

June 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m.  
Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission  
Population Subcommittee Meeting

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For the at least the beginning of the meeting everybody should have received this agenda.

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Just making sure.

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Okay.

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So with that, I'm just gonna I'm going to turn it over to, to, to alter.

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Okay, thank you, Kristen.

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Thank you for making time on this Monday.

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I hope our agenda will go pretty quickly.

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The first, which I suspect will not be news to any of the five of us but it's important, I think, if anyone is viewing this perhaps after the fact, on video is that ours is a committee that will be following the same public meeting roles as the full commission,

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because we have five members and that means that we will be recording our sessions.

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They will be viewable by the public when we're having them. And we will be announcing the meetings and agendas, in advance, the same way that the for Commission does have I left anything out or is that.

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Okay, then let's pass on to the second point, which is name of the group and terminology.

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I will say,

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I had a number of go rounds about subcommittee versus committee, and I, I'm ready to give up at this point because someone's.

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Definitely checked it out and that the Commission was a committee and therefore it.

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Our group had to be a subcommittee on the other hand I just went to the governor's executive order, and it said that the MC RC would have the power to create committed.

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So, I guess, all I can suggest is.

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Maybe we should try committee and then if we find that it's wrong we can change it later. Does anyone have any better situation than that.

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As far as whether we're going to call ourselves committee or subcommittee.

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Kristen Have you have you heard any of this.

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I don't know whether you were around when Sandy was saying, Sandy shredder was saying that she had some exposure to this issue from movies on something.

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Right. Um, so I think that Dr Hetherington also looked that up and I think that the phrase was supposed to be subcommittee, even though we are a commission that it was supposed to be subcommittee.

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Okay.

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I have zero second this does that.

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Does anyone object to call ourselves the subcommittee.

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Because otherwise okay let's call ourselves a subcommittee and get on to the slightly more interesting although I have to say my status is pretty minute in this too is what we call, do we call it population forecasting subcommittee or population projection

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or there could be other terms, and his suggestions on that.

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I, I think that the that the data team, unlike the Census Bureau uses a projections, historical and projected total population projected as seems

to just be the common phrase that they use, which is why we threw that one out there too.

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Okay yeah i was i was gonna say projections pops up a lot with census data so probably population projections subcommittee would make sense.

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I would offer or counter to that because it sounds like the work of the group will be over once the final information is out and I think there will be a lot of questions related to population.

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That will continue to come up while we're preparing maps and even moving forward. So, the way they had it listed as population subcommittee, I think is actually ok without any other qualifiers.

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This gets us to a bit of substance that our discussion the other week was about the forecasting side, and

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if we take on additional

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responsibilities. I kind of would like to run that by the full commission because they might, you know, might have things to say about that. Does that make sense or.

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It is certainly occurred to me that if we were just doing projections that once the census data did arrive, we would test the question of whether to turn to other types of things involved in the same data which we might.

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At that point, you know have too much momentum, largest disband that self committed and be able to use the energy for other things but any of us from a viewer.

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Jonathan Do you like the idea of more than just the population subcommittee or do you think that between us.

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I think you could go either way and be fine. I understand where Mary's coming from and I understand the, the point of view of looking at projection so I think in the long run, maybe staying with populations up committee makes the most sense.

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now maybe projections makes more sense but I forgot, if you, if you think the committee is going to be the subcommittee is going to be in needed well into the future then stick with population subcommittee.

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Cheryl William any thoughts on that.

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I'll be moving subcommittees phone.

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Okay, here, I mean it's it's a more general nice specific but yeah population.

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Okay, so population so committed is. That leads us, naturally, to item to scope of subcommittees work and purposes served.

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And again we are leaving some open mindedness here because we may find that there are things that it's the subcommittee as well well suited to do, but that besides this but certainly we want to at least start by

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this task of projections, to serve it until census data is available to go to a head start so that people will be able to better calculate, what types of districts to propose by better knowing what population change has been.

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Any thoughts on that or. He started.

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Okay way of describing it.

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I think also the committee will be doing some analysis.

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That will project, things that are just obvious in the percent change in population for instance.

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Will we've already discovered that three of the counties already exceed the number for a congressional district when we look a little bit deeper at the data, we may see a more serious impact on certain districts, as well as providing information to the

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entire commission concerning the issue of single member districts versus multi member districts, which not that we would solve it, but we can provide some information about how the population in the different counties is impacted by the requirements

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of marriage. I know we talked about this last time I don't mean to get us off on a sidetrack for a moment, but I was able to find the passage in the governor's executive order that talks about single member districts.

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And it is on page four of the order.

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If people don't mind I'm just going to read it because it's quite brief legislative districts shall be one as nearly equal in population as it's feasible given due regard for natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions.

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So population equality comes first, second, to the extent possible, and consistent with the Commission's other duties and responsibilities subdivided into single member districts, and then three numbered consecutively commencing at the northwestern boundary

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of the state, and ending at the southeastern boundary. So, when I set our hands were somewhat tied I mean not know your language it's not absolutely mandatory but it's to the extent possible, and consistent so we'll have plenty of time to talk about that.

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It's

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the numbers are

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going to work the same way when people are analyzing our projections as when they have full and final census data.

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but yes analysis I'm various completely right that analysis is very much something where we can add value as a subcommittee. And rather than giving people, raw data we can point out, its significance of how it ties in with the issues that the Commission

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needs to to address this summer quarter

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point two here is types of output. And here.

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The.

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There will certainly be a, an oral briefing element and also a written output element.

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And the full commission I know and Kate was just saying this wants to hear, probably.

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Every, every time for the foreseeable future wants to hear a briefing from us on what we have discovered what we've done in general and what we've discovered relevant to whatever regional listening here and we may be having.

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But equally important for many people is going to be are written output, because that can go on the website.

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A lot of people who can't come to the hearings will be very keenly interested in what we find.

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And so that needs to be, if at all possible, written up well and concisely for those audiences.

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And, I mean, any suggestions, but my guess is that we might wind up with spreadsheets and tends to.

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But, Any thoughts on that anyone see directions that you

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definitely think we want to look at her, as far as other types of output.

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Okay. Well, and that ties in with the next bullet point intended audiences I mentioned before commission mentioned participants original hearings, other interests that are members of the public, I do think they'll be wider interested in many of the things

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Members of the public, I do think they'll be wide interested in many of the things that this subcommittee without any further thoughts on that before I go on to area three.

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Secretary McCord was finally able to join us. Oh okay, good. Well good I will then turn it over to him. I don't know how Secretary I don't know how much you heard of what I was saying or their questions in the meantime, I don't think, I don't think Secretary

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McCord was able to hear much of what you were able to say he was having some issues with this link.

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But to bring you up to date Secretary McCord what we've just reviewed thus far simply the first two sections of the agenda which are posted on the screen with regard to the name of the committee, the subcommittee that they are in fact a subcommittee not

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just a committee and the their work and purpose.

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Walter was able to kind of through those sub points within that second section the scope of the committee's work. And the purpose is that they'll serve with regard to how their brief the Commission, the types of data that they will be gathering and utilizing

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for the purposes of this subcommittee. And what and who their intended audiences are along those lines, we haven't been able to provide this subcommittee yet is kind of those types of of documents.

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Websites programs that they can utilize or maps that will be able to provide them which is what I believe you were going to offer this evening. So with that I'll turn it over to you.

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Thanks a lot, Kristen.

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Thank you, Walter members and subcommittee.

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Can you hear me okay my good.

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All right, then. Thank you.

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We are going to look at what we can do to get you a little bit of a head start with what data is available in the data is available, generally from the American Community Survey, and I think some of the members might understand the American Community

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Survey is a very small sample of the population. And it is done with that small sample to extrapolate other characteristics of the population itself so that that comes out all the way I think we would have data from 920 19, and we use a form of a combination

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of the American Community Survey data with the old census data to try to give an idea of what the low response for areas would be throughout the state with the, what's called a room map further, the outreach mapper that the Census Bureau, put together.

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We modified for Maryland to show the kind of things that were indicative of low response counts. I've asked the data center to take a look at that roadmap and try to highlight some of the things that would be available to the members of the subcommittee.

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That would be interesting for the purposes of trying to figure out what the state looks like. I had a conversation.

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Somewhere this evening at about somewhere about six o'clock, with the head of the data center about can we show for instance, Hispanic populations across the state.

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And can we show those populations in kind of a heat map show where there are more Hispanics, and less Hispanics, all across the state. And then you may be able to click on a census tract and see numbers and other details about that census tract.

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But the leading indicator would be the number of Hispanics, we can potentially do that for Asian populations and other populations throughout the state.

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What I'm trying to give you would be tools so that you couldn't figure out where some of these areas that you're going to have to make decisions, they're going to be you, you know the magic numbers of because you can take the portion that number and divide

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it by, by eight, and that's 773,160 that I talked about. You know already, there's three counties by our projections that will show more population, then would fit in a congressional district.

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So you could get an idea of which direction you might want to go and how to put a piece of that county into a different county in order to do the congressional redistricting.

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And then, you can actually take that number and divided by 141 delegate districts to get kind of a magic number for that. And then times that by three you go back to the Senate size of a Senate District so.

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So, there are certain round numbers we can use to figure out what a map might look like. And then when we show you will provide you the tool for that would show you what the current districts look like in Maryland, and that's congressional legislative,

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then you'll have an idea of what the population is in each of those counties. What's showing on the screen right now is the population change from April to July of two people, 2010 to July of 2020, and we will try to every time we get a piece of information

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like this pipe, the split graphically for you. So because your interest eventually is graphic, and then try to get to the point where we can give you some indications of what the what the census tracks in each of those geographies might look like.

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And that that process will always caveat with these are numbers that are projections. Not only that, the ACS data, and the recent population data, as you see on the map in front of you, July, 1 2020, the data that you will be getting even on adjusted

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data is April 1 2020 data. So we'll have to make some adjustments for that also. The even having to make those adjustments, you can still get an idea of where population changes have happened, and where the real work needs to be, and your work will be

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based on the guiding principles contained in the executive order and your work will be based on the principles that you, you will work out between yourself some organizing principles about trying to maintain a certain respect for the county boundaries,

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when you can, and if not the county boundaries try to prevent on splitting municipalities, try to prevent splitting communities of interest, you'll develop some organizing principles for yourselves.

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And something else that we would suggest is consider. At the moment, when you look at congressional districts, how many congressmen a county executive for instance will have to interface with in order to address the situation in their county.

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So that, reducing the number of interfaces between the federal government and state government at a certain level, there may be some advantages to considering that.

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So, we will provide as many tools as we can, Again, it will be the best we can do is try to get you some numbers and better we can try to get to something portrayed on a map, and then the best would be if those portrayals can somehow be manipulated in

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a sense you can manipulate that data by going down and checking US Census Tract go all the way down into the census tract give you the best

information we have about that since this track, and then pull out the details from each of the census tract.

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So, there are some places that will not require lots of, lots of kind of finishing work because you know whole counties might be included in a professional district, or maybe play places exactly where that congressional district runs out that you're going

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to have to worry about that. So we're going to try to see what we have. And we're going to try to get it to you in a way that will be most useful to you.

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And if you can think of anything else that we might either have access to or may be able to display will be happy to entertain any suggestions that you might have about data, you may have seen elsewhere, or some suggestions on how to present the data

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that would that would be useful for you and for your purposes so we of course will be.

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I'm not able to give you, political data. And when we say political data I always try to caveat it's not, it's it's registration voter registrations and party, and we can't give you voting records, or any information regarding party affiliation.

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So, um, that's not going to be part of what we give you and we can't give you incumbent addresses and a candidate holder or a candidate for office address so that stuff is not limited to you and we will do our best to make sure that that data doesn't

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get supplied to you by anything that we produce, or that we would recommend from the department plan.

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Any questions from the Subcommittee on what we might be able to do or something that you might want us to take a look at. So, Secretary record I did have one area that we talked about, I believe, briefly before, and where your department, certainly can

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give some information, although it probably will not be our only source but when we have the question of where growth is occurred.

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Let's say on the eastern shore of Queen Anne's County, I think it's the fastest growing economy but it would be of interest to know whether it's

the west side or that side of the content that is how they are the population growth.

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That is how they are the population growth. I believe that the planning website has some materials of relevant to that, although we might want to turn to things like the county planning department or the content redistricting effort or others that might

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have done, deeper research or or just know offhand, the answers some of those questions could could you talk a bit about that. Yes, nope no problem well through the, the, the issue with this, which we called sub county data, data that's below the county

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level as recorded.

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There are some instances where that data is available.

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And if I can't guarantee it's available in every part of the state as readily. I can tell you that the ballroom Metropolitan Council for instance DMC as data for about seven jurisdictions that Baltimore in the surrounding counties, and they have data

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based on building permit activity that gives us indications of percentages of growth. And that's the kind of thing that we can get from the DMC anything that that would be supplied to the commission will be clearly reference for its source.

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So, the wash cog is the other the Washington Council of Governments also has data that would include the National Capital Area jurisdictions, and then the PMC would have the Baltimore Metro jurisdictions, but there's not a corresponding entity on the

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eastern shore or Western Maryland but there may be other things.

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We will check the Appalachian Regional Commission for Western Maryland data to see what they may have. And then at the very top of the Eastern Shore there's a piece of that that's in the Wilmington Metropolitan District as far as Transportation Authority

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goes, so we can check the top of that, and we will we will see what we can get and we will clearly, give you. If we can ascertain growth rates, or if their growth rates published by other sources, we will help and try to plop them onto the mat for you

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to the best we can.

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But we have to my caution is it's very hard when it's when it's data that's not reported at the county level but below county level, which part of the county will be very careful about what we supply to you will have a degree of confidence and what we

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supply to you and then we'll try to give you an idea of the source of that information and its limitation. So, we will we will do our best to see what's out there to make it available to you.

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And if anybody comes up with anything that you've done in your own.

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I'll say research or just simply clicking clicking around and found some information on on population data or population growth rates, there are some from the Census Bureau, and we provide some county level growth rates.

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In some instances, we can drive, we can grab those population growth rates that we've produced at our own at our own our own level, at the at the planning departments level.

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And the other thing that I will, I will try to see as we're about to finalize the school enrollment projections for the state. So that first round of school enrollment projections, gives you some idea of what's happening in school districts, and what's

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projected to happen in school districts so you may be able to infer some things from there but but I have to call them that they're not finalized yet, but we're nearly finished with school enrollment projections, most of the counties have commented on

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I have to caution that I'm not sure we would have the most current school attendance boundaries, because they may have changed in jurisdictions, but that's a, that's another indication of where population may be growing, where you may have see some decline

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so school enrollment projections are something that since our department is responsible for producing them. And we confer with each of the school districts across the state, that is information that once they concurred that we're within 5% of their projections,

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we will be publishing that as a publication, you do not need the will make it available to everyone on commission but it's a very large.

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It's a very large document that includes population projections at elementary, middle school and high school level. So, I will make that link available to you as soon as it's made public, and I can try to get you an estimate on on the timeframe for completion

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of that piece of work which has been underway for.

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It's been underway for a few months now so it's should be wrapping up soon with all the responses from the counties I saw six responses from the counties, last week when I stepped stopped in the office so that's happening right now that you may be able

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to get some information from that that might be helpful to.

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I can say here in Frederick County, that the under the pressure of growing enrollments and growing population the county has constructed from scratch one new school district, a high school, and you if you looked at where it's located and concluded that

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that's more or less the epicenter of population growth and new housing, you would be right, because the county's, you know, smart about these things that it built the new High School, where it's got the biggest concentration of new families.

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So that is probably something that other companies have done too.

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Yes yes and i i'm one of my other hats that I wear is, I'm a commissioner on the interagency Commission on school construction. So, the four to \$500 million worth of money that goes for school construction.

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Those, the data that that's based on comes from planning and shared with the interagency commission school construction. So, we will try to see what we can do to get that make it available to you, to try to see if that gives you a gives you an indication

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of what the census numbers might look like further down the road, Secretary is there any idea of how coven may impact those school projections. So I mean, the number of kids who dropped out of public school or private school or just dropped out completely,

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has skyrocketed over the last year. Yes.

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Jonathan we've been, we've been discussing that for quite some time now actually, and we've been trying to make adjustments. We have been.

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We've been looking at data from the Center for population studies at University of Maryland. Also, there's a there's a demographer, and then Colin, Dr.

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Cohen, who's done some important work there also we are this, the school.

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The funding for schools, and all of the school facilities throughout the state.

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Probably represents more capital investment than the highway system. In total, so it's a really intensive capital system. And so, we right now have seen these dips in population, because of the pandemic.

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Most demographers early on people were, were actually predicting, it would be like a very big set of blizzards so a lot of snow storms in a row that that kind of give, give way to a baby boom let later on because everybody's kind of hunkered down together.

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It's exactly the opposite of that that's what happened. that's what happened. All of all the demographic research at this point shows that most people first of all are having having children later in life.

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And second, once the economic security was putting question. They postponed having a baby. So having the baby later in life, and having the baby later has turned into not having a child for the family, we're not having another child in the family.

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And that's kind of happening across the country. It's really a baby bust, that we're looking at. And so we're trying to study that dip and where that might wear that might end up going, but just recall that kind of a right in the middle of the pandemic.

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And, and you're going to be dealing with numbers that are that are I remind you again, April 1 number so what we had as a snaps on April 1, what we know now is there's going to be a baby.

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Last, that will start to come back, but the number of people who have.

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Last, that will start to come back, but the number of people who have who have defected to either private school, or online learning, um, there have been people in my neighborhood that have been paying companies to provide instruction for all three levels

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of the grade levels that are in the household, a third grader, and a fifth grader and an eighth grader in the same household, it was cheaper to provide instruction provided from at that grade level from a different source in this country or another, to

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have the children learning from that and they were doing quite well. Well those people end up back in the public school system that's still a question mark, but I caution that we have to kind of keep our snapshot of April 1 will give you are probably

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give you a little summary of what we know so far about the baby bust, but those population numbers that you need to deal with are really going to be April 1 numbers, and the people that have postponed past April 1 are not really our consideration, from

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the census standpoint, so that's that's a longer answer than you need it but I think it fills out what your, what your responsibilities are to try to figure out how many people are going to be, and the people born as of April 1 kind of set the stage for

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the numbers. It's just the numbers at the gate has to come down and you have to use a certain set of numbers will give you numbers that may go a little past that, just to give you an idea, because some of the ACS date is going to be for July, the new

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census population estimates from July 1, they're going to be like okay but yeah, April 1, is what you're going to be stuck with with the census numbers to do the math that you have to do is based on census April 1 numbers, even though it took till November

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to complete the census So, so it's a little bit counterintuitive. That's why, take the time to give an explanation to you that you're going to be shooting for April 1, as a snapshot in time of the United States population, even though verification of

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those households happen way after April 1 but we will give you the best information we have with all the caveats that we can. And that, like I said, it's a little bit longer answer but I want you to understand that if we have it available to us, we'll

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make it available to the commission with, with what we can feel is appropriate caveats.

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Thank you. No problem.

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There more questions Instructor of Record.

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Well, thank you and you're not going away because I I'll probably have another question in a couple of minutes but not a problem I'm here. Okay.

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If so, I will move on to the third section of the agenda leadership and responsibilities, and the chair or co chairs of this subcommittee, are going to be responsible for

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planning the timing of help help them to plan the timing of meetings, and the agenda presiding.

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And just in general, doing a lot of ways to work with various sorts, with the full commission for example.

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Here is where I put off the dreaded call for volunteers, because I do think that there's a good case for having multiple volunteers and I even think that it may be optimal to have one volunteer from each of the three categories, and it doesn't have to

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be me.

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Just because I'm chairing tonight's meeting because I can fit much more back into the background.

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So, please.

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We don't have to decide this tonight if we are not able to decide, but I would welcome any of the five of us, stepping forward and expressing interest in being a co chair or chair.

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Oh, come on.

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Jonathan.



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You're the only independent.

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Can we get you to do some culture, I suppose.

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Okay. Now, Charlotte I don't look at each other so much I can I get one of you to maybe volunteer.

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Do I have to play Eeny meeny miny moe, give me a week to think about, okay, we don't we don't get, we don't we don't have to start now.

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But do you think about it because it's.

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Yes, it's more work but it's a chance to make a difference. Mary do I see you, expressing an interest in being a co chair, maybe.

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Mary you're muted. I'm a good worker. Oh, I'll leave it at that. let somebody else take the lead.

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That does that mean you'd rather not a co chair.

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I want to talk a little bit more about the scope, so that I don't get sidetracked, that's my concern about sharing this is to making sure that it's within the scope of what the full permission the kinds of questions they feel are appropriate.

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Okay, well, but let's put off the the thing for a week and think about it more.

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But, Jonathan I'm going to hold you to that ultimate commitment time because we do want to spread the responsibilities around, and it's a you you are.

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You know you're you're you're able to make a good difference in this. Now, The next point is role of layers on the planning department staff and here.

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staff be routed to the three co chairs of the main commission. Am I remembering that correctly question or.

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I think that it's okay if I mean what we, what we feel strongly about is that it just comes through me not because I want to control everything but because I just need to record everything.

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So if if members need something, they certainly can reach out to me. I would probably recommend that they see see the CO chairs because obviously it's very important.

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The CO chairs to know what's going on as well but I don't necessarily know if we feel strongly that there needs to be a middleman as well if there's just if there's a need or a request for, where do I find this on your website or or data or whatever it

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might be.

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Secretary record if you wanted to weigh in on that as well that that would be welcome.

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Yeah, it's, it's not really a, it's not a problem with the department responding to any particular person. The issue is making sure that whatever we respond is made available to the entire commission.

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And one of the ways to do that is if it goes through Christian. Then, there are certain particular people in the data section that can come up with the information, they'll run it past their colleagues in the data section.

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And, I mean, for all that we have to do, if, if we had virtually the same request coming in, and one of them went to Person A the data section, and then the second time a similar requesting what's the second person be.

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They're both working on the same thing and they might not know that, especially when lots of stuff ends up being done virtually or after hours so it's not like it'll run through the hallway so I just got that same question, Kristen would know that somebody's

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already looking for what, what, what is the date for the school enrollment projections and when is that when are they going to be finished. And this, that same question, we know exactly the person who asked that question and then to get that answer back

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that's the only reason why we're trying to to filter through Kristen so that we're not, we don't mind answering 15 questions, but if three of

them overlap, and that's to my people doing the same thing or two different people on the commission then we

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We're two different people on the commission then we try to avoid that we try to have that consistency coming back to the commission that we know information we've supplied, and if there that information changes, then we tell Chris and this information

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change, and then you can get the update right away. Also, so that the whole commission stays fresh on everything that we have right but it doesn't necessarily have to be a culture, again, I think as we move forward, there's going to be so much need for,

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you know, where do I find this Where do I find that hey I was thinking about this kind of map, would you guys have that, you know, and then there could be a discussion about, well we don't have that kind of map but could we created, that kind of thing.

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It's probably a good idea for you know if people reach out through email, if they if they see see the CO chairs. Certainly when we have our kind of planning meetings I can update co chairs and bring them into the loop on anything that may be outstanding

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as well.

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That's, that's more relaxed than than I thought it might be and I like it better. So, Any other reactions.

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Any more thoughts about the voluntary and leadership or should we move on to general discussion if there is any one thing we do have to discuss in general discussion is setting a date for next meeting.

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Any thoughts on timing.

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Do we. Is there a case for doing one on a week or should we skip a week and maybe try to explain our.

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And along those lines, Walter I know that this past week we had.

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We gave like a couple of different time options if noon. If a new meeting works for people. We can we can completely accommodate that we just don't want it we don't want to take up all of your evenings, every week for the next eight weeks we have meetings

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every Wednesday for the next eight weeks. So to ask you to give up another one of your evenings.

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Every now and then might be more difficult taking up two days of your week so certainly if there's a way that we can accommodate that kind of lunch hour or anytime really, that would work for everybody I just know that sometimes that lunch hour is just

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kind of an easy way to to slide in a quick meeting if need be.

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Any thoughts or reactions.

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If it's possible I would like some earlier meetings. My wife is often working on West Coast time so these hours. I'm usually wrangling our daughter so to have some earlier in the day during the work that you know I can schedule around it, different during

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the work day. I think Cheryl mentioned, she'd be available for that.

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My easiest day for a new easiest days for new meetings will probably be Monday and Thursday. Off the top of my head. Would that work for you, Cheryl as well.

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It's a Monday Thursday at noon, like if there were, if there was a potential to have a meeting that wouldn't take up an evening if we could do it at lunch.

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Are you ever able to kind of break free for that noon hour to take half an hour, an hour. I would just use my time and make myself available without to be as long as there's no like urgent meetings, things like that.

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I could work coming towards the end of June, that's you know. Yeah.

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Can I also put out a possibility, which is.

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We've had an organizational meeting, which helps with the public, transparency, to what extent but it makes sense for us to use emails among the group of five plus Christian to get some things done.

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Certainly if people have questions about research them and I want to wait two weeks for this kind of meeting.

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But aid, an email might be able to resolve the question that same afternoon.

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What are the minuses of doing it that way a question do you think, with regard to a daytime meeting or we'll know, with respect to.

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If we see areas that we want to do research on, you know, ask the planning department about or perhaps said, you know, I found this What does the subcommittee think of this possibly using group email.

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Now group email, of course, is subject to all the public, transparency, under somewhat different rules but but all those documents, need to be kept they are all.

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You know, you can explain this better than I can. But it, it seems to pick early research oriented group might be able to cooperate better in some ways that way, then by waiting for okay it's no face to face meetings.

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Right. And I think, again, of course, that is, you know, anyone can file a Public Information Act request. If we were to have a discussion for example on one of these meetings, whether it be nude or in the evening or whatever it may be a subcommittee

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meeting, or even if it was part and parcel of a summary to the full commission during one of the commission meetings in which we discussed, we've researched this topic is what we've had, we would then have to provide that information to whomever filed

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a PA, and or we can post it to the website under past meetings. So for example, if there is an email strand between this group with regard to some documents that we want to take to access or websites or reports or wherever, whatever it might be.

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Once we have them in hand, we can post them to the website, or we can post them when we discuss them with the full commission.

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During those meetings and get them posted that.

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So just something to think about it, it does give us some options because I know so many of us are busy and I'm among them. And if we can make the progress that way, and do a decent job of transparency, just something to think about might be a way to

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present in my only my only caution water would be that. But, that one's five and you start getting involved in the conversation.

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That's probably the better subject matter for an agenda item at a meeting, and you will have convened a quorum of the commission that would be capable of business, so that the pre announcement means that we have to pre announce to the public that we want

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to have that conversation, even if it's done by ml. I'm afraid that that's probably going to be the ruling So, and here it is.

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Another reason if even if two people have the same data request that came in through Kristen to the the thing that's different. Having two people asking the same question than it is five people conversing.

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If you think if you had a laptop and you opened it up around, around the Dyess that you were sitting at all the things going back and forth Commission on that on that on that laptop and an open meeting would be subject to the Public Information Act, also,

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but whether you convene five people who could transact the business of commission, it's I think it's a little bit better, to make sure that, you know, simple questions go to the one source and discussions about that that start happening in email, aren't

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available to the public, and I think that becomes problematic.

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I should have. I should have known, but that's okay. No, it's, it's, I don't want to. I don't want to discourage you from having the piece of information come to me, or for the department, but through Kristen, and even if it's even as the same request

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a couple times, that's easier to deal with. And I don't want to make it look like that, this subcommittee is transacting business, on behalf of the whole commission outside the purview of the public so I want to make sure that if there's anything that

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could seem like that was happening we would avoid that.

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Not to say that it would but I'm just saying, if it seems like that let's have witness information, requests come through one place and let the subcommittee now.

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My other suggestion would be.

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Once the department is able to get together, a set of data, we would get it to you. And then you may want to have, you know, several days to take a look at it, and then you're going to be full of questions.

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Getting together as a subcommittee after you've gotten the data, and then say, What do you make of it. What else can be done with it.

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That might help our innocence our data trenches back out to you guys will probably be a time for you to ponder it, and then decide, among yourselves. When would you have another meeting about something that you're dealing with just just from the data

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side, you can have other issues that you're dealing with as a commission but as a subcommittee, I would. My recommendation is that you, you, you call the meeting, even if it's an afternoon meeting, and then let the agenda be posted and let anybody who's

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interested, be able to join, even in the middle of the day.

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Hello question.

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Okay.

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I know that individuals who observe this could come up with questions and things of that nature, or our group, or have certain types of data that might make sense for us to look into.

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Well that come up in a following meeting so we can explore that as well.

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Or will we have to wait until we say yes, pull it up, or will the planning department headed for us by the next time we meet, how will that work.

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If somebody from the public tonight was saying you should look at x y z report on population in Calvert county for instance just pick us up off top of my head, and.

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And we were able to access that report, we would say, we found the report, somebody suggested that you take a look at it, we've configured it out to you.

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Once we tracked it down. Got it. And we'd like to for it to either with we make no recommendation, or we caution that the data is only about from 2014 and there hasn't been any update to it.

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So, We wouldn't wait and hold it.

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We would just hold it in enough time to have the data side, evaluate it, and then send it on, send it on to you, almost immediately so soon as we able to get our hands on something that someone suggested, and then we let you decide whether it's helpful

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to you. We would just try to get the data for you if somebody made a suggestion, we would try to track it down, and we would do that legwork for you. You're free to you're free to take a look at anything you want to look at anytime you want to look at,

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but if that's if your answer if your question is, if somebody made a suggestion, we were able to find it, we would find it, and then forward it to you.

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And from the data side with with their with every comment they would have it, and then when you public information also our forwarding that data to say Thank you.

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Could I ask a prostate.

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For other commissioners.

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If you have research projects that you are came to begin, or that you remember we talked about that.

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You want to make sure, move forward in some way.

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Tell us about that.



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Because I think part of the potential for this subcommittee is are doing independent research and and bring it to the other four and saying, you know, look, look what I discovered, but is anyone expect to do that in the next week or two.

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I've been working on that all along with the thought that we needed to have some general information to open our public hearings with our listening.

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times.

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So I've looked at the fact that it's I think it's very interesting that since 1960, we have not gained or lost any congressional representation for instance and that's, you know, people may not even realize that we've been at eight, you know, congressional

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districts since 1960, and then explain that's because we've been growing at the rate of the United States and therefore the state of Maryland has, you know, kind of kept pace.

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But, that being the case and then go into the fact that. However, now we have many counties in, you know, that over the last 10 years are showing a definite decline in population, while others are growing any rate, five to 10 minutes, or seven minutes

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of information that would be related to the numbers, we don't have to get into all of the aspects of the demographics at that opening hearing, but just to give people an idea of what we will be looking at and how it's really important for them to share

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information with the group right now before we begin any hard work. That was my thought.

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As a presentation for the eastern shore gathering in a week. Similarly, set well for instance it's.

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We have

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six counties.

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All except for Garrett county all on the eastern shore, who have a population countywide it's below 43,000 people.

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And that would, you know, things like that that's a different aspect of they, they may not realize how different the county sizes are in Maryland, I mean if you don't study this stuff you may not, it may not be that grossly apparent to you but any rate,

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that's what I was thinking, oh someone's working on such presentation, I'd love to chime in.

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Well that's just what I was going to say because they.

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I'm pretty sure that parts of thought, although you what you say add Zm some interesting things that might not have been in the presentation, but I would guess that.

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For example, in the first is to ensure meeting some combination of the planning department, and perhaps one of the CO chairs will, in conjunction with having maps available to the attendees.

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Just take a couple of basic dips into the numbers, for example, two counties on the eastern shore have grown faster than the state of Maryland. All the rest of them have been either, even with or in most cases, going was fast.

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Likewise, there could be mentions of how many roughly how many assembly districts, the eastern shore counter is health currently, and whether that number is expected to go up or down I believe it will be down, but that just a few basics like that, but

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I would think that there would be room for

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potentially more than one presentation or, so long as they're kept brief, or perhaps as you said, providing some information to the person, whoever it is, who's presenting thought, so that they can consider adding in facts that are interesting and different

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such as that Maryland just had such an exceptionally stable number of seats for two generations or more.

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But yeah, the, I think it's important and setting the stage for the regional hearings to introduce some of the sort of information that will be of interest, most people present I think that kind of population

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data regarding whichever area is the hit the hearing is about is never going to be a waste of time we want to keep it concise, but it will help focus people on why and what we're really there to have to decide eventually.

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So I have a question is in regards to research projects that was brought up previously, how do we handle.

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Someone from the public, reaching out to us individually to share their research project on you know their area that they live in or the that they want to move into or whatever, do we bring that information to the commission or do we disregard and how

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do we handle that.

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I'll take a stab at that unless someone else wants to answer it, which is, if its population related if it's related to the work of this subcommittee, then I think taking it to

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one of our meetings of the subcommittee.

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You know, sending ever want to copy and introducing it as an agenda item or or or doing during general discussion, would be a good way to let the five of us take a first stab, if it's a population issue now sometimes people will come to you on won't be

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population issues, they'll be like, you know, ideas about communities of interest or odd ideas about various other things where it doesn't relate to, specifically the work of this summit in which case I would say bring it to the full nine.

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You know set.

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And it potentially could be an agenda item or if maybe if if for some reason it's not as suitable like we have already seen it or it's, you know there's there's some problem with it just have the discussion of why it would not be an agenda item but in

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general.

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If it's a, if it's of interest.

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Beyond the four corners of our subcommittees work.

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Then, if you send it to any of the three co chairs, they can take it from there. As far as whether it's,

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you know, makes a good agenda item, and something is also will probably

00:59:23.000 --> 00:59:29.000  
be important, but will be better to wait for when we are taking on some particular issue that it relates to.

00:59:29.000 --> 00:59:41.000  
There's a whole bunch of issues that we're just not going to get into for a couple of months, and sometimes saving it for them is going to be the right answer, but again, send it to any of the three co chairs if you have any doubt about that stuff.

00:59:41.000 --> 00:59:49.000  
All right, thank you. I would say to just I would just say to send it to all of the three co chairs, just because it's going to help with that whole communication.

00:59:49.000 --> 00:59:53.000  
Whenever you send it to one they're going to send it to the other two anyways. Right, right.

00:59:53.000 --> 00:59:59.000  
If I can make a suggestion I think this might be the first time.

00:59:59.000 --> 01:00:08.000  
I think the first time this has come up really about the public sending stuff to commissioners themselves, and then the conditions wanted to share the information.

01:00:08.000 --> 01:00:25.000  
The only thing I'm, I'm thinking out loud on now is that if if the public inadvertently or, or on purpose, sends information that's political data that contains the data in layers that the public might not have seen or might not have been interested in.

01:00:25.000 --> 01:00:44.000  
Then, the commission, sharing the political data would be potentially problematic. So my suggestion might be that if data is forwarded to you from, you know, the public as a commissioner you might send that data to Kristen, so that it can be forwarded

01:00:44.000 --> 01:00:59.000

to a co chairs and then everyone else, but we will take a look at that in case someone has sent you, something that has, you know, three layers on the top that are very good, but the fourth layer is Democrats and Republicans for instance for the fourth

01:00:59.000 --> 01:01:09.000

layer is where somebody else, somebody who's running for office is located, that kind of information that that you're not supposed to be dealing with with the executive order.

01:01:09.000 --> 01:01:28.000

I'm just I'm just trying to give you a way to for the information and asset before we get on as long as the information is doesn't contain information not supposed to be considering it might be the easiest way to deal with that, and I, we haven't had

01:01:28.000 --> 01:01:44.000

it happen yet. I'm not accusing anybody of saying they're looking at political data I'm just saying that what we supply will be information that you're permitted to see and put it in by the executive order, not prohibited from looking at, but I can't

01:01:44.000 --> 01:01:59.000

guarantee that's things that come in from the public will be literally consistent with the executive order so that would be my suggestion that if, if a commissioner receives information from somebody from the public that it gets submitted to Kristen Kristen

01:01:59.000 --> 01:02:16.000

will log it in and then we'll review it and then send it out and we'll just keep a record of everything that commissioners ever seen. That way, it may be just easier not to not to worry about whether the commissioner saw a layer in the data that, that

01:02:16.000 --> 01:02:30.000

may not have been immediately apparent to them, that's that's my that's my thought right now. Okay, thank you because as someone who's used to into my line of work was used to handling sensitive information I want to make sure that there was some type

01:02:30.000 --> 01:02:44.000

of process of discussion as to how we're supposed to handle information that we receive that was sent to us directly from someone in the public. So, yeah, I just want to make sure that it's a, it's a great question and thanks for bringing it up, this

01:02:44.000 --> 01:02:58.000

soon. I just, I just think that natural inclination is hey look somebody sent me this and you share it with your colleagues in the commission. But if it's something that contains information that you're really not supposed to be considering then instead

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of trying to unring the bell, we would try to check and see if there was a bell in there that that you weren't allowed to listen to, in that sense, and we have to keep a record of it and keep a log of everything that we got to make sure that nobody accuses

01:03:09.000 --> 01:03:14.000

us of changing at the data we would just say this data is not available to you.

01:03:14.000 --> 01:03:19.000

Okay.

01:03:19.000 --> 01:03:22.000

Great

01:03:22.000 --> 01:03:32.000

job, we want to try to find a date for the next meeting of this subcommittee or should we play that by ear

01:03:32.000 --> 01:03:37.000

is Monday night.

01:03:37.000 --> 01:03:50.000

Okay, I'm in August we didn't get to the question of whether we want to wait one week or two weeks maybe before trying to have another meeting. And I think we decided that it would be a Monday or Thursday at noon.

01:03:50.000 --> 01:03:53.000

At noon. Okay.

01:03:53.000 --> 01:04:10.000

Any suggestions or particular dates the door don't work or preferably Thursday to Monday is I'm barely a functioning adult.

01:04:10.000 --> 01:04:18.000

So June, 10, June, 10 would be the that or you could do it.

01:04:18.000 --> 01:04:39.000

When I don't, I don't June 3 would be mean that's this week so you could go June 10 or you could skip to June 17 which which might be just fine given how much work there is to do this week and how much information that still has to be gathered.

01:04:39.000 --> 01:04:50.000

Put that's okay with me but I do suggest skipping, we're going to get awfully tired of meetings if we try to have one of the week of June 17 is quite okay with me.

01:04:50.000 --> 01:04:58.000

Okay. does June 17 work for everyone at noon.

01:04:58.000 --> 01:05:02.000

I think I can make that work. Yeah, I can make that work.

01:05:02.000 --> 01:05:13.000

And what we will do is, to the extent that we have stuff available from the Department of Planning. We're not going to hold it until the night of the meeting, we will try to get it to you as it becomes available to us.

01:05:13.000 --> 01:05:26.000

That way, you can start dealing with it and honoring it and, you know, preparing questions and all that kind of stuff so I want to try to keep you all working, and I'm not going to try to back everything up.

01:05:26.000 --> 01:05:37.000

If I get a couple pieces couple hunks of things. I will send it out chunk at a time to the subcommittee so that you can take a look at it. I know, If you've got the time.

01:05:37.000 --> 01:05:50.000

I don't want to. I don't want to jam you up by doing it our convenience, I want to make sure that it's done at your convenience and we get it to sooner than later so whatever we have, I'll try to match up in a big giant, I'll just send it out to you as

01:05:50.000 --> 01:05:52.000

we get it. Is that helpful to you.

01:05:52.000 --> 01:05:55.000

Yes, I just have one request.

01:05:55.000 --> 01:06:13.000

Can you put really definitive descriptive names and a date with every table and map that you put out because somewhat so often I'll download something once and then, oh my gosh, did I already download that one but they all have the same name and I don't

01:06:13.000 --> 01:06:31.000

know if they're very good point will try to will try to come up with a descriptive. If it is the same thing put a version number on it or a date time group, or good idea not to military but something that's a great idea.

01:06:31.000 --> 01:06:40.000

And there that's that's a really good idea and we'll come up with a system to try to make sure that I'm the, I'm the I do it all the time. People send me stuff all the time.

01:06:40.000 --> 01:06:49.000

I save it and then I save it and I save it and I don't remember which one I saved and if I save it on different days I think it's different person it's the same thing.

01:06:49.000 --> 01:06:59.000

We'll try to do our part to make it easy easier for you and thanks for that suggestion thanks that's great. Thank you. Yeah, Yeah.

01:06:59.000 --> 01:07:08.000

Okay. In the interest of time, it's, it's 806. Walter and Eric, Jonathan.

01:07:08.000 --> 01:07:12.000

I don't have any other business to any other members of other business.

01:07:12.000 --> 01:07:19.000

Okay, so you know, is there a motion to adjourn move to adjourn in a second.

01:07:19.000 --> 01:07:24.000

Second, and also in favor. Aye. Aye.

01:07:24.000 --> 01:07:48.000

Any opposed. Okay meeting is adjourned sale.