

----- Original Message -----

Subject:Release the Commission's plans please!

Date:Thu, 2 Jun 2011 20:38:56 -0700

From:Douglas Johnson [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

As the Commission is nearly halfway through its consideration of staff's draft redistricting plans and the directions that will lead to the Commission's official draft, I request that the Commission release, as soon as possible, the GIS files for its staff draft plans and any/all revised plans created to date.

As you have no doubt noticed, there has been essentially no public comment on the staff "visualization" maps. One reason is that the plans have not yet been released in any format that can be reviewed and analyzed by the public. With only four Commission meeting days left before adoption of the draft plans, I ask that you release census block equivalency files, shapefiles and Caliper geographic files of all the plans, regions, and individual districts drawn by staff and shown to the Commission, with file descriptions informing the public of what the files represent (a staff "visualization"? a "pre-draft" staff plan? a plan drawn in response to Commission request for a "test"?).

The pdf files were a symbolic baby step, but they are blurry, lack details, lack demographic backup, and are impossible to overlay or compare to outside group plans or community maps. Thank you for the initial step, but with three days of plan development meetings complete and only four left to go please release the GIS files as soon as possible so that the public may actively and constructively participate in this process.

The Commission has asked the public to provide specific requests and suggestions. To do so the public needs the specific data from the Commission.

(In an effort to help the Commission and public constructively analyze the plans under consideration, the Rose Institute has launched <http://www.RoseReport.org/DraftPlans> -- use the "layers" control box to select the type of plan and the submitting organization that you wish to see and/or overlay).

Thank you,

- Doug

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