

Timestamp	Meeting Date	Agenda Item	First and Last Name	Zip Code	Representing	Comments
6/22/2021 8:05:50	June 22, 2021	general	Lynne Hudson	85704	citizen	<p>Planning and implementing the Commission's tour around the State is an important and demanding task, so I am puzzled that the Community Outreach Coordinator position has not been filled yet. If the absence of a new budget is the cause, it occurred to me that Chairperson Neuberger could seek emergency authorization from Governor Ducey so the Commission can move ahead with hiring from the already extensive applicant list—and before the best candidates accept employment elsewhere. I did note that this item is on your agenda this week, and I hope you will be able to move forward quickly to fill this position.</p> <p>Regarding the Deputy Executive Director position, it occurred to me that this presents an opportunity to "balance" that office by hiring someone with "Democratic leanings," much as you were able to do by hiring two law firms. Doing so could strengthen the office by bringing in different perspectives and also address the concerns voiced by many Arizonans about hiring an Executive Director with longstanding ties to Republican leaders in the State.</p> <p>I applaud your efforts to bring in experts to speak about relevant topics in public sessions. We are all learning a great deal, and it appears thus far that you are listening and benefitting from input from voters around the State. Group problem solving is almost invariably better than individual problem solving, so widening your lens should lead not only to more light, but better resolutions as well. Thank you again, for your service to all Arizonans.</p>
6/22/2021 8:08:49	June 22, 2021	public meetings	Mary-Jeanne Fincher	85253	self	<p>Reports from staff, especially the Executive Director, should be in writing and available prior to the meeting. It's hard to follow Mr Schmidt during the meetings.</p>
6/22/2021 8:10:54	June 22, 2021	Staff	Caroline Salcido	85757	Self	<p>What measures will be put in place to tag comments that appear to be computer generated or from a politically nefarious group?</p>
6/22/2021 8:11:57	June 22, 2021	public meetings	Mary-Jeanne Fincher	85253	self	<p>Does the Commission have a schedule of what needs to be done when? Do the Commissioners think they are on schedule to deliver acceptable maps on time? Ahead of schedule? Behind schedule? How would anyone know?</p>
6/22/2021 8:14:07	June 22, 2021	Data -Map Portal for Public View and Comment	Hope Busto-Keyes	85743	Self	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>On the principle of transparency, all maps that are proposed and presented to the commission should be available, in sufficient detail, for public viewing and comment.</p> <p>I encourage Commissioners to create a redistricting portal that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)allows the public to view and comment throughout all phases of map-drawing and</li> <li>2)provides digital tools and pertinent data that can be used by the public to create and upload their own maps (pertinent data includes showing district boundaries down to the residency level).</li> </ol> <p>Providing adequate opportunities and sufficient map data for public input will benefit the Arizona redistricting process.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
6/22/2021 8:17:28	June 22, 2021	Public Hearings on Redistricting	Valerie Green	85614-6341	self	<p>Please address what actions the Commission will take to ensure that public hearings will provide a safe and orderly environment for individuals to address the Commission with their concerns. Recent public hearings, such as disruptions at school board meetings, have proven that individuals holding radical ideas are open to copycat behaviors. These behaviors are dangerous, as well as they inhibit law abiding citizens from wanting to share their opinions.</p>

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6/22/2021 8:19:54	June 22, 2021	VII	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	I am concerned that we have not seen a written budget from the Executive Director. Budgets should be discussed in public session since it is my tax dollars at work, not generally referenced. I am sure that a budget has been delivered to the state house so that they can review the needs, why can we not see this as well. I am sure the other commissioners have a great deal of business/budget experience. they are not just observers.
6/22/2021 8:29:23	June 22, 2021	Public Comments/Public Hearings	Janell Hunt	85143	Myself, an Arizona citizen	Commissioners: Thank you again for reading our public comments; we do appreciate the work you're doing for our state and will continue to try to assist, if we can. As you plan for input from citizens across Arizona through public hearings, I hope you will develop some type of format we might use to tailor our statements for your best use. It could be similar to what we do right here on line in fact. I served on a City Planning Commission many years ago where we did this, and it helped considerably to focus the discussions ahead of time, and provided a record of the meetings as well, since everyone was prepared ahead of time. It also helped organize the meeting with various topics so people would speak to the same issues in certain segments of the meeting. Thanks again for your work on this important project. Stay safe and hydrated in this heat. Janell Hunt, San Tan Valley
6/22/2021 8:30:21	June 22, 2021	III. Opportunity for Public Comments.	William Bowlus-Root	85365	Myself	Last week you discussed some of the issues around posting transcripts of the IRC meetings. You settled on the idea of including a sufficient number of timestamps in the minutes that someone who was interested in the details of a particular topic could use them to find that segment of the published video to watch it. That will work if you have closed captioning in the video (otherwise deaf people will be unable to access the conversations without a written transcript). But there's another instance when a transcript is essential: When you're having audio trouble and no one watching the video (live or recorded) can hear you.  William Bowlus-Root A concerned citizen
6/22/2021 8:32:51	June 22, 2021	Mapping Consultant/Tools	Monica Surfaro Spigelman	85718	Self	I appreciate this opportunity to have my voice heard, in this case as it applies to the online public mapping tool. I believe the IRC has an interest in upholding the most ethical and safe mapping standards, and so I have some comments and a question.  The mapping tool must be a framework that is secure, fair and reflects the input of people who are impacted the most by the mapping. Paid political operatives should not be allowed to exploit or influence the mapping process. Technical guardrails should be in place to ensure only those impacted are submitting input, and that rightful comments are not overrun by deceptive practices or "trolls." My concern is based on experiences during the 2020 elections, when, for example, young "operatives" were recruited and paid by an Arizona-based political organization to impact messaging. I could send commissioners links to published reports of this occurrence, if necessary.  How will you safeguard that the input from real Arizonans, not bands of paid operatives, is reflected in the mapping tool? Partisan attempts at manipulation are so concerning to me.  Thank you for your attention and response. from Monica Surfaro Spigelman
6/22/2021 8:37:15	June 22, 2021	state demographer	Julie Plndzola	86301	myself	PLEASE POST THIS DEMOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION ON YOUR WEBSITE

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6/22/2021 8:37:38	June 22, 2021	VII F & C	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	I am concerned that we have not seen a staffing plan from the Executive Director (ED). You now have an admin to help with this and it is getting late in the game to wait on a Deputy to catalog data for legal counsel. The organization chart provide by the ED shared multiple reporting structures. We need a more concise roadmap to follow at this point. The commission needs to decide on a staffing plan provided by ED and give input to the post descriptions and then post and hire. This should not be an event that is only discussed between ED and Erika Neuberg. We are looking for a transparent process that includes the commissioners and the public for comment. Are matrixes being used to hire candidates? Are multiple languages preferred, what about area of representation. We need folks who are familiar with the rural parts of the state. What is there political perspective. Is the public allowed to see a list of the pool of candidates? These hires have the most influence on our commissioners and I feel the public should be able to comment on their experience and political perspective.
6/22/2021 8:41:08	June 22, 2021	V. State demographer presentation	Rita Day	86301	Myself	The State Demographer did a good job of presenting a large amount of information with nice charts to help understand the data. Thanks for all the work to present charts to help understand the changes in population.
6/22/2021 8:46:29	June 22, 2021	VIII	Diane Boman	86303	myself	The travel schedule has not been addressed in any detail for the last couple of weeks. I believe it will be difficult to have every commissioner at every travel meeting. Since time is of the essence I think travel meetings should be scheduled as long as there is a democrat and a republican to take questions. We have not seen any examples of advertising or even a list of the cities that are on the list to be visited. Would be a good place to start. The commission should be giving feedback to these steps as they are added to the schedule.
6/22/2021 8:53:14	June 22, 2021	Demographics presentation	Connie Williams	85648	Santa Cruz County	I usually can see details in the graphs presented, but these graphs are blurry. Is that something you can fix your end? I really wanted to follow his presentation, but the information is not readable.
6/22/2021 8:55:44	June 22, 2021	IV	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	There are many difficulties with public participation. Not every place in Arizona has streaming capability to watch these meeting. Can we have expanded telephone access? It would be helpful if documents and letters were kept in the same place every week. Why does the link for comments and meetings change each week? I would love to be able to read comments from the public during the meeting. If we were meeting in person we would be able to hear what others are saying. We could also use a searchable database for the public comments, public testimony on communities of interest. This will help in the event of lawsuits and will be used when quantifying the information received from the public in creating districts. We need IT people quickly.
6/22/2021 8:56:11	June 22, 2021	Mapping Process	Anne Ward	85718	Myself	Dear Commissioners: As the work of the Commission unfolds, it comes closer to the time when the actual mapping process will become the source of public attention. Members of the public, interest groups, political parties and other entities will choose to present opinions and information for the Commissioners to consider. We know from the experience of the last election that patently untrue information will be disseminated, and will be done in a way to put pressure on the Commissioners. For example, a group may organize its members to use one of the many online mapping tools to draw their own maps, and then demand that these maps be considered by the IRC, no matter what their accuracy or validity. The IRC must have a way to fact check submissions, to identify patently false information, to sift through troll-generated comments in order to see which submissions are worth considering and which should be deleted. Arizona is the laughingstock of the nation over the Maricopa County "election audit." Let's wipe out that image with a process that relies on valid concerns of informed citizens to supplement the work of the mapping consultants, not fictitious ideas of political operatives.
6/22/2021 8:56:17	June 22, 2021	Public meetings and listening sessions	Laura Huenneke	86004	self	Thank you for hosting this presentation from the State Demographer - and for making this available to the public. Very useful and fascinating! And definitely highlights how substantial the differences are among counties, municipalities, portions of the state. This suggests that ensuring fair representation for the voices in these disparate communities will be a major challenge.

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6/22/2021 8:57:10	June 22, 2021	public hearings and listening sessions	Laura Huenneke	86004	self	Thank you for continuing to provide opportunities for genuine public input, and for starting your work on public meetings and "listening sessions" around the state. I'm concerned, as some of you are, that public sessions might devolve into angry, confrontational sessions that result in intimidation and the reluctance of many to participate and let their voices be heard. Such intimidation would be quite opposite to your intentions of gathering genuine and useful input! Please consider best available practices for – assuring a weapons-free setting; avoiding an overly police-heavy presence which might be frightening or intimidating to some; setting rules similar to the anti-electioneering guidelines for polling places. Selection of physical locations will be important. Accessibility – in terms of signing, language translation services, mobility – will also have to be considered. Thanks for your work on this!
6/22/2021 8:58:55	June 22, 2021	Demographic presentation	Connie Williams	85648	Santa Cruz County	I left a message about blurry images. Resolution is fine using the IRC website link. The problem is with the YouTube resolution. Thought it worth updating the information.
6/22/2021 8:59:07	June 22, 2021	What measures will the IRC take to make sure that meetings are safe and orderly?	Victoria Kauzlarich	85255	Myself	<p>The loudest voices in the room cannot be the only voices in the room. We need look no further than the hostile and disruptive behavior at recent school board meetings across the state. We also need to recall safety and security concerns from the last IRC in 2011.</p> <p>The commission must be proactive and identify practices that will keep rage-filled behavior to a minimum. Police presence is essential but, beyond that, the commission should look for ways to create structure around public comments made during meetings.</p> <p>This might include closing off parking to prevent public demonstrations, requiring attendees to register to attend in advance and require written comments in advance to maintain order. A further measure might include controlling the number of people making public comments to a few at a time.</p> <p>More than anything, faux rage needs an audience. Controlling the context of public comments could enable the Commission to function in an open, orderly fashion. Arizona citizens deserve nothing less.</p>
6/22/2021 9:05:29	June 22, 2021	Regarding public comment page	Patricia Parker	86303	Self	<p>I was listening to the local radio station where it was reported that the public comment page is being used by partisan groups to manipulate and influence the Commission. The host said that "Prescott Indivisible" and "Statewide Indivisible" and others are coordinating the public comments to the IRC public comment page. From what I heard you all saying at your last meeting, you all believe that the comments are from a person who has interest or concerns and want to communicate those with you.</p> <p>Here's a quote from the email being sent around regarding the June 2021 meeting of the Prescott Indivisible group, Ms. Maria Lynam is heard giving an update to the group meeting attendees regarding the Redistricting Commission saying, --We are on the "Prescott Indivisible" team that works with the statewide "Indivisible" team. On Tuesday at 8:00 we listen to the meeting and coordinate comments to submit. There are 20 of us and Democrats working together every week to reach out to the commission.... So far the Independent Chair has worked with the two Republican commissioners and blocked out Democrats (on differential privacy). --</p> <p>Given the weight you all are saying you are giving to the public comments, maybe the Commission should make changes to ensure that this is reflective of an individual.</p> <p>I appreciate what you are doing and realize the importance of yur mission. Thank you!</p>
6/22/2021 9:06:20	June 22, 2021	Public Hearings	Brian Templet	85715	Myself	The preservation of the integrity of and access for genuine public commentary is essential. All efforts should be made to insure that comments are allowed only from real citizens of Arizona and not paid political operatives.

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6/22/2021 9:10:12	June 22, 2021	V. State Demographer's Presentation	William Bowlus-Root	85365	Myself	<p>Commissioner Neuberger suggested that the PowerPoint presentation by the state's demographer might be posted to the News Room section on the website. That's not a very good place for it.</p> <p>If I'm looking for a presentation deck that someone presented DURING a meeting, IMHO it becomes a part of the official meeting, like these Public Comments. I would expect it to be published on your site in the same location as the meeting agenda and other supporting documents that were presented or referred to or voted on during that meeting. If you post it elsewhere, I'm forced to go looking for it when I'm trying to review the meeting at a later date. I'm not sure what relationship such decks have to News, but that's probably the last place I'd look for it.</p> <p>Perhaps it would be a good idea to create a place on your website where you can store all documents and files that provide information about the demographics, census data, etc. that play into the decisions you'll be making.</p> <p>The News Room is an important feature and should include announcements and articles and updates about the IRC and it's work. Please don't clutter it with other 'stuff' that makes it hard to find the latest news.</p> <p>William Bowlus-Root A concerned citizen</p>
6/22/2021 9:11:11	June 22, 2021	VIII	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	<p>I do not see how the commission could plan to have less meetings or the same amount of meetings as 2011 when the increase in population has grown by 800,000. I live in Prescott and that equivocates to 16 new Prescotts!</p>
6/22/2021 9:14:48	June 22, 2021	Opportunity for Public Comments	Jeanna Tendall	86305	Myself	<p>Does the IRC realize its public comment tool is being used by partisan Democrat groups to manipulate and influence the Commission to its advantage? A group called "Prescott Indivisible" is working with "Statewide Indivisible" and other Democrats to coordinate public comments being submitted to the IRC public comment site. The Commission may think the public comments it receives are from interested, dedicated, and concerned individuals who desire to submit ideas and comments to enable the commission to do the best job for all citizens in our state. Think again.</p> <p>In an excerpt of the June 2021 meeting of the Prescott Indivisible group, Ms. Maria Lynam is heard giving an update to the meeting attendees regarding the Redistricting Commission saying, --We are on the "Prescott Indivisible" team that works with the statewide "Indivisible" team. On Tuesday at 8:00 we listen to the meeting (IRC meeting) and coordinate comments to submit. There are 20 of us and Democrats working together every week to reach out to the commission... So far the Independent Chair has worked with the two Republican commissioners and blocked out Democrats (on differential privacy). --</p> <p>Attempting to bias the Commission's discussion and consideration of issues with coordinated comments from 20 members of a partisan group is a corrupt use of the commission's public comment system. I believe this group's actions are designed to influence the Commission unbeknownst to it. Recommend the Commission rethink its public comment system policies and make course corrections to disallow submittal of partisan, coordinated comments to the system.</p>
6/22/2021 9:15:24	June 22, 2021	Timmons	Linda Chiles	85051	self	<p>Thank you, Commissioner Lerner, for asking for the ability of the public to have access to the same training as the commissioners receive. I personally appreciate the care you continually have that the public be as informed as possible. I'm very grateful.</p>
6/22/2021 9:17:44	June 22, 2021	VII D	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	<p>Why is the mapper putting together the schedule?</p>

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6/22/2021 9:18:52	June 22, 2021	Training on mapping and listening tours	Nancy Meister	85364	Self	Please provide training on the mapping tool prior to listening tour. What format for maps will be acceptable to the Commission and to the mapping company.
6/22/2021 9:19:52	June 22, 2021	VI. Mapping consultant	Rita Day	86301	Myself	Thanks to Commissioner Lerner for stressing importance of including training for the Public with the ESRI technology program, including hands on experience. I hope that in scheduling these training sessions, there are a selection of dates for these sessions, not just one session, so that the public can participate. Also it would be useful to have these sessions recorded and be available online, so there is flexibility for when they can be viewed.
6/22/2021 9:26:44	June 22, 2021	VI. Update from the mapping Consultants, Timmons/NDC.	William Bowlus-Root	85365	Myself	Commissioner Neuberger made a comment to the effect that it would be helpful to get a list of the important cutoff dates that would be require as well as those that are aspirational and may need to be adjusted. Is she saying that the commission has not already set up a calendar with those dates on it?! I would think that one of the first tasks of the commission - or certainly it's Executive Director - would be to get a handle on the deadlines for the various deliverables of the commission so you could work backward to determine the intermediate dates necessary to receive the inputs to that work from various sources. Otherwise, how can those source understand when their work is required to be completed?  If you actually have such a timeline, then please share that with the public. If you do not, then please explain to the public why you have not created that timeline and when we can expect it to be published.  What kind of project management doesn't have that in place from the beginning?  William Bowlus-Root A concerned citizen
6/22/2021 9:34:10	June 22, 2021	Thank you - Process Improvement	Sharon Edgar	86004	self	Thank you for showing a video title for everyone attending today's meeting. Also, the audio quality has improved. In the past, there was painful audio feedback, usually when a Commissioner unmuted her/himself. I appreciate you making these virtual meetings easy to watch. Thank you.
6/22/2021 9:35:27	June 22, 2021	Hiring	Lynne Hudson	85704	Citizen	Do commissioners have copies of resumes applicants? How are they involved in hiring process?
6/22/2021 9:40:51	June 22, 2021	VIII. Discussion and possible action on proposed revised travel schedule	Nelson Morgan	85054	Self	It sounds like the travel schedule will take into account when people around the state can attend. In particular, many working folks can't make it during normal weekday working hours. So that part is good. I'm not sure how a huge county like Coconino can be done in one meeting. Virtual participation in an in-person meeting never works quite as well as one might like. That should work OK for Commissioners who are remote, but tough for the public. Good question from Mr. Watchman about staffing - the logistics will be challenging.
6/22/2021 9:41:17	June 22, 2021	VIII	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	I think the travel schedule should be shown on a calendar with approximate times in a range. You can add vacation or busy times from each of the commissioners. This way you can move these dates so that the correct number of commissioners are attending without having to call them.
6/22/2021 9:42:47	June 22, 2021	Timmons/NDC Project Plan	Sharon Edgar	86004	self	Please ensure the Timmons/NDC schedules at least 30 days for public review after the draft maps are drawn. This is a constitutional requirement. The project timeline shown by Timmons/NDC at the May 25th IRC meeting did not show 30 days for public review AFTER the draft maps are drawn.
6/22/2021 9:43:02	June 22, 2021	IX. Discussion and possible action on stock IRC presentation for public use.	Nelson Morgan	85054	Self	Before there is a "final" version of the stock presentation, the public should have a chance to comment on it. Please.
6/22/2021 9:43:07	June 22, 2021	#8 Public Hearing Schedule	Nancy Meister	85364	Self	Please start evening meetings at 5:30 so people have travel time to get to the meeting site from job site. Will law enforcement be available at satellite locations?

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6/22/2021 9:46:26	June 22, 2021	VII. Executive Director's Report and discussion thereof.	William Bowlus-Root	85365	Myself	<p>It's hard to understand Commissioner Neuberg's praise for Executive Director Schmidt's report or his work in general. A good ED would have a report with greater specificity and would look much further ahead, tying it's elements to the work of the commission and anticipating their needs and questions. If you review the previous meetings, you'll come across numerous examples where the ED has stated he will provide follow-up information on a topic he didn't cover adequately in that meeting but that he never mentions again. Most of these were direct requests of the commissioners but some are points he himself brought up. The public is still waiting for this information, but it hasn't been forthcoming. What's more, he has repeatedly stated that he will present his report in written form and post it to the website. So far none of them are available. No business would settle for this level of performance from an ED, and the commission and people of Arizona should not have to either. The Executive Director should be held to a level of performance appropriate to the critical role he plays in the work of the commission and not praised for his substandard work and "leadership".</p> <p>William Bowlus-Root A concerned citizen</p>
6/22/2021 9:50:57	June 22, 2021	VII D	Diane boman	86303	Myself	The commission should be dictating the timelines and putting it in writing. Your employees do not run the show.
6/22/2021 9:54:27	June 22, 2021	X	Diane Boman	86303	Myself	Could someone provide a summary of Differential Privacy?
6/22/2021 9:58:09	June 22, 2021	XV	Diane Boman	86303	myself	Thank You Commissioner Lerner for being engaged and active in your questions.