

THE COMMISSION

MDP REDISTRICTING NEWSLETTER



MEETING WRAP UP

The Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission has been gearing up for public hearings around the state to survey what communities of interest they should take into consideration. There will be public hearings around the state with the first one taking place in Jackson on 5/11/21 day at 6 pm. In a recent presentation by the University of Michigan, three commissioners (Douglas Clark, Rebecca Szetela, and Dustin Witjes) engaged in a discussion on ways to make sure public hearings are fair and effective. They expressed the excitement to get public insight on what they want to see out of the new districts and how the commission can be fair and address the gerrymandering issues Michigan has faced in the past.

Have questions?

NICK BARNES
nbarnes@michigandems.com

MIKE VATTER
mvatter@senatedems.org

VIEW MORE DETAILS & MORE MEETING DATES AT
[MICHIGANDEMS.COM/COMMISSIONMEETINGS](https://michigandems.com/commissionmeetings)

PUBLIC MEETING DATES

Jackson
Commonwealth Commerce Center
May 11th

Kalamazoo
Radisson Hotel
May 13th

Marquette
NMU
May 18th

Gaylord
Treetops Resort
May 20th

Midland
Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center
May 25th

Lansing
Lansing Center
May 27th

Pontiac
Centerpointe Marriott
June 1st

The MICRC and the SOS filed a petition asking for relief from the Michigan Supreme Court for a deadline extension for proposing and adopting new congressional and legislative maps due to the census delay. Here's the new timeline they submitted to the Michigan Supreme Court.

ACTIONS	ORIGINAL TIMELINE	PROPOSED TIMELINE
Commission holds initial public hearings & initial drafting of plans (art 4, § 6(8))	May 2021 - Sept. 2021	May 2021 - Sept. 2021
U.S. Census Bureau sends redistricting data to states (13 USC 141 (c))	April 1, 2021	Sept. 20, 2021
Commission deadline to propose plans (art 3, § 6(14)(b))	Sept. 17, 2021	Dec. 11, 2021 (72 days after receiving data)
Commission deadline to adopt final plan after 45 days of public comment (art 4, § 6(7), 14(b))	Nov. 1, 2021	Jan. 25, 2022
Commission publishes adopted plan & materials within 30 days (art 4, § 6(15))	Dec. 1, 2021	Feb. 24, 2022
Adopted plans become law 60 days after publication (art 4, § 6(17))	Jan. 30, 2022	April 25, 2022
Bureau of Elections updates qualified voter file	Nov. 1, 2021 - April 2022 (5 months)	Jan. 25, 2022 - April, 2022 (3 months)
Filing deadline for nominating petitions for August primary	April 19, 2022	April 19, 2022 (unless extended by the Legislature; see HB 4642, 4643)
August Primary	Aug. 2, 2022	August 2, 2022
November general election	Nov. 8, 2022	Nov. 8, 2022

The Republicans tried to do a “call to action” against the Commission’s Voting Rights Act (VRA) Legal Counsel. The “call to action” was launched against Bruce Alderson because of his democratic background. They feel Alderson is a “Democrat Activist” and can’t effectively be bi-partisan through the process. The commission voted to keep Bruce on. Below is the breakdown of the vote:

Yes: Rhonda Lange (R), Erin Wagner (R), MC Rothhorn (D), Richard Weiss (N)
 No: Doug Clark (R), Juanita Curry (D), Janice Vallette (N), Steve Lett (N), Rebecca Szetela (N)
 Absent: Anthony Eid (N), Dustin Witjes (D), Brittni Kellom (D), Cynthia Orton (R)

We have to keep a watchful eye out because the Republicans are not done with their assault on attacking anything the Commission does that doesn’t fit their narrative. Word on the street is the GOP is going to try and argue to the Commission to bring on a second attorney (an identified Republican attorney) to “remove any appearance of partisan political bias.”

If you see anything out of line with commission or Republican sabotage please reach out to the commission and submit a public comment. You have the power and the voice, make it heard!

Email your thoughts and concerns to the Commission at: redistricting@michigan.gov

Your Opinion Matters!

MAPPING

We are offering free mapping help through Dave Redistricting. If you have ideas for maps but don't know how to draw one contact us and we can work with you to draw maps. Schedule an office hours appointment!

County Chairs, please email us with the dates of your appointment meetings. It's key we make sure county redistricting is done fairly as well!

RESOURCES (CLICK TO VIEW)



SURVEY

[COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST IN YOUR AREA →](#)



VIDEO

[MI REDISTRICTING: MAKE PUBLIC HEARINGS FAIR & EFFECTIVE →](#)



INFO

[CLOSEUP: MI REDISTRICTING PROJECT →](#)



ARTICLE:

[MI REDISTRICTING COMMISSION WON'T RECONSIDER ARRONEY HIRE AFTER GOP OBJECTIONS →](#)

COMMISSIONER HIGHLIGHT: JUANITA CURRY

A Democrat from Detroit, Juanita is the pastor at Esther's House Ministries Christian Center.

She wants to be of good service to her community by making sure the redistricting process will be fair and representative of their communities.



Have something you'd like to share with the Commission?

[EMAIL THE COMMISSION →](#)

MORE RESOURCES

(Click to View)

[INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION ARCHIVE →](#)

[WATCH COMMISSION MEETINGS →](#)

[U OF M REDISTRICTING IN MICHIGAN AND THE ROLE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST →](#)

[DAVE'S REDISTRICTING MAPPING PROGRAM →](#)