea.

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I agree with that.

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Again, very except that I'm not sure I'm in favor of Prince George's having to share a district with Charles County, I would like to find some other solution for where Prince George's will go prefer to go again and Anna London, some point.

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So I'll let the professor, working at. I'm a little look.

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I have reservations about Chris you're sharing just. Well, that is inevitable, somebody is going to have to take the extra population and Charles County.

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Right. And there's only two, you know, three counties that border, Charles County Prince George's Calvert and St Mary's. And so, this area here. So once you put in this this population into a St Mary's County, based district, right, then this is going

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to essentially sucked down.

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You know from any of these other slides we have, we agree that at least one district should be holy within Charles county, then you don't really have much options except for Prince George's to go down, unless we do that kind of that strange district that

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I was talking about before.

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But that also, you know, in some ways, Prince George's County is not disadvantaged by this change. It was St Mary's it's Charles county that gets disadvantage because then you have just sort of a small population and Charles County that's locked

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In, Charles County that's locked into a much larger Prince George's County District.

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Question dumb questions.

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We are loud and clear from the citizens of St Mary's County tonight.

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arguments very well.

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And my thing is, what's stopping other counties from making the same argument.

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And how do we decide this or that.

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That's the million-dollar question and I'll say this which is that now that we showed you make a change like this.

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then, then the question is well that activate folks in Charles county, who will say look, we shouldn't be split up into three pieces right or.

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Now that you know that this pushes after the Anne Arundel districts up more.

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So, that you are exactly right that that is always the way these redistricting hearings play out, and I don't even know what else we might have done up here that has had an effect on

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you know these communities. I mean, for example, I still tried to keep I believe lead Bernie is.

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Yeah, Glen Burnie is a little bit split but it's largely in here, we can see this is probably not the ideal way to draw this district that goes all the way from the Baltimore border, almost down to the Prince George's County border.

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And that's motive that that is a result of keeping Crofton in the same district as Annapolis right because we heard some ri you all expressed to me some earlier testimony that you're about trying to keep craft and honing the craft and is not a municipality.

02:52:11.000 --> 02:52:28.000

It's an area and so you can you know you can think of different ways that we could do this you could push district 29 up toward Glen Burnie, then, then push district 25 down to take him Croft and you put you know this.

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Annapolis district to go. But also, I mean, in terms of like the governor's order and the constitutional provisions dealing with split counties, um, you know, generally speaking, we try to minimize the county splits right and that's what the previous

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incarnation of the plan does, but you know if you have to.

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Two splits here, that's, you know, I don't think that would be deemed unconstitutional.

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It's just that it could be avoided.

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I guess my point was St Mary's County is does not even exceed the size of a district, therefore splitting a county that is already that doesn't need to be split.

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Maybe there's a better way on the other hand, we know that Charles County has to be split because it has one district, and about a third. So, it, it, Charles County can have one whole district, but populations got to go somewhere else.

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And whereas St Mary's doesn't even have a whole district, so why are we carving them up

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to kind of add to that.

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Is it possible, what is it, is that Calvert county is current map takes a piece of Calvert county in with St Mary's and seemed like based on the reaction when you heard tonight, people actually like that, is that?

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Yeah. Is that something we should be considering again.

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And that allows Charles to be more intact. Well, it won't real I mean, you're still gonna end up having to deal with the XX popular, I mean if what you're saying is, should district 41 instead of going and Charles County go up into Calvert and essentially

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split Calvert, then, then this Prince George's County, you know district would have to go all the way down here.

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This is a voting rights district here just so we're clear this is a 52% African American district.

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And so, district 39, you know, we would have to take up a significant amount of population here for it to them for this to go into Calvert.

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Obviously throughout the plan throughout the plan you see plenty of

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counties that gets split, just because of population so Caroline county is below a, a senate district but it's just you know, in the wrong place at the wrong time right so that then when you come up, you just have to make a decision on where to draw the

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split.

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I will circulate this map I like I said I'm not this map I think it's still very much in draft, but to see how, you know, what you might suggest in terms of dealing with the St Mary's thing changed, but just so we're clear right, it affects everything

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in this region when you when you make that move and keep under 2%, it is going to affect every single district that you sort of in Prince George's County and then up and in Toronto, and even up into Howard County

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against it depends on to what the great impacts them.

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And maybe if you, you know, tell us that the next time you meet with us. I mean if you're talking about the by us, keeping St Mary's intact going to affect five other counties Am I hearing you right yeah but yeah but I've already done that so you can

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see I've already made those changes. So you can see here, what the impact is, and also how we might deal with it so the area. The most obvious concern is like right well I mean the most obvious thing is what happens here and Charles County, and then

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beyond that, I'm thinking about how to, how to deal with the area south of Baltimore.

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Alright, so just from my point of clarification you mentioned Howard what would happen with our by keeping St Mary's in tech.

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So district seven district 28 goes up higher into Howard County. I tried to do it so that it gets all of elk almost all of Eldridge this this little area here.

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And so, this the air, the district that shares.

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Howard. Now, remember this, I don't know whether this plan is the one that you like or.

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My eyes are crossed I don't even know whatever I said to you in that earlier you like this one splits Columbia right oh I split Ellicott City. Yeah, I don't think this is the one you showed me.

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This is one that doesn't have it going all the way.

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The letter one shows 14 sliding around under Columbia techniques Island and Fulton in Scottsdale. And I do think it's important to try to keep the Columbia Association together and not split all considered too badly if it's still possible to do that

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consistent with these other changes, it's always, that's one of the things that it's always possible to do that, I can even unite them. The problem is who picks up the other population right you have district 28 coming down through here for example district

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14 coming through here then district 27 comes up into Ellicott City, all of these are possible it's just tradeoffs and the main trade off at this point.

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When you do that is compactness, right.

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You're just, but that's okay. I mean, I mean these are relatively compact Banksy district 14. If it goes down basically the North Laurel, right, it goes from Carroll County, all the way down, let me I'll just show you.

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Yeah, Mike, can you put that mine that I said that's good.

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Please.

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So

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I got here, which I put the colors I don't put the colors on.

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It's the one where you had Columbia and elegant city joined. Yeah.

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Well, let me.

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So here, in this version.

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Columbia is basically all together in one is direct me, elegant city is it and go district 14 goes from Carroll County all the way down to North Florida.

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Yeah.

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And then I misspoke and listen to him with Ellicott City. Well, but that there were tears. In a previous when we before we did the 2% deviation you. And frankly, I could do that you just can't do all of it.

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Yeah, so if you split. This is basically a map that that keeps Columbia.

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You know intact but that portion of Columbia Mar Ellicott City that's joined to Columbia.

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Right here, right there. Yeah, I think that's fine.

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Yeah. And, I mean, I think, but we can, I can do more with this right.

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If for example, you take district 28 in this version now this is very different than what we're just, you can see now the changes that needed to be made from this map right from the.

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The once the once the St Mary's change happens right so right up. This comes down, this goes up.

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District 25 then went across to get this area district 28, then goes up, right, that was Those were the shifts that happened as a result, but none of them I mean I can, you can still do this if you if you know

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we could this pink district could come up and get all of Ellicott City

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district 14 down even further right but then it'll be even more, non-compact because it would go in, go in south of Columbia, right.

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Similarly, if we take district 28, and move it this way, we can push district 14 up and we can put our kids out Ellicott City or more of it in with district 14.

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Right.

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It's just about rotating the districts and it's like there's no right answer here it's just a question of like what value you think is most important in math.

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But I don't know if anyone else wants to weigh in.

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Can I just ask as our Howard County Rep. Do you like this, the way that this up?

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Go I do. Okay. All right. So then, then that that that's important data for me.

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And I'm sure anyone from Howard County who's tuning in, feels differently, they have an opportunity to say what they think.

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But you're right professor, this is a constant, matter of tradeoffs and trying to make sure that we're listening to the public, I think, I think we all concur with what we've heard somebody feels differently with what we heard from the folks from St

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St Mary's County tonight.

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Man, it was pretty powerful testimony.

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And it helped highlight the some of the factors that we may not have all been familiar with.

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One thing I should, although I know we don't want to jump into a Baltimore discussion right now I just want to highlight, and Commissioner Clawson was sort of talking about the issue with the ports that this this version of this map also has the incursion

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coming in from Dundalk and getting much of the harbor in Baltimore as opposed to in the other map where it goes from North ball north northwest Baltimore City up into Baltimore County.

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And so this is another that also affects you know all the districts around here, but I thought I would give you two options, well at least two options when it comes to Baltimore.

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Well think Kate has pretty much caption dogs just a matter of tradeoffs.

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And just don't know where I am just boring, but if we want to honor the county, you heard night, it's going to be some adjustments to be made.

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And just see how we can accommodate so many different interests.

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Yeah.

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One of the challenges now and this is frequently happens in redistricting cycles like this which is that we now have several different versions of maps that are out there, and it's not clear to me, which pieces of the puzzle I need to put together

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so we don't need to do this right now, but it would be useful to get an email from you as to what you would like to consider our current working map, I've been assuming that our current working map is that the, the one with the two under 2% deviation

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that I sent out on Saturday.

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And then this is an alternative to that but if you all are of one mind as to particular changes that you want on that map imported from here, or with the St Mary's change, please tell me, but

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can I say that I think there may be a consensus for the Howard County changes I realized that 17 is in flux, based on what's going on down south but the 14 and 26 arrangement

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is better than the one that was sent out a couple days ago.

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Stop secondary bounce preview mode.

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Okay.

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Let me ask Kate. Kate, I'm not sure I know how county that will is just radically different than the district's

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one district does have a part of Carol the western part of Howard County, which is, if I'm saying this correctly, Professor, they're still part of Carol and Howard County joining the western part.

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Right. Right here you me. Yep. Yeah.

03:05:49.000 --> 03:06:04.000

Carroll County where we respected the Carroll County, Frederick border and so you run out a, you know, pop yeah, we could, you could add a little more one more district, one more budding district to Carroll County, but it doesn't do anything.

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Yeah, and Columbia is, you know, it's a pretty it's not a city but it's has a quite a sizeable population.

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So I think, keeping that intact is important and it's practically intact.

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Right. And then Ellicott City, not think any of allocates it I mean that was with the original hope was but then again you get to these tradeoffs.

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So, Catonsville I think it's Catonsville are beautiful, they're all joined together. That's actually part of Baltimore County cadence filling are Buddhists, right.

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Well this is and this is, you know, the challenge here. Yeah, and elegant cities in there. Right. And so for example if you were to do so. I've been operating under the assumption until we dealt with the St Mary's issue today that, if possible, there

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should be only one

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crossing of accounting, right, Baltimore County is the only sort of exception to that because of Baltimore City here.

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But, but so for example if you wanted to have more than one district that went up into Baltimore County into this little area right and you can choose any one of these, these districts, but some of them are going to then, you know, go into kind

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of non-compact direction, but that would unite allocate city and one thing I was paying attention I know there was some issue or concern about the Asian community in Ellicott City.

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Yeah. And most of it is, I'll just show a little bit about long route 40.

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Yeah, it goes it's not completely within district 27, if we could figure out a way to make this go a little farther than that it might be more united and that's one of the things like if district 14 goes down right to North Laurel here that we can

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rotate these districts around a little bit.

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But it's basically right around here is the Asian population,

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up in that northern Northwestern part there I'll call it up.

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I'll just take the district's off so you can see, again, it's not like it's, it's huge but these are the areas that are heavily more heavily Asian.

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So the districts, the district goes gets basically this part of the community.

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And so this area is kept, you know, because there's sort of separated on these two areas so this this part of Ellicott City is kept tall.

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I'm fine with this.

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Take you to work in Howard County today.

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Oh yeah.

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No, look at City area but it's really Columbia, it's just an elegant.

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But I am you know without insulting anybody from Ellicott City it's, it's really kind of some of the areas that Professor facility just showed to me if I've seen them right and I'm pretty good with maps just visualizing.

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It's like a Western Ellicott City kind of going out towards turf Valley and Marysville. Right. And I would imagine that, maybe even post pandemic there's been quite a bit of migration of that population into some new, new home construction in those areas

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and some other kind of demand in that situation so that may just be a more recent influx and 2020 census or what have you, but it may be a very accurate reflection.

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So it just kind of stretch into that district 14 as currently constituted, even if it was historically back more eastward along with 40, I think it just continues to stretch further west along the route 40 quarter, you know, kind of, Marysville and

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some of the stronger school districts out that way. Yes.

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Well, they're all strong and Howard County. Yeah, that's true. That's quite true and community colleges Yeah, that's right. Yeah.

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All right, I think we're good on that part professor, Professor just one comment, most of us are working off these PDF maps to understand what's going on and when the county boundaries get obliterated by all the other lines.

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It makes it easy to not remember what yeah, I mean make some hard to pick out, especially when they're little nuances of whether it's following an accounting line or whether it is it is there a way to, I don't know, use the color palette or a boulder line

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so that we always know when we're crossing accounting line.

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Yes, the end so you can see, I tried to do it here we can I can do it as, as, as dark as you want. The problem is, then you're going to be confused as to where the district ends and where the county begins.

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But I'm happy to do you know I can maybe when you do your small, smaller page size maps, maybe have a county version like you've done for some of them so it's very clear where the,

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where is that is that good, or more, a little better. Yeah, That's better by

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just your preferences as to as to how dark you want it.

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So there and the part of the problem is when you do the colors for the districts, it ends up, you know, overshadowing. Some of the county lines here but I can, yeah as whatever you want, I can easily do.

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Additionally, is there a way if there is a split in a district to have two spreadsheet columns so you can see what the different population is in those two counties that's making up a district.

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I can certainly do that I can give you a report that would be useless, especially county splits in these rather complicated areas to control the bank is, this is going to fall into the category and be careful what you wish for because the report I'm going

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to send you is going to be, you know, 50 pages. Is it because it'll you'll have every district and. But I'll show you in the next meeting or before we can talk how to read it so that you can zero in on that I think what is your concern, which is

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which areas, you know how much of a particular district is in one county versus another.

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Um, I don't want to dominate the discussion here.

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I don't know where we want water where we at. Um, Well, we've made some progress on Howard County, like to drive people kicking and screaming back to Montgomery county and said, I'm sure we'd have gone on and we're going to treat this as a mouth

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it's been through some deliberation and there's a presumption against changing the Montgomery mouth from where we are here.

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Going, going fine with it.

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Okay, well maybe check with anybody else who's not fine. Okay.

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Hearing none, I'm going to treat this as a part of the mouth that we now mostly have consensus on.

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I would also like to, if I could take it may only take a minute but if you go up to Harvard, Frederick County well I love

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the changes for the 2% thing you may have noticed that the district centered on the city of Frederick, which used to quiet more south, or even South by Southwest has moved across, and instead of taking it can be mostly rural areas west of Urbana Adams

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town and so forth it now goes down the quarter of Urbana itself now.

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I wanted to point that out and invite Professor personally to say a few words about it I know the people in Frederick County are going to be interested in this, I see, I see a rationale for doing it this way, based on things like density.

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I can also see people objection, but I just want us to talk about it a little so that people in Frederick are too surprised.

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Well, so

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this was simply driven by the population needs. And so, it to get under 2%. And notice that, like what I said at the beginning, which is that these are now really tight districts right this is barely under 2% this is barely under 2% here.

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This is just said you know 1.4% under, and so that that move was driven by a desire to get under 2%. I can see, I can't remember. Yeah, and also compactness so just to, you know, if you want to see what a different district configuration would look

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like. We did that.

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And then

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right so then you can just see district three is a district for us still over.

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That would, that's a population center she can't do that.

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And we can't do it. The other option is to go, and we don't want to create a donut district. And so, or, or even a croissant district.

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And so, as you see all the opposite if we're using whole precincts, then it's, it's, it's very difficult to do it in any other way than the way that I've done it there.

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Just because it just doesn't add up, if we break precincts then there's no challenge.

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But right as it stands here, we would need to find another roughly 2% to for district three in order to bring it up, and that's just not going to do it right there and see.

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It's close. I would say just keep a reservation in mind because if we have not heard any reaction on this. It's not the end of the world to break a present in order to move back toward the other way of handling it but as I say there are pluses and minuses

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either way picking up or banner versus picking up the areas to at Southwest.

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I'm not gonna pronounce one to be the right and wonderful the wrong way

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to do this by the way if you want to add one more precinct back into equalizes a little, I don't know if that does anything.

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But that would then that would make this district 1.92 under.

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And then we could shift around probably, but it would, again, this is again that the cascading effects right, so we move this here we move this over we move this down here.

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I don't want to take a lot of people's time on this.

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For an issue that may not be as quick as critical to them but just wanted to flag that so that people have a reference. Who wants to follow what's happening with the Frederick County Park No.?

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Are there any other parts that is that we feel we can tackle?

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Given the parts that we've agreed to set aside for future times.

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Is there anything that's worth looking at is, I think if we're talking about Anne Arundel, we gotta think about whether or exchange because that affects everybody, I have to say a big both the current map and the changes you've discussed with Southern Maryland

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changes books, both seemed okay for me, and under Oberon I don't know I don't want to look as closely as a couple of our other commissioners so Jan married Did you notice, either in this map or in his suggestion of where the districts might go anything

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that bothered you or similar.

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Yeah, so much man around no counties, is built up in the areas where the lines are I really haven't had a chance to take close enough look to see if there's any minor modifications but right now and a window county, we should have about over should have

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four complete districts. And then there's a partial. So it looks like we've got

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two parcels. We've got three and we complete into a partial second. Yeah, yeah. So, if we can get it back to four that would be center, well, so again this is your St Mary's change wildly.

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Well, it'll pull this district down a little bit, but it's still going to be a split there. I don't actually see a way around that. Because the district 28 is basically an ANA Rundle district it just has a little bit of Howard here.

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That's for me, the one of the big questions in drawing districts in Arundel County is whether you join Annapolis, this district going east west, or if you haven't go north south so that it continues along the shore here, and that I could, you know, and

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then you would have more of a central and Arundel County District, this is sort of like what I was doing before we're 25 came down.

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I really struggled to keep Croft in in a, in a district and so this seemed to be the best way to do it. Um, but I if you have suggestions on what the right answer and part of the, you know, if you look throughout the map and you can see up here and the

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way I did this with Baltimore also I'm really trying to obey the water barriers.

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When, when possible. But, you know, you could

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if Crofton were to join in with one of these other districts, you could put push this district going up more along the shore and gathering in each one of the sort of fingers that comes out.

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Yeah, I mean I think professionally, you raise an interesting alternative I mean that's something maybe in America, I might be favorable to at least look at you know all of the water, oriented communities probably share you know some, you know, cultural,

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you know, similarity and, and the West County, typically found is a strong kind of community, if you will, you know so Crafton and Odin and Gambrills are very intertwined I think in terms of business and residential areas.

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So that could be more of a north, south, like you said, orientation with the water.

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The Bay facing communities and then a north south kind of England off that that might be maybe as far east as maybe only Crownsville or, or, you know, Milledgeville grammar rules and Odin didn't craft and so there may be a different way to slice and dice

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that I know the other version we had 25 stretching down. You know, is it is challenging in terms of that being a little more linear and stretching from literally Baltimore City.

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Glen Burnie and I guess Brooklyn Park area, all the way down to Oakland and.

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But that may be the only way like, like you said that that one would work. So, in this world I can, I can try, I can try to get different, I mean this this is also where so district 32 I've had as a bit of an anchor here, right, because it's, it's,

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it is the crossing from Prince George's and I'm trying to keep that demographic percentages, you know, constant there it's a compact majority, African American district.

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But the, uh, but there are several different ways to skin the cat The problem is that this district here is the roof on the district so you basically can only rotate these four districts.

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Right. And so basically what I'm hearing from you is that what I should do is move, let's see if we can move 30 all the way up here. Let me move on, move the blue district in to get Croft in and I'll try to create a district like right in here.

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Right. And, well, this will probably. The problem is that

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I didn't see that this this district might end up being somewhat non compact, but I'll try to work through that. And, and we'll see, we'll see what can come of it.

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Yeah, that was my question as well with the fort made, and that's PG County split there right here yeah yeah what the difference was the population from the rental side is versus the population from the PG side.

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And then as a tiny bit of

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that little piece in there too. Yeah, I'll just show you, I mean the total amount of population here of this part in Arundel County

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is 61,000 people, which is basically half the district.

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47% of the district.

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Thank you.

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Yeah.

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And then we heard enough concerns for tonight. I think we've discussed, almost every part of the

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unsettled mouth that except for the Baltimore area.

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And some of them we just need to accept we need to put off to future meetings. Anything else that people want to say tonight, or should we adjourn to Wednesday.

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In my role is giving homework and thinking about the, the right way to go into Baltimore City. Next time would be a useful inquiry I know we need some of our Baltimore commissioners and not here, but whether to go with and then there's again a lot of

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different ways to do this. This one goes in to get the harbor and united with Dundalk the other one went down and had Northwest Baltimore going up.

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So anyway, there's, there's my own professorial moment.

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Judge Williams.

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Would it be fair to say that if we took all Baltimore, MD Romana and congressional map issues on Wednesday that we could postpone Prince George's consideration until the get give it one more half day and check it up at the noontime meeting the next Sarah,

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would you like to take my searches up on Wednesday?

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Now we can wait. It's no problem. Okay, let's tentatively said that those two things the Baltimore districts and the

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trying to finish off the congressional map will be the chief agenda items for Wednesday if that's OK with everyone.

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And if we have extra time, we'll do more.

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Okay, we have one further agenda item and a new business and commission discussion. Does anyone have anything to do with redistricting criteria which is here we're just gonna have to put off to it later minute.

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But is there anything I mean no business that people wish to introduce.

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Hearing none, do I hear motion to adjourn.

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Motion to adjourn.