# **Albany County Redistricting Commission** [February 14, 2022]

# Attendance

ACRC Commissioners	ACRC Interns	MMD Commissioners	
Joan Ramsey	Nicholas Glass	Dominic Mazza	
Warren E. Hamilton	Liane Espino	Adrienne Kissee	
Larry Volk		Marie Allen Campbell	
Patricia Sibilia		Larry Mauldin	
Thomas Clingan		Keshana Owens Cody	
Sita Subbaram		Constance Graves	
Leif Hartmark			
Julia Reeb			
Mark McCumber	Guest: Professor Wice	Guest: Priya Sankalia	
	Marisa Zanfardino	Ashley Tardiff	

# **Discussion Items**

## **AppGeo Project Kickoff Meeting**

## **Introductions**

# **Project Management**

- Priya and team will be attending the meetings bi-weekly and should be added to the calendar invite
- All communications should be funneled through Larry

# **Kickoff and Set-up**

- Priya has put together a plan that she will share
- Discussion about the process and engaging the public.

#### **Community Engagement**

- Decision to show the current districts with the new census data at the Public hearing, ensuring that the data has prison-population adjusted, showing the deviations.
- Priya to confirm that two versions of the online Maptitude (MORe) will be available, one for the commissioners, and one for the public. She will also make sure that submitting plans will be as simplified as possible.
- AppGeo will be taking in map submissions (after the March 8<sup>th</sup> hearing) and the software will reject their submission if it doesn't meet the required criteria. They won't look at testimonies

# **Redistricting Criteria & Analysis**

- Discussion about ensuring the new NY State Law is understood by AppGeo team.

## **Project Timeline**

- AppGeo timeline is projected to be done by end of May but can go into June.
- Priya will have to update the project plan based on public & commission doing mapping concurrently.
- Target to meet on the 28<sup>th</sup> and give access to the software. Priya will be sharing training information before then.
- Discussion about the commission acting collaboratively in drawing the maps versus individual commissioners submitting maps
- The commission should individually familiarize themselves and get comfortable with the software and then have collaborative session on March 7<sup>th</sup>

#### Other

- Discussion about the risk identified by AppGeo on possible litigation, the need to comply with the federal Voting Rights Act and the new NY State law about redistricting criteria.
- Professor Wice mentioned using the services of a minority voting analyst, which is included in the proposal that NY Law School gave in their RFP proposal to MMD.
- Use of political data on incumbents and party information will not be included in the mapping process as per the law, but we should make it a priority to look at voting results for determining the proper level of minority districts
- Professor Wice covered the definition of minority district (0:59:46)
- Ashley screen shared the current districts with the deviation, leading to discussion about the MMD's and the process.

# Actions, Issues, Decisions

# Items Added or Updated This Week:

Ite m	Date	Item Type	Grouping	Item	Owner	Status	Comments
164	2/14	Decision	Mapping	Priya will direct all communications to the commission through Larry	Larry	Closed	
165	2/14	Action	Mapping	Priya will send the updated county population number figures to the commission	Priya	Open	
166	2/14	Decision	Website	Need to decide if we want to share the Maptittude web based software with the county through our website	Commis sion	Open	
167	2/14	Decision	Public Engagemen t	AppGeo will try to provide software to the public before the first hearing on march 8th so they can be more informed	Commis sion	Closed	
168	2/14	Action	Mapping	Each commission member needs to work somewhat with the mapping to familiarize themselves with the software	Commis sion	Open	
169	2/14	Decision	Mapping	We will have a collaborative mapping session on March 7th to prepare commission members for the public hearing	Commis sion	Closed	
170	2/14	Decision	Mapping	We will not be using political data in the mapping process as per the law.	Commis sion	Closed	
171	2/14	Decision	Mapping	Need to decide if we are going to hire a minority voting specialist	Commis sion	Closed	2/14: New York law school was awarded the MMD Legal RFP which includes the minority voting specialist