



Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education and Care Funding

Commission Meeting #11

October 7, 2020

Meeting reminders



- Add your name to your Zoom (click on the 3 dots)
- Consider being on video to help with overall engagement
- Mute self when not speaking
- Use Raise Hand function or Chat for questions (send to everyone)
- Technical issues can happen to anyone – chat privately to Bethany or Carrie for any needs
- If you are experiencing an unstable connection - switch to phone call or close other applications
- Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting

Today's Goals

- Review draft recommendations for **funding adequacy and inclusion**
- Hear assessment of the Commission's draft recommendations from a **national panel of experts**
- Recap the **work that lies ahead**

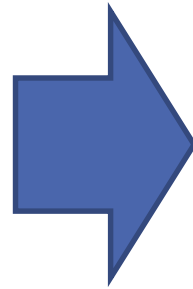


Today's Agenda

Agenda Item	Time
Roll Call, Agenda, and Opening	11:00-11:15
Funding Adequacy Recommendations	11:15-11:40
Inclusion Recommendations	11:40-12:00
National Panel of Experts	12:00-12:45
Racial Equity and Technical Working Group Update	12:45-12:50
Next Steps	12:50-12:55
Public Comment	12:55-1:00

The Commission's Report, in response to the charge, will inform legislation

"The Commission shall study and **make recommendations** to establish **funding goals and funding mechanisms** to provide equitable access to high-quality early childhood education and care services for all children birth to age five and **advise the Governor in planning and implementing** these recommendations."



1. Funding Goals: How much **increased investment** is required to reach **funding adequacy** across the state for early childhood education and care
2. Funding Mechanism: How the **system of funding** should be redesigned to promote the Commission's Guiding Principles
3. Implementation: How **management & oversight** should be structured to implement the new system of funding

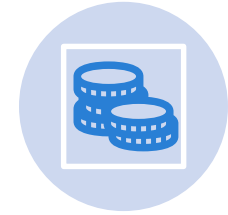
Through our recommendations, the Commission seeks to address critical challenges in today's ECEC system



INEQUITABLE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY SERVICES, ESPECIALLY RACE, ETHNICITY, GEOGRAPHY, & AGE



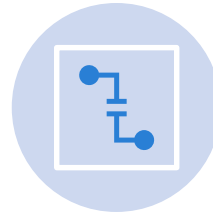
CHALLENGES FOR FAMILIES TO NAVIGATE THE SYSTEM



INSTABILITY OF FUNDING FOR PROVIDERS



INSUFFICIENT DATA TO INFORM EQUITABLE DECISION MAKING AND FUNDING



DISAGGREGATED
**ACCOUNTABILITY AND
DECISION MAKING**



INADEQUATE FUNDING, INCLUDING WORKFORCE COMPENSATION

The Commission's deliberations and draft recommendations have been consistently informed by our Guiding Principles

These Guiding Principles reflect the Commission's values and beliefs, guide how it operates, and lay a foundation for decision-making.

High Quality ECEC is a Public Priority

- It should be invested in as such as this is critical to our State's workforce, economy, and welfare of its residents.

Ensure Equity

- We will endorse a system that ensures equitable outcomes for children, with intentional focus on race, ethnicity, culture, language, income, children's individual needs, and geography.

Embrace Bold System-Level Changes

- Everything is on the table, including how funding flows, how funding decisions are made, and who makes them, to better serve all children and families.

Build Upon the Solid Foundation

- We will build upon the successes of Illinois' past and current system, its commitment to a prenatal to five system, the lessons from other states, and the expertise and research in the field.

Prioritize Family Perspectives, Needs, and Choices

- We will prioritize families' perspectives, needs, and choices as we make recommendations to improve the system.

Design for Stability and Sustainability

- We recognize our system must provide funding stability for providers, educators, and staff across mixed delivery settings to better serve families. System must embrace flexibility to respond to changing circumstances and family needs and must possess the human and technical capacity to do so.

Require System Transparency, Efficiency, and Accountability

- We see these as necessary conditions for all stakeholders, funding distributors, and funding recipients for any future ECEC funding structure.

Recognize Implementation Realities

- We will plan for meaningful change over a multi-year time horizon. We will respond to disruptions in the system to meet the reality of changing needs.

*Draft Recommendation:
Establish **funding goals** to provide
equitable access to high-quality ECEC
services for all children birth to age five*

Draft Recommendation

Charge: Establish **funding goals** to provide equitable access to high-quality ECEC services for all children birth to age five



Articulate the cost of adequacy for ECEC in Illinois

Propose the investment necessary to meet the charge and the model that can guide funding decisions to get there.

Despite the current budgetary challenges, it is critical that we quantify adequate funding of ECEC



Provides an understanding of where we are compared to ***where we need to be***

If you don't know where you're trying to go, you can't get there!



Guides ***policy and investment decisions*** in line with a long-term vision of equity and quality

This work informs the priorities of the future agency structure

Reminder: *what are we attempting to do?*

WE ARE:

- ✓ Quantifying the true cost of providing equitable access to high-quality ECEC services
 - For general education and care
 - For children and families with IFSPs and/or IEPs and bilingual learners
- ✓ Intentionally oversimplifying how education and care is provided so we can quantify *average costs*

WE ARE NOT:

- ✗ Creating a method for funding distribution
 - Calculating individual provider funding
 - Determining a funding formula
- ✗ Reflecting the nuance of individual providers
- ✗ Taking into account current funding levels, or creating a budget request for next year
- ✗ Creating unfunded mandates for staffing, salaries, or program models

The Commission reviewed a draft cost model in July.

What remained to be validated?

Home Visiting

Updated in partnership with the Home Visiting Task Force

- *Revised to adjust target population and refine community risk approach to service uptake: \$531M to \$620M*

Early Intervention

Directional placeholder used

- *Revised to roughly estimate adequate spending: \$0 to \$394M*

Early Childhood Special Education

Data gathered for directional placeholder

- *Revised to reflect cost information from sample school districts: \$359M to \$1.037B*

Dual Language Learners

Updated in partnership with Latino Policy Forum

- *Awaiting additional information from ISBE*

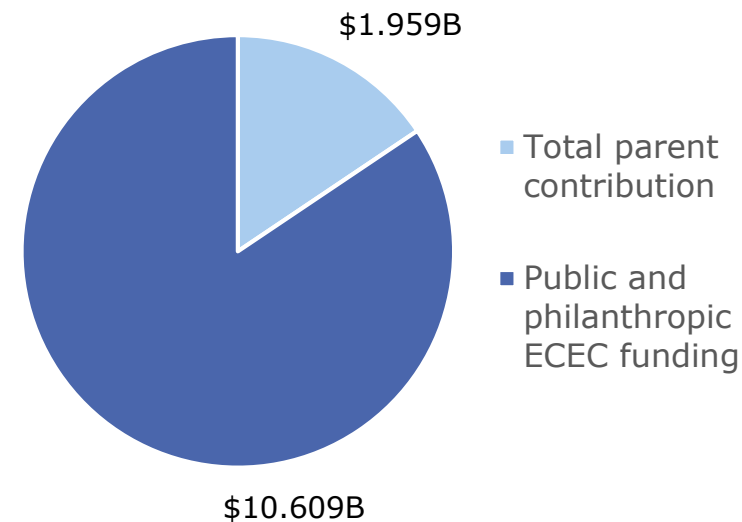
Infrastructure

In process by Technical Working Group

Reminder: In July, we estimated the cost of an adequately funded ECEC system at **\$12.6 Billion per year**, of which \$10.6 Billion would be publicly funded.

TOTAL STATEWIDE COST		
		Projected Cost (\$mils)
Center-based		\$5.607
	<i>Infants</i>	<i>\$0.695</i>
	<i>Toddlers</i>	<i>\$1.232</i>
	<i>Two year olds</i>	<i>\$1.183</i>
	<i>Preschool</i>	<i>\$2.498</i>
Center-based Transportation		\$0.129
School-based		\$2.827
School-based Transportation		\$0.110
English Learners (in CBO/FCCs)		\$0.048
Special Needs/Inclusion in CBOs		\$0.359
Special Needs/Inclusion in School PreK		\$0.306
Licensed family child care		\$1.596
Relative care		\$0.292
Sub-total		\$11.145
Infrastructure	8%	\$0.892
Home Visiting*		\$0.531
TOTAL COST		\$12.568

Illinois' Adequate ECEC System Costs



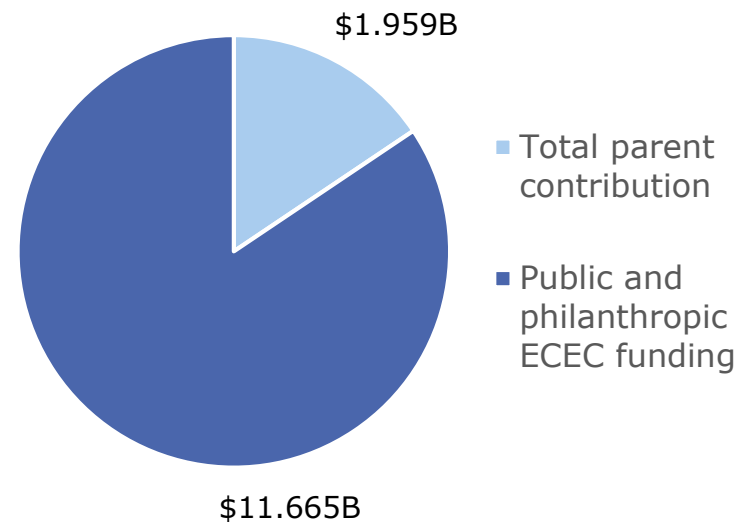
TOTAL PARENT CONTRIBUTION **\$1.959**

TOTAL COST WITH PARENT CONTRIBUTION **\$10.609**

Including updates, our revised adequacy estimate is **\$13.6B**, of which **\$11.7B** is publicly funded

TOTAL STATEWIDE COST		
Service		Projected Cost (\$bils)
Center-Based		\$5.607
	<i>Infants</i>	\$0.695
	<i>Toddlers</i>	\$1.232
	<i>Two year olds</i>	\$1.183
	<i>Preschool</i>	\$2.498
Center-Based Transportation		\$0.129
School-Based		\$2.827
School-Based Transportation		\$0.110
English Learners (in CBO/FCCs)		\$0.048
Special Needs/Inclusion in CBOs		\$0.680
Special Needs/Inclusion in School PreK		\$0.357
Licensed Family Child Care		\$1.596
Relative Care		\$0.292
Early Intervention		\$0.394
Sub-total		\$12.041
Infrastructure	8%	\$0.963
Home Visiting*		\$0.620
TOTAL COST		\$13.624
TOTAL PARENT CONTRIBUTION		\$1.959
TOTAL COST WITH PARENT CONTRIBUTION		\$11.665

Illinois' Adequate ECEC System Costs



Guard rails can support progress toward achieving the funding goals

1. The funding adequacy model should be used to **inform stakeholder engagement, policy, and funding priorities and policies**
2. The cost model should be **updated at minimum every four years** in alignment with the Commission's Guiding Principles and values, and an annual update should be conducted for inflationary factors and any material changes
3. An **advisory body** should be created to support the **periodic re-evaluation** of funding adequacy
4. A study should be conducted to **assess current local funding and identify options and incentives** for longer-term local contributions

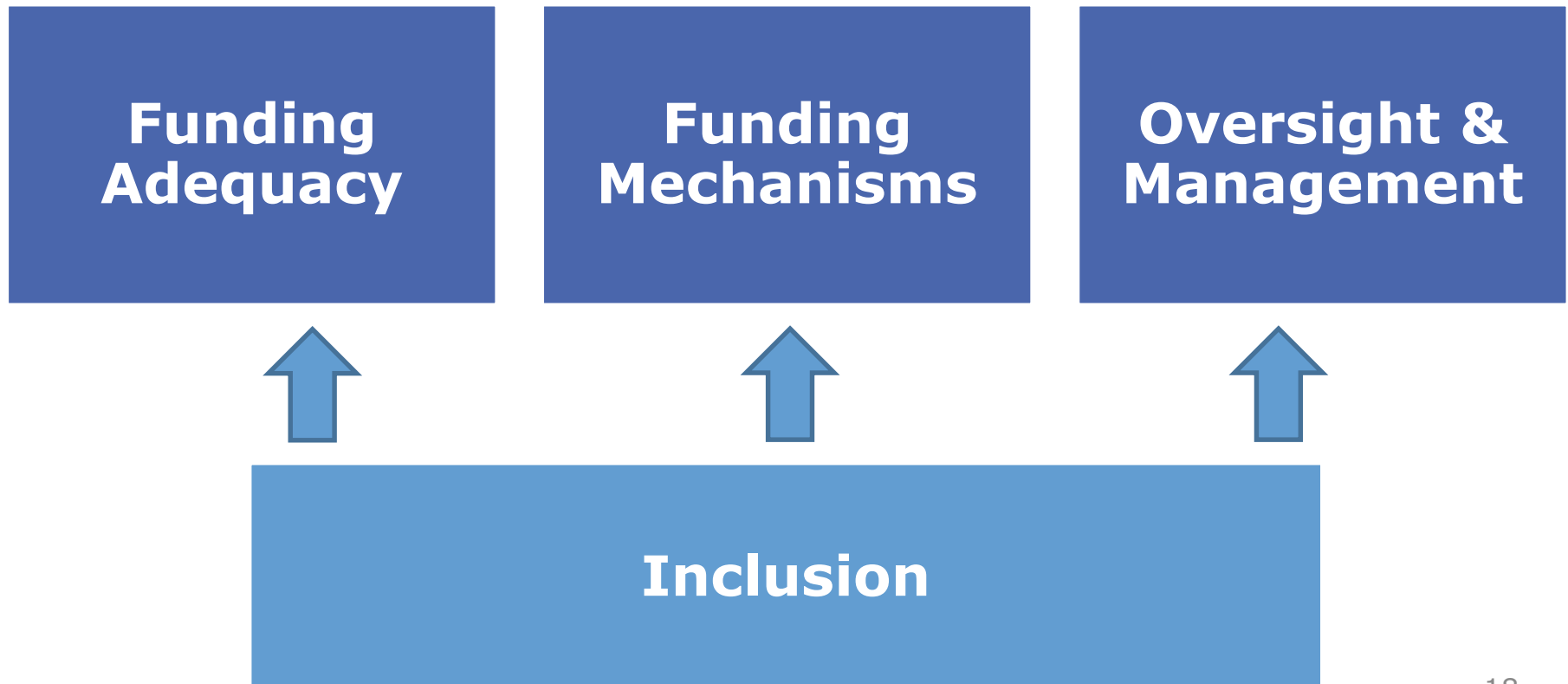
Commission reactions

1. What **remaining questions or issues** must be addressed to fulfill our charge regarding funding adequacy?
2. What **more information do you need or what would need to change** to support these draft funding adequacy recommendations?

*Draft Recommendations for **Early Intervention** and **Early Childhood Special Education** in response to the Commission's charge*

Inclusion Charge

Inform the work of other Working Groups and the full Commission as it relates to children receiving special education and early intervention services, in alignment with the Commission's guiding principles



Draft Recommendation

Charge: Establish **funding goals** to provide equitable access to high-quality ECEC services for all children birth to age five



We must adequately fund EI and ECSE services in Illinois.

Model the cost necessary to adequately fund EI and ECSE services. Reevaluate the ECSE calculation in EBF.

Draft Recommendation

Charge: Establish **funding mechanisms** to provide equitable access to high-quality ECEC services for all children birth to age five



- ✓ For the time being, state appropriations for Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) should remain in the K-12 Evidence-Based Funding Formula (EBF).
- ✓ Further define how to best serve ECSE children ages 3-5 wherever they are in the mixed delivery system, at the location of family choice and informed by the IEP team. Define the funding mechanism parameters that transparently and effectively support providers in offering a continuum of services to meet child and family need in a high-quality setting for children with disabilities and typically developing children.
- ✓ Evaluate options for an Early Intervention (EI) system of payments that can incentivize smooth, equitable family service delivery and effective collaboration, effectively recruit and retain qualified service providers, and promote smooth transitions between programs.

Draft Recommendation

To implement centralized ECEC funding allocation and disbursal...



In the long term, consider centralizing EI and ECSE in the new ECEC agency.

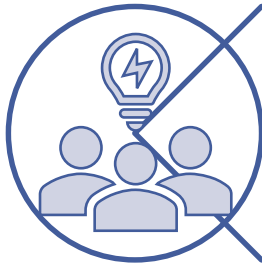
In the short term, EI should centralize in the new ECEC agency while ECSE should remain in ISBE as a funding mechanism and feasibility of transition to a new agency is evaluated.

Commission reactions

1. What **remaining questions or issues** must be addressed to fulfill our charge regarding funding adequacy?
2. What **more information do you need or what would need to change** to support these draft funding adequacy recommendations?

National Panel of Experts

National Panel of Experts - Purpose



Provide feedback and suggestions on the draft recommendations



Respond to your questions about the recommendations

Questions we've asked the panel regarding the Commission's draft recommendations

- Do they **make sense** to you, given what you know about Illinois' context? National context? What have other states done that has or hasn't worked?
- Do they **seem feasible** to you? What concerns come to mind regarding a timeline for implementation, fiscal viability, lessons learned from other states, etc.?
- What are we **missing** that the Commission should consider including in the recommendations to be fully responsive to the charge?
- The Commission's charge prioritizes **equitable access to high-quality services**
 - What **equity concerns** do you have about the recommendations?
 - What **guardrails or implementation priorities** should the Commission consider to ensure the recommendations lead to greater equity in Illinois' early childhood system?

Commission's Draft Recommendations



One Re-designed Funding System

Centralize funding distribution and allocation, streamlining how funding distribution from the state to providers, aligned with Guiding Principles



One New State Agency

Centralize ECEC state agency programs and capacities from three agencies to **one new agency** to effectuate the new system of funding



One Funding Goal

Articulated ECEC **funding adequacy calculation**

National Panel of Experts

Miriam Calderon

Early Learning System Director, State of Oregon

Harriet Dichter

Consulting Director, Early Childhood Education, ICF

Sherri Killins Stewart

Director of Systems Alignment and Integration, BUILD Initiative

Linda Smith

Director, Early Childhood Initiative, Bipartisan Policy Center

Racial Equity and Technical Working Groups

Racial Equity and Technical Working Groups are conducting due diligence and vetting

Racial Equity Working Group

- External support from Chicago United for Equity
- Facilitated analysis inspired by Racial Equity Impact Assessment, with expertise from:
 - Stakeholders, including providers and families
 - BUILD Racial Equity Group
 - Commission members
- Focus on implementation and accountability

Technical Working Group

- Internal team of state agency staff
- Priority project: cost estimation for current, synthesized, and future infrastructure
- Incorporating state and national best practices and lessons learned

Next Steps

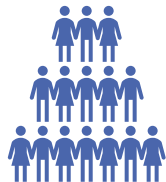
Priorities through year-end



Racial equity working group



Technical working group



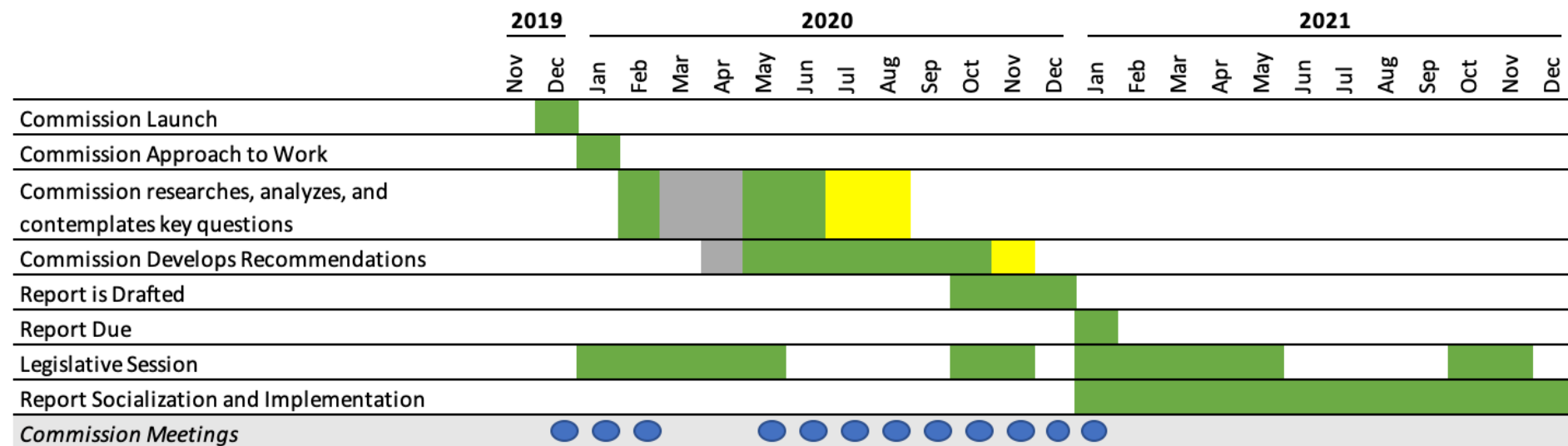
Stakeholder feedback



Draft Commission final report

Commission Timeline

The Commission will deliver its report by January 2021 with consideration to the Governor's budget address and legislative session timing.



Objectives for Remaining Commission Meetings

September
2020

- Discuss the Commission's collective set of draft recommendations
- Identify areas of question, concern, and need for more information

October
2020

- Review finalized funding adequacy outcomes
- Engage with national expert panel on draft recommendations
- Identify additional areas for inquiry on draft recommendations

November
2020

- Receive recommendations from Racial Equity Working Group
- Discuss areas for revision of draft recommendations

December
2020

- Receive recommendations from Technical Working Group
- Review finalized outline of Commission recommendations
- Formal Commissioner sign-on to recommendations

January
2021

- Consensus on the Commission's Final Report and follow-on needs
- Send recommendations to the Governor

Ongoing opportunities for feedback

Racial Equity Working Group

Technical Working Group

Stakeholder Engagement
Forums

National Panel of Experts

*Each of these can
be used to
address gaps,
answer questions,
and respond to
concerns*

Stakeholder Engagement Activities

August - December 2020

August
2020

September
2020

October
2020

November
2020

December
2020

January
2021

Coalition-led
provider and
family focus
groups

Commission
members
engage their
respective
stakeholders

Virtual
Town
Halls

Consensus
building w/
Commission
members
and key
stakeholders

Formal
publication

Stakeholder Engagement Call for Feedback and Recommendations

Commission members or members of the public who would like to provide written feedback on the Working Groups' initial conclusions or any other materials presented or discussed at the Commission are invited to do so.

Please submit your written feedback to the Commission by emailing it to bethany.patten@Illinois.gov.

Next steps

- **Racial Equity** and **Technical Working Groups** continue their work
- November **Commission Meeting** will be held virtually on **Tuesday 11/10**
 - Receive update from Racial Equity Working Group
 - Discuss areas for revision of draft recommendations

Reflections on today's discussions



Public Comment

Thank You

