A Timeline for the Next Citizens Redistricting Commission in California, 2019–22*

Design of the Commission (Start: Feb. 2019)
✓ Begin regulation process
✓ Hold interested-persons meetings
✓ Present draft regulations
✓ Seek public comment on draft regulations
✓ Revise and adopt regulations
✓ Conduct Department of Justice Section 5 preclearance of regulations
✓ Begin outreach by community organizations to underrepresented groups for participation in the redistricting process
✓ Select organization to prepare commission deliberation process

Selection of the Commissioners (Start: No later than Aug. 15, 2019)
✓ Begin commissioner selection process
✓ Work with census-count committees to advertise openings; embed redistricting message into census outreach
✓ Submit Invitation for Public Bidding (IPB) from private resources (see sidebar in chapter 4)
✓ Begin meeting with organized groups to recruit applicants
✓ Identify and implement strategies to reach underrepresented groups
✓ Conduct broad and targeted outreach utilizing mainstream and ethnic media as well as community organizations
✓ Establish Applicant Review Panel
✓ Close application period
✓ Publicize the names in the applicant pool and provide copies of their applications to the Applicant Review Panel (March 15, 2020)
✓ Conduct initial screening
✓ Accept secondary applications
✓ Applicant Review Panel presents its subpools of recommended applicants to the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly (by May 15, 2020)
✓ Conduct interviews
✓ Hire staff for preparing commission and setting up office space, telephone, website, and email accounts
✓ Select all commissioners by August 15, 2020
✓ Seat full commission

*This proposed timeline fully incorporates the changes implemented by SB 1096, signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on September 7, 2012, An Act to Amend Sections 8251, 8252, 8252.5, 8253, and 8253.6 of the California Government Code, Relating to Redistricting, 2012 Statutes, Chapter 271.

Preparation of the Commission, Part 1 (Start: Feb. 15, 2020)
✓ Planning organization begins work
✓ Begin recruiting polarization scholars
✓ Initiate study of racially polarized voting
✓ Background research on staff and consultant needs for commission
✓ Adopt staff-hiring criteria
✓ Develop outreach plan and hire outreach consultant
✓ Initiate objective study of COIs
✓ Conduct analysis of census data, either by an agency or contractor (for COI purposes)
✓ Begin collecting demographic data (ACS survey results for 2018 are released in September 2019, and results for 2014–18 are released in December 2019)
✓ Find and reserve meeting place for the commission's deliberations
✓ Conduct any other organizational tasks that can be prepared in advance of the commission's seating

Preparation of the Commission, Part 2 (Start: Aug. 16, 2020)
✓ Begin training for full commission immediately, including VRA and guidance on diversity and intergroup communication; if necessary, training for original commissioners should be repeated for the full group
✓ Hire support staff
✓ Adopt criteria for hiring consultants (line-drawing contractor, counsel, VRA counsel, polarization specialists)
✓ Conduct first round of public hearings

Commission Deliberations (Start: Sep. 2020)
✓ Take note of ACS data release (ACS survey results for 2019 are released in September 2020, and results for 2015–19 are released in December 2020)
✓ Begin examination of VRA districts
✓ Draw VRA districts
✓ Release first-draft maps (no later than May 1, 2021)
✓ Solicit public comment on first-draft maps
✓ Release second-draft maps (no later than June 15, 2021)
✓ Solicit public comment on second-draft maps
✓ Change draft maps based on public comment
✓ Release final maps (August 2021)
✓ Conduct Department of Justice Section 5 preclearance

Post-mapping Phase (Start: August 2021) (End: Jan. 2022)
✓ Procedural wind-down, including wrapping up and any preparations for next commission
✓ Litigation defense related to the final maps