

California Citizens Redistricting Commission

"Fair Representation—Democracy At Work!"



From: Commissioner Barabba, Chairman

To: All Commissioners, Citizen's Redistricting Commission

Date: April 22, 2011

Fellow Commissioners,

Although I was not able to attend the entire Merced Regional Wrap-Up, based on the feedback received it is evident that we haven't had the opportunity to discuss our process for directing our technical consultant and we need to do so. Developing an efficient and effective process is critical if we are to meet the deadline and eventually delivering a set of maps of which we will be proud.

Also, based on what I heard, Q2 with very little prior direction because the contract was not signed until just prior to the meeting, did the best they could in the absence of direction from the Commission

So, Dan, Kirk, Cynthia and I met with both Q2 and Gibson Dunn yesterday to talk about how to move forward constructively.

As part of that discussion please review the attached a memo from Q2 outlining the challenges facing the Commission and suggested pathways to improve the interaction. Some key takeaways from Q2's suggested process:

- We need to use our time effectively to begin giving some general direction, or we could end up with a situation where Q2 will not have enough time to meet our June 10 deadline for the first draft maps. It will take an estimated 240 person hours to generate all 4 required maps--after direction from the Commission.
- Q2 can show us general alternatives during our regional wrap-up sessions to help visualize key choices, but can only do detailed maps for a few options.
- If we don't provide some direction along the way, the Commission will not have enough time to troubleshoot problem areas that will result from conflicting public testimony.
- If we choose to wait until May 27, after we have conducted all the initial outreach meetings to give direction, we'll face the possibility of having to eliminate one round of draft maps.

We will have ample opportunity to discuss this as a group on 4/27. As part of that meeting I would like to discuss a process for systematically considering alternatives to help us understand the complexity of the problem we are facing based on my experience at the Census Bureau and the private sector. In some ways we have successfully used similar thinking when the first eight co-created the "Chairman's Slate" and again when we replaced Elaine.

Attachments:

- A: Karin MacDonald, Q2 Data & Research, LLC: Line Drawing Process
- B: Commissioner Barabba, CRC: Dialogue Decision Process
- C: Commissioner Barabba, CRC: Dialogue Decision Process Power Point Presentation