

V Redistricting Commission

1 message

Chris D <chris7307@gmail.com> To: varedist@dls.virginia.gov Cc: mbabichenko@dls.virginia.gov, gharris@dls.virginia.gov Tue, Jul 6, 2021 at 11:07 AM

Thank you for today's meeting and thoughtful discussion.

Could you please remind all speakers to use their microphones and identify themselves by name. Senator McDougle didn't have his microphone on at any time (was it broken?) so it was difficult to hear him. Sometimes staff forgot to use microphone as well.

Also, please consider allowing Virginians to "testify" virtually. By allowing only those who can travel to Richmond for a workday meeting, you are shutting the door on many engaged persons.

Or perhaps someone can summarize written comments that have been submitted.

Thank you.

Chris DeRosa (she, her) chris7307@gmail.com Arlington, VA



Link to Weldon Cooper Maps

Fran Larkins <franlarkins40@gmail.com> To: "varedist@dls.virginia.gov" <varedist@dls.virginia.gov> Mon, Jul 5, 2021 at 5:36 PM

The public might find it very helpful to have access to the maps for the eight "regions" where the hearings will be held. Perhaps under "FAQs"?

https://demographics.coopercenter.org/virginia-regions

Thank you!

Fran Larkins

Fredericksburg, VA

Sent from Mail for Windows 10



Request for information about VRC Public Hearings

Chris DeRosa <chris.lwv.222@gmail.com>

Mon, Jul 5, 2021 at 1:17 PM

To: varedist@dls.virginia.gov

Cc: mbabichenko@dls.virginia.gov, gharris@dls.virginia.gov, deldmcquinn@house.virginia.gov, skumar@dls.virginia.gov, mgilliam@dls.virginia.gov, rharrell@dls.virginia.gov, jabrenio@dls.virginia.gov, jfeliciano@dls.virginia.gov, bhutchins@dls.virginia.gov, sdnewman7@gmail.com, district02@senate.virginia.gov, senatorbarker@gmail.com, redistricting@ryanmcdougle.com, delmsimon@house.virginia.gov, deladamsredistricting@house.virginia.gov, delransoneredistricting@house.virginia.gov

Greetings.

I hope that all of you enjoyed a festive, relaxing Fourth of July weekend.

The League of Women Voters of Virginia is informing its members as well as community partners about the upcoming public hearings, which are scheduled to begin on July 13th. We are sharing this information via email, social media, and more. We strongly believe that an actively engaged public is critical to the success of this redistricting process!

We have some questions and suggestions, and hope that the full Commission will clarify and finalize the public engagement guidelines when it meets on Tuesday July 6th.

(1) **Please allow online pre-registration** for in-person hearings. This will allow working people and others with transportation challenges to ensure that they are able to speak at in-person hearings.

(2) Some information is unclear in your announcements and flyers. Please clarify:

a. Will people be able to "attend" any public hearing? It is important that people have this option to select the day, time, and location that is most convenient for them. (Many have planned vacations that will take them away from their homes when their regional meetings are held, so they will need other oppportunities.)

b. Will people be able to sign up online, ahead of time for any of the public hearings? We do not see a pre-registration link on the website.

(3) Have you arranged for locations where people can use a computer to participate "virtually" in any of the hearings? (This was discussed in an earlier Commission or Public Engagement subcommittee meeting as an option to support the public during virtual meetings)

(4) Please provide further information : will people representing **groups or organizations** be allowed more than 3 minutes to speak? (This was discussed in an earlier subcommittee meeting)

(5) Please provide more details for the public hearings so that we can inform the public. We are preparing graphics, LTEs, posters, flyers, and postcards and would like to include more information. In order to allow enough time for design and printing, we would appreciate having this information ASAP.

a. Time that each virtual hearing will begin.

b. **Specific location** for each in-person hearing : which campus building? Thank you very much for your service and your dedicated and diligent efforts on our behalf. Thank you for your attention and responses.

Thank you very much for your service and your dedicated and diligent efforts on our behalf. Thank you for your attention and responses.

Chris DeRosa (she, her) Co-Coordinator, LWV-VA Redistricting Committee chris.lwv.222@gmail.com



Lynchburg has more power as one community of interest

Eloise Mason <eloisepmason@gmail.com> To: varedist@dls.virginia.gov Mon, Jul 5, 2021 at 7:32 AM

Lynchburg clearly is a "community of interest." As a small city, Lynchburg has unique physical infrastructure, school district, property tax, economic development, recreational facility, and law enforcement concerns that many of the rural areas included in the current four legislative districts do not share. Lynchburg also has a shared history that makes it a unique "community of interest."

Please change the current gerrymander of Lynchburg. Thank you. \emph{Eloise}



(no subject)

Carly Eccles Sheaffer <carly.eccles@gmail.com> To: varedist@dls.virginia.gov Sun, Jul 4, 2021 at 10:20 PM

As a small city, Lynchburg has different problems than many of the predominantly rural areas included in the four legislative districts into which Lynchburg is divided. Lynchburg has unique physical infrastructure, school district, property tax, economic development, and law enforcement concerns. Lynchburg also has a shared history that makes it a unique "*community of interest*."

Before 2011, the entire city of Lynchburg was included in one House District and one Senate district that were answerable to the voters of Lynchburg. In 2011, Lynchburg was split into four elongated, largely rural districts that dilute Lynchburg's political power in the state legislature. This division is extremely confusing for Lynchburg voters, and it makes it difficult to hold any legislator accountable for policies that affect Lynchburg.

We now have a chance to change that, by not dividing up our city into these different districts.

Thank you for your time!

-Carly Sheaffer