<div align="center">

Commission on Reapportionment
Meeting Minutes

</div>

DATE & TIME: November 10, 2021, 2021 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 87673035652
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Regis Obijiski
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn Tantillo
PRESENT: Commissioners Sarah DeStefano, Donna Lutz, Andy Monk, Kenneth
Panza, Travis Rask and Kathleen Waithe
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Rob Leibowitz, Ulster County Department of Planning, Ulster County Attorney Kristin Gumar; Michael Baden, Supervisor Town of Rochester.

Chairman Obijiski called the meeting to order at 6:05.

Motion No. 1:	To approve the minutes of October 10, 2021
Motion By:	Commissioner Rask
Motion Seconded By:	Commissioner Monk
Discussion:	None.
Voting in Favor:	Commissioners Obijiski, DeStafano, Lutz, Monk, Panza, Rask and Waithe
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	7
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	**Minutes Approved**

Chairman Obijiski gave the floor to Mr. Leibowitz to demonstrate the Caliper mapping tool.

Chairman Obijiski gave the floor to Commissioner Panza to make a presentation of the report he developed of the Census Data he has been working on. He discussed how the Census data is structured, comparisons of 2010 data to 2020 data, restructuring of Census blocks, deliberate scrambling of some census data to prevent identification of individuals, impacts of the removal of incarcerated persons, and how he is developing his first feasible solution using the census block groups rather than individual census blocks.

The Commission discussed developing the process for how the public will share their plans. Chairman asked to meet with Vice Chairs DeStefano and Monk to discuss a potential process and set up timelines.

Old Business – The commission discussed finalizing the guidelines for public participation in the mapping process. The subcommittee will introduce draft guidelines for discussion in December.

New Business – The commission discussed setting up a process and deadlines for map submission. Chairman Obijiski will discuss this offline with 1st Vice Chair DeStefano and 2nd Vice Chair Monk.

Public Comment

Supervisor Baden asked the committee to consider local commonalities of each legislative district that might include school districts, fire districts or even water districts. He gave the example of a former plan that divided legislative districts along NYS Route 209 cutting the business district in half that didn't serve the community well. He described how census blocks were created in 2010 that explained why some Census blocks were huge and others were significantly smaller.

Commissioner Lutz discussed when the Commission can meet in person again. With various Executive Orders in place it is not clear when that will be possible or required.

Chairman Obijiski asked if there was any other business. Hearing none:

Motion to Adjourn
Motion Made By: Commissioner Lutz
Motion Seconded By: Commissioner DeStefano
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Time: 7:18 PM
Respectfully submitted by: Fawn Tantillo
Minutes Approved:

Ulster County Legislature
Commission on Reapportionment

2020 Census Update

Report to the Ulster County Commission on Reapportionment November 10, 2021

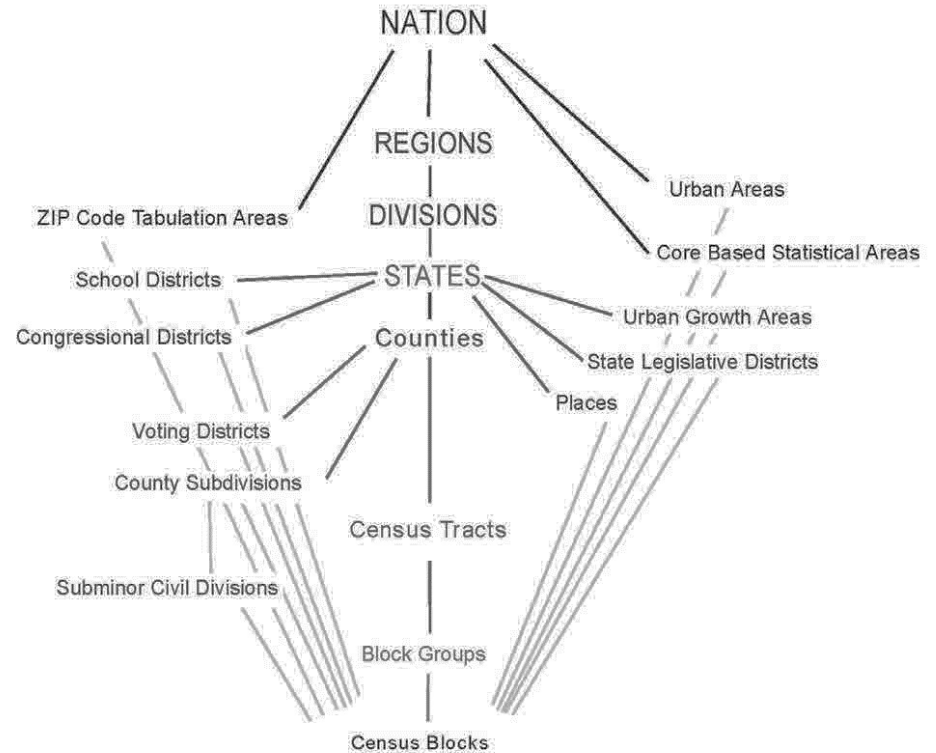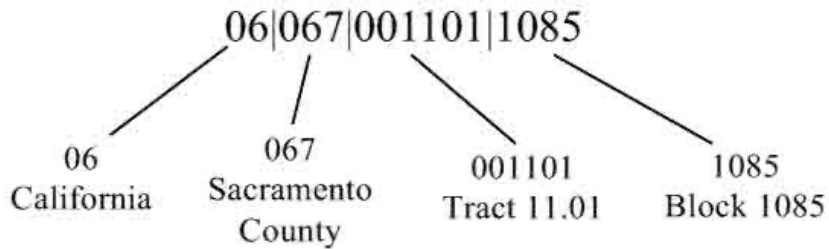Commissioner Kenneth S. Panza

February - March 2021

- 2020 Census Data Delayed
- Reconsider 2010 Reapportionment
  - Understand Structure of Census Data
  - Familiarize with Ulster Issues
  - Learn Mapping Software
- Download 2010 Census
  - Abbreviated Data File
  - Legacy Software (MS Access)
  - Scanned 2012 District Census Blocks

Technical Documentation

15 Digit Census Block Identifier

06|067|001101|1085

06
California

067
Sacramento
County

001101
Tract 11.01

1085
Block 1085

Figure A–1.
Standard Hierarchy of Census Geographic Entities

NATION

REGIONS

DIVISIONS

ZIP Code Tabulation Areas

Urban Areas

Core Based Statistical Areas

School Districts

STATES

Urban Growth Areas

Congressional Districts

Counties

State Legislative Districts

Places

Voting Districts

County Subdivisions

Census Tracts

Subminor Civil Divisions

Block Groups

Census Blocks

"Drawing the Lines"
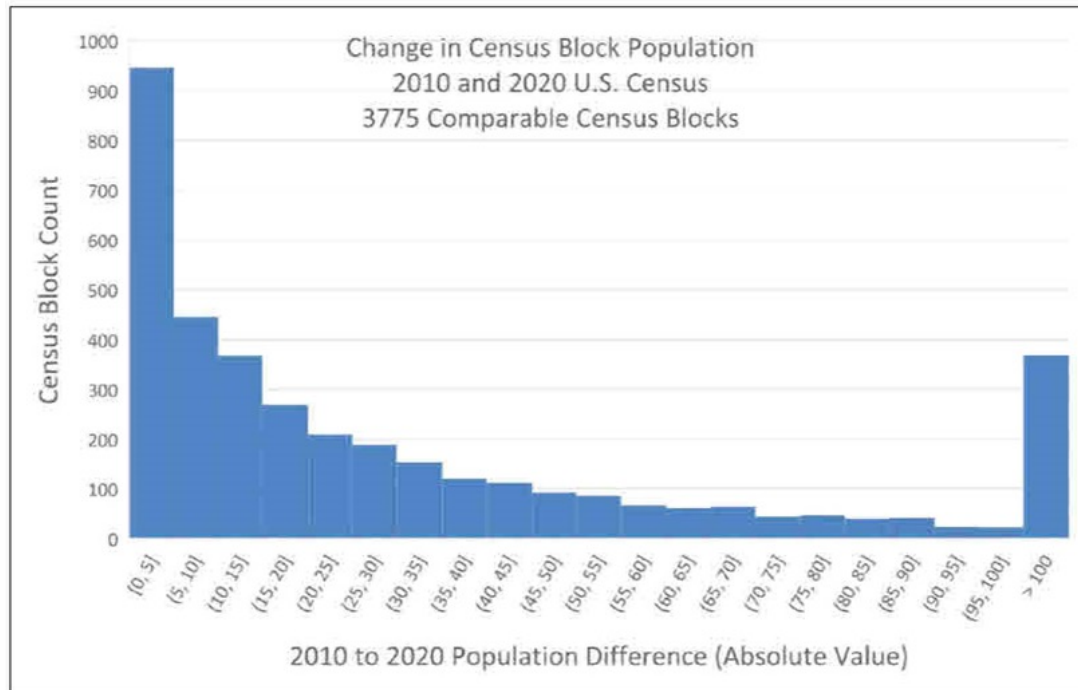
August 2021

- 2020 Census Released
  - Full, Unabbreviated, File
  - Available for Legacy Software
  - Small Changes in Ulster County Populations
- Compare 2020 with 2010 Census
  - Major Restructure of Census Blocks
  - Differential Privacy

The Details, 2010 vs 2020 Census

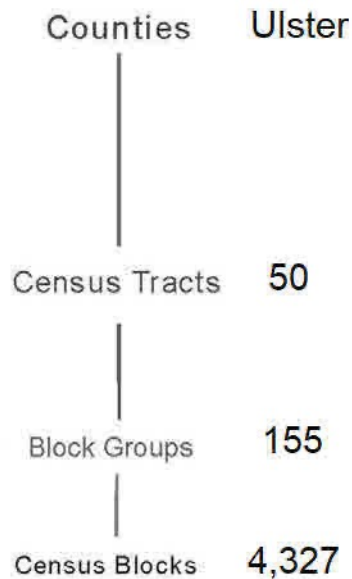|	2010 Census	2020 Census
Total Number of Census Blocks for Ulster County	6195	4307
Number of 2010 Census Blocks missing in the 2020 Census	(2420)	
Number of new Census Blocks in the 2020 Census		552
Census Blocks in both the 2010 and 2020 Census (Census Blocks are uniquely identified with a 15-digit code)	3775	3775
Zero population Census Blocks in the 2010 Census with Non-Zero Population in the 2020 Census		871
Non-Zero population Census Blocks in the 2010 Census with Zero Population in the 2020 Census	415	

Changes in Census Block Populations

- ## By Design, 2020 Census Data is Distorted
  - Differential Privacy - A New Privacy-Protection System

Change in Census Block Population
2010 and 2020 U.S. Census
3775 Comparable Census Blocks

"Instead of looking for precision in an individual block, we strongly encourage data users to aggregate, or group, blocks together. As blocks are grouped together, the fuzziness disappears. And when you step back with more blocks in view, the details add together and make a sharp picture.[2]"

Counties   Ulster

Census Tracts   50

Block Groups   155
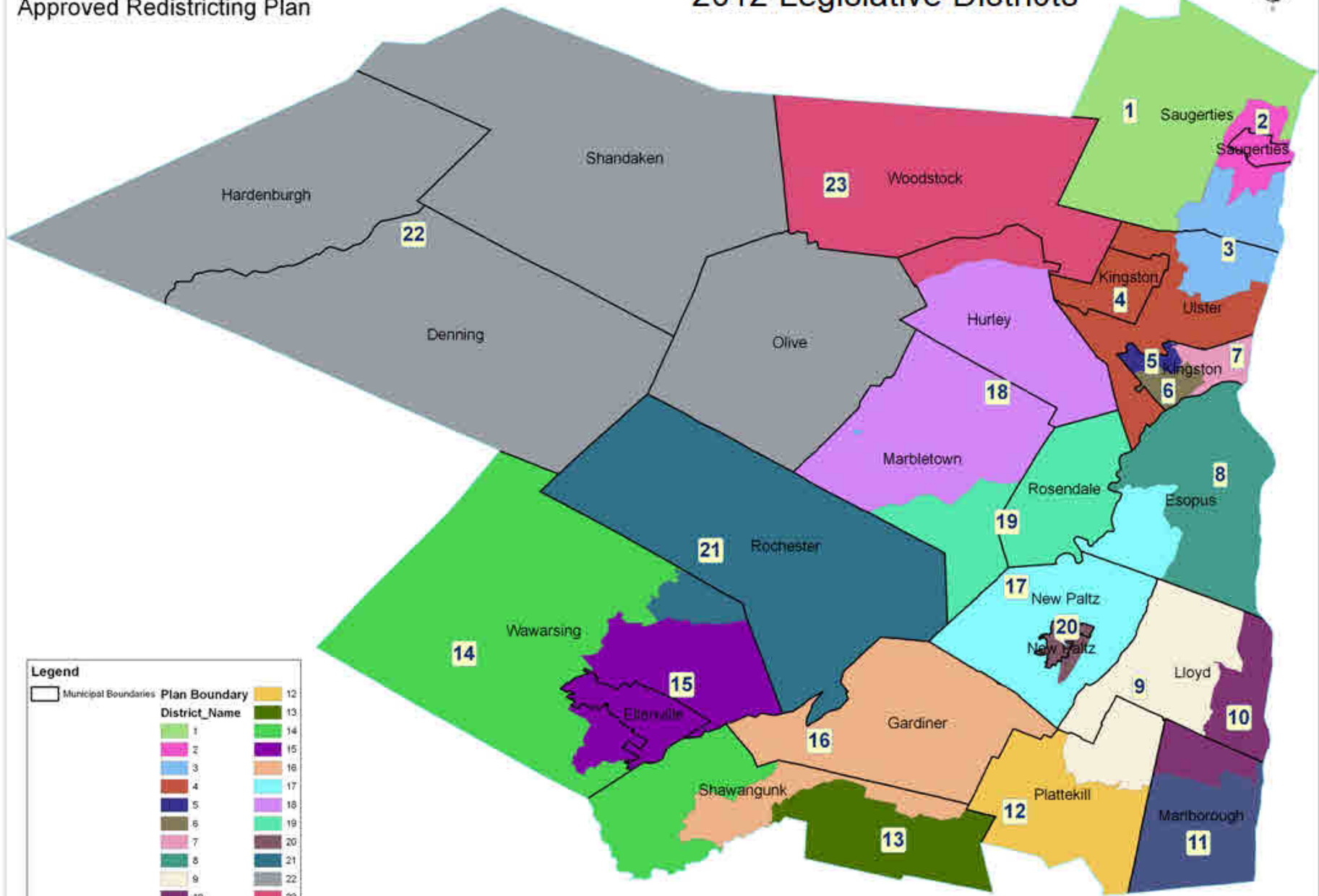
Census Blocks   4,327

Assemble Legislative District Map
Using Block Groups

New York Census Adjustments

- Removed Count of Incarcerated Persons
  - Over 2,000 Persons Removed
  - Directly Impacts 2 Districts
  - Indirectly Affects Districts along the Hudson
- Block Groups
  - 2020 Census Summarized Block Groups
  - Calculate Block Groups for NY Adjusted Counts
  - Questions for Reapportionment Software

First Feasible Solution

- Complete 2022 Redistricting Map
  - All District Populations 7815 +/- 5%
  - Districts Defined with Block Groups
    - Two Block Groups were Split
    - No Manipulation of Individual Census Blocks

Ulster County Commission on Reapportionment
Approved Redistricting Plan

2012 Legislative Districts

Legend

Municipal Boundaries Plan Boundary

District_Name

1	12
2	13
3	14
4	15
5	16
6	17
7	18
8	19
9	20
10	21
11	22
	23

0   5   10   20 Miles

Next Steps

- Create a Map
  - Reapportionment Software
  - Census Bureau Mapping Software
  - Paper Map with Multicolored Sharpies
- Completed Redistricting Map by Christmas

Commission on Reapportionment
Meeting Transcript

DATE & TIME:	November 10, 2021, 2021 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION:	Powered by Zoom Meetings. Meeting ID: 87673035652
PRESIDING OFFICER:	Chairman Regis Obijiski
LEGISLATIVE STAFF:	Fawn Tantillo
PRESENT:	Commissioners Sarah DeStefano, Donna Lutz, Andy Monk Kenneth Panza, Travis Rask and Kathleen Waithe
ABSENT:	None
QUORUM PRESENT:	Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Rob Leibowitz, Ulster County Department of Planning, Ulster County Attorney Kristin Gumar; Michael Baden, Supervisor Town of Rochester.

Chairman Obijiski called the meeting to order at 6:05.

(Recording for Transcript started late.)

Robert Leibowitz
Basically, on the iOS side of things, the way this thing is served is on three different servers. And if one of those servers, somebody logs out of that server, the whole thing goes down. So, so it, so somebody logged back in today, and it's, oh, actually on Monday and it's been fine ever since. So, it was just a very simple thing, just the login. Anyway, I'm going to share my screen in a sec I'll take you through the steps. It's I don't know, has anybody actually signed up for it yet? I know fawn has. Okay. Great.

Fawn Tantillo
We can't see your screen. Rob.

Robert Leibowitz
I know I haven't shared it yet.

Fawn Tantillo
Okay.

Robert Leibowitz
All right. So, you should see the, the portal for the maptitude for redistricting. The first thing I'm going to say is that the Commission needs a webpage before this webpage need a link on the redistricting site on the drop-down menu that goes to a page and that page should describe the parameters for everything that should be found and how to do it and some instructions on it. Because as you can see,

it is a very blank and kind of generic page. So, they'll be to be like a redistricting splash page, that'll be need to be developed. But this website will work. So, it's redistrictingUlster and I'll, I'll share a little link.

Regis Obijiski
Rob, do you do you have? Do you have any language that you would suggest for that for that page?

Robert Leibowitz
I can come up with some very easily, Yes. Okay. I'm just gonna share the link in the chat for anybody who doesn't have it. Okay, so if you're a new user, you'd go in. And everybody can see this. So, it tells you how to do it on the right hand side here. And then it'll ask it'll the verification email process now works, we got that working. So very simple signup. Once you're in, you'll be this will actually start up blank. So, you can create a new plan, or you can open one of your existing plans. I'm going to start a new plan. Now, yesterday, I developed a plan which had a base or two base points one, which is from scratch, nothing done. The second one I did was existing legislative districts with the 2020 adjusted population in them. So, we have both of them which one you guys... I'm going to start from scratch, we'll do that. There's also before I go on to the next page, there's one for a shared. So, everybody who accesses, say, will have the ability to share their plans and that it doesn't matter what state you left them. So if you start with one district, they want to share it from there and go back and forth. People can use that as a starting point for their map. So, for example, I did this which is town of Olive, Shandaken, Denning and Hardenburrgh as one district since it's within two people of the average. So, I start I share suggested as a nice, easy starting point. But I'll start from scratch. So please create, name it. I like to name it with the date. This way I remember. That is today's date, right? It'll come up. Ah, all right I already did that one. So, let's see, okay. Yup alright it takes a little bit to load, but not too long. You have the whole county here and it's pretty straightforward. So, you have to set your target, which is either an unassigned population, which is everything right now, or a new district. So, you would set it to a new district. Your source could be all or on a sign everything is on the sign at the moment. So, I always keep it on the sign early to start so see how it highlighted in red, that's everything. And then your selection area. So, you can start with the smallest low the census block, you can go to Census Block Group, the county subdivision which I added so you can add towns directly or census tract and just so you know the county subdivision ones, I Have them equaling the Census Blocks. It's not the, what you see in the census from the, the town totals, it's actually the block data behind it. So, it grabs the block data as a town. So there won't be discrepancies.

Fawn Tantillo
So, Rob, just to clarify that target is the district, we're going to create right? Sources where we're going to take those people from.

Regis Obijiski
Right. And the selection is the level of job for you. So, I'm gonna use county subdivision. This is a nice, easy start.

Sarah DeStefano

So, do you have suggestion which level we should select to start off with? I'm imagining like as we really get deep, you're going to want to get to the smallest level, but is county, is a county subdivision do you think is like a good starting place for digging into, you know, putting, you know, putting, matching blocks together? Or should we be getting smaller than that?

Robert Leibowitz
Well, I think it's a good starting point for where we're at a macro scale now. So you can start there and see what's and then as you get into real nitty gritty, I mean, most of this work is going to be doing done at the block level, most of it will be because you'll find that they go past certain areas too often, so but when you're beginning, you can do some of the town's most of the town's most of the time, you're gonna want to go to the block group or to track all the start. And then from there, so for example, I can select the town Hardenburgh, I can select denning, I can select Shandaken, and I can select all here. Then, when I'm done, I can either exit out and clear it, or I can accept it. And then it'll ask me what the district ideas and we can change all district ID names at the end. Just you know, you don't even have to fill this part out if you don't want to.

Fawn Tantillo
But you can see down on the changes that he made. It shows the third value down is our target population. And the and the first two are how many people he put in there.

Robert Leibowitz
Correct. So, you can see it's exempt, it's to off 7817, compared to our average of 7815. So, two people. And that's why I suggest this is a good starting point because it's so close to the average. Then bang, there's a district and you can see immediately it's within 300 plus of the average and there you go from there. Then from if you want to share your plan with the rest, say this is your starting point and you say hey, I did something that's neat, I want to share it with everybody who was using this software, you can just share it and everybody will have access to it as their own starting point, so you could do that. Let's see, there's also some plan integrity. These are, see these things under Plan integrity? This is find unassigned areas and find uncontiguous districts. These are two vital functions when you think you're close to done. This will find all the little holes, and you will definitely find little holes as you go through. There are some reporting details for population summary and measures of compactness in here. They're also let's see, you can see adjust the label sizes, and also you can see a summary of all the districts that you create as you go along. Then when you're done, and the only way you can be done is if you've this is a final submission, so you're not allowing any other edits to it. It has to be within plus minus 5%. And you have to have all 23 districts done. So if I if I even tried to hit that it said nope; can't do it. So any questions? Rob? I'm sorry. Yeah. Rob, can we ask questions along the way here?

Robert Leibowitz
Oh, no. I mean, I'm pretty much done. So if you have any questions go right aheaed.

Regis Obijiski
Oh, okay. Okay. Well, I mean, you certainly you certainly picked a nice easy one. It's exactly where I started too. At the, I found that looking at the at the toolbox if I worked not so much in in those, those

four municipalities in the western part. But if I moved to the right in Woodstock or even, even, even Saugerties and I selected. Okay, but what did you just do?

Robert Leibowitz
I zoomed in.

Fawn Tantillo
Let's show how you did that because that can very confusing.

Robert Leibowitz
Here's so there's two ways to zoom in and zoom out. I'll be real nitty gritty. And there's tips here. You can constantly call up the tips as you go along through it. Oh, it wasn't it, that was the Help button. So it'll tell you how to do all what all the tools mean. Everything means as you go through it, but there's a zoom button. Zoom out, the pan button, which is the hand is going to be your friend, because that's going to be how you to move the map around. Right? Then of course, there's identification and I'll tell you some details about see the census block, the block group will tell you all sorts of information.

Regis Obijiski
Yeah, but what I was going to say is, when at when I got into those into those areas, what I found was that if I was if I had selected census block, right, it might jump over to a group and I click on it, and I get a bigger area than I then I wanted. Well, let's see, I don't know what happened but let's let's let's zoom in a little bit and see what happens. Let me go, I'll zoom to the village. Sorted here. There we go.

Robert Leibowitz
Oh, you can also use your mouse scroll to go in a little bit further. I find it doesn't refresh very quickly when I do that.

Fawn Tantillo
So at that point, if you want to slide that over, you have to go back and touch that little hand.

Robert Leibowitz
Right. So, we have that, centered. So, now we're seeing as the further you zoom in, the more detail you see. So, what you're seeing are the blocks right now. So, if I wanted to create a new district, and let's call it, doesn't matter, new district, we'll use the only the unassigned. There are other selection tools, you can select a circle or a polygon too as you go through it. Sometimes I like to do that. And so you can start off draw a line. And you can finish it off. Okay, see, look, I made an error there. What did I do? I selected county subdivision in a selectable town. So, oh no, what did I do? I can press undo. So, go to census block and I can try that again, I can either go one at a time, or again, I can try a circle. All radius is changeable that, you have to move your mouse to do it. You'll the hang of it, and it grabs those, or I can use the polygon tool and it'll automatically finish it, pretty much. So again, it grabs it. Then, again, so that's way off in the margin. But that's a starting point. But, so, you always have to be, so, say you accidentally clicked from a; this is easier actually to show when I did the complete County with the existing legislative districts because you're constantly shuffling from one district to another. So, say, I'm doing another district just for haha's here and I'm still using census block. So, I'm grabbing these, this is

a new district just for show. We'll call it district number three. But I meant those things, in three to be in two. So what I do is I make my target now two, and I make my selection area three. So, we'll only select from three. So if I click outside of three, it won't, won't do anything. So, I have to select from inside three to get a selection and then I can check it and it becomes a part of two, so there's going to be a lot of shuffling back and forth. There's also a way, this button here allows you to shuffle that so it can be two to three or three to two so reverses it and that's really useful when you're unassigning things or redoing things as you go through it.

Donna Lutz
Rob which button did you go to the one next to the, the one on the end underneath target? Yeah. Okay.

Robert Leibowitz
Yeah, this one shifts them back and forth. So it shifts the source and the target it flips them.

Donna Lutz
Okay, thank you.

Robert Leibowitz
That's a really useful feature.

Donna Lutz
Okay, thank you.

Fawn Tantillo
And you can go in and play with these tools until you get comfortable with them.

Robert Leibowitz
Tonight, now, you can use it.

Fawn Tantillo
It's like a test now, the map, you can throw it away. You don't have to show it to anybody.

Regis Obijiski
Rob, when you, when you make those geographical patterns, are you cutting down, can you, it seems like it's it's grabbing, tracks right? It does, it can it breakup tracks?

Robert Leibowitz
Not really, well tracks are built of blocks. Tracks are built of block groups, so you can cut something in half, that unless it is actually a completed census block or a completed census block group, so you never chopped them.

Regis Obijiski
Okay, that's-

Robert Leibowitz
So, if I wanted to go to the block group level, for example, let's see what happens. And, my targets are all messed up right now. But, if went to block group, it would be, see the block was much larger, so it grabs that whole big portion of it,

Regis Obijiski
Right.

Robert Leibowitz
So, actually this is a good opportunity to show you the plan integrity tool, where you can find non-contiguous areas that will show you well, A, it will show you the whole county, or I'll show you this little gap here that's non-contiguous. So, as you go through and you do a review, it'll find all the gaps, you can make little fixes. A lot of the fixes you'll find are right on the boundaries are these little slivers with zero population, they still got to pick them up.

Fawn Tantillo
And the numbers inside those blocks are how many people are in that block, right?

Robert Leibowitz
Correct. That's the adjusted population.

Fawn Tantillo
And that can be helpful if you only are looking to add like two or three hundred people to kind of get something closer to see how many people are in those blocks.

Robert Leibowitz
Right. Like I said, most of what we're going to be doing is definitely at the block level, this is going to get that down to the nitty gritty trying to figure out these districts. Any questions?

Regis Obijiski
So, Rob, just real quickly, you can expand a certain area by going to layers, is that layers? Or wait a minute, are there options under layers? No.

Robert Leibowitz
You mean target? Or under this section there?

Fawn Tantillo
Is there a way for us to see like, what's physically there? Like, where there are houses or businesses?

Robert Leibowitz
Unfortunately, the aerials don't come into this. So you might have to do it side, if you really want to see the land use, you might with this version, you might have to use Google Maps, side by side and say, where am I, a little bit, you might have to do that. Like when we're going through, if we're really going through it later, when we're trying to get down to nitty gritty, I can bring it out, the full version, I can bring

up the aerial and we can look at things together and I can bring in everybody's plans hopefully into one, one, one interface and we can look at all the different plans at once with a different level of data, but we'll just bring in aerials.

Regis Obijiski
There are there are physical boundaries within, within these tracks are also none, or rather, but, zero population tracks, right? So, would would a track cross a physical boundary like like a creek or something like that, or, or a stream?

Robert Leibowitz
It might but often track boundaries would be those streams, for example, or copy those major roads.

Regis Obijiski
Okay, okay. I see. So, if it, if it, if it includes or crosses, crosses a physical boundary is a it is a census tract, just there's no people there.

Robert Leibowitz
Possibly, I'm not sure I follow.

Regis Obijiski
I mean, in some cases, I know physically, no one's living on the railroad track. I know.

Robert Leibowitz
Correct.

Regis Obijiski
Yeah.

Fawn Tantillo
When you get to the reservoir, when you try to click the boundary, just south of the reservoir, it captures the, you know, the entire shoreline on the northern side of it, which is zero population, but the map would look nicer, if it, you know, if it was all if it didn't include, you know, include the reservoir.

Regis Obijiski
Right.

Robert Leibowitz
Yeah, that's, that's the census block.

Fawn Tantillo
Well, that's the water.

Robert Leibowitz

Right. That's the water. So that's grabbing the reservoir and the one below it.

Fawn Tantillo
So, click just below the water in the first white area, which is also zero.

Robert Leibowitz
Yeah, that's also a census one. So, it's zero, so grabs a lot.

Fawn Tantillo
So, you its, grabbing the entire shoreline which is zero population. But you know, It's a logical dividing place, perhaps for a district.

Regis Obijiski
Right.

Fawn Tantillo
That's where it was last time. I think it's, it's gonna be interesting and complicated this time because of the different population shifts. So, I'll leave it at that.

Kenneth Panza
So what's the end of this process? What are we ending up with or what do we deliver, and what, who do we deliver to, and what's it look like?

Robert Leibowitz
It looks like district 23 is close to that 7815 as possible while giving consideration to things included in the charter.

Kenneth Panza
But do we deliver? The maps? Or do we deliver the list of blocks like the-

Robert Leibowitz
We deliver a map, the program also produces the list of blocks, it also produces a metes and bounds description.

Fawn Tantillo
That's for the Board of Elections, more than-

Robert Leibowitz
So, these are, those are, that's pretty much what gets delivered.

Kenneth Panza
Okay, so that's how I mean I looked, looking at the, the last, you know, it's like 40 pages of block lists.

Robert Leibowitz

Yes.

Kenneth Panza
Is that what we deliver?

Robert Leibowitz
You that's what we deliver. I mean, that was that was how we were told doing it and I basically created a report that had all the [unintelligible] since it was a time concern.

Kenneth Panza
And this program will produce that for us?

Robert Leibowitz
Yes, the desktop version, yes. Anything else?

Regis Obijiski
You're gonna move on Rob to, to a tweaking exercise?

Robert Leibowitz
A tweaking exercise? Well, do you want me to bring up the existing- Oh, you want me to bring up-

Regis Obijiski
Yeah, what that was and then how you would how you would tweak it? If you- If you want to do I can do that. Sure.

Robert Leibowitz
Why not? Let's see. All right.

Regis Obijiski
I didn't say twerking.

Robert Leibowitz
Please, no. Okay, new plan. So, this is using the existing legislative district. I'll just call it the existing test. And there you have it, that's the existing district. So, you can see that district 22 is what I put out together tonight, that's still the same. And you can see district one is within 900. That's pretty good as well. Any place you want me to go,

Fawn Tantillo
Maybe 23.

Robert Leibowitz
Or, or I can go

Regis Obijiski

23,

Robert Leibowitz
23. I'm going to say Kingston, I can go anywhere you like so. So...

Kenneth Panza
Three, what you want to do is take a block group which is Glenford out and put it into Hurley.

Robert Leibowitz
So sorry, now we're almost five 5% over here. So, it has to get smaller. So... and we can see 18 is under 5%. But still away from the deviation so but it can still grow a little bit. So, let's try that. So, new target will be 18. Let's say or see that this is where it gets hairy, because I can make I can make the target 18 Or I can make them really the only place to go from there is 18 Or he starts playing different ways 23 expands into

Fawn Tantillo
 Can it go into one?

Robert Leibowitz
Yeah. So, Nick, exactly, there's different this is, this is number of different permutations. But for sake of argument, I'll just do this 23 new target is 18 sources 23. And I can grab I don't know right by the rail show over here.

Kenneth Panza
Use a block group.

Robert Leibowitz
Want to grab a block group want me to grab a blocker, you know the one up the West. Okay, you can do that. It gets real big over here real fast. It gets I highly recommend using Come on. There we go. So so I could add this to 18 per se that makes that though huge and makes 23 makes 23 compliant but makes a team completed on compliance. So you have to that's where you know, you have to use the blocks to get where you want to get.

Fawn Tantillo
Also, people in that new district would have to drive around the reservoir to vote

Robert Leibowitz
Exactly. So that's not as friendly. Fortunately, we can press the on demand the town of Hurley already. So Any other examples you want to see? Or?

Kenneth Panza
Rob,

Fawn Tantillo

Is there a way if let's say a constituent calls and is having trouble and wants to work, like, is there some way two of us could be looking at the same map at the same time and talking about it.

Robert Leibowitz

If you're going to, you can zoom with them and share screens, obviously, or if you're using the shared plan, you could say, if it's a user, and you're having trouble, ask them to share their plan, they could call, they should be calling me up. Sure, plan with me, and then I can look at with them. I mean, they're having, I mean, only if they're having like technical issues or something like that. If they're having issues where with the population, I suggest they address the board. So not me.

Fawn Tantillo

So, you were just playing with this. The existing districts, you save it, we're not going to, we're still going to have that existing district base map to go back to

Robert Leibowitz

Alright, so this is their and this is I've created a new little file where I can just to this user can tweak it however they like. So, it's a, it's an another alternate starting point from, from a raw base map.

Regis Obijiski

So, Rob, what you were saying you prefer to start with a clean? Well, a clean...

Robert Leibowitz

A clean slate.

Regis Obijiski

Yeah, a clean slate. And, and why would that be, why would that be better than then making these changes.

Robert Leibowitz

I thought what exists, the the population changes with respect to the prison are so extreme as to the where the geographies are going to go are going to change, the districts in the south are going to have to increase in size because that's what prisons were, in order to capture necessary population, and the ones in the north are going to have to shrink in size. So, you can get downs. So, it's it, there's a lot of moving parts. So, if you move like you saw there, if I move one part, and I have to move another part here, and then I'm constantly moving another part here, and I'm always shuffling, if you start from scratch, then you, you know, you find you can go a little bit to one point of comfort, start another portion get to a point of comfort, and then you can tweak it from there might be less frustrating. I don't know, you can pick your own poison. Really?

Regis Obijiski

Right. Right. So, neither one is either one is acceptable. Yeah, under, under the circumstances that you were describing the major changes are going to occur are going to occur in the southern part of the county. Would it make sense to start there? Because that's where the biggest changes are? Or will be?

Robert Leibowitz
Or could that's up to? I mean,

Regis Obijiski
I mean, me I'm just I'm just trying to be practical here right? Would that make sense or…

Robert Leibowitz
It does make some sense to start from Wawarsing or Shawangunk. It also to me makes sense from a compactness point of view to start at your urban centers and start from those circles and move out this remember you want as concentric as possible so start from New Paltz and start from Kingston, so...

Sarah DeStefano
Can we take it any other political boundaries as an overlay like the school district boundaries just because I think that like culturally people within things that are more in alignment. So, like if you were to exit like the Ontario or school district and include like pieces of the Kingston school district that might be like strange as far as like similar like geographic issues that occur. I think it just might help us to figure out like how to piece up parts of the geography in the, the way that it breaks. Not that that's like a law but just that it allows us to see how the counties already segmented I think that we when we did the, the like the vendor review, with aptitude they I think she had mentioned it in passing but nearly we did talk to a few programs so I'm

Robert Leibowitz
I think I could do it similarly to how I didn't county subdivisions, There are a census layer, they bring in keep in mind that school districts go beyond county boundaries. So, like, it looks a little weird.

Sarah DeStefano
Yeah.

Robert Leibowitz
Um, but yeah, I mean, I could have them do what they the sub, the county subdivisions do in this case, which is conformed to they've built up blocks. But I'd have to reload it from local...I'd have to create it locally and then reload it. It's a little bit of a process but I could, and then it would, and then it would become another selectable layer. But it wouldn't be useful as a selectable layer because they're always too big.

Sarah DeStefano
Right? I'm not sure I'm looking to select like the whole school district in but more just to see what the boundaries are. If you're going to pick one block versus another block, if one's within the school district and one's without, I just think it might be helpful tool of picking one over the other. But I don't know how

the rest of the commission feels about that. Perhaps not helpful. But seems to me like existing political boundaries might be helpful to ask.

Regis Obijiski
Robert, if we have, we have questions that we probably will subsequent to this evening, what should? Or could we do?

Robert Leibowitz
A few questions regarding using the software... the or using the tool, right? Just call me email me. I know, I'm, I'm here most days nine, five. And I checked my email over weekends too. So it doesn't be too much.

Andy Monk
I just I have one final question, which is that if I excuse me if I make a bunch of progress on a map, but I need to like put it down and come back to it later. Obviously, you can't submit the plan until it's completed

Robert Leibowitz
It automatically sees your progress?

Andy Monk
It does. Okay.

Robert Leibowitz
Yeah, all maps are saved.

Andy Monk
Cool, thanks.

Robert Leibowitz
Make sure you log out when you're done. So, it will save regardless, but because you log out.

Fawn Tantillo
When you first log in, you'll have a list of all the maps you made that are unique to you.

Robert Leibowitz
This, this link here my plans will take sees that base screen. So, you can see the two we made tonight. And then some other ones I've played with.

Andy Monk
Awesome, thanks.

Regis Obijiski

Anyone else have questions of Robert for right now? Okay, all right. Thanks a lot.

Robert Leibowitz
No problem.

Donna Lutz
Thank you.

Regis Obijiski
And thank you, Rob, for making yourself available if we you know if we need you. I appreciate that.

Fawn Tantillo
Thank you for everything this week, Rob.

Regis Obijiski
Oh, you're not kidding. You're not kidding. I'd like to move on to, to Ken, Ken Panza, who is one of our commissioners, of course. And he is not only done a lot of homework, but he's done a lot of comparisons and an analysis between 2010 and 2020. He looked closely at the at the blocks. And, you know, he's made, made lots of comments about those. And so I think, Ken, your, you,r your energy and your interests, you know, have really perhaps outstripped certainly mine, but maybe, maybe some others. So, we thank you for that. And if you wouldn't mind, going into your explanation. We did. We did see your summation a few a few days ago, I read it carefully. I certainly had, you know, has had some questions. But as you're making your presentation, if you could, in a sense juxtapose that with some of what you know, Rob had put together and you know, just just how you see one complementing with an eight complementing each other. So, so I'll, I'll open it to you. Thank you, Ken. For for doing this.

Kenneth Panza
Fawn. Let me try and share again.

Fawn Tantillo
Oh, okay, Hang on. Let me stop sharing.

Kenneth Panza
I may have broken the code here.

Fawn Tantillo
 Okay.

Kenneth Panza
How does that look?

Fawn Tantillo
That looks okay.

Kenneth Panza

Ok, that's good. This way I have complete control. That's good. Well, Regis called me up the other day and asked if I could you put together a quick presentation to explain, you know, what you've been doing? And where you're going with this, bring the although, you know, I've sent most of the stuff out and reports. This is just a quick summary of kind of what I found. I'll see if I can clip this. It all started back at the beginning, when I joined the committee, and we learned that the 2020 census had been delayed. And we talked about, well, maybe the way to become familiar with the census data and software and the and the structure and the districts and the issues that faced other counties, that we decided to reconsider the 2010 reapportionment. I have to admit that suggestion religion go over all that well with the Commission. But the data was available So I downloaded, downloaded the 2010 census, they had an abbreviated file, which was much smaller than what the existing file is in there 700 different variables, and they just gave you the population on the structures. Use legacy software. And I'm a software guy that was in a success, which is a relational database. And once you get a lot of data into that, you can pretty much do anything you want with it. A big part of it was just getting the current district. So I scanned in all those 40 pages of, of cell block numbers that was available in the final report. And it was able to confirm or go through the whole process and, and come up with the same district populations that that they came up with 10 years ago. But the advantage was that, you know, this was really an exercise in learning how the census data is structured, I've never really dealt with census data before. But Rob has taken us through some of this. But the you know, you're once you start dealing with census blocks on the raw data, you're dealing with a 15-digit number. And you're dealing with this hierarchy of a census data, you have the cell, you know, the census blocks at the bottom, which are what you're typically thinking about blocks are an area that someone could actually walk and interview people in. And when they put those into groups which really don't get much prevalence in the documentation. Then it goes into census tracts, which are much larger areas, I mean, the whole town may be a track or hold or town, maybe two tracks. And those are very large populations that summarizes up into the county. But you know, the whole process of going through the reapportionment from 2010 really brought me up to speed on what some of these numbers mean and what they look like.

In August, we were the 2020 census was announced and released. This was a full census data. Again, that was available for legacy software, they said they would postpone the announcement of what they call "ease of use" software. I don't know what that means. But the you know, the underlying data was there were very small changes in the actual county population. So, if you looked at the, the town populations and the county populations, they are minor. Ulster County was, was a pretty stable population. And this is where we had some of the problems with what we looked at with Rob's data, because he was doing calculations based on the on the changes in the districts. And the district changes just didn't really correspond to the underlying population changes in the in the towns. So, there were a couple of major differences between that census and list one. One was there was a major restructuring all the census blocks. Now a lot of blocks disappeared, some new ones were added.

And then up the census announced, we're going to scramble the cell, the information in the census blocks between the populations that you're looking at on that for a census block is probably going to be wrong. Because the I mean, the Census Bureau says they're going to make them wrong. And the reason they did that is because with the with the files you have today, like the voter registration files,

like the parcel data files, you can probably identify every person who's filled out a census form. And that would be a violation of the confident, confidentiality of the census. So, the Census Bureau has scrambled it so you can't do that. So, that's, that's a consideration that we should keep in mind as you're, you're shuffling census blocks around, But here's some of the details. 2010 versus 2020. 2010 or 6100 6200 Census Blocks and 2020 about 4300. So that's the difference about 2400 that just disappeared. They added another 500 census blocks and they eliminated you know a lot of Census Blocks. There's only there was 3700 which really stayed the same from one census the next. So that you know when you just take a an analysis of taking a, you know, putting a file from 2010 against 2020. Here your results are going to be unexpected. You're really not going to get a good reading from what I understand. There were...and some of this shows what the the Census Bureau did. In 2010 there were 871 Zero-population cells, which, which became populated in the 2020 census. Now, that could be new constructions, that could be people moving in, whatever. But in the, in the 2020 census, there were people that were in population census blocks 415 of them were in 2020, those census blocks were empty, meaning we ran those people out of the county. And the you know, though, the explanation for that is because the Census Bureau is shuffling the data around, so you can't really depend on what the data is in any particular census block. Let's see. Next slide. So, by design, the 2020 census is distorted the information in the census blocks. And so this is a graph of some of the changes between 2010 and 2020, That first bar, the one that's so high, that says that any census block the population has changed between zero and five people. But you know, you have an established neighborhood people move in and out, you know that that's, but the actual number of housing units really didn't change. And so that kind of goes down, but you get to the end here, and you have about 400 Census Blocks for the population has increased by over 100. That means there's about 40,000 people in Ulster County that move from one block to another. And that, you know, that's just not realistic. And that, you know, the explanation for that is because that's where the Census Bureau is shuffling the data around, and making it so you can't really identify where those people are. Again, that's something to keep in mind.

Lets see here. So, this is the... I published this before, and this what they said before, you know, "instead of looking for precision on the interval block levels, we strongly recommend users to aggregate blocks together." And this is where the blue, the block groups are so important, because those are specified aggregates, which we can move around and create new districts. So here's how it looks, there's about 4300 Census Blocks. You're really not going to use this program and shuffle 4300 Census Blocks to come up with a balance among all 23 districts. But there's 155 Block Groups. And so what you're looking at is a puzzle with 155 pieces that you have to distribute into 23 districts. That's a much more reasonable job. You get up to Census Tracts are 50. Those are much too big of areas to really deal with on a on a con... I mean, their...they cover a whole town or maybe two of them cover a town. And finally the county. And, of course, the 2020 census was based on what the 2020 census found. That's not the New York numbers. So, the New York made adjustments to the Census populations. Removed, I don't know probably about 2000 people from the that were incarcerated. This directly impacts two districts, you know, put a hole into Wawarding and Shawangunk district where the prisons were located. About 1000 people missing. And it's an when you go through the process that it directly affects the districts along the Hudson, because that's where you're picking up the additional space. So, the block groups are very important. The 2020 census, in the raw data actually summarized the block groups for for Ulster County, all the counties

Regis Obijiski
Ken, can we ask any questions as you're going along?

Kenneth Panza
Yeah, I'm sorry.

Regis Obijiski
No, no, I just want to know if it's okay. Just

Kenneth Panza
Sure. Yeah.

Regis Obijiski
If if just so I understand, understand this, you know, the, the census this the census blocks were created based on, I've gotten talking about the two municipalities, you're talking about where we have state prisons, they, those, those are not going to change the blocks, right. So, the the number, the number of people in the blocks, are those US census numbers now, or are those adjusted numbers within those blocks?

Andy Monk
Well, we have both.

Regis Obijiski
Okay.

Kenneth Panza
What we're going to be dealing with is the adjusted numbers.

Regis Obijiski
Right.

Kenneth Panza
But the you know, the comparisons that were made between The 2020 census and the 2010 census were done on the census data, not the New York adjusted data.

Regis Obijiski
Right.

Kenneth Panza
For mostly the areas, you know, you, you find out how many criminals you have in Woodstock by comparing the two numbers. But, you know, the real difference occurs when those two districts for the 2000 people were removed from the tool, from the total counts.

Fawn Tantillo

Just to clarify, Rob, the numbers we're looking at on the map right now are just the adjusted numbers. Right,

Robert Leibowitz
Right.

Kenneth Panza
 Right, those are the numbers we should be dealing with.

Regis Obijiski
Okay.

Kenneth Panza
Just numbers. And those causes us a problem down south. So we, you know, but the adjusted numbers don't give you the block counts, you have to calculate those. Which we did, which I did. And was probably those program does. If it you know, it includes block groups. And so these are questions for the reapportionment software, which I think Rob answered a lot. But I mean, you can go ahead and do things on a on a cellblock basis, census block basis. But it's probably much more reasonable to do it on on on a group basis where you're dealing with larger and larger entities of population rather than trying to do it one at a time. See if this works, okay. I do that right. All right. So I sent you a listing last weekend and said I had pretty much completed I got 20 districts out of 23. The balanced out by completed that. I have all 23 districts all balanced up within 707,850 plus or minus 15%. Did this all with Block Groups. It looks like I actually had to split a couple of block groups to get the things balanced. But I did not manipulate any of the individual Census Blocks. There was no moving one census block at a time back and forth. Everything was done with the groups of blocks, either full block groups or a partial part of a Block Group. Right, I split it nap with and that was based on the suggestion from the Census Bureau is that you'd really need to deal with aggregates of cellblocks of census blocks, not with individual Census Blocks. All right. So I've completed the first phase of, of at least initial allocation of the population across all the districts. So I'll take it through a, you know, a quick jog around the around the maps. This is less, you know, the current map. And as Rob said, you know, Saugerties pretty much stayed the same. So, there weren't much changes there. Woodstock, I sliced out part of Hurley to reduce that population and merge it in with Hurley. So if they're on the other side of the reservoir? I don't know, I don't know where the polling places are there. But

Sarah DeStefano
I'm sorry, Rob. Ken. Excuse me, I if I could just jump in really quick, because of the titles. I'm a little confused. Is this you're just moving around the old map. And so the titles remain the same.

Kenneth Panza
In Rochester, just want to give you a you know, a bird's eye view of the changes I made. But I you know, I don't have the maps made yet.

Sarah DeStefano

I see. Just because it's titled approved redistricting plan. So I just wanted for the for those, perhaps not on the commission who are watching. What do you require?

Kenneth Panza
Since 2012 legislative districts up there.

Sarah DeStefano
I know what you said you move some things. I wasn't sure if if you were showing us an old map or if you were showing

Kenneth Panza
2012 legislative district. I'm showing you an old map. So I'm telling you what changes I've made.

Sarah DeStefano
Right, you're telling us what changes you made while pointing at a 2012 Legislative District map? So I'm just trying to be clear about what exactly what we're looking at.

Kenneth Panza
I moved out part of what's probably Glenford here or maybe it's part is particularly in merging with Hurley. but that is that moves Hurley up and pushed Rosendale more into into Marlboro on my map. On my proposal to Southside district, Rob said those that stayed the same that stayed the same

Donna Lutz

Kenneth Panza
Rochester pretty much stayed the same. A lot of changes in population they took out A piece of Wawarsing. I kind of put the piece of Wawarsing attach to Rochester at the end. But what we're seeing is one of those places, that's going to lose a lot of population. So it pushed out and started grabbing up area from these other districts. And this is where it causes a problem because these other districts then had to move over and pick up area from the other districts. So as you took out, as you expand the Shawangunk and Wawarsing to include those additional people, what you ended up doing was pushing flipped places like Lloyd, up into Esopus. And you push Esopusup into Ulster. So now we have on my map, which, you know, the balance, the Esopus district runs all the way up alongside that takes up the Ulster district alongside Kingston and goes up to the south side of Route 28. So those are sort of the changes, you know, I introduced to come up with a balanced to my district map. So my next steps is to use the software. Actually draw a map, do the checking, see if there's any missing pieces, go through the process of you know, that the computer was a software come up with the same numbers I come up with? You know, I mean, look, though, it has to be significant checking of the work I'd done before, I would feel confident saying this is a really a feasible solution. And, of course, you know, what I'm using now is paper maps, with colored chalk and Sharpies. So I mean that that process is still available. But if the software does what I think it can do, you'll be easily done, At least, I'll have a, be able to present the commission, a completely accurate feasible solution, at least by Christmas, if not sooner. And that's where I stand.

Regis Obijiski

Okay. Anybody have questions? Or comments on anything that that Ken is presented? At? Well, I'll just say, Ken, if you had, if you had map titude, maybe halfway through what you're what you were doing? Would would that make your life easy?

Kenneth Panza

Well, yes. (laughter)After six months of...

Regis Obijiski

You certainly, I you know, you certainly did it. I don't want to say the hard way. But you know, you were you went at it with the tools that were available to you. And

Kenneth Panza

I was really down on the weeds? Yeah. And I, I can, you know, there's not much you can't do with a relational database, programming a bunch of software or a bunch of data like the census data. But, you know, my message is that you're probably better off dealing in groups. And if you don't have the right numbers, split the group, don't try and do things with a block by block approach.

Robert Leibowitz

Well, I'm intrigued, I, I definitely want to try just starting from the block group a little light, I understand what you're saying, Ken. Just using the aggregate, so it'd be interesting to see if it can work. Yeah,

Kenneth Panza

You know, there's one solution, I think there's probably other ones. But I feel much more confident. And maybe we won't be scrambling around to find, find a map to give to the county.

Regis Obijiski

Right right away. And that's it. And that's I'm glad you brought that up. Because May of a, May, May 20th is one of our deadlines, one of our deliverables. We have to have a final draft what we would consider a final draft that we voted on to present to the citizens of, of the county and have at least one hearing perhaps for. And then and then July 20, we have to present our absolute final plan given the input that we had received from the hearings on July 20th. We have to submit our final final final plan with the help of this great software that Rob was was talking about that generates all these all these pages that Board of Elections needs, to the Board of Elections by that, by that time. So you know it'll be here sooner, be sooner than later. And you know, before we before we know it will be bumping against the, bumping up against some of these some of these deadlines. SoKen, I mean thank you for, you know, taking us on this odyssey with you I think I, I understand it certainly respect, you know, what you've, you know, what you've done and the way you've done it. And you did it, as I say with, you know, accomplished in a sextant. And whereas so you know, we now have, we now have some software that, you know, we'll accommodate, you know, our own, our own exercises here. So thank you very much Ken of behalf of everybody.

Kenneth Panza

You're very welcome. And thank you for the opportunity to discuss this.

Regis Obijiski
Sure. Sure. Okay. All right, thank you. I'd like to switch around to old business and new business. An element of the old businesses that the Commission, Commissioner Reapportionment is going to be creating guidance, guidance document for public participation. And this, this, this software will enable people to do what we're doing to I guess, a certain extent. And we don't want to mislead the public by saying that anything goes. And you know, on the other hand, we want the redistricting efforts to be purposeful, and useful to our efforts for, for our consideration. And Andy and Travis, Andy MonkTravis Rask, you know, volunteer to draft that up? And so just just ask Andy, have you? Have you begun that? Or do you have anything and product, product inprocess in this regard?

Andy Monk
Um, we haven't yet. But now that we've seen the way the software works, I think we'll have a much better idea of what specific guidance to provide to the public. So I'll reach out to Travis and we'll get that that ball rolling.

Regis Obijiski
Great. Great, thank you so much. And we'll we'll pick that up at the at the next meeting. So anybody have any questions about about this? And we really appreciate what you're doing.

Fawn Tantillo
Mr. Chairman, I just wanted if Rob had any idea when we could get on the website, I think we could put it on the draft. I think there's a spot for it on our website that says draft plans where we could put the link and directions.

Regis Obijiski
I think part of the directions would be that the you know, the guidance with the with the Commission expects of the public so wouldn't want people to jump off onto something that before we have guidance. What take what did the rest of the commissioners feel about that?

Sarah DeStefano
I agree, that makes sense.

Regis Obijiski
Yeah.

Sarah DeStefano
Putting the cart before the cart before the horse?

Regis Obijiski
Yeah. Okay, great. All righty. Then, on to on to new business to do any of the commissioners want to raise any, any business that we haven't raised that we need to for either for tonight or for a future

meeting? Okay, but there's anybody on on Zoom or on the telephone, have any, anything that they would like to hear from either tonight or in the future? Or to or to discuss or to reflect on?

Robert Leibowitz
I do, one thing just follow up on.

Regis Obijiski
Sure, go ahead Rob.

Robert Leibowitz
Okay. But I just think we need to set up a process where by now, everybody has access to the software, the public's going to quickly have access to the software once it gets loaded. So there needs to be a process whereby the board's business, the Commission's business going forward is going to be looking at the software and saying and looking at the individual maps. And, and there's a way of so I think we need to come up with a process essentially, it's like this, you can share your point, everybody can share plants, and everybody can see them. And maybe amongst the board, they can say, hey, I posted this plan. And this is the name of it. If everybody has like a deadline where they have older, everybody, all the commissioners come with their own little plans, or big plans, and they can share them with the rest of the board. And then they can review them and then we can discuss them. And we can show them on line that also from members of the public, they can share your plans and they can point out things they may have shown during public comment. I've just some sort of processes to be put in place. That would be chaos.

Regis Obijiski
Yeah, no, I think that I think that's a very good idea. And picking up picking up on on your your great idea, Rob. I'd like to I'd like to suggest I would like to have a I'd like to have a meeting offline with our first and second vice chairs. So that'd be Sarah DeStefano and Andy Monk. And to see if we can come up with a process a process of expectations, certainly for ourselves. Over the coming months we need to set up we need to set a timeline And what we're going to do and how we're going to do it by one, we're going to do it. So, Andy and Sarah, would that be? Would that be acceptable? We set something up. I'll set it up with you.

Sarah DeStefano
Sounds good.

Andy Monk
That sounds good to me.

Regis Obijiski
Okay. Okay. And then we'll get back. We'll get back to everybody. Everybody on the commission with that for approbation. Okay. All right. Great. Thank you for that. Rob. Anybody else have something that they want to add or, or hear about?

Sarah DeStefano

Looks like Mike Baden has his hand up, but Oh, good. Remove himself so we can see him.

Mike Baden
Like, Hi, good evening, everybody. And I just wanted to say something that I think I said way, way, way back when you were first meeting, but, and somebody mentioned it tonight, I'm not sure who but thinking, not just in town boundary lines, but school districts, fire districts, even as small as individual water districts. Trying to make the areas have some sort of commonality. I think I use the example that happily did not continue in 2010, where Marbletown was divided by Route 209. And people on one side 209, were in one way legislative district and people were on the other side, we're in a different legislative district. And that, to me was a really terrible divider, because you divided a business area between two legislative districts. And luckily, that was fixed. But just wanted to sort of reiterate that it's not just town boundary lines, it's there's a lot of other commonalities that can go into it. And something I can maybe add to having been the sense a census coordinator in 2010, those block units, the way the Census does them, at least the way in 2010. And I know they've shuffled them to some degree. But when you're driving down the road, every time you get to a new left turn, you make that left turn, and you continue back around until you either reach a town boundary line, or you reach another road. And you essentially make a complete circle at some point. And that's why some census blocks are massive, when you get up in the Shandaken and the mountain areas. And when you get into the like the City of Kingston, you're going to have very small block levels, because the City of Kingston is laid out in a grid pattern. So that's just to help sort of help you guys understand how census blocks are created. I'm not sure how they do the block groups that was fascinating watching that, that exercise, but the blocks themselves, that's how they're created. Or at least that's how they used to be I'm assuming that's still the same.

Regis Obijiski
So is there a way to determine? Mike, you know, school districts and water districts? I know, Sarah was approaching that a little bit earlier.

Mike Baden
Yeah, um, there are maps, you know, fire districts, you might be able to get those from County EMS. I'm betting. And Rob, you can probably chime in, I'm betting county Information Services probably has school districts map, maybe I don't know. I can tell you, you can import them into the data. I don't know if you can or can't. But at least you can look at a paper copy of the map and have a rough idea of street boundaries or even another offline map or another, you know, another computer generated map, but I just want to point out the commonalities are not just like for example, in in Rochester, Kerhonkson was included with the Town of Rochester because the Hamlet of Kerhonkson is split - part in part in Rochester part and what we're seeing but most people Kerhonkson, because they are so close to Rochester, identify as being in the Town of Rochester, even though they're in the Town of Wawarsing. That's just one example.

Fawn Tantillo
I know part of the New Paltz district went up into Esopus because that's what followed the school district boundaries and that case at the time. And maybe when we get closer to some finished maps

and we're just like tweaking them, we may want to put those polling places the 83 polling places in it, too.

Sarah DeStefano
Though something tells me that's going to be nearly impossible to Yeah, with with 10 of these districts required to be moved and 83 plus places ? Well, I think we can do our best to do that. But I think it's going to be real hard with with the data that we have in front of us to keep people in the same one that they went to before seems likely. Yeah, unlikely. But I mean, of course, we can try. But I think it's unlikely

Kenneth Panza
We really need to make a, you know, a first pass, if something that makes sense, and then go in and tweak it and make some changes, but you don't have a lot of flexibility on this?

Regis Obijiski
Well, I think it certainly is certainly complicates things to talk about school districts, fire districts, water districts, polling places, to keep all of that, to keep all of that in mind, I would say that, you know, our, our intermediate targets really need to be a bit more modest. And, and not not that we're going to be doing everything will flourish and be done in a week. But, you know, I think we'll have to, you know, get started on this. And then, and then perhaps look at, look at some maps, and if it makes sense, and if it's doable, you know, we will take a look at that. So I think it's called, you know, considering certain things, considering boundaries. So, Mike, you know, Thanks for Thanks again, for making this difficult for us. I'm kidding. (laughter)

Mike Baden
Yeah. It's it's more of the finessing. I think, you know, I'm not saying that should be the basis for your beginning. But when you're getting where she I'm 100 people over in this district, and I'm 100 under here, using that as as just a little bit of a guidance when you're finessing. I don't think that's where you start out. I think that that's where you, that's where you, you know, you put the icing on the cake, as it were.

Regis Obijiski
Sure, sure. No, I understand. And I think this, it bears on this little discussion we're going to have on process that Rob started us off on and that, you know, three of us are going to try to, you know, make a draft for everybody to consider. And that would be, you know, sort of at the at the end of the end of the process. Icing on the cake, as you say. All right. Well, thank you. Thank you for that you have anything else, Mike, that you want to add?

Mike Baden
No, just good luck to everybody. You know, I think in this group. Fawn and I, as far as I know, are the only two members of the public last time who made maps. So and I can already tell you, I've already clicked on the link and started looking at it. So I look forward to trying my hand at it, too.

Regis Obijiski

Oh, great. Great, great. We look forward, we look forward to what you come up with Mike. All right. If there's anyone else on the on the call or on the Zoom, have anything, these are great, by the way, have anything that they want to add or have us address in the near future. Anybody sees a hand or something. All right. Well, thank you very much. I'm going to request a motion. Pardon me a motion for adjournment? Thank you for this meeting.

Donna Lutz
I'm sorry. Mr. Chairman. I have one question for Fawn. Is there any What do you is there any idea if we're or when we, we will have in person meetings again? Have you heard anything?

Fawn Tantillo
Well, the legislature has been meeting in person. And I suppose in theory, if you folks want to meet in person, we, we could arrange that we just have to get a room large enough for separation. So if that's something you decide you want to do like to sit together and work on one big map on a screen, we could probably that's the way they did it last time at the end. And you know, if you want to try to do something like that, I'm sure we could make that happen for you.

Regis Obijiski
Or even a hybrid a hybrid of that, you know?

Robert Leibowitz
Sure. Okay.

Kenneth Panza
The exemption from Open Meetings ended at the beginning of the year.

Fawn Tantillo
Correct. Currently, I believe that the executive order ends the end of the year.

Kenneth Panza
So we may be, may not be up to us to decide what we can do.

Fawn Tantillo
Right. It might be January, we have to meet in person, the last Executive Order kept getting extended. And with the COVID numbers on the rise right now, I'm not sure you know, we're it's we're kind of taking it a day at a time. I know the city of Kingston started meeting in person, we may be meeting in person, the legislature this month, that those things are being decided right now.

Regis Obijiski
I see.

Donna Lutz
Thank you.

Regis Obijiski

Okay. Anyone else have any last minute thoughts? Okay, may I have a motion to adjourn, please?

Donna Lutz

I'll move it.

Regis Obijiski

Okay, Donna. And a second, please.

Sarah DeStefano

Seconded.

Regis Obijiski

Sarah. All those in favor. Okay, we are adjourned. Thank you. We'll see you on December 8, and we'll talk to each other in between.

Donna Lutz

Thank you.

Kathleen Waithe

Goodnight everyone.

Donna Lutz

Thanks, everyone. Have a good night.

Andy Monk

Have a nice Thanksgiving.

Regis Obijiski

Thank you. Oh yeah. Happy Thanksgiving,

Andy Monk

Good night.