

May 27, 2021

Daniel Buchholtz, City Administrator
City of Spring Lake Park
1301 81st Ave NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432-2188

Dear Mr. Buchholtz:

At this time of the year, the Metropolitan Council normally releases its population and household estimates for use in various state aid programs. However, in a year that follows a federal census, we do not prepare estimates and instead use the counts from the census. While we would normally have census counts to share with you at this point in the federal census cycle, the COVID-19 pandemic has forced the U.S. Census Bureau to delay the release of its 2020 counts.

We do not yet have an exact date for the release of the 2020 census population and household totals for counties, cities, and townships. We will keep you posted as the Census Bureau provides additional information about the timing of its upcoming releases. We recognize that this delay creates hardships for you and your staff who depend on accurate population numbers for your government's business. In response:

- We are preparing to make the new numbers available as soon as they are released. We will post these on our website and transmit them via email and the U.S. Postal Service.
- We are working with the Minnesota Departments of Revenue and Transportation to ensure that impacts to formula-based local funding will be minimal.
- When these numbers are released, we will also send you additional details about the Census Bureau's Census Count Question Resolution (CQR) program, which allows local, tribal, and state governments to request a formal review of their census counts if they believe their population has been misallocated. The CQR program is currently set to accept review requests between January 2022 and June 30, 2023.

We are happy to discuss population trends in your community with you or your staff if that would be useful. Please do not hesitate to reach out (Matt.Schroeder@metc.state.mn.us) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Matt Schroeder
Principal Researcher