

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Transcription by:

eScribers, LLC

APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONERS



Derric H. Taylor, Chair
Pedro Toledo, Vice-Chair
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner
Jane Andersen, Commissioner
Alicia Fernandez, Commissioner
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner
J. Ray Kennedy, Commissioner
Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner
Trena Turner, Commissioner
Angela Vazquez, Commissioner
Russell Yee, Commissioner

STAFF

Daniel Claypool, Executive Director
Alvaro E. Hernandez, Deputy Executive Director
Kary Marshall, Chief Counsel
Marian Johnston, CRC Staff Counsel
Tina Keller, Paralegal
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Cecilia Gomez Reyes, Communications Manager
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach
Wanda Sheffield, Office Technician

PRESENTERS

Mike Zimmerman, California Farm Bureau
Martin Wilson, California Chamber of Commerce
Justin Hyer, Silicon Valley Leadership Group

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/ Comment Moderator

Also Present

Public Comment

Renee Westa-Lusk
Lori Shellenberger, California Common Cause

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
Call to Order and Roll Call	4
General Announcements	5
Communications Director's Report	8
Social Media Update	15
Economic Sector Panel	20
Deputy Executive Director's Report	61
Public Comment	129
Chief Counsel's Report	135
Subcommittee Updates	136
Future Meeting Dates & Agenda	222
Public Comment	233
Adjournment	236

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 January 27, 2021

9:30 a.m.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Good morning, California. Good
4 morning, staff. Good morning, Commissioners. It is
5 9:30, January 27th, 2021, day 2 of the January 26th -- of
6 the meeting that began January 26th of the California
7 Citizens Redistricting Commission.

8 I am your rotating Chair, Derric Taylor, along with
9 the Vice Chair, Pedro Toledo.

10 Can we call the roll, please, Ms. Sheffield.

11 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Toledo.

12 Commissioner Turner.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm here.

14 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Vazquez.

15 Commissioner Yee.

16 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here.

17 COMMISSIONER YEE: Also here.

18 MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay. Commissioner Ahmad.

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

20 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Akutagawa.

21 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

22 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

24 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.

1 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fornaciari.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm here.

3 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Kennedy.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

5 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Le Mons.

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

7 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Sadhwani.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

9 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Sinay.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

11 MS. SHEFFIELD: And Commissioner Taylor.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Present. Thank you.

13 As a preview of where we -- preview and review of
14 where we left off on the agenda, we stopped -- if you're
15 following along, we stopped at agenda item number 6, the
16 deputy executive director's report.

17 What is important to note for those that are
18 following along is that today at 10 a.m., we're going to
19 have a panel for agenda item number 12, the economic
20 sector panel.

21 Also for those following along, it is important to
22 note that tomorrow at 10 a.m., we're specifically going
23 to address agenda item number 13, the language access
24 recommendations by Commissioner Akutagawa and
25 Commissioner Fernandez.

1 We're now going to open it up for public comment.
2 Kristian, can you make the announcement, please, and
3 invite our public for comment, please. Thank you.

4 MR. MANOFF: Certainly, Chair.

5 In order to maximize transparency and public
6 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
7 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
8 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. The
9 number is 877-853-5247.

10 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number, it is
11 provided on the livestream feed. It is 97679349222 for
12 this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
13 participant ID, simply press pound.

14 Once you've dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue,
15 from which a moderator will begin unmuting callers. To
16 indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9. This
17 will raise your hand for the comment moderator.

18 When it is your turn to speak, the moderator will
19 unmute you, and you will hear an automated message that
20 says, "The host would like you to talk", and to press
21 star 6 to speak.

22 While you are not required to give your name, if you
23 would like to, please spell it for the record.

24 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
25 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your

1 call.

2 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when
3 it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the
4 livestream volume.

5 There are currently no callers in the queue, Chair.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give a moment for
7 the live feed to catch up to us, so we'll give pause.

8 I thank all the Commissioners that joined us that
9 are up north, that decided to hang out instead of fixing
10 their fences and getting all the trees out of their yards
11 and streets. So we know we have some unusual weather
12 conditions. So thanks.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'll just comment that I
14 haven't had electricity since yesterday, and so I've been
15 displaced.

16 MR. MANOFF: There are still no callers in the
17 queue, Chair.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian. We'll give it
19 another minute or so.

20 All right, Commissioners. We do not have anyone in
21 the queue waiting to speak. So we have a few moments
22 before our panel joins us, and for the sake of
23 continuity, we do not want to start with the deputy
24 executive director's report, as there's going to be a lot
25 of interrelated topics that is going to run longer than

1 the fifteen minutes we have before our panel.

2 So I would ask -- Fredy, go ahead. Director Ceja,
3 go ahead.

4 MR. CEJA: No worries, Mr. Chair. We can present
5 the communications report. It's fairly short.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure. Great idea. If you can fit it
7 in, absolutely.

8 MR. CEJA: Well, since my microphone is working, I'm
9 going to take full advantage of that.

10 I wanted to give Commissioners and the public an
11 updated with regards to our website. The past two weeks
12 have been grueling. We've been going back and forth
13 between the California Department of Technology and
14 NationBuilder, the host that would be taking care of our
15 sites. It's just an issue between the two being able to
16 port one from the other, so we're still figuring out
17 solutions.

18 We get emails back and forth every day, so don't
19 think that we're not on top of this; we are. It's
20 actually -- I lose sleep over it every day, because this
21 should have been done a long time ago. So fear not. We
22 will have a solution soon, and will report on that
23 accordingly.

24 The other thing that I wanted to share with you now
25 is a posting schedule that we came up with in the

1 communications department, and we vetted it through the
2 outreach staff as well.

3 So I'm going to share my screen, and this is to give
4 you an idea of how frequently we're going to be doing
5 communications activities, so you know what we'll be
6 doing on a daily basis.

7 Can everyone see my screen? Yes. Okay.

8 So as far as media relations is concerned, I plan on
9 doing editorial boards with a few Commissioners, February
10 through March, where we'll be talking to editorial boards
11 throughout the state, pretty similar to what you'll be
12 doing out in education sessions, just, this is who we
13 are. This is what we do. Be on the lookout for the work
14 we're going to be doing between these months and the
15 final deadline for when we have to certify the maps.

16 One-on-one meetings with reporters, we plan to do
17 that continuously. Pitching of stories, that will mainly
18 be my function, trying to get coverage for the work that
19 we're doing, trying to find angles, so that reporters
20 cover what we're doing. So I'll be doing that daily.

21 Media alerts and press releases, I'm going to do
22 this once a week, so have one major announcement go out a
23 week, in hopes that we'll get coverage for the work that
24 we're doing as well.

25 Press conferences, as needed for major

1 announcements. So once we select the line drawer, I
2 would hope that that would be newsworthy enough to have a
3 press conference, or any other milestone as significant
4 as that.

5 Being on television, having a Commissioner or one of
6 you on television twice a month is our goal, in print
7 media at least twice a month, on the radio at least once
8 a month -- and these are at least, so this is not where
9 we're going to -- where we plan to stop, for any of these
10 milestones or goals.

11 As far as the website is concerned, we want to do
12 updates to the website daily, so that content is fresh
13 and that people have the latest information, and don't
14 have to dig around for it, and hopefully, even the
15 documents that we share amongst ourselves will be updated
16 on the website, so that we have one place for all of us
17 to go.

18 Content sliders on the website. If you remember,
19 there's three content sliders that keep revolving. That
20 can be used for pertinent information, to catch the
21 visitor's attention. Say we have another, like, the RFA
22 for outreach grants. That would be a great place to
23 place it, so that people see it as they visit our site,
24 and those content sliders can change as needed when we
25 have other updates.

1 We do want to do an events calendar on the website,
2 so I know, in our conversations about outreach, we have
3 been asked to let the public know when we're going to be
4 doing redistricting basics presentations. So we want
5 to -- as you start securing those, we want to start
6 including those on the calendar, so people know where
7 we're going to be presenting, and so that they can log on
8 and see you all doing your work with our community
9 partners.

10 As far as social media, I'm so grateful that we have
11 Cecy. She'll go into detail about her social media
12 platforms, but Facebook, we plan to post three times a
13 day, Twitter twice a day, Instagram three times a week,
14 and YouTube as needed, once we have videos.

15 We have a videographer that we just put on contract,
16 so we'll start chatting with him on Friday about the
17 layout of our initial introductory video, and then a
18 shorter, thirty-second or one-minute video that we can
19 use for our website and social media, and then, in
20 addition to that, we're going to start doing smaller,
21 thirty-second videos and vignettes to put on social media
22 to get our word out. So those will be housed on YouTube
23 as our content, as well as our website.

24 Then, social media ads. We did carve out a budget
25 to do this. So prior to each community input meeting,

1 once we start gathering community input, we want to start
2 publicizing that on social media. So that will take
3 money to do, through ads, advertisements, and we also
4 want to use those monies for general public relations and
5 increasing our audiences. Right now our channels are
6 somewhat lacking in audience, so we want to build those
7 up, so that our voice can reach deeper into the state.

8 As far as e-blasts, we want to do a newsletter once
9 a month, recapping what we've done the prior month,
10 keeping the public informed. And as far as
11 announcements, we'll be shooting e-blasts as needed, as
12 we've done with RFPs or any major announcements.

13 And then videos. Because we do have a videographer,
14 we want to aim for once a week, shooting out an
15 educational video or something that keeps the public's
16 interest at large.

17 So this is what we're tasking ourselves to do for
18 the remainder of our time together. If you all have
19 additions or changes or suggestions, we can chat about
20 that, or you can email me directly if you have ideas of
21 other things we should also be focusing on. We value
22 that input, and we'll integrate it into this plan.

23 I'll stop sharing so you can see your audience, Mr.
24 Chair.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.



1 Commissioner Kennedy.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

3 Two things. One, I would like to -- I realize that
4 you've said that those are only minimums, but I really
5 would like to pitch for a higher minimum on radio. In
6 areas such as this, you know, radio is probably the best
7 way to reach people out here, and it is very important.
8 There's a lot of radio listening going on where there
9 aren't newspapers circulating, for example. So I really
10 want to pitch for more focus on radio.

11 Second of all, you know, thank you for sharing the
12 media list for our outreach zone. It's not complete. I
13 mean, our radio station in Joshua Tree is not listed.
14 Our newspaper in Yucca Valley is not listed. So I don't
15 know where that list came from, but there are holes in
16 it, and I'm happy to share with you all of the research
17 that I've been doing into media in San Bernardino and
18 Riverside counties. So I would encourage colleagues also
19 to do as much as possible to help Fredy build out the
20 media list, so that we really do have a comprehensive
21 list. Thank you.

22 MR. CEJA: If I may, we do have --

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 MR. CEJA: I'm sorry. We do have a subscription to
25 Meltwater, which is a media monitoring service. So I did

1 pull together a media list for you, Commissioner Kennedy,
2 for San Bernardino, Riverside, and then I plugged in Palm
3 Springs. So maybe I need to add additional cities to
4 capture the audience that you're going for, but if other
5 Commissioners would like a similar media contact list,
6 please send me over the cities that you're targeting, and
7 I can pull that together for you.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

9 Commissioner Sinay.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. This is great.

11 Thank you, Fredy, and I'm like you. I always write, at
12 least, hoping to do more.

13 What might be helpful for all us as we're thinking
14 about our zones is, if you're from that zone or as you're
15 talking to folks, finding out what are the different --
16 the best vehicles. Like, in San Diego, I would say our
17 local neighborhood papers get read a lot more, because
18 they come directly to our houses, versus others, and so
19 those are just the little pieces that are really helpful,
20 as well as -- yes. But you know, I think all of us can
21 help with that.

22 I had a quick question for Cecilia. Since you are
23 our social media, when you do a -- Commissioner Ahmad and
24 I are doing a Facebook Live tomorrow. Is that the same
25 as Zoom? Will it look like Zoom, or what will it look

1 like?

2 MS. REYES: So you're going to do a Facebook Live,
3 like just a regular video? Is that what you're asking?

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think so.

5 MS. REYES: Yes. So it's not the same. I mean, you
6 can integrate them, if you'd like. You can integrate
7 Zoom, and then have it go live onto Facebook Live, which
8 I recommend. I'm happy to kind of go with it over (sic).
9 The main difference between Facebook and Zoom is that you
10 can allow for commenting, so you have to monitor the
11 comments, too. You don't have to, but you can respond to
12 them later.

13 But I'm happy to kind of go over it with you to see
14 what the, I guess, game plan would be, and how you would
15 like to address, you know, any comments, whether you'd
16 like to address them live, or whether you'd like -- which
17 is probably preferred -- or if you'd like to answer some
18 of the comments post the live video. So I guess it
19 requires a little bit of planning, and just kind of being
20 comfortable with some of the things that may come up.

21 MR. CEJA: Cecilia -- I'm sorry. Cecilia has a
22 short report on social media. So whenever you're ready
23 for that, just let her know.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Actually, go right ahead.

25 MS. REYES: Okay. So actually, there's two things

1 I'd like to provide an update on. On the media training,
2 so I'm developing a curriculum with Director Ceja. We
3 wanted to do a training session.

4 So there will probably be at least two training
5 sessions that you can sign up for, just kind of basics,
6 especially for some of the Commissioners that are either
7 comfortable, and just need, like, a little refresher, or
8 with some Commissioners that are completely new or it's
9 been a while that you've worked with media interviews and
10 the like.

11 So then after the training, we're going to set up
12 one-on-ones, where we can record you, kind of provide
13 feedback, give you a little bit of suggestions or
14 adjustments that you might want to consider.

15 On social media, we have three social media
16 accounts. I saw in the chat that you asked about
17 LinkedIn and TikTok. For now, we have Facebook, Twitter,
18 and Instagram. They're all at WeDrawTheLinesCA. I will
19 send you the handles directly in an email, just to
20 encourage folks to share with friends, colleagues, so we
21 can expand our online presence. I can definitely help
22 with that, for some suggestions.

23 For example, with Twitter, I went ahead and followed
24 reporters, to build rapport with reporters, so they can
25 follow us back, kind of keep in the know of what we're

1 doing on a regular basis. Same with Facebook and
2 Instagram, you know, follow folks, or ask folks to become
3 friends with our pages, or like our pages, so we can
4 develop that online presence.

5 So we are planning -- I have a content calendar
6 specifically for social media, so some planned content,
7 and then some spontaneous content that, you know, kind of
8 arises. Like, for example, yesterday someone wanted to
9 know how to watch the video, the livestream, so we went
10 ahead and posted that, things like that, but if there's
11 an article that maybe you're mentioned, or an article
12 that you really like, and want to make sure that it's on
13 our social media platforms, feel free to send it over,
14 and we'll be happy to share it.

15 I'm always open to feedback. If there's something
16 that you'd like to see, like Twitter or -- I'm sorry --
17 like a LinkedIn or a TikTok account, I'd be happy to
18 explore that, to see if that works for us.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

20 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you for this excellent
21 work. It's really exciting as it starts to come
22 together.

23 One bit of feedback from Zone B, up in the upper
24 northeast of the state. We heard that, you know, some
25 people actually do rely just on snail mail, you know, not

1 really using online things, even out of reach of radio.
2 So you know, postcards, direct mail may be targeted when
3 we do specific outreach events and community input
4 meetings in regions like that, but it sounded like that
5 was fairly important.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

7 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Just out of curiosity, and
8 I'm sorry I missed this part, but is ethnic media
9 included in, or is that just kind of like, just
10 generally, you're just talking about media? And I'm
11 asking about ethnic media because I know certain
12 communities do -- you know, to Commissioner Kennedy's
13 point, certain communities do rely, you know, more on,
14 like, radio and TV versus, like, print media. So I was
15 just curious if that was already included in as part of
16 your overall plan.

17 MR. CEJA: It is, definitely. I think, living in
18 California, it's hard not to include ethnic media, but I
19 will dig up additional ethnic media lists, and then run
20 those by the Commissioners, to make sure that we caught
21 everyone.

22 Lastly, if I can -- I'm sorry -- for Facebook Live,
23 Facebook Live is in addition to whatever Zoom meeting
24 you're on, so it's used as a way to publicize your
25 meeting on someone's Facebook account.

1 So what we want to get into the habit of doing is
2 having all these meetings that we're hosting go live on
3 our Facebook site, so that people that are online see,
4 oh, you're going live, you have an event going on, and
5 likely, when Commissioners are presenting at an
6 organization's meeting, we can also go live and share
7 that on our site, on our Facebook site.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just want to follow up on
10 ethnic media, Director Ceja. I just want to particularly
11 note, in the black refugee communities, the Pacific
12 Islander communities -- and I'm also -- while Hmong is
13 not going to be one of the statewide recommended
14 languages that we're including, I do know that they're
15 also a community in which the oral traditions are very
16 important.

17 So I know that radio and TV are important to all of
18 those, and so we can -- I think, with all of our
19 different contacts in our zones, we could try to identify
20 what the appropriate media would be for those
21 communities, but I want to particularly make sure that we
22 include or have some kind of plan for radio and TV for
23 those communities.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

25 Any other questions or final word, Director Ceja?

1 MR. CEJA: No, just thank you so much, and we'll
2 have a longer discussion on collateral materials in the
3 outreach materials committee.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much.

5 So Commissioners, we are at 9:56. I see that one of
6 our guests has joined our panel, so I'll turn it over to
7 Commissioners Fornaciari and Sinay for the economic
8 sector panel.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. Thank you. Let's
10 see. I'm going to start with a little context here. So
11 we've -- you know, the outreach team has brought in folks
12 from various community-based organizations that we've
13 heard from, and thought it would be a good idea to hear
14 from various sectors, kind of an educational opportunity
15 for the Commissioners to hear from various sectors out
16 there, so that, when we go out and receive public input,
17 we have a foundation of understanding of the perspective
18 of these various sectors.

19 So as you know, we have what we call the "economic
20 sector panel" today. It might be better termed "business
21 sector panel", and as Commissioner Vazquez yesterday
22 mentioned, we're bringing in a labor sector panel. We're
23 thinking about a housing sector panel, education sector
24 panel next time, environmental infrastructure panel,
25 where we talk about water, transportation, and

1 environment.

2 So we're just looking, you know, kind of broadly, at
3 what are the sectors who would be interested and impacted
4 by redistricting, and so we can have an opportunity to
5 hear from them and what their issues are, again, before
6 we go out and begin to receive public comment.

7 So you know, in planning these educational
8 opportunities, it's a bit challenging, right, because who
9 do you pick? You know, it's huge, right, especially in
10 California. So start with this business panel.

11 We chose three organizations that we kind of thought
12 would be representative, the Chamber of Commerce, the
13 California Farm Bureau Federation to represent ag, which
14 is a big part of the economy, and then the Silicon Valley
15 Leadership Group, which is an organization that
16 represents the tax sector in the state.

17 You know, certainly there are a number of sectors
18 who are missing, or business sectors we're missing, but
19 you know, we had to settle -- choose three, and we
20 thought this would be going to be pretty representative.

21 So I'll start by introducing each of our panel
22 members, and then turn it over to them. They'll take a
23 few minutes to introduce themselves a little more deeply,
24 and then talk, you know, share their perspectives with
25 us.

1 The first panel member we have is Martin Wilson. I
2 think he goes by Marty. He's the Executive Vice
3 President of Public Affairs for the California Chamber of
4 Commerce. He's been involved in California politics for
5 almost forty years, with election and reelection of a
6 couple of governors, senators, and ballot measures, and
7 public affair campaigns.

8 We have Justin Hyer. He's the Vice President of
9 Government Relations for the Silicon Valley Leadership
10 Group. He's done a lot of work at the Assembly, managing
11 bills through the legislative process, and shaping
12 communications strategy in the State Assembly.

13 Then we have -- uh oh. I am so sorry. I've lost
14 Mike Zimmerman's bio here. I had it up, and somehow I
15 killed it. So Mike, I'll let you introduce yourself.

16 MR. ZIMMERMAN: That's okay. There's nothing good
17 on there, and you can't say anything bad about me now.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, why don't we
19 start with you, Mike. Thank you for doing it.

20 MR. ZIMMERMAN: I'm Mike Zimmerman. I'm the
21 Political Fairs Manager for California Farm Bureau
22 Federation. We represent over 30,000 farmers and
23 ranchers across the state. I've been here since 2018.
24 Prior to that, I had twenty-year-or-so career in the
25 state legislature, and also served as a political

1 consultant for candidates up and down the state and
2 across the country.

3 First off, I want to thank the Commission for
4 reaching out. I was somewhat involved in the 2010
5 process, because of my role as chief of staff to the
6 minority leader at the time. We were involved in the
7 selection of Commissioners. So I'm aware of what you all
8 are doing. I appreciate the willingness to reach out to
9 important sectors of the economy, like agriculture and
10 the others that are here on the call today. So you know,
11 on behalf of our members --

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: I think Mr. Zimmerman froze.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. We seem to have
14 lost Mr. Zimmerman.

15 Well, Marty, are you there?

16 MR. WILSON: I am.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Maybe you can go ahead and
18 introduce yourself, and we'll wait for Mike to come back.

19 MR. WILSON: Okay. Hopefully, he unfreezes soon.

20 Well, thank you very much. Good morning. My name
21 is Martin Wilson. As Commissioner Neal indicated, I'm
22 the Executive Vice President of Public Affairs for Cal
23 Chamber of Commerce.

24 Just briefly, the California Chamber of Commerce is
25 a business services, compliance, and advocacy



1 organization. We have more than 14,000 private-sector
2 employers from all parts of the state and all sectors of
3 the economy. We've been around for more than 125 years,
4 and we'd like to think of ourselves as the voice of
5 business in California's capital.

6 On behalf of our 14,000 members, I'd like to say
7 thank you for reaching out to our organization. This is
8 a very important process, one that we take seriously.
9 The job of drawing the political boundaries for the
10 legislative, congressional, and Board of Equalization
11 seats is very important.

12 As Mike indicated, and I'll echo, we're not new to
13 this process. We were actively engaged in 2011, when the
14 current maps were drawn, and Cal Chamber was an early and
15 ardent supporter of Propositions 11 and 20, which is what
16 brings us here today.

17 You have before you a tall order that will at times
18 seem to be an almost impossible task, but we're confident
19 you're the right people for the job. We at Cal Chamber
20 stand by to assist you throughout this important process.

21 The California Redistricting Commission's outreach
22 plan correctly views communities of interest that, among
23 many factors, includes the sharing of common social and
24 economic interests. Where people work, and in what types
25 of business, is a critically important consideration when

1 you get about drawing the lines.

2 Employees and business owners have many shared
3 interests, including how they get to and from work, and
4 whether they have sufficient employment opportunities to
5 provide a true skills marketplace, as well as access to
6 the same sources of news and information. We hope that
7 you'll take these into consideration when creating maps.

8 We believe that Cal Chamber is uniquely positioned
9 to assist the Chamber -- or the Commission -- in its
10 efforts to solicit input from the various economic
11 players across the state. As I stated, we're a statewide
12 organization, but within our network are over 200 local
13 Chambers of Commerce that we will encourage to bring
14 their perspective to the process, and speaking for the
15 businesses that they represent in their communities.
16 We're committed to encourage these local chambers to
17 engage, and become active in the process.

18 In addition to the Cal Chamber network, there's also
19 a California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, which we spoke
20 about the other day in a preliminary call, and I've
21 reached out and spoken to their chairman, Mr. Robert
22 Gutierrez. He was very involved in the process in 2011.
23 The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in California has more
24 than ninety chapters, and so we hope that they'll be
25 involved, and bring their unique perspective to the

1 process as well.

2 Speaking about this process, it's our observation
3 from ten years ago that the Redistricting Commission's
4 public input schedule may have just been a little too
5 ambitious. Too many meetings maybe shed more heat, but
6 not a lot of light, and it's important for the Commission
7 to convene regional meetings in a virtual format, but not
8 be weighted down by the lengthy process.

9 The most valuable input will come when the tentative
10 maps are presented. Something for your consideration
11 would be to develop draft narrative justification plans
12 for public review at the same time these draft maps are
13 released. This will assist the public with the
14 understanding of the maps, especially the descriptions of
15 communities of interest.

16 Seeking input from cities and counties will also
17 assist in offering insights into communities of interest.
18 As I've reminded our local Chamber colleagues, these
19 local entities are going to go through their own
20 redistricting process, and will certainly have useful
21 data to share with the Commission. Among the many
22 insights they will bring to the table may be how to avoid
23 the unnecessary splits of the counties.

24 The 2011 Senate maps split two counties among six
25 separate districts, creating several districts that just

1 defied logic, and I bring this up -- and I think Mike
2 will echo it as well, and perhaps Justin -- I bring this
3 up because it's my day job to actually use these maps,
4 and understand these maps, to help elect members of the
5 California legislature.

6 We are bipartisan with regard to our political
7 activities, working equally hard to elect both Democrats
8 and Republicans to the Senate and the Assembly. Fairly
9 drawn legislative districts are a critical component to
10 ensuring that the greatest number of Californians have
11 their voices heard in the Capitol.

12 Again, thank you again for allowing me to be here
13 with you today, and if there's questions later, I'm happy
14 to answer them. Thanks.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Mike, you back with
16 us?

17 MR. ZIMMERMAN: I think so, yes, and I apologize for
18 that. Like I said, I'm having to connect into my mobile
19 hotspot here. So if there continues to be issues, my
20 apologies, but I will try to get through a real quick
21 presentation and be available --

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: If you continue to have
23 issues, there should be a call-in number on the invite.

24 MR. ZIMMERMAN: Okay. I'll do that. Thank you.
25 Yes. If that happens again, I'll just -- I'll call back

1 in. Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

3 MR. ZIMMERMAN: So again, with the California Farm
4 Bureau Federation, representing over 30,000 farmers and
5 ranchers across the state. When we talk about outreach
6 to agriculture, you know, as one of the largest economic
7 sectors in the state, it's not hard to find us.

8 So our organization is made up of fifty-three
9 country Farm Bureaus, fifty-three out of the fifty-eight.
10 We do have some counties that have joined together to
11 form one regional Farm Bureau. Our members, you know,
12 stand at the ready to help you all make decisions, when
13 that times comes, on, you know, communities of interest
14 and things like that. Our county Farm Bureaus are
15 similar to the structure that we have here at the state
16 level. We have elected boards, and membership in each
17 county. So our folks will be available to talk to you
18 wherever you go, in any part of the state.

19 Our plan is to make our members, our board members,
20 county leaders, executive directors, things like that,
21 available to you for discussion and testimony when that
22 time comes. So you can always use me as a resource to
23 help find those folks once you start, you know, reaching
24 out across the state and holding -- whether they be
25 in-person or virtual meetings, we'll make sure that we



1 have those people available to you.

2 So California Farm Bureau, obviously, is just one ag
3 organization in the state. There's a whole lot of them.
4 We like to, obviously, think of ourselves as the best, of
5 course, but there's also commodity groups, so folks that
6 are interested in, you know, whether it be California
7 Citrus Mutual, or Dairy, or Western Growers, or
8 organizations like that, I certainly don't speak for
9 them, or their desired level of involvement in this
10 process, but to any sector of the ag economy, there are
11 folks that can speak with you.

12 Also water, obviously, is a very important issue for
13 us. There's, you know, elected Water Board members
14 across the state, in every region. There's water
15 organizations up and down the state, some that are, you
16 know, headquartered here in Sacramento. We would
17 encourage you to talk with those folks as well.

18 One of our biggest things is basically making sure
19 that everybody understands -- I know one of your charges,
20 obviously, is communities of interest -- that there are
21 ag communities of interest. So there are obviously
22 certain parts of the state that their economy, you know,
23 relies heavily on ag; some of those, obviously, in the
24 Central Valley, also in the Central Coast, down in
25 Imperial County.

1 Those places obviously, you know, rely heavy on ag.
2 So when we talk about communities of interest,
3 understanding that there's, you know, demographics and
4 things like that as well, but making sure that the voice
5 of ag is heard during this process would be invaluable.

6 Also understanding that ag is not -- you know, we
7 have these umbrella organizations, but you know, there's
8 obviously different needs depending on where you are in
9 the state. That can be north versus south, that can even
10 be east versus west, and sometimes those dividing lines
11 really are pretty sharp.

12 You know, the difference in what's needed or what's
13 wanted in San Joaquin County can vary greatly from what's
14 wanted in Stanislaus County, and obviously, those are
15 neighboring counties. So understanding those differences
16 in the wants, needs, and challenges of ag in those areas
17 is of critical importance.

18 When we talk about communities of interest, one of
19 the districts that I talk a lot about -- and I'm not here
20 right now advocating for any change. This is just an
21 example that we use in the ag community right now, and
22 that's the current -- and again, I apologize. I'm sure
23 you have access to maps, but I have a slide ready for
24 you.

25 Senate District 12, which is portions of Stanislaus

1 County, down through the Central Valley, and then it goes
2 over into the Central Coast, into San Benito and
3 Monterey. One of the things that's talked about with
4 that district when it relates to ag is that people point
5 to it and say, well, it's all ag, you know, it's all the
6 same thing; when, in fact, it's really not.

7 What we grow in the Central Valley is vastly
8 different from what's grown in Monterey and San Benito,
9 the types of crops that are grown. The water challenges
10 that you have in Monterey and San Benito are much
11 different than what you have in the Central Valley.

12 So those are the types of things that we hope to be
13 able to work on with you, and answer those questions, as
14 you get -- you know, as Marty said, you really start to
15 get these draft maps and things going. If you're
16 interested in keeping those ag communities of interest
17 together, those are the types of things that we would
18 like to discuss with you.

19 Then, also one of the other things, obviously, is,
20 you know, ag sort of versus this urban and suburban
21 creep, I guess, that's happening up and down the state
22 because of our growth, understanding, of course, that
23 that's going to happen. You have to find population
24 somewhere to create a district. We know that, but
25 understanding, again, if you have certain ag-based

1 economies in certain areas where that population -- say,
2 Fresno, for example, which is, you know, largely an
3 ag-based economy -- trying to keep those communities
4 whole as much as we can, so that ag can be properly
5 represented.

6 Again, we're prepared to follow this process all the
7 way through with all of you, and be a resource to you,
8 whether it's myself or our elected board members or
9 county officials. If we can ever be of service to you
10 moving forward, please do not hesitate to contact us, and
11 thank you again for having me today.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks, Mike.

13 Last, but certainly not least, Justin. Thank you
14 for joining us, Justin. Go ahead.

15 MR. HYER: Thank you, Neal. We really appreciate
16 the outreach the Commission has done with our
17 organization.

18 So just to give you a little brief on who we are at
19 the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, we're a business
20 organization that was founded around forty years ago by
21 David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, and the nexus behind
22 our organization is that we bring together the senior
23 executives and CEOs from our member companies to discuss
24 Silicon Valley as a whole, its infrastructure needs, its
25 economic needs, and how to make it a better place to live

1 and work.

2 So we represent about 350 member companies that --
3 they range from everything from the big tech giants, as
4 mentioned, to high-tech manufacturing, to including even
5 major sports teams, hospitals, anyone that is an employer
6 in the Valley and has a footprint there.

7 So to give you some perspective on what this
8 actually looks like, our members provide, collectively,
9 one in every three private-sector jobs, and contribute
10 more than three trillion dollars to the worldwide
11 economy. Our members do make up a large nexus of how the
12 Bay Area is seen, if you were to pull it out as its
13 own -- as a country, let's say. You have a GDP that
14 would rival, you know, nations, in terms of how large the
15 economic output is of the Valley.

16 So we really appreciate being a part of this
17 conversation, just because the employers, obviously, have
18 a large stake in this matter, but additionally, I just
19 want to emphasize that when you look at a place like
20 Silicon Valley -- and I'll get into some of my comments
21 that I just opened, and up for questions along with Mike
22 and Marty at the end, but if you look at a place like
23 Silicon Valley, it really is so much more than just San
24 Jose and Santa Clara County.

25 I know there's a great representation on this



1 Commission from the Bay Area, so I apologize if I'm
2 reiterating anything that folks already know, but the
3 nine counties that make up the Bay Area have a workforce
4 that extends even beyond those nine counties.

5 So our workforce for our member companies live --
6 they live as far east as Tracy. They live as far north
7 as Santa Rosa. They live as far south as Salinas, and
8 really commute into the Bay Area, and make up this large
9 economy.

10 We represent, you know, a lot of local elected
11 officials. We work in tandem with them on our public
12 policy priorities, and so you know, I want to just put
13 this all out there as a way to make ourselves available
14 as this process unfolds, to continue discussions, because
15 our member companies really are engaged on a lot of
16 different fronts.

17 One thing I'll note, as you're looking to engage
18 businesses, particularly in the sectors we represent,
19 most of our members tend to be larger companies that have
20 very sophisticated government affairs teams. These
21 people are happy to engage in conversations like the one
22 we're having today, and provide feedback that you're
23 looking for. So please use them as a resource.

24 I've noticed -- and one thing I want to give props
25 to the Commission -- is it seems like you guys are really

1 doing a lot more proactive outreach this year. I've seen
2 way more communication than I did, you know, ten years
3 ago, just in the broader sense, as well as the individual
4 communication that has come from Commissioners like Neal.

5 So you know, just a couple thoughts as -- heading
6 into this meeting today. You know, we, as an
7 organization, exist to kind of put together, collate, and
8 collaborate the thoughts of our members on whether it's
9 pieces of legislation, or local public policy, or
10 initiatives that are happening at the state or local
11 level. We gather folks. We're constantly meeting with
12 our member companies and having them deliberate and take
13 positions on things.

14 So when it comes to soliciting feedback from an
15 organization like ours, one thing that I've noticed, that
16 I just want to throw out into the ether for everyone to
17 take into consideration, is that, you know, we'll have --
18 like, say there's a public comment period for whatever, a
19 commission we're going in front of.

20 A group like SGLV will come forward and say, hey,
21 you know, our members have met. We've discussed. Here
22 are some of our thoughts. And say there's twenty-five
23 people that participate in that public comment that day.
24 We, as an organization that represents 350 member
25 companies, will be counted as one voice, alongside

1 twenty-four other, maybe, members of the public.

2 And I am all for public participation. I think it's
3 great. I mean, it's the foundation of what we're doing
4 here. But I just want to note that when a group like
5 ours, or the Farm Bureau, or Cal Chamber, comes forward,
6 it really is a voice of -- it's a collection of groups,
7 and we're doing all the legwork of going and speaking to
8 our members, soliciting their feedback, and then
9 condensing it in a way that's hopefully useful for you
10 all. So you know, please use us as a resource. We're
11 constantly convening roundtables.

12 I'm really thankful that, you know, Neal and
13 Patricia have both offered their time to come speak to
14 our members, and whether that's in a more informational
15 setting of just passing along information or soliciting
16 direct feedback through a Q and A, our members appreciate
17 it. They're willing to engage in this front, and you
18 know, I think today's panel on this very issue is
19 indicative that you guys are really looking for more and
20 broader business participation, which is a good thing.
21 So thank you again, and happy to answer any questions you
22 have.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, thank you all for
24 that. We'll turn it over to the panel -- or to the
25 Commission -- at this point to ask questions.

1 Commissioner Taylor, do you want to facilitate this,
2 or would you like me to?

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: I can, Neal. Go ahead. I can, Neal.
4 I got it.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any questions from the Commission?
7 Commissioner Fernandez.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, well, kind of a
9 question, but I did want to thank Marty, Mike, and
10 Justin. This was a very good presentation, and it really
11 does open it up in terms of what is out there, and it's
12 just, you know, the start of it.

13 I wanted to reach out to Mike just a little bit,
14 only because I am from the Delta area, so I am the ag --
15 I'm very familiar with ag. So I'm glad that -- I'm
16 hoping you'll take advantage of some of our educational
17 opportunities in terms of if you have meetings, and you
18 want us to present, and actually, that's also for Justin
19 and Marty, or Martin. I'm not sure how you want me to
20 go -- how you want me to call you. But I think it's
21 great.

22 I mean, it just really -- I appreciate you being
23 here, and it's been educational for myself, although I am
24 very familiar with the Farm Bureau Association, because
25 that's kind of where I live. So thank you again. I

1 appreciate the information. I hope you'll take advantage
2 of us going out there and speaking to all of your
3 clients. Thank you.

4 MR. WILSON: Thank you. We appreciate that, and you
5 know, in the Delta, obviously, the tunnel issues and the
6 water issues that I spoke about, obviously, we have
7 different opinions in our membership and beyond. So I
8 know you're very familiar with that.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: First of all, thank you all
11 for the panel. This has been great, and it's a good
12 smattering of a variety of economic interests. If you
13 all could please send your contact information to, you
14 know, Commissioner Fornaciari, so we can all actually
15 reach out to you.

16 I actually, with Commissioner Akutagawa, have been
17 what's called Zone -- let's see -- G, I think it is.
18 Anyway, it's the Mono, Inyo, Alpine, Amador, essentially
19 gold country and over on the other side of 395 -- the
20 other side of the Sierras, I should say, and so I can
21 tell, you know, who is putting their hats on and go, yes,
22 we have people out there.

23 We need contacts in those areas, because it's, as
24 you know, just thinking of the variety from gold country,
25 across from the other side of the Sierras, radically

1 different areas, and very different interests, and so if
2 we can get a little contact information from you, that
3 would be great.

4 Then, Justin, also with the Silicon Valley, I
5 know -- since I live in Berkeley, I'm intimately familiar
6 with everything your group does, but I'd also like to
7 know in terms of contacts across the state, because I
8 know everyone tends to think that Silicon Valley is just
9 in Silicon Valley, which, clearly, it is not.

10 So if we could -- if you could kind of use your
11 organization to help us, you know, give us contacts in
12 all our different areas of the state, that would really,
13 really be helpful, because I think some of us might not
14 even be aware of the resources that your three groups
15 have, you know, so we may not know to reach out to you,
16 so if you could please give us a little more information.
17 You could funnel that through Commissioner Fornaciari or
18 any one of our directors. So thank you very much for the
19 presentations.

20 MR. HYER: I mean, I'll speak for myself, but I
21 think this applies for Mike and Marty as well, that we'd
22 be happy to provide that contact information, and please
23 do look at us as resources that you can use throughout
24 this process to facilitate those introductions. We're
25 happy to make them.

1 MR. WILSON: Yeah. I'll echo what Justin said, and
2 it's a great question, and I think, when we think about,
3 you know, the representation of the business community,
4 you know, our Chamber network, they represent Chambers of
5 various sizes.

6 You know, we have a very large, what we'll call a
7 metro Chamber. It's in San Francisco or Fresno or San
8 Diego, and Sacramento has a metro Chamber just down the
9 street from us, and then we also have a lot of local
10 regional Chambers. So in that, you know, you need
11 outreach into the business community up in the gold
12 country. They'll be a more regional organization that's
13 unique to that area.

14 MR. ZIMMERMAN: And the same goes for the Farm
15 Bureau. We have members in every county. So even in
16 those far-flung places like Inyo, Mono, and others, you
17 know, they can help you guys navigate, you know, the
18 interests of those communities. We'd be happy to do
19 that, and are prepared to do that.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: What I'd like to do, so that
22 you all don't get bombarded by fourteen of us, is Neal
23 and I will put together a packet to send to all of you on
24 where you can find the contacts, and -- your local
25 contacts, just like we did with the Census Bureau, and

1 Community Aid Foundations and United Ways were the ones
2 that kind of went -- so the Chambers, and we'll try to --
3 we'll also get a list of the ethnic Chambers and special
4 interest Chambers, because there are a lot of Chambers.
5 In San Diego, I know we've got the LGBT Chamber. We've
6 got, you know, the black Chamber, the Hispanic Chamber,
7 as well as the API/Asian Chamber. So we will create kind
8 of a cheat sheet for you all, so that you can try to find
9 your local contact and make those outreach efforts.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani, and then
11 Commissioner Yee.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. And you know,
13 thank you, both of you, for putting together this great
14 panel, and my appreciation to the panelists for coming
15 today and sharing with us. I found that really helpful,
16 and I think Commissioner Sinay, the comment that she made
17 about the various Chambers, really was touching on a
18 piece that I kept thinking about.

19 Obviously, California is the fifth-largest economy
20 in the world, and of course the economic interests of
21 this state are an interest for all of us, as
22 Californians. We have, however, as a Commission, spent a
23 lot of time thinking about our outreach strategies to
24 various hard-to-reach communities.

25 We are also very well aware, and received training

1 just yesterday on our obligations, both through the state
2 constitution as well as the federal Voting Rights Act, to
3 ensure, you know, our acute attention to communities who
4 have faced historical discrimination.

5 As all of you were talking, it really kind of
6 brought home that there's this intersection, I believe,
7 between the various organizations that you represent and
8 the people who are actually a part of the businesses.

9 My husband, for example, is a business owner, and
10 he's part of his local Chamber, I believe, for the City
11 of Industry down here in California, but he's also a
12 business owner of color, and I am interested to hear from
13 you all how that intersection between the
14 representational interests of the business community
15 coincide with your members or with the workforce of your
16 members.

17 I know, for example, Justin, you were talking about,
18 you know, San Jose, and the broader reach of Silicon
19 Valley. Certainly those are very diverse communities.
20 What advice might, perhaps, do you have for the
21 Commission as we move forward, weighing all of these
22 really important considerations when it comes to drawing
23 the maps?

24 MR. HYER: Commissioner, I can take a stab at
25 answering it. You know, again, I'm probably going to

1 sound like a broken record here, but use us as a
2 resource, because one of the things that we are focusing
3 on as an organization is diversity and equity issues, and
4 so our members companies are deeply involved in this.

5 We just launched an initiative that's called "25 in
6 25", where our member companies are taking a pledge that,
7 by 2025, they'll diversify twenty-five percent of their
8 executive leadership for underrepresented communities,
9 and if they're already meeting that goal, they can then
10 take it to a further twenty-five percent by 2025.

11 So these member companies -- this is a board-driven
12 initiative. Our board is incredibly diverse, and very
13 focused on this specifically, because we, as an
14 organization, look at these as not just the moral
15 imperative, but also business, bottom-line issues.

16 There's study after study that show that when you
17 diversity your workforce, it increases your profit
18 margins, and that's a language that all businesses speak,
19 and it's a language that actually speaks to, again, the
20 moral imperative of what we're working on today. So this
21 is an issue that -- I mean, we have an entire staff team
22 that is focused on diversity issues within our member
23 companies and their workforces, and then, obviously, as
24 it relates to the community.

25 You know, you look at a place like San Jose, and

1 there are very specific -- even neighborhoods that are
2 heavily, you know, one demographic or another, and the
3 folks we work with on the San Jose City Council, within
4 the community, the other organizations that we partner
5 with, these are all part of the conversations we're
6 engaged in.

7 So if there's any specific questions on that kind of
8 front, you know, any time you want to reach out, if we
9 don't know the answer, we can at least direct you to
10 someone who can. So you know, thanks for bringing that
11 up. It's a really important point.

12 MR. WILSON: Yes. I'll echo what Justin said, in
13 that Cal Chamber also has a very diverse board. It's on
14 our website, and certainly has several initiatives to
15 help our companies understand diversity issues and
16 integrate, you know, people of color into their
17 workforce, and we do a lot just in the training area.

18 That's, frankly, one of the hallmarks of what Cal
19 Chamber does, in terms of training the workforce on these
20 kinds of issues. In that you need more specifics,
21 there's people in our organization better able than I to
22 talk about what we do and how we identify people that
23 avail themselves of these services.

24 MR. ZIMMERMAN: Thank you. I'll echo what they
25 said. That's a fantastic question. Thank you for

1 bringing it up. I mean, our workforce, you know, feeds
2 the world, quite frankly, and it's something that's very
3 important to us. I mentioned earlier, you know, the
4 challenges that you all have in understanding the
5 different layers of communities of interest, right?

6 You know, I mentioned just, you know, ag as an
7 economic community of interest, but obviously, our
8 employees and owners, growers represent different
9 communities. There's obviously challenges in that within
10 our workforce. We have language barriers. Obviously, we
11 have, in certain areas, very heavy Latino populations,
12 you know, some of the areas I mentioned, Central Valley,
13 Central Coast, Monterey, San Benito areas.

14 It's all very important to us, obviously, and I
15 think that, once again, once you layer all of that
16 together, you can start to understand a little bit better
17 the challenges that face these communities. So we're,
18 you know, happy to help facilitate those conversations
19 with, you know, any other organization in those areas, to
20 help you all better understand what really makes us go.
21 So thank you for the question.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thinking of the 2011 maps
24 and the ten years that have passed since then, I'm just
25 wondering if our panelists would like to highlight any

1 changes in the state's, you know, demographics or
2 economic sectors that they want to, you know, put a seed
3 in our heads to think particularly about as we think
4 about the 2021 mapping process.

5 We haven't starting doing any mapping yet. We
6 haven't drawn any lines. But would welcome any thoughts
7 you have on particular developments or regions or, you
8 know, communities of interest that have developed in the
9 intervening time that you'd like us to think about.

10 MR. WILSON: Well, I kind of, you know, touched on
11 it briefly, and I mean, in terms of the maps, and having
12 to, you know -- my livelihood, I guess, for want of a
13 better word, is dependent upon, you know, who represents
14 which district, and you know, we clearly come at it from
15 the perspective of the employer community, and our
16 friends in labor, you know, will have different
17 perspectives.

18 You know, the way I looked at the maps early on, you
19 know, in the Assembly, in the House, where House
20 representatives were less involved. You know, there
21 seemed to be logic to it, but the Senate, you know, I
22 think, was a problem. You know, part of it is a
23 challenge because you've got what, fifty-four
24 congressional districts, but only forty Senate districts,
25 and so that's a lot of population. I sort of analogize

1 it. You've got ten pounds of information that you've got
2 to put into a five-pound bag to try to make sense of
3 that, but I think, you know, putting a little bit more
4 time into the Senate seats would be -- is important.

5 Certainly something that you might consider is
6 nesting, where you have two Assembly districts contained
7 within one Senate district. There's things like that,
8 you know, that the Commission should consider. I'm not
9 saying that's the way to do it, but you know, otherwise
10 it was my view that the Commission in 2011, you know, for
11 the most part, did a fine job, and you know, we've been
12 able to function and stay in business, you know,
13 throughout this process.

14 MR. ZIMMERMAN: I agree with Marty. I would also
15 say that, you know, I understand the challenges,
16 particularly when it comes to ag communities, because
17 there tends not to be, you know, as much population
18 there. So the challenge that the Commission has in
19 certain parts of the state, obviously, is keeping
20 communities together, whether it be whole counties or
21 cities or whatever it is, but also finding the population
22 to make a district, right?

23 So you look at some of these districts in the far,
24 you know, northern part of the state, and you have
25 assemblymembers and senators that represent, you know,

1 five-plus counties that have varying interests, right?

2 So you know, that's a challenge.

3 I think population growth in the Central Valley,
4 obviously, has maybe changed so much that there's not as
5 much of a need to maybe go into the Bay Area counties to
6 find that population, so East Bay, for example,
7 obviously, large growth, and Riverside, and places like
8 that that are around heavily populated areas, whether it
9 be Los Angeles or Orange County, that can largely, you
10 know, probably stand on their own now, because they're
11 large enough.

12 So I just think you have -- you know, with the
13 population growth in certain areas of the state, you have
14 an opportunity, maybe, to keep some counties and areas
15 whole that maybe the previous Commission didn't, and
16 we're happy to discuss that moving forward as you guys
17 start to draw these maps.

18 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

19 MR. HYER: I don't have too much to add, just
20 because wasn't involved in this process ten years ago,
21 but what I will say is that something I noticed during
22 the COVID pandemic, you know, we shut down the economy
23 overnight, and if someone didn't know their elected
24 representatives, which most of our members did, but there
25 were some that weren't acquainted with them, they got

1 acquainted with them really quickly.

2 So I was constantly providing the chain of command
3 of, here's your city, your county, your state
4 individuals, and I quickly realized that there's a lot
5 of -- I mean, in the Bay Area particularly, you know,
6 might have headquarters here and a manufacturing plant
7 here.

8 I'm dealing with, like, five different sets of
9 individuals that they need to contact, and so just,
10 again, Marty had touched upon the nesting component, but
11 it does make things easier if constituents are able to
12 reach out to, you know, the same set of individuals to
13 get these questions answered, and I noticed that during
14 the initial shutdowns last spring when, all of a sudden,
15 everyone was clamoring to understand the definitions of
16 "essential businesses" and "essential workforce".

17 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Gentlemen, I have a question. I'm
19 often looking for the practical or the "how", and I know
20 that you guys have vast networks of constituents and
21 people, but how are you best pushing out the information
22 you deem important to your member groups?

23 MR. ZIMMERMAN: We have -- obviously, we work
24 through our county organizations. We also have a weekly
25 newspaper called Ag Alert that goes to all of our

1 members, and even some nonmembers are subscribers.

2 So we use that, obviously social media, and then, on
3 the advocacy side, I run a program called Farm Team that
4 we use to inform our members, so they can comment on
5 legislative issues, both state and federal. We've also
6 used it to discuss -- we actually reached out to people
7 to apply to the Commission, as a matter of fact.

8 So we use all those resources frequently, and have
9 found good success, and I mentioned in our meeting last
10 week, our smaller group meeting, that those resources are
11 available to the Commission as well. If you guys need to
12 use those are part of your outreach, we would be more
13 than happy to facilitate that, so please don't hesitate
14 to ask.

15 MR. WILSON: Yes. Similar to what Farm Bureau does,
16 Cal Chamber, we have a weekly advocacy call with our
17 local Chambers. Not all 200-plus are on it, but you
18 know, a good representation of that, certainly 50 to 60.
19 Our next meeting is set for February 11th, and there is
20 not a lot of legislation to talk about, so the
21 expectation is we'll spend a lot of the time talking
22 about this process.

23 As Mike indicated, we were very involved early on,
24 and encouraged our local Chamber network to have people
25 submit applications to be Commission members, and then,

1 also we have a newsletter called The Alert, and so we
2 communicate on a regular basis with our membership, our
3 full membership, plus a few additional companies, through
4 that process.

5 MR. HYER: Nothing much to add from my end. You
6 know, we utilize newsletter, social media. We have
7 monthly convenings -- all of our members are welcome to
8 come to a meeting we call "Working Council". A lot of
9 updates are given to them there. We have, obviously,
10 board meetings, and constant communication through our
11 various little committees that we have that focus on
12 specific policy areas.

13 In addition to that, we host roundtables almost
14 weekly, it seems like, with various speakers, and I'm
15 hoping that one of the Commissioners can come forward in
16 front of our group in the spring, so that we can have
17 that kind of Q and A session with our members, and if
18 anything, it will facilitate introductions with member
19 companies that are interested in engaging with you guys
20 further.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair.

24 This is actually a little bit more for -- a little
25 information for all of you, and not just you, but any of

1 the other groups who are listening. You're mentioning
2 that yes, you're very interested, and you want to
3 participate, and you're really waiting until we start --
4 you said, we'll really be able to participate once you
5 start drawing lines. I would like you and all of your
6 groups to realize we are actually reaching out now.

7 We are looking for your communities of interest now,
8 well before we start drawing district lines, because we
9 actually have -- there's what's called a COI tool that
10 the Statewide Database has developed through -- the
11 legislature has had them develop it for us, to collect on
12 a map, for your communities to actually draw, and then
13 that's, I believe -- I might ask Director Ceja to confirm
14 that, but the connection is on our website to this tool.

15 It should be, actually, going completely live with
16 the proper census geography, I think, like, in a week,
17 and your communities can go onto this and draw where they
18 are located, wherever they are, how big, how small,
19 because that's the information that we actually need.
20 Because the census data is -- as you know, it's being
21 delayed. Things are being delayed.

22 By the time we actually start drawing with
23 districts, we hope to have almost all of your communities
24 of interest already on maps, and then the process will be
25 much easier, and we'll all look at it. When we do our

1 drafts, you'll all go, ah, yes, our groups are here.
2 They're already here; or oh, okay. Now there are little
3 tweaks here and here and here. We're hoping to get our
4 communities involved at a much earlier point.

5 Ten years ago, they didn't have this luxury.
6 Essentially all the communications and all the drawing of
7 every single type started all about the same time, and
8 there was a lot of -- as far as the Commission was a
9 little concerned, there was a little -- you know, we
10 wished we'd had more time to go back and redraft and make
11 some changes. And so what we're trying to do as the full
12 Commission this time is to move as much of the
13 communities of interest, and how much of that mapping,
14 ahead of when the census gets here, because you already
15 know where you are.

16 You already know where your districts are, where
17 your, you know, farm interests are, where your different
18 communities of all the different types. So that's a
19 little pitch for, please don't wait until the draft maps
20 get out here. Please get involved early, and if there
21 are any questions, please ask them.

22 And if our Director Ceja could just kind of confirm
23 the location of that COI tool, please.

24 MR. CEJA: So the COI tool will have its own web
25 address, and it will be linked to our website, but it is

1 not yet. It will be, yes.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think we have a couple --
3 maybe a couple of weeks before that's totally really
4 going to be live, but please look for that.

5 MR. WILSON: Thank you. That's very helpful, and I
6 appreciate it.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 Any other questions from Commissioners?

9 Gentlemen, if I can convince you to perhaps hang on,
10 we have a couple of callers in the queue, and if they're
11 related to this agenda item, maybe you'd be able to
12 answer those questions, if they're relevant. So please
13 stand by.

14 Kristian, can you invite in public comment for
15 agenda item number 12?

16 MR. MANOFF: Yes, Chair. Stand by.

17 In order to maximize transparency and public
18 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
19 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
20 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is
21 877-853-5247.

22 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number, it is
23 provided on the livestream feed. It is 97679349222 for
24 this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
25 participant ID, simply press pound.

1 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a
2 queue, from which a moderator will begin unmuting
3 callers. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
4 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

5 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear an
6 automated message that says, "The host would like you to
7 talk", and to press star 6 to speak.

8 If you would like to give your name, please state
9 and spell it for the record. You are not required to
10 provide your name to give public comment.

11 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
12 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
13 call.

14 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when
15 it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the
16 livestream volume.

17 As a reminder, callers, if you would like to give a
18 comment, please press star 9.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian. We will pause
20 for a few moments.

21 MR. MANOFF: We do not have any callers that wish to
22 comment at this time, Chair.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Chair Taylor?

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: While we're waiting for

1 any callers to call in, I just would like to offer to
2 Marty and Mike, you know, if you would like to invite a
3 Commissioner or two to come speak with your groups, we'd
4 be more than happy to do it. We're putting a
5 presentation together. We should have that together in
6 the very near future, and be ready to go out and have
7 conversations early next month, I guess, at this point,
8 early February.

9 So we'd be more than happy to join in with any of
10 your kind of standing meetings, might be the best way to
11 go, but we'd be happy to do it, and Justin is going to
12 schedule a time for us to address the Silicon Valley
13 Leadership Group, too. So we're looking forward to --

14 MR. WILSON: Yes. In our case -- and I was
15 contemplating that when I talked to our group in
16 February -- the best opportunity, I think, for you to
17 engage is going to be at, you know, our local Chamber
18 meetings, and so I am going to suggest that if they want
19 a speaker from the Commission, it's going to be somebody
20 that's local or, you know, however it works best, but I
21 think it would be tremendous to have representation at
22 these meetings, because they have regular meetings. Cal
23 Chamber only has a quarterly board meeting and then, you
24 know, our calls.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Yeah. Thank you.

1 MR. ZIMMERMAN: Yes. We have regular board
2 meetings. I think we discussed it on our last call,
3 Commissioner, regular state board meetings, and then,
4 obviously, monthly county board meetings, and I will
5 reach out to our folks to see if we can get something on
6 the schedule.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, it might be a
8 way for us, you know, especially through the Farm Bureau
9 and the Chamber, to reach into some of these more remote,
10 smaller-population counties, to begin to get some
11 connections into those counties. So thank you.

12 MR. ZIMMERMAN: Can you educate me real quick? I
13 apologize. What are the requirements in terms of Open
14 Meetings Act and things like that? Does it have to be --
15 can it be one Commissioner? Does it have to be several
16 Commissioners? What's the process? What's that process
17 look like?

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes, that's a good
19 question. Excellent question.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You can have one to two. You
22 know, it depends how many Commissioners you need. The
23 best is just to share your needs, and we'll make sure to
24 get it to Marcy Kaplan, who will help kind of facilitate
25 that process. She's here, if she wants to wave. But

1 we'll make sure -- you know, we will work based on your
2 needs, and design something that meets the needs of the
3 Commissioners.

4 We cannot talk about the actual lines. This isn't
5 an opportunity to talk about lines. It's to talk about
6 the bigger picture of what is redistricting and how you
7 can get involved.

8 MR. ZIMMERMAN: I think the other thing, too, I just
9 want to make -- I understand that there's certain rules
10 that you all have to follow, with public notice and
11 things like that, and whether those meetings are
12 available to the public. Obviously, ours are
13 member-only, so I just want to make sure we're avoiding
14 that conflict.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Thank you. We'll make
16 certain, and our chief counsel make certain, that we
17 conform to those standards.

18 Any other questions or comments from Commissioners?

19 And we have no callers, no public comment related to
20 this issue.

21 I personally, on behalf of the Commission, would
22 like to thank you guys for your presentations, continuing
23 to shape our decisions. It is much appreciated.

24 MR. HYER: Thank you so much for your time. Really
25 appreciate it.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. Thank you so much
3 for your time and for joining us. We really appreciate
4 it.

5 MR. WILSON: Our pleasure. Thank you.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right, Commissioners. So we are
7 at 10:52. This would be a great time for our break, and
8 then we could come back in eighteen minutes. How about
9 come back at 11:10 -- hang on. Hang on.

10 Commissioner Kennedy, go ahead.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. This was a
12 great opportunity to hear from these folks. Thank you to
13 the organizers for putting this together.

14 It occurs to me, would we benefit from a panel from,
15 say, one county government, one city government, and one
16 association of governments, like Southern California
17 Association of Governments, you know, a county somewhere,
18 and a town or city somewhere in the state, just to get
19 their perspective on redistricting? Thank you.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. That's a great idea. You
22 know, via Twitter and other places, we're getting all
23 these, how about a panel on this and that? So please do
24 continue to share with us your thoughts on what will help
25 us, as a group, be better at listening and engaging, and

1 understanding the intersection of different sectors and
2 communities with redistricting.

3 We will also -- Commissioner -- or Chair Taylor and
4 I are working on an active listening workshop and a bias
5 training as well. So we're just trying to use this time
6 to make us aware of all the different intersections. So
7 please do email ideas, thoughts, what's keeping you up at
8 night type of, hey. This could help me really do my job
9 better, and we'll do our best. We've been trying to be
10 careful not to inundate our agendas with too many
11 different panels, so we're balancing the two.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: One other question.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead, Commissioner Kennedy. Go
14 ahead.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: One other question. At, I
16 guess, the second January meeting, we had said that we'd
17 be developing a speaker request form, and then we had a
18 call yesterday saying, where is the speaker request form?
19 So I'm just wondering how we're doing on developing a
20 speaker request form and making it available.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Deputy Executive Director Hernandez.

22 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I'll be addressing that
23 specific topic in the deputy director's report, probably
24 after our break.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Any other questions or

1 comments from Commissioners?

2 All right. So we ate up our extra time. That's
3 fine. We'll take a break, and return at 11:10. Thank
4 you.

5 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 10:56 a.m.
6 until 11:10 a.m.)

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back -- it is 11:10 -- to the
8 January 27th day 2 meeting of the California Citizens
9 Redistricting Commission.

10 Before I turn it over to agenda item number 6, the
11 deputy executive director's report, I specifically want
12 to send a shoutout to Patricia Sinay, Fredy Ceja, and
13 Cecilia Reyes, who are following us on Instagram. I
14 wanted to make certain that the world knows our Instagram
15 handle is @WeDrawTheLines.

16 So our Instagram handle is @WeDrawTheLines. Our
17 Twitter handle is @WeDrawTheLines. That's what our
18 Twitter handle is, and our Facebook handle is
19 @WeDrawTheLinesCalifornia -- WeDrawTheLinesCA. Those are
20 handles for our social media, and with that, I'll give it
21 to Deputy Director Hernandez.

22 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

23 Good morning, everyone. I know you guys have been
24 waiting long for me to report on some of these things, so
25 I will not delay it any longer. I first wanted to start

1 by thanking all of you for the hard work that you have
2 done and that you are doing, Commissioners and staff, and
3 I also want to thank you for your patience with staff,
4 and your understanding as we go through this process. So
5 some things are in the works, and I'm going to talk to
6 you about those.

7 First, I wanted to talk about the strategic outreach
8 plan. It now reflects the outreach zones that were
9 changed from the last meeting from 1, 2, 3 to A, B, C.
10 So we have that. We've also made some minor edits
11 throughout the document.

12 Notably, the outreach and engagement subcommittee
13 and I added equity language to Section 2, Goals,
14 introduction paragraph on page 2. This was mentioned
15 also by a caller yesterday, regarding equity. So the
16 lines read as follows:

17 "The Commission is intentional in creating a process
18 that is accessible to all, and creating maps that
19 equitably reflect the voices of California's diverse
20 population. The Commission has identified target
21 considerations for outreach in the goals below, and will
22 assess the impacts of these considerations throughout the
23 entire redistricting process."

24 So I just wanted to make note of that. We've also
25 made another change under the phases, and that will soon

1 come -- I just made that change yesterday, after talking
2 with Commissioner Andersen -- in regards to receiving the
3 census data. So the new -- the last paragraph in phase
4 three, page 8, reads:

5 "During this phase, the Commission will receive the
6 census data to work with. The public meetings will begin
7 in March and continue through May. A more detailed
8 schedule of the public input meetings will be provided to
9 the Commission at a later date."

10 So those are the most notable edits to the outreach
11 plan. Okay.

12 I also wanted to address Commissioner Turner's point
13 about deliverables, and on page 4, strategy 4,
14 Activation, we do express our interaction with our grant
15 partners. We address how we would use the grant-making
16 process to leverage our outreach partners, to encourage
17 and support individuals and community groups to
18 participate and be heard. So that's one of the
19 deliverables.

20 Then we continue on and say that "The Commission
21 will work together with the granted partners to promote
22 community meetings of public input, and equip the
23 communities that they serve to participate, among other
24 activities."

25 So that would be the deliverable 2. So I wanted to

1 point that out.

2 As I mentioned in the last meeting, this is a road
3 map for the staff to use and follow moving forward.

4 There will be pivot points or changes to the plan as we
5 move forward, depending on what happens. So as those
6 changes come up, as those pivot points come up, I will be
7 sharing them with the Commission, to either make a
8 decision or just to inform. Either way, I will let you
9 know what is going on with the plan.

10 I did want to ask the Commission to consider how we
11 move forward with our educational presentations, as well
12 as our public input meetings down the road, given when we
13 might receive the census data. Do we spread out the
14 educational presentations or add more educational
15 presentations? How are we going to move forward? That's
16 important as we start scheduling things out, where we're
17 going to -- or how we're going to do that. So I wanted
18 to just point that out, and ask for your consideration on
19 that part of it.

20 At the next meeting, as Director Dan mentioned,
21 we're going to be providing you with a budget plan.
22 Along with the plan, we're going to provide a more
23 detailed schedule, with the full process, including the
24 public meetings, through when the Commission actually
25 submits the final maps to the Secretary of State. At

1 this point, I would like to ask the Commission to
2 consider a conceptual approval of the strategic plan, so
3 that the staff can use this to move forward.

4 I also wanted to address some of the other things
5 that are working behind the scenes as part of the plan.
6 Marcy and I are working on the formal process for
7 scheduling the redistricting basics educational
8 presentations. We have a speaker request form,
9 Commissioner Kennedy. It is ready. We'll be sending it
10 out shortly, and once our website is up live -- our new
11 website, I should say -- we're going to post that form on
12 the website as well.

13 Now, the unique thing about this form -- and I've
14 got to give credit to Marcy -- is that, as you or the
15 community organizations fill that information in, it
16 autopopulates into a spreadsheet, so we don't have to
17 input that information again, and it just makes it easier
18 for us to track and collect that information on a regular
19 basis.

20 We are going to ask that, as the Commissioners, as
21 you have more contacts, receive more contacts, that you
22 provide that information to us. You can either enter
23 them into the speaker form or, if you'd like, on a weekly
24 basis, send us those updated contacts. I know many of
25 you have already sent that information over to Marcy, and

1 we have that spreadsheet available for you to take a look
2 at, and update or input your information, if you'd like
3 to do that.

4 I want to remind you also that we are here to
5 support you, and assist, if necessary, to reach out to
6 the community groups, but keep in mind it's Marcy and I;
7 that's it. So we will do what we can to help in outreach
8 to those outreach zones, provide contacts, if we have
9 them, or look for them.

10 And so we're going to ask also that you consider
11 blocking off specific time frames as we move forward, so
12 that we can schedule things and make sure that you're
13 available for the presentations. So you can provide us
14 that information, or we'll do that on a case-by-case
15 basis, but I think it would be ideal if you had a
16 specific block of time that you allocated for possible
17 presentations, the redistricting basics presentations.

18 We will need to request and coordinate with
19 community-based organizations to record the redistricting
20 basics educational presentations. As most of these will
21 virtual -- or, I should say, all of them will be
22 virtual -- it should be easy to do the various platforms,
23 Zoom, Google, Webex. I'm just finding out about Facebook
24 Live, and how we're going to do that, but I believe
25 Cecilia said that that should be an easy fix as well.

1 When we receive these recorded videos, we are planning on
2 posting them on our website. This will ensure
3 transparency for the Commissioners and the Commission.

4 So just a reminder, these are educational
5 presentations, not intend to be for public intake.

6 Should someone want to provide public input, we're going
7 to refer them to the COI tool, email, or, in the future,
8 our public input calendar of events, so that they know
9 when the public input meetings will happen. Now, this is
10 just to make sure that we're able to get through these
11 presentations.

12 We've also recently met with our community partners
13 to talk about outreach in general, and we'll continue to
14 have ongoing meetings. You heard from a few of them
15 yesterday, one of the panels. So we're going to continue
16 to have those outreach meetings, just to talk outreach,
17 and how we can best reach some of those very unique
18 community-based groups, so that we're doing our best to
19 have the Commissioners participate in that effort.

20 Also as Dan mentioned, we'll be looking to hire
21 outreach staff, as outlined in our strategic outreach
22 plan. I have noted Commissioner Sadhwani's
23 recommendation for onboarding, and we'll be developing an
24 onboarding plan for any of the new hires that we get, so
25 that they are up to speed and ready to go as soon as

1 possible.

2 You'll be hearing from some of the other
3 subcommittees later today, and I'm finding that many of
4 our subcommittees intersect, at various different points,
5 with the outreach plan. The materials, obviously, will
6 have a number of documents that you'll be reviewing later
7 today that are part of the outreach plan. Likewise, we
8 have the language access subcommittee that will be
9 providing some information, and the grants committee that
10 you heard about from yesterday.

11 Let's see. I believe that is my report. Any
12 questions?

13 Commissioner Kennedy.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Sorry.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. On your
18 first question, talking about our calendar, Commissioner
19 Taylor and I will sit down and be talking about the Gantt
20 chart more broadly, but you know, from my personal
21 perspective, I think that February and March for
22 educational outreach will hopefully see us make contacts
23 that we need to make throughout the state.

24 I mean, we've heard from one or more people who I
25 think have a good sense of the status of the census, that

1 we're not going to see the census data anywhere near the
2 time that it was originally scheduled, and I think we
3 need to be taking that into consideration in the Gantt
4 chart and in our overall planning.

5 So my thought is that if we focus on the educational
6 outreach in February and March, that we then go big on
7 collecting communities of interest input in April and
8 May, and perhaps even into June. As Commissioner
9 Andersen said earlier, there's no reason that we need to
10 wait for census data to collect communities of interest
11 input. So I would say, starting the 1st of April, until
12 we get the census data, our focus needs to be on
13 collecting that communities of interest data.

14 A second point. I really don't think that we're
15 doing ourselves any favors by waiting to put a simple
16 speaker request form, even if it's just a PDF, on the
17 current website. I look forward to having it on the new
18 website. I look forward to having it autopopulate a
19 spreadsheet, but you know, we've promised this for weeks,
20 and we're not delivering. So I really want to suggest
21 that a simple PDF speaker request form go up on the
22 current website, today, if possible, and let's get this
23 going.

24 As far as outreach staff, you know, I think this is
25 going to be very helpful to us. I would presume to speak

1 for other Commissioners with outreach responsibilities
2 here in the southern part of the state, and suggest that
3 we might need more staff support for the southern part of
4 the state than other parts of the state.

5 So if you were planning one for north, one for
6 central, and one for south, I would say, you know, let's
7 at least think one for north, one for central, and two
8 for south. You know, the final numbers, I leave it up to
9 staff, but I just want to suggest that those of us with
10 outreach responsibilities in the south could use -- will
11 certainly be placing a lot of demands on staff for this
12 support. Thank you.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja.

14 MR. CEJA: Commissioner Kennedy, what we can do in
15 the meantime, in addition to posting the speaker request
16 form on our website, is also blast it out to the members
17 on our database, and just let them know, hey, we're here,
18 we're ready to do education sessions, and here's a link
19 to request a speaker. That was already in the plans, but
20 we'll do it immediately.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. I just wanted to
23 provide an update -- and first of all, thank you, Deputy
24 Director Hernandez, for all of this great work that
25 you've done to advance the outreach strategy.

1 I actually just, moments ago -- breaking news --
2 received an email from Karin Mac Donald at the Statewide
3 Database. She said she is currently in a meeting of the
4 NCLS -- excuse me, NCSL -- and received a census update
5 from the census spokesperson, Kathleen Styles, that
6 reapportionment data, data sent to the president, to the
7 federal government, for reapportionment, will not now
8 occur until April 30th, 2021.

9 This date typically is December 31st, and so this
10 obviously represents a massive delay. The expectation is
11 that it will be about three months after that
12 reapportionment data is sent that states will receive it,
13 and as we have discussed at other points in time, the
14 Statewide Database will likely take about a month to
15 prepare that data for the Commission, including the
16 prisoner reallocation data that we have asked for.

17 So I just wanted to provide that as an update as it
18 relates to the strategic outreach plan. I very much
19 concur with Commissioner Kennedy. We can most certainly
20 still go out and begin our COI outreach meetings, or
21 input meetings, or whatever we want to call those, prior
22 to the release of census data, but hopefully, this gives
23 us a little bit of a better sense of the actual time
24 frame that we can expect data to arrive.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Could you repeat the second

1 part of that, Commissioner Sadhwani?

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I concur with you.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks to the PL 94-171,
4 right.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. So that will -- if the
6 reapportionment data is sent April 30th, it will be about
7 three months after that that it will be sent to the
8 states. The Statewide Database will take about another
9 month to prepare that data for us, particularly to do
10 that prisoner reallocation component that we've
11 discussed.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, and I think, if we were to
13 just work on that time frame, that puts us somewhere
14 towards the end of the year, if we just put it in the box
15 of what the normal time is, given we got the information
16 at the beginning -- at the end of the year, we received
17 it by April 1st, and then we had it out by August 15th.
18 Just that box of time frame would push this out towards
19 the end of the year.

20 Commissioner Fornaciari.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Wow. So it doesn't
22 sound like we get the data until September. Okay. Wow.

23 So I don't know if I missed it in the report, but
24 what's the status of going out and posting for the jobs
25 for the outreach coordinators or whatever? Sorry. And I

1 agree with Commissioner Kennedy. We might want to add an
2 extra one in Southern California.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Executive Director Claypool, do you
4 have a response?

5 MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes, I do. So we were waiting for
6 this meeting to make sure that we knew who we were hiring
7 for, in a couple of areas, but for field staff, we're
8 already working on the job descriptions and duty
9 statements, and those will run through finance and
10 administration, and then we are also looking at the
11 assistance to them, and the outreach coordinator.

12 Those are areas -- those are positions we knew we
13 were going to have, and then the only other one that
14 we're looking at right now are the grant -- will be the
15 grant manager, and that will be a decision based on what
16 types of -- what grant route the Commission takes.

17 So we have the job descriptions in the pipeline and
18 coming out of this meeting, we will go ahead and start
19 posting up and looking for people to fill those
20 positions, but that will take -- just one last thing.

21 Remember, then it's posting, getting -- you know,
22 getting the applications, doing the review. So they
23 won't be hired -- it will probably take -- it would be a
24 month, at the best, before we could bring those people
25 on.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

2 Commissioner Sinay, then Commissioner Fernandez, and
3 then Commissioner Le Mons.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I've got kind of a multipart
5 piece, but let me start with -- I thought the point of
6 hiring Ms. Kaplan was that she was going to be the grants
7 manager, and now we're hearing that we might be hiring
8 someone else to be the grants manager. So that's just
9 one piece, if that can be addressed, and then I can ask
10 my other questions.

11 MR. CLAYPOOL: You're correct. The only thing would
12 have been, if we would have gone to a multipronged --
13 to an in-house, and had many, many, many grants, then it
14 would have taken more than Ms. Kaplan, but if we go to a
15 third party, then I'm assuming Ms. Kaplan will be the
16 person who handles the grants, and we won't need that
17 position.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Thank you.

19 Just a few things. You know, from day one, I've
20 been thinking of scenario planning, and how things shift,
21 and with the three months -- you know, it's looking like
22 it's a three-month shift -- I mean, it's more than a
23 three-month shift, but let's not limit outreach and the
24 public education piece to just two months. I think that
25 we need to be doing that all the way through, and anyone

1 who wants to understand -- you know, we want people to
2 understand redistricting, so that they can do a better
3 job of submitting their COIs, communities of interest.

4 So I do feel -- I don't want us to just put a hard
5 stop and say, okay, in two months, everyone is going to
6 know what we're doing; they're not. Remember that the
7 census did it for a whole nine months ahead of time. So
8 this is really giving us an opportunity to really do that
9 civic engagement, civic education piece that we had been
10 talking from the beginning, so if we can make sure, on
11 the Gantt chart, to put a little bit of time.

12 I think goal 3 fell off of the plan that was posted
13 online. It says Goal 3, but nothing is coming up, and it
14 might just be that that's the way the PDF looks.

15 I think, staff, we really need to think through how
16 we're going to open our conversation. We keep saying,
17 community partners, like we have -- the meetings have
18 been with one group that is a closed group that has
19 invited staff and the outreach committee to participate,
20 but there are other groups who want to be engaged also
21 with us on that community outreach, and I'm really afraid
22 that if we don't get that figured out, on how we make a
23 public meeting for community folks who are interested in
24 having those conversations, we're missing out on a lot,
25 and we can set ourselves up for trouble. So that piece,

1 I think, really needs to be thought out a little bit
2 more. That's it.

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Can you explain a little bit more --

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I'll just repeat, in
6 terms of goal 3, it actually is -- it didn't get cut off.
7 It's on page 3, on the top, although you see Strategic
8 Outreach Plan. That's the title on each page, so it just
9 kind of continues onto the next page. That wasn't my
10 comment, but I just wanted to (indiscernible).

11 I might be a little too sensitive, but in the
12 outreach plan, we continue to use the word "citizens",
13 "to inform citizens", and I think I'm a little sensitive
14 to that, and maybe I want to use "residents", because
15 people view "citizens" as a different meaning. Some
16 people view it as citizenship, and what we want to make
17 sure is that we want to be inclusive, and so maybe, if we
18 can replace "citizens" with "residents" or some other
19 word that (audio interference) or individuals. That's
20 just one comment that I had on that.

21 I agree with Commissioner Sinay. I don't think we
22 need to limit our educational presentations to just two
23 months, because those can actually occur at the same time
24 that we're having out input meetings, because it's just
25 one hour or fifteen minutes, just to inform them of it,

1 and the other benefit, obviously, is we'll have the COI
2 tool by then, so during our presentation, we can actually
3 show them how to use the COI tool, and then they can
4 provide their own input.

5 The only other thing is, I hear Commissioner Kennedy
6 in terms of more help in the south. I do know, in the
7 north, we're going to be very challenged, because we may
8 not have the numbers. We do have the mileage and the
9 area, and there's a lot of hard-to-reach places that we
10 won't know are out there until we actually get out there.
11 So I guess we have more land versus people, but it's
12 still going to be a huge effort on the north side of it.

13 So I think those are all. And thank you to
14 Executive Director Hernandez and his group. I know Marcy
15 is involved, and Cecilia, and Fredy. Just thank you so
16 much for all the work, and yes, you guys have been
17 working on probably about five different subcommittees.
18 So thank you for being so responsive, and you guys are
19 just great, and you're killing it right now. So just
20 keep it up. Thank you so much.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Deputy Executive Director Hernandez,
22 do you have a reply?

23 MR. HERNANDEZ: The question, I think, was answered.
24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

1 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Good morning. I just wanted
2 to weigh in. Some of it will be redundant. I agree that
3 the outreach education should continue until we can't do
4 it anymore, so no end date on that.

5 I echo Commissioner Fernandez's position about the
6 north. I think that's -- rather than people
7 necessarily -- maybe, rather than us looking at these new
8 hires from a geographical point of view -- I mean, it's
9 fine that they can have some geographical affinity or
10 expertise, but that they be flexible, so that it's not, I
11 only work on the south, or the central or the north.
12 That might help, as we get a better understanding of what
13 those needs are going to be. So I would encourage us to
14 think about it in those terms.

15 I'm encouraged by the census update, by the way, as
16 opposed -- I'm not disappointed by it. I'm encouraged in
17 that, for the time that we've been together, it's been a
18 lot of what ifs and possibilities, and, this may happen,
19 and that may happen, and I think we're getting closer to
20 a clearer picture of a time line.

21 So I think that's a very good thing, and while
22 Commissioner Kennedy has been reminding us for months
23 that we have this latitude to go until December 31st,
24 well, there it is. We have it, and we can utilize it.

25 So I think it's good in terms of bringing some

1 clarity, and to the degree that it impacts the Gantt
2 chart and our outreach time lines, I think we actually
3 get to benefit from some of that time that the 2020
4 Commission had, that we were slowly kind of losing, in a
5 way, at least feeling like the on-the-ground part.

6 So I think that this has given us that opportunity
7 to really maximize that additional time, so I think it's
8 a really good thing that this is starting to come
9 together, and we can move forward accordingly.

10 So I think the only task at hand is to look at our
11 time lines, where we might have been being more
12 conservative, with the August date in mind, that we can
13 be a little less conservative at this point, as we're
14 starting to see a clearer picture, as we should be
15 receiving that census data around early September, late
16 August, at the, probably, very earliest. So I think that
17 helps us.

18 I'll echo the other Commissioners' gratitude to the
19 staff for the work. We waited a long time for Deputy
20 Director Hernandez's arrival, and he has hit the ground
21 running, and the team that has been brought on subsequent
22 have done the same thing, and they're doing a lot of
23 heavy lifting, and I think that they are leveraging and
24 maximizing all of the wonderful work that was done by the
25 outreach committee as well, who did a lot of pre-work

1 that I hope really -- I know made their jobs a lot
2 easier.

3 So the final comment that I'd like to make is with
4 regard to promotion. I agree with Commissioner Sinay in
5 that there has been in our conversations this sort of
6 presupposition that all of these community groups are
7 just at our fingertips somewhere, and one day we're going
8 to flip a switch, and we'll have this flood of community
9 groups lining up to help us, and I think we'll be in for
10 a rude awakening if we continue to think that way, and
11 that some real outreach effort is going to be necessary
12 to those groups.

13 I know we've talked about outreach as it relates to
14 the residents, and groups of interest, and communities of
15 interest, et cetera, et cetera, but in terms of community
16 partners -- and this may be an opportunity for us to look
17 at doing some radio spots, some podcasts, some different
18 ways of -- news ads, small ads in local papers, et
19 cetera, getting the word out about those partnerships,
20 and really inviting those community groups to learn
21 more -- come to our website. Come to our meeting,
22 whatever the message is that we really want to get out
23 there, because we're not on -- if we were to probably
24 look at who's viewing us, I would imagine it's probably a
25 small audience.

1 So let's think about how we can get the word out,
2 and maybe some of the communications strategy that we
3 heard earlier, some of that immediate focus can really be
4 on getting the word out through the channels that
5 Director Ceja mentioned earlier, to get those community
6 groups signing up and lining up.

7 I just want to acknowledge and thank Commissioner
8 Andersen for her appeal earlier, too, to the public. So
9 I think that was a great distinction you made in sort of
10 how the process worked ten years ago, and how it's
11 working now. And people, I think, from what we've been
12 hearing, do have sort of in their mind -- they're waiting
13 on us to get to a particular juncture in order to move,
14 and I thought that was a very important message that you
15 brought earlier, so I just wanted to echo that as well.

16 So thank you, Chair.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

18 Marian?

19 MS. JOHNSTON: Just a minor clarification. The
20 current decision from the California Supreme Court allows
21 you to extend your time until December 15th, not the end
22 of the year. So if you think you're going to need
23 additional time, that would require going back to the
24 California Supreme Court for extra time.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Marian. That was
2 the first point that I was going to make. The second is,
3 we also need to pay very attention (sic) to one other
4 part of that ruling from last July, which is, immediately
5 after the writ of mandate, so the two provisions, there
6 is the statement, "If the federal government transmits
7 the census data to the State later than July 31, 2021".

8 Well, that says, "to the State". It doesn't say
9 that that's when the Commission gets it. So we're
10 talking about a situation where the data may come to the
11 State, and the clock starts ticking, but the Statewide
12 Database has the data for the first month, and we're
13 limited in what we can do during that first month. We
14 don't enjoy any additional federal delay, in other words,
15 an extension beyond the 15th of December, unless the data
16 arrive to the State later than the 31st of July.

17 So if we're talking about a three-month delay from
18 the end of April, that's essentially the 31st of July.
19 So we can't count on any additional federal delay, and
20 therefore, we can't count on any additional days added on
21 past the 15th of December, automatically, under last
22 year's ruling.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 Any other Commissioners? Commissioner Andersen.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do see Director

1 Hernandez's hand up, if he wants to go first. He might
2 be talking about the same thing I was going to say.

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. I want to go back
4 a little bit to another topic. So Commissioner Andersen,
5 if you were on the same vein as what we were talking
6 about, I'll let you -- I'll defer to you for right now.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you. Yes.

8 All of this -- and I'm glad all of the Commissioners
9 are indeed speaking up and mentioning this date. I did
10 have the privilege of working with Director Hernandez
11 about the dates, because of the line drawing, and how
12 that actually proceeds in a linear fashion, and the idea
13 of trying to figure out, okay, if it does get pushed,
14 it's going to get pushed, what would that look like?

15 So there are sort of numbers and dates that sort of
16 could almost reflect the strategic outreach plan, but as
17 the group looks at dates, they become hard, and so
18 Director Hernandez really sort of said he'd really like
19 to talk about the content of the plan, and actually
20 possibly do the actual dates, flesh out the dates, for
21 next week. So everything we said is great. It is going
22 to be taken into consideration, and you're absolutely
23 right.

24 So what I'm hearing so far is, you know, thank you,
25 Commissioner Kennedy, for saying the 31st of July,

1 December 15. There is still a possibility that we can
2 make that, if that happens, and I'd just say, you know,
3 we're kind of working on that. However, if it does go
4 past that, roughly, it's going to take three months for
5 us to start drawing and then get maps out there, you
6 know, because of the time frame, and all things
7 considered.

8 So just think three months, absolutely minimum. I
9 mean, maybe here and there, but -- so you know, in terms
10 of extending everything, I believe Director Hernandez was
11 indeed talking about continuing the education. He just
12 didn't talk about the dates. He had to pin it to
13 something for this presentation, so just to say that
14 dates, and the update to the Gantt charts and everything,
15 which I owe Commissioner Kennedy, it just hasn't happened
16 until, say, next week. So if we can go back to the
17 content of the outreach plan, I think, is what we're
18 basically saying.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Hernandez, did you have a
20 response?

21 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you very much, Commissioner
22 Andersen, for sharing that information, and yes, I do
23 plan on providing a much more detailed schedule or time
24 line for the next meeting, depending on what is decided
25 today, essentially, but we'll have the current time line

1 and the revised time line, if you want to call it that,
2 given the data will be at a much later date.

3 I did want to go back to talk about the educational
4 meetings, versus COI meetings. I want to make sure we're
5 careful about that. The whole premise for the
6 redistricting basics is to provide information in a
7 presentation format, Q and A about the presentation, but
8 not to collect public input at that time or at those
9 meetings.

10 Should we have COI meetings, I'm going to -- I
11 believe those are more input related-type meetings, so
12 those would have to be calendared, posted ahead of time,
13 and open to the public in a much broader fashion.

14 So on that topic, I do want to defer to Ms.
15 Marshall, our chief counsel, to provide us some guidance
16 in that area, to make sure we're on the same page. I
17 don't want to make -- I don't want us to confuse those
18 two, moving forward.

19 MS. MARSHALL: Just briefly, as Mr. Hernandez
20 stated, there's a big difference between educational
21 meetings and the community outreach meetings. The
22 community outreach meetings are actually reaching out to
23 the public to obtain input. At the educational meetings,
24 it's merely just the CRC presenting to the public, or
25 presenting to whoever happen to be the audience, what our

1 purpose and goals are.

2 So just to sort of give you a legal understanding,
3 when it comes to one or two Commissioners conducting an
4 educational presentation, for example, at a non-CRC
5 event, it is not subject to Bagley-Keene, and so if
6 there's -- I don't know.

7 If there's any questions that anyone has about that,
8 you know, just, you know, speak with me directly. I know
9 sometimes things may vary a little bit depending on the
10 situation, but the goal of these meetings, at least for
11 the educational, is not to obtain public input, just
12 merely just to present CRC's position.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

14 Commissioner Fornaciari, then Commissioner Toledo,
15 then Commissioner Andersen -- or Commissioner Toledo,
16 then Commissioner Andersen.

17 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm very comfortable with the
18 strategic outreach plan as it's laid out. Conceptually,
19 it makes sense in terms of the goals, the strategies, the
20 objectives, and is very comprehensive.

21 I mean, it's a living document that will change and
22 evolve over time, and in terms of -- my understanding is
23 that we're looking for an approval of this plan. Is that
24 correct? Are we looking to approve the plan as a
25 conceptual living document that will have modifications

1 over time?

2 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes, that is my goal, just so that
3 we're secure in that this is current plan. We'll adjust
4 and change as needed, and we'll provide that information
5 on any changes that need to be made to the Commission at
6 a later point, when those pivot points come up. But just
7 as something that I can feel more secure that everyone is
8 on board, on the same page, we have the same mission,
9 we're speaking the same language. And that's really why
10 I would ask the conceptual approval, versus -- you know,
11 this is, again, a living document, so it will change;
12 it's inevitable.

13 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Executive Director Claypool, do you
15 have a response?

16 MR. CLAYPOOL: No, but I do feel like we need to
17 discuss this a little bit further, how these educational
18 meetings may be perceived by the public, and I listened
19 very carefully to our chief counsel's discussion, and I
20 believe that that is our intent.

21 However, I also believe that others may believe that
22 these meetings can very quickly turn into a public input
23 meeting, and I'll bring you right back to your panel.
24 Your panel didn't go a minute before it turned into
25 public input. You were receiving information that would

1 have impacted your decisions on how you might draw lines.

2 So it comes back to the question of whether or not
3 these meetings that you're going to go into should be
4 calendared, and by that, I mean a fourteen-day calendar,
5 whether there's a requirement for it, and whether or not,
6 because you might be able to receive or have some
7 redistricting matter similar to the one you had taken
8 in -- whether or not we need to consider that you are
9 taking that in outside of public meeting.

10 I'm not sure about the Bagley-Keene, whether those
11 meetings do or don't fall under Bagley-Keene. I'm
12 certain that our chief counsel believes that they do not,
13 but I just believe that -- similar to what Commissioner
14 Sadhwani said yesterday, when she said, if we don't -- if
15 we have money, this is where we get sued. Well, I'm
16 going to go out a little further and say no, this is
17 where you get sued.

18 This is where we have to be very, very careful that
19 we are, one, making sure that the public knows what is
20 said by the Commissioners, and what the Commissioners --
21 what kind of information they're receiving during these
22 educational meetings, and two, that we have adhered to
23 all of the requirements that keep it as transparent as
24 possible, and keep you as safe as possible.

25 So I just think that we need to consider that, and

1 consider -- we've already heard from the individuals that
2 we're working with in the legislature that they are very
3 interested in how these meetings will occur, and want to
4 know exactly what's being said in them, so that they can
5 satisfy for themselves that they are not, in fact,
6 meetings where you are taking input, and I think we just
7 need to have a firm decision, as a Commission, as to
8 exactly how we intend to move forward with these
9 meetings, so that the public can weigh in on our plan.
10 That's all. Thank you.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, then
12 Commissioner Vazquez.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for that, Director
14 Claypool, and that sort of is actually -- that's a
15 perfect -- almost where I was going, but not quite,
16 because I was wondering the distinction. As we've
17 already said, when we're at a meeting, we're talking to
18 someone, and they say, hey, you know, I want to do -- you
19 say, that's great. Please submit this to the Commission,
20 you know, and give them the websites, things like that.

21 My understanding was that is still -- you know,
22 that's okay. It isn't like, oh, no, this meeting should
23 have been -- you know, should have been public-noticed,
24 because we're not actually taking information. We're
25 telling them where to go to input the information.

1 I was thinking, in terms of specifically the COI
2 tool, our educational -- the COI tool is, indeed, for
3 input, but there's a huge difference between, like, an
4 educational presentation of that, this is how you would
5 use that, you know, this is how you would go about, you
6 know, this is its website, that sort of thing, versus
7 actually taking -- you know, when we go -- well, I
8 think -- I'm trying to be very specific, here.

9 When we are going out to collect public input,
10 whether it be just the COI tool or also with the line
11 drawer, those are indeed public input meetings. That's
12 what we're there for. But if we're doing education, and
13 part of the education in our presentations is also a COI
14 tool presentation, and we would only answer clarifying
15 questions, what's the line there? And that's kind of
16 directed, I think, at our chief counsel, or whoever.

17 MS. MARSHALL: In regards to the line of
18 questioning, I'm sure that Communications Director Ceja
19 and Deputy Director Hernandez has a plan to manage those
20 questions, or anything that may cause the event to go not
21 as planned or not aligned along the way they would like
22 to have their presentation.

23 One of the things that I did mention in regards to
24 the educational presentations, what's great about the
25 situation here, in terms of limiting -- well, right now,

1 we're limited to Zoom meetings, our meetings are online
2 or, you know, over some type of, you know, technical
3 medium -- is that we can mute, but prior to that, there's
4 going to be some type of statement that will be made in
5 regards to the fact that this is not an input meeting,
6 and if you do have questions, they'll refer you to
7 different places, including the COI tool, to submit those
8 particular questions.

9 But I actually would defer to, again, Mr. Ceja and
10 Mr. Hernandez in regards to their plans to handle those
11 type of issues.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: So one of the things that we are
13 planning to do -- and this is where, you know, we're
14 going to be very direct with the organizations that we're
15 going to be coordinating with -- is to ensure or at least
16 ask that they understand this is an educational
17 presentation, not for public input. So getting that
18 clarification with them, that understanding, is going to
19 be key.

20 Secondly, as the presentation begins in the script,
21 there will be that language again, indicating to the
22 audience that this is a presentation for educational
23 purposes, not to collect input at this time. When the Q
24 and A begins, that will likely be reaffirmed and
25 mentioned a third time, potentially, so that the audience

1 understands this is Q and A specifically for the
2 presentations, not to provide direct input at that time.

3 So the Commissioners will be able to redirect them
4 to the COI tool, to an email address that we have
5 available, and to our calendar of events, where they can
6 see when our scheduled public input meeting will take
7 place.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, then
9 Commissioner Sinay.

10 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: So two things. One, I think
11 this is why, for me, in terms of presentations that I
12 will be giving -- I think I asked in our last meeting
13 that we work to try to have staff present at as many of
14 these meetings as possible -- I don't have a strong
15 preference as to who -- but that Commissioners, in my
16 opinion, really shouldn't be flying solo on these
17 presentations.

18 An idea -- the example I sort of think of in my head
19 is that there's nothing -- if, in a different world, we
20 were out and about, there's nothing stopping anyone from
21 sort of, like, interrupting my grocery store run with,
22 like, hey, you know, an advocacy moment, right, like, oh,
23 that's my Commissioner. I'm going to go tell them I want
24 my lines here, here, and here.

25 My understanding is it's perfectly acceptable for me

1 to go, thank you for your comment. Please submit that in
2 writing to the Commission, and that is that. There's no
3 violation, right? I'm directing them to the process.

4 So I'm wondering -- and this is a question for Ms.
5 Marshall -- would it be acceptable? Is that still
6 acceptable in these type of educational forums? Because
7 there's definitely going to be people that are going to
8 ignore everything that we say, la-la-la-la, this is my
9 chance to tell my Commissioner what I want for my lines.
10 When that happens, because I imagine it will happen, is
11 it acceptable to just say, thank you. Please submit that
12 in writing?

13 If not, would it be sufficient, then, for a staff
14 person -- because I've been in a lot of other public
15 meetings. You know, you have staff scrambling. The
16 elected official has staff who will go and ensure that a
17 concern or a public comment, whatever you have, is
18 documented and then submitted publicly through whatever
19 process there is, and so that would be, for me, why I
20 would want a staff person available, to go and make sure
21 that anything that comes at us by way of public comment
22 is documented and submitted and publicly posted.

23 MS. MARSHALL: To your initial question, yes, I
24 think it would be perfectly fine for you to state to
25 someone to, you know, please go to the COI tool, or send

1 a memo, or something to that effect, to the Commission,
2 and I'm very confident that Mr. Hernandez and Mr. Ceja
3 have protocols in place or plans in place to deal with
4 those type of situations.

5 Ultimately, what I don't want is for the Commission
6 to go into any meeting of what type, or any type of
7 event, and feel as though they don't have control. I'm
8 sure, with the communications director, as well with his
9 deputy director, you know, they develop plans for any and
10 all types of situations, to address these types of
11 matters.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, and then -- hang
13 on, Commissioner Sinay.

14 MS. JOHNSTON: Can I just respond to --

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja, do you have a
16 response?

17 MS. JOHNSTON: I have a response to Commissioner
18 Vazquez, her statement about maybe staff could do it.
19 The prohibition on receiving public input applies to
20 Commissioners and staff. So it would not be possible in
21 that situation for staff to step in and take the
22 information.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 Director Ceja, do you have a response?

25 MR. CEJA: I did. I just wanted to add that,

1 internally, we've had this discussion, and I am of the
2 mind that, so long as we are very public about our intent
3 for these meetings, that they are nothing but
4 educational, and not information-gathering or official
5 Commission meetings, I don't find an issue with is.

6 It reminds me of working for the state. When you
7 receive political emails inviting you to a fundraiser for
8 an elected official, what you're immediately asked to do
9 by ethics is respond and say, hey, I'm not allowed to
10 receive these types of emails; it's political in nature,
11 and just don't continue with it, and don't interact, and
12 you're safe.

13 If we are to say, hey -- if people -- we can't
14 control what people say in public. It's First Amendment
15 rights, regardless of what platform we're joining. So
16 for us to just say, hey, this is not the appropriate time
17 to take your public input. These are the vehicles to do
18 it. We will have public input meetings for you to share
19 this information; go online, COI tool, and don't continue
20 the conversation, I think, would save us that fear of
21 legal misunderstanding or misinterpretation that we're
22 dealing with.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I've only done one
25 session so far, and the Q and A part was interesting, but

1 I really think that people are just hungry to understand
2 the redistricting process, and I would hate to see us
3 being afraid to get out there because it might backfire.
4 I liked what staff said about, you know, you do need to
5 repeat it three times. You know, any time any of us have
6 been on things like this, you have to just kind of repeat
7 it three times, and then just politely say, thank you for
8 your input, like Commissioner Vazquez said, here is the
9 tool.

10 Now, I do feel that we're not very clear in our
11 PowerPoint on how you can engage. I think it's all over
12 the place, and we do need to have three -- you know, you
13 can use the tool -- or it should start, come to our
14 website, where you can input -- you know, come to our
15 website, call us, or mail to us, and come to a public
16 input meeting, just three clear things, because the
17 website will have the COI tool, but I think, when I was
18 presenting, that was probably the hardest part. I kept
19 feeling like we were saying way too many things, versus
20 keeping it clear.

21 The other piece is, I kept thinking, okay. We don't
22 need business cards. We don't need business cards. But
23 it just hit me right now, because we are out there every
24 once in a while, that I'd hate -- the hardest thing for
25 me about having all these panels -- it's going to sound

1 funny -- is that I can't send handwritten thank-you
2 notes, but the main reason I can't send handwritten
3 thank-you notes to our speakers is because everybody is
4 in their home, and I don't want to ask them for their
5 home address.

6 In the past, I would have sent it to their business
7 address, and then I always slip in a business card. But
8 I think it would be nice to have business cards, and on
9 the backside, the three ways you can engage with the
10 Commission and send your comments.

11 So it's kind of an outreach piece, as we are out in
12 our small bubbles right now, but slowly -- you know, we
13 constantly need to think that, no matter what we do,
14 we're never going to be like the 2010 Commission.
15 Everything is going to have to be hybrid for as long as
16 we can think. You know, I keep saying that to my clients
17 who are ready to do events starting this summer, no.
18 Everything needs to still be hybrid.

19 So I just wanted to say, I think we can always be
20 nervous about what may happen, but let's not that stop us
21 from getting out there, because we are the best -- we are
22 the citizens that were put on the Citizens Redistricting
23 Commission to educate other citizens, and I think we're
24 the best faces for people to build trust in the system
25 and in the process.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

2 MR. CLAYPOOL: So I don't believe that your plan --
3 that Deputy Executive Director Hernandez's plan has to be
4 altered at all. Don't get me wrong. You can continue to
5 do what you want to do. You are the best face for this
6 Commission. I just believe that we need to look at it
7 and do three things.

8 We need to calendar these things, so people
9 understand where you're going and who you're going to
10 speak to, and possibly, depending on whether or not this
11 is under Bagley-Keene or not, that may have to be a
12 fourteen-day, because that's what was given to this
13 Commission.

14 The second thing we have to do is, we have to make
15 it, as part of the agreement to go to any venue, that we
16 have a way to record what the presentation is and what
17 the Q and A is, from the start of your presence there to
18 the end of your presence.

19 Then the last thing I think we need to do is be
20 prepared to address any closed meetings that you may be
21 attending. For instance, we heard Mr. Zimmerman, and he
22 was already addressing the issues I'm addressing right
23 now when he said, I know you guys have a lot of
24 restrictions, and our meetings are closed to our members.

25 I don't know that that necessarily means that you

1 can't give an educational meeting to the members, but I
2 think that people have to understand that that may be
3 where you're going, and the community has to be able to
4 voice opinions about who you're meeting with. It's all
5 in the vein of transparency. In this particular case, I
6 believe COVID actually, again, is going to assist our
7 process, only because this is all virtual, and most
8 virtual platforms have the capacity -- or I believe
9 actually, probably all of them have the capacity -- to
10 record.

11 So I'm not proposing that you do anything other than
12 what you're planning to do. I'm just proposing that we
13 put in some steps to make sure that we adhere as much as
14 possible to government code, and the government code is
15 8253, and it doesn't differentiate because Commission and
16 staff, and it doesn't differentiate between what type of
17 a meeting it is, whether it's your meeting or their
18 meeting. It just says you can't receive this type of
19 information from anyone outside of a public meeting.

20 So let's just be as transparent as possible, so that
21 there's never any question as to what you did, and that's
22 the same as the meeting we're in right now. If anybody
23 ever accuses of saying, oh, you said this or that, we can
24 always go back to the video. So that's the only thing
25 that I would propose to you, and we've had this

1 discussion amongst ourselves as well, so we were all
2 prepared for what you may decide to do.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I am definitely all for
5 transparency, so I really appreciate, you know, these
6 thoughts, Dan. I'm wondering, though -- I do think that
7 the two-week agendized piece is such a challenge for us
8 as a full Commission. And my understanding, though, is
9 that when we are meeting, for example, in subcommittee,
10 and we have meetings with other people, which is a
11 pretty -- has become a common practice for this
12 Commission, and at the advice of legal, was told that
13 that was perfectly within our bounds to do. So those
14 kinds of meetings don't need to be agendized, so long as
15 there's not more than two Commissioners at an educational
16 session, and following these guidelines, right, of
17 saying, over and over again, I legally cannot take any
18 input at this point in time, but here's how you do it,
19 I'm not sure if that needs to be agendized, right? My
20 sense is it wouldn't fall into that fourteen-day
21 requirement.

22 That's not to say we shouldn't post it somewhere,
23 let people know. You know, one of the callers yesterday,
24 and I think it was Debra Levine -- I had it written
25 down -- had mentioned, you know, having a section on,

1 like, what's happening in your community? What is your
2 community saying? And so if we created sections for each
3 of those zones, and we maybe listed, like, hey. You
4 know, Commissioner Sinay is going to be giving a talk on
5 this night, I feel like that hits that spirit of
6 transparency without overburdening ourselves, in a sense.

7 I mean, I'm certainly open to counsel on this point,
8 but because we wouldn't be there in a quorum or a full
9 Commission, I don't -- my sense is that it wouldn't need
10 to be agendized two weeks in advance, and have to all be
11 public meetings, because that's not how we've been
12 operating in terms of our subcommittees, and you know,
13 last week, Commissioner Yee and I did preparatory calls
14 with our panelists, right? That wasn't agendized. I'm
15 happy to share that information. The record is there our
16 emails, et cetera, but I'm not sure if that the agendized
17 piece will be necessary.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Johnston, you have a reply?

19 MS. JOHNSTON: I just wanted to reassure
20 Commissioner Sadhwani that those types of meetings are
21 perfectly appropriate, because you're talking about
22 planning the business of the Commission. The difference
23 is when you're getting public input, and that's what
24 triggers the notice requirements and the public meeting
25 requirements. So that's the line that you have to be

1 very careful about.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, then
3 Commissioner Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. I think, for me, the
5 fourteen-day notice is the biggest piece that I'm really
6 not comfortable with, unless our counsel feels really
7 strongly that we must do that fourteen-day notice for
8 some of these meetings.

9 I'll say that the meetings that we're presenting at
10 are not open to the public. So if that, like -- if
11 that's -- if by posting fourteen days, we are then
12 creating a public meeting, we're going to have to also
13 work with the partners who are inviting us into their
14 space to open up these meetings, "open up", whatever that
15 means. Maybe it doesn't mean anything, but it would mean
16 letting them know that we would have to advertise a way
17 to access said meetings, possibly, right? That's sort
18 of -- that's my understanding.

19 So I don't know. This fourteen-day public notice to
20 receive public input, it feels really not conducive to
21 the goals for these education -- one-way information-
22 sending purpose of these meetings.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, then Commissioner
24 Le Mons.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I feel similar about -- the

1 fourteen days, for me, is actually a barrier for the
2 community. You know, honestly, the one that Commissioner
3 Ahmad and I have been invited to present tomorrow is more
4 the usual, versus not.

5 We got the invitation yesterday to present tomorrow,
6 you know, and that's a lot of -- those are the
7 hard-to-reach communities that we want to reach, and so I
8 don't want to put barriers.

9 There is one way we can get around this, and we
10 don't do Q and A. I mean, we just, you know, do an
11 educational panel, without Q and A. The unfortunate part
12 of that is -- or we say, if you have any questions,
13 please submit them in writing, but unfortunately, then we
14 lose that dialogue piece, where we may be able to answer
15 a very simple question, but that is one way, is to get
16 rid of Q and A.

17 I feel like we may end up in a slippery slope if
18 we -- and so let's say we're invited to do a presentation
19 to the Japanese community, in Japanese, and one of the
20 Commissioners speaks Japanese, and does it. Do we then
21 have to bring in a translator, so it is open to the
22 public and the whole -- and all the public can
23 understand?

24 I mean, you know, I'm just -- you know, and you all
25 know I'm all for accessible, but part of being accessible

1 for the education outreach is looking at the segments of
2 the community and meeting the needs that they have, so
3 that we can help them get engaged.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 Chief Counsel Marshall, do you have a reply?

6 Then Commissioner Le Mons, and Commissioner
7 Fernandez.

8 MS. MARSHALL: Yes. Going back to Commissioner
9 Sadhwani and her position, her position on how she
10 conducts the meetings is basically Legal's position. In
11 regard to the fourteen-day notice, that's just a
12 suggestion by the director, and so ultimately, it's how
13 you guys would like to proceed.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I think I might have missed
16 something, so I want a clarification. Is it suggested
17 that we can't do these -- I guess I'm confused. We've
18 been talking about these educational meetings for months,
19 literally, and they are pretty much one-directional;
20 we're there going to share information. We're not taking
21 any feedback on maps. We're not taking any public
22 testimony. We're not taking any of that.

23 I would not be in favor of eliminating a Q and A. A
24 Q and A is about clarity, so if I said something that
25 somebody didn't understand, they raise their hand and ask

1 me a question about it, and I clarify.

2 So I mean, I think, as long as we can keep the frame
3 of the scope of the meeting, I'm a little confused as to
4 what, suddenly, is the issue? I guess that's my -- it's
5 like, what happened? What did I miss that, suddenly,
6 this is a problem? So if somebody could help me
7 understand that, I'd love it.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall, do you have a
9 reply?

10 MS. MARSHALL: Commissioner Le Mons, there isn't a
11 problem, and totally agreement (sic) with everything you
12 have said. I think the thing that kind of derailed a
13 little bit, took it off on a tangent, was Director
14 Claypool's suggestion for a fourteen-day notice.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool, do you have a
16 reply?

17 MR. CLAYPOOL: No. Just to go a little further, in
18 my report-out to you, when I discussed that we did the
19 budget outreach meeting with all the members of the
20 budget committee and so forth, the legislature, it was
21 brought up at that point that they wanted to know how
22 they were going to be able to know what was going on in
23 these meetings, and they wanted to know what the
24 Commissioners were going to say, and they wanted to know
25 what type of input was going to be given to them.

1 For that, it caused us to go back to Government Code
2 8253, which governs your activities, and we read line
3 about -- that we've always known of, but we took more
4 seriously -- on number 3, that says, "Commission members
5 and staff may not communicate with or receive
6 communications about redistricting matters from anyone
7 outside of a public meeting", which then triggered the
8 thought, well, how are we going to stop people from
9 communicating to you? Are you not receiving information?

10 Back to my example of your panel earlier, where it
11 was just instantaneous. You were receiving. You were
12 receiving redistricting information. Whether you liked
13 it or not, it was being given to you, because that's what
14 people do.

15 So the fourteen-day would apply if this were under
16 Bagley-Keene. Our chief counsel believes that these
17 meetings are not under Bagley-Keene, and so accepting
18 that, I was going for caution. If you wanted to, you
19 know, to give it any amount of time you want, then you
20 could say, we have to agendaize it three days ahead of
21 time. I was only suggesting that agendaizing fourteen
22 days keeps you completely in the realm of adhering to
23 Bagley-Keene.

24 Having said that, whatever we do, if someone comes
25 back and determines that you were receiving information

1 outside a public meeting, and it didn't adhere to that,
2 and they determine that this is it in a legal proceeding,
3 then that becomes the issue of whether or not you have
4 violated Bagley-Keene. That's my only concern.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons, do you have
6 some follow-up on your question? And then Commissioner
7 Fernandez and Commissioner Andersen.

8 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, but I don't know that
9 I'll be able to get this, I guess, the clarity on the
10 individual that asked the impetus question, what were
11 they asking, because what was their concern, like, that's
12 not clear to me.

13 Like, I hear they asked a question, and we
14 interpreted the question, but for me, I need to better
15 understand what their thinking is, what they're concerned
16 about, like, and if they have a concern, I invite them to
17 send it.

18 Like, whoever it was, like, make us aware, make the
19 Commissioners aware, of what your concern is, so that we
20 can address it, because I think -- I'm not saying your
21 interpretation of the question is accurate or inaccurate,
22 but I feel like it set off a series of -- and I
23 appreciate your explanation. Thank you. It set off a
24 series of actions and expirations, which are all valid,
25 but I don't know what the impetus concern is.

1 So I don't know that I'm going to get that in this
2 meeting, but I'm inviting that, seriously inviting that,
3 because, if the path that you've gone down is accurate,
4 and in the spirit of what their concern is -- and this
5 sounds like this could be a bigger than we'd had --
6 that's ever been brought to date to this group, and I
7 think we need to be able to vet it appropriately, because
8 we're building a whole outreach model on something that
9 this could potentially blow up, because I agree with
10 Commissioner Sinay.

11 A fourteen-day notice, that whole concept, like, us
12 turning a group's meeting into a public meeting, like,
13 all of that is absurd, and probably not possible. Like,
14 we don't have the ability to go into people's meetings
15 and then say, okay, well, this is now a public meeting,
16 because we noticed it, and we've got to make provisions
17 for everybody to be a part of it. Some people may agree
18 to do that. I'm not saying that there aren't groups that
19 would agree to do that. But it then changes our whole
20 outreach strategy, which concerns me.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I agree with
23 Commissioner Le Mons. It's not our meetings. They're
24 inviting us to their house. It's like me going into
25 someone's house, and I'm going to redecorate it all, and

1 just put it in my own -- how I want it to be.

2 Again, we're going to reiterate that it's not an
3 input meeting. I think Zoom helps. If they really
4 start -- if they're aggressive, and want to go down that
5 road, we leave the meeting. I mean, it makes it easy to
6 just -- okay, you know, we gave our presentation, and you
7 didn't want to hear, at least to what our parameters
8 were. It's time for us to go.

9 So I think I haven't seen it so far, but I'm pretty
10 sure the fourteen Commissioners that are on this
11 Commission are strong enough to just leave the meeting,
12 if we have to, and we are smart enough to know what our
13 parameters are. And yeah, I wouldn't agree with the
14 fourteen-day notice, because part of it is we want them
15 to feel comfortable in their house, and I'm a guest, and
16 we need to act that way and behave that way. So those
17 are just my two cents.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, Commissioner
19 Toledo, Commissioner Sinay.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I think this is
21 a lot easier than we're all making it, and we're all
22 saying essentially the same thing, with just different
23 variations. There are educational meetings, and at those
24 educational meetings, we direct any questions -- we
25 follow what Director Ceja, Director -- essentially what

1 all the directors are essentially trying to say is, if
2 someone starts to go, well, you know, I want you to go
3 here, say, thank you. You can go to our website. We are
4 not taking any input. This is educational.

5 My clarification question was, if we have a COI
6 educational, COI tool educational, that's still
7 educational. We're not telling -- we're not helping them
8 use it. We're going to direct them to our website on the
9 details of how. We're doing the what. And then that
10 could indeed be -- if it's a private, you know, we tell
11 where they are. Those do not need fourteen-day notices,
12 but we have to be very careful. As we all state, we are
13 not -- we're going to say, no, we're not taking input.
14 That goes elsewhere.

15 Then, as in our strategic outreach plan that we're
16 looking at, then there's public input meetings, and those
17 indeed do have to be the fourteen-day, which I believe
18 why Director Hernandez is saying he'd really like to get
19 those on the schedule, because fourteen days is a huge
20 deal, and that is where we can indeed show people how to
21 use the COI tool, and at a point where we ever line draw,
22 we'll also be having a line drawer there, still
23 pre-census, and later on, those will also become -- all
24 our public input -- when it's after census, but the
25 educational part, which can continue through until it's

1 all done, is a one-way street, doesn't need fourteen
2 days. As soon as we start taking any info, it needs
3 fourteen days. I don't think that could be any more
4 clear. I think that answered everybody, hopefully.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Toledo, Commissioner
6 Sinay, Commissioner Vazquez, then Commissioner Yee.

7 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. I do think that
8 there may be some steps we can take to mitigate the risk
9 of potentially -- of these meetings potentially being
10 seen as -- or potentially being viewed as public input
11 meetings, or where we get -- or where that's the -- where
12 someone may challenge us on that issue, and that may be
13 things like having a really clear statement that we all
14 read at the beginning of each one of these meetings, some
15 kind of -- so just mitigating steps, right?

16 It could be a very brief orientation for
17 Commissioners on how to deliver that statement, what to
18 do if the public -- I mean, these are common-sense things
19 that we probably already know, but just we'd be spelling
20 it out, and doing it in a very brief orientation for us,
21 before we go out and deliver that, so we can show that we
22 have taken the -- we've done our due diligence on
23 educating Commissioners, as they go out, to not accept
24 public comment during these sessions. But just simple
25 mitigating things that might help us be able to do what

1 we want to do, without having to -- because, ultimately,
2 if someone wants to challenge us on these types of
3 issues, they probably will anyway, but we want to just
4 make sure that we have the documentation to show that we
5 took all of the steps necessary to keep us in compliance
6 with State law and the State code.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 Commissioner Sinay.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I agree with Commissioner
10 Toledo, and we've been told that multiple times from our
11 experts, that we're going to be challenged, and if
12 someone wants to challenge us, they will be challenged.

13 I think the one piece we're missing in this
14 conversation, and something that I've taken to heart, you
15 know, that Commissioner Vazquez and I have taken to
16 heart, and then Commissioner Fornaciari and I have taken
17 to heart, is this whole idea that we have to be as broad
18 as possible in our engagement, that what the courts are
19 going to be looking at, we've been told from the
20 beginning, is how broad -- you know, how you have
21 connected with the community, how broad that's been.

22 That's why, after community of interest panels of
23 different communities -- and we'll have more -- we've
24 gone into the sector panels, and today's panel was a very
25 different audience -- I mean, a different panel -- and

1 participants than we've had in the past, and that was
2 very intentional.

3 So I feel like, as much as we can be afraid that
4 someone is going to tell us, hey, these are public
5 meetings, or whatnot, on the flipside, I also think it's
6 going to protect us, because we can show how diverse the
7 different meetings were and how much, you know, outreach
8 we did.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez.

10 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I understand what I think the
11 folks from the legislature were concerned about. I
12 understand this concern, and the desire -- certainly it
13 aligns, I think, with all of our desire to keep our noses
14 clean, and they were confirming that we -- yes, you are
15 going to keep your noses clean on this, right? Right,
16 right, right?

17 And I think we've had many ideas about how we can
18 both keep our noses clean, reaffirm our commitment to
19 transparency, and also we affirm our commitment to being
20 in dialogue with our trusted community partners, with our
21 trusted messengers, and I feel like, to the
22 legislature's, you know, specific questions on, like,
23 what is going to be said? Well, glad you asked. We have
24 our presentation. Here it is. Here is our script. This
25 is what is going -- this is what the Commissioners are

1 saying. We are all giving the same presentation, and Q
2 and As are for, to Commissioner Le Mons's point, clarity.
3 So Legislature, that is the answer to your first
4 question. Here's what is being said.

5 To your second question, how we do know that there
6 is no public input happening in these meetings? Well, we
7 can't control -- to Director Ceja's point, we can't
8 control what people say. It's First Amendment rights.
9 People can say whatever they want, whenever they want, to
10 whomever they want. That being said, here are all the
11 precautions we are going to be taking to ensure that it
12 is very clear, at least on our -- you know, we have done
13 our due diligence to say it's not a public meeting. You
14 know, we're giving this presentation. We're taking
15 questions for clarity. That is it. And document all of
16 the ways we are ensuring that this is not a public input
17 meeting.

18 That is the -- for me, if we can be direct and clear
19 with the legislature about answering those two -- I heard
20 those two questions, like, how do we know what the
21 Commissioners are saying? We can tell you. And then how
22 can we assure that no public input is being received?
23 Well, we can't guarantee, just like you can't -- they
24 also understand this. Like, these are public officials
25 who also have -- again, to Director Ceja's point, they

1 also have restrictions on the kinds of communications
2 they can receive.

3 We can't prevent someone from, like, leaving a note
4 on someone's doorstep with all of their advocacy asks, or
5 a fundraising ask, or what have you, but we can do our
6 due diligence to communicate out what our restrictions
7 are, and that, for me, is a third way between having to
8 notice all of these education meetings, and make them
9 public meetings, and not doing them at all.

10 There is a third way, and I think we have found it,
11 and we can be responsive to the legislature's concerns,
12 in my opinion, if we are just direct with them about all
13 the steps we are taking to address their concerns.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Hang on, Director Claypool. Let me
15 get Commissioner Yee.

16 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I'm really
17 appreciating this discussion, and feeling the tension of
18 all the considerations that have been put on the table,
19 and understanding why it is an issue.

20 I'm feeling very sympathetic to Director Claypool's
21 concerns that, you know, conversations can pivot very
22 quickly and very naturally into what would amount to
23 public input, and you know, we can be trained and ready,
24 and preannounce to deflect that input, but you know, it's
25 going to happen, and the question is, if we're challenged

1 on having received that inappropriately, how do we defend
2 ourselves?

3 Absent, you know, recording every session that any
4 of us is involved in, which is completely unworkable, I
5 think, you know, are these notices, these mitigation
6 factors that Commissioner Toledo mentioned, risk
7 mitigation -- are those adequate? If so, that's fine,
8 and I think we can go forward with that, but to document
9 that all that, and so forth.

10 I am a little concerned about the notion that we
11 would, you know, kind of formally restrict ourselves to
12 the script, and you know, the PowerPoint presentation
13 that's being developed. Yes, we can often use that, and
14 you know, give presentations based on that, but I find,
15 you know, different settings -- I'm thinking of the two
16 presentations I've already given, very different
17 audiences. You know, I like to adapt things a lot. I
18 like to develop my own slides, you know.

19 So I would like to have some provision for being
20 able to do that, you know, maybe a requirement that
21 anything we present, we also archive, you know, somewhere
22 publicly accessible. I wouldn't want to be restricted
23 to, you know, just a script, a boilerplate, you know,
24 even very high quality. You know, different audiences
25 ask for different kinds of nuances, and I'd like to be

1 able to adapt to that.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

3 And then Director Claypool, I'll give you the
4 opportunity to respond.

5 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you.

6 Thank you, Commissioner Vazquez. That was at the
7 top of what I was -- I won't reiterate what you said. I
8 think that it's a simple reply to the question. I also
9 think that the question should be officially -- back to
10 my earlier point. If there is an official question, then
11 it should be officially presented to us.

12 So I could talk to any number of people. They might
13 ask me some things, or say what was said in this
14 conversation, but if this is a -- not legitimate, but if
15 this is an actual concern, it should be raised, and it
16 should be raised to the Commission, and I still want
17 that, and then we can respond accordingly, using the
18 framework that Commissioner Vazquez put forward.

19 So the other thing that this brings to mind is that
20 old adage of people's first perception of you, or a
21 situation when they get introduced to it, and so what
22 people know about the Commission is what the 2010
23 Commission did, and that frames their understanding, the
24 work that went into defining it, and all of that.

25 And what's interesting about us is, we've come at

1 this a little bit differently. This whole outreach piece
2 that we're designing, this whole grants piece, this
3 hasn't been done before, and so when they -- I expected
4 their questions, right? But I think that, in the same
5 vein as Commissioner Vazquez -- but then we respond to
6 those questions.

7 I think that something was said yesterday about
8 scope bleed, and it was Commissioner Sadhwani, as we were
9 talking about the grants, and I just thought about this
10 again in the context of this. This could be considered
11 scope bleed, that all we're supposed to do is take input
12 on the maps, and that's it, and all this stuff that we're
13 doing is outside of that.

14 I'm not saying we shouldn't be doing it. I want to
15 be very clear. But if people's perception of what our
16 function is and what we are supposed to be doing is a
17 specific thing, and these things that we're doing are
18 outside of that, it will raise questions. So I think us,
19 as a Commission, just have to accept that.

20 We made a decision as a group as to how important we
21 felt outreach was. I don't know that it's written in the
22 charter anywhere that our responsibility is to educate
23 the community about redistricting or any of this stuff
24 that we think is very important and we think, ultimately,
25 leads us to doing a better job. Those are the decisions

1 that we're making.

2 So I just welcome the questions, I welcome our
3 ability to respond to those questions, and when you are
4 pioneering, and doing something that hasn't been done
5 before, you have to have a certain amount of courage and
6 fearlessness, and I think we do.

7 So I don't want us to be, you know, scared, and the
8 Bagley-Keene book get whipped out every time we say we
9 want to do something, and then we suddenly can't do it if
10 we're not honoring fourteen days. I think we have to
11 look at the law, look at the facts, figure out how we
12 navigate, and do what it is that we're trying to do. So
13 that's my -- yes. That's my feedback.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 I want to give Director Claypool and Chief Counsel
16 Marshall an opportunity to respond. We'll break for
17 lunch. We'll return to this with public comment after
18 lunch.

19 So go ahead, Director Claypool, and then Chief
20 Counsel Marshall.

21 MR. CLAYPOOL: First of all, I think that you're
22 absolutely correct, Commissioner Le Mons, that we do need
23 to look at what the law says. If this isn't -- if this
24 were something that were just my prerogative, then that
25 would be one thing, but you know, the law, in my mind, is

1 giving us some guidance.

2 Second of all, I want to be very, very clear that
3 this isn't the legislature sending this question to us.
4 This were the legislative staffers, at a meeting, asking
5 a question. So we need to be very, very clear on that,
6 that these were questions that were just asked in a
7 meeting when we were going through the budget, which then
8 triggered my concern that, were we looking at this
9 correctly? So I don't want this, you know, to be blown
10 out of proportion. These were questions from
11 individuals, specific individuals.

12 Lastly, you are required by the Constitution to
13 promote an educational outreach to all Californians, and
14 this effort comes out of that, and I wouldn't want to see
15 it jeopardized in any way, but I just wanted to make very
16 clear how this information came to us, and also how it
17 spurred my concerns.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

19 MS. MARSHALL: I'm not going to reiterate what all
20 of you have actually stated. Again, I'm in agreement,
21 and if there's additional legal response that's needed,
22 maybe additional research, I can do it, but at this
23 point, I stand by my position.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So that was a very
25 substantive and robust conversation. I hope that we all

1 can sort of contemplate it a bit over lunch. We'll
2 return to this topic. We'll accept public comment.
3 We'll see if it's necessary to move a vote on anything
4 when we come back.

5 So have a good lunch. Take a deep breath. We're
6 going to work through it. I think it was a great,
7 important conversation.

8 So let's come back in an hour. Let's come back at
9 1:45. Thank you.

10 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 12:41 p.m.
11 until 1:45 p.m.)

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 Good afternoon. It is 1:45 p.m., January 27th.
14 Welcome back to the January 27th meeting of the
15 California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

16 We left off with the deputy executive director's
17 report, and before we proceed to public comment, let me
18 inquire, Deputy Director Alvaro -- Hernandez, are we
19 looking for -- are you looking for a vote for the
20 approval of your outreach plan?

21 MR. HERNANDEZ: That's what I had hoped to do, get a
22 conceptual approval, but I do have some additional
23 changes that have been made. So maybe we can delay that,
24 but proceed with the understanding that we are going to
25 approve it.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Got it. And so in order to be
2 efficient, I think, along with public comment, I would
3 like to get -- general public comment -- I would like to
4 get public comment as it relates to this agenda item as
5 well. So for us to move to a vote, there has to be a
6 motion to accept this proposal.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: This is Commissioner Le Mons.
8 I was going to say, I'd like to make a motion to accept
9 Deputy Director Hernandez's outreach proposal, but what
10 I'd like him to do is, just so that we're all clear, is
11 to quickly bullet the changes, so it would be accepted
12 with changes, as identified, and that way, we could move
13 forward.

14 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. So the changes will be on page
15 4, under strategy number 4. The first bullet is "Public
16 Comment". I've added "Public Input Meetings", "Public
17 Comment at Public Input Meetings".

18 The next change would be on page 8, under phase 3,
19 "Public Meetings for Public Input". The last two
20 sentences are new sentences that I'm adding, to read
21 "During this phase, the Commission will receive the
22 census data to work with. The public meetings will begin
23 in late March and continue through May. A more detailed
24 schedule of the public input meeting will be provided to
25 the Commission at a later date."

1 And finally, on page 9, right underneath the
2 outreach schedule, outreach presentation or educational
3 presentation schedule, that first sentence, "Public
4 meetings will begin after the educational presentation
5 phase", and I deleted some of the language that was
6 previously there. So those are the changes that were
7 made.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think they're all fine, but
10 I'm not sure that we want to say, "after". I mean, I
11 think public education meetings are going to be whenever.
12 You know, someone may want a short presentation. So I
13 would just say, "ongoing", and just leave it open like
14 that.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

16 MS. MARSHALL: I had a comment that I wanted to make
17 earlier, but it was so many comments in between that I
18 decided to wait until we come back. Just one quick
19 comment in regards to Government Code Section 8253,
20 Section 3, that Director Claypool had mentioned, and it's
21 my position that that's not applicable to this particular
22 matter.

23 And just to briefly summarize this code, it states
24 that "The Commission members and staff may not
25 communicate with or receive communications about

1 redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public
2 hearing."

3 For me, the operative words is "matters", and when
4 you look at the word "matters", outside of science, it is
5 a serious situation, a problem, a disagreement,
6 litigation, concern, or things of that effect.

7 Here, again, these educational meetings are all
8 about -- I'm sorry, educational events, presentations --
9 are all about education, and to do an overly broad
10 interpretation of this particular section basically would
11 stifle CRC's purpose. In general, CRC wouldn't be able
12 to communicate with anyone, because the very purpose and
13 goals of CRC is to redistrict, and just to give a general
14 example, I find that someone could speak about their
15 family, and not discuss family matters.

16 So here, you know, I'm very confident that Deputy
17 Director Hernandez, Communications Director Ceja, and the
18 Commissioners will conduct their presentations in a
19 manner that not only serves the best interests of CRC,
20 but the citizens of the State of California, without a
21 doubt. We're adults here in this situation. We have
22 control of the situation, and shouldn't be fearful or
23 limiting ourselves when it comes to educating the public.
24 That's it.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

1 Commissioner Le Mons.

2 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Similar to Commissioner
3 Sinay, there was two points, actually, I think, the one
4 about "after", and then I think, earlier, there was March
5 to May, which I also felt that we had talked about not
6 truncating the -- it needs to be broader, so not having
7 that May outer deadline. So if you could clarify that,
8 Director Hernandez.

9 Also, this just occurred to me, just before Chief
10 Marshall spoke, is I know we've talked about being open
11 to doing education, you know, whenever, and for long as
12 necessary, and I'm wondering if maybe it would be -- just
13 in the spirit of delineation, once we begin to take
14 public input, once we move to the input meetings, I
15 think, because we'd be out doing different things,
16 meaning two different things at the same time -- because
17 we won't be doing public input meetings before the census
18 data. We know that won't be happening. Am I correct?
19 No, that's not correct.

20 Okay. So forget that whole point. Just scrap that,
21 my two points being that May outer deadline, extending
22 that out, and not putting that "after" caveat. Those
23 were the two things that stood out to me in the bullets.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. And

1 maybe this is taking off a little bit on where
2 Commissioner Le Mons was going, and if not, I apologize,
3 but you know, we run the risk of confusion to the extent
4 that we're doing those two different things at different
5 times, and you know, we just have to be aware of the
6 pluses and minuses of doing educational events and
7 community input events simultaneously.

8 You know, I understand the importance of doing
9 educational events as and when we're able to, but I think
10 that the more we're able to separate the two,
11 chronologically, the less confusion there will be out in
12 the community, and that's -- I just want us to be aware
13 of that. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I also wondered --
16 there was a suggestion earlier, I believe by Commissioner
17 Toledo, to have some sort of disclaimer up front for the
18 hearings that we're going to do -- or the educational
19 piece that we're going to do. I'm wondering if that was
20 taken into consideration and included, because I see that
21 playing a huge role in differentiating what we're doing
22 and what our intent is.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: So the motion we have on the floor
24 from Director (sic) Le Mons is to accept the concept of
25 Deputy Executive Director Hernandez's outreach plan.

1 Chief Counsel Marshall.

2 MS. MARSHALL: Either I or Mr. Hernandez is going to
3 answer Commissioner Turner's question, and my response
4 would be yes, but I'll defer to him to confirm.

5 MR. HERNANDEZ: I would agree, and in light of that,
6 I'd like to defer the approval for today, allow me to add
7 that information, and potentially take a vote tomorrow,
8 when that information has been added.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: That would cause Commissioner Le Mons
10 to have to withdraw his motion.

11 MS. JOHNSTON: It hasn't been seconded yet, so it
12 doesn't need --

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

14 Commissioner Yee.

15 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. On top of describing in the
16 plan, you know, intention and provision for announcing
17 upcoming presentations and educational events, to also
18 include a clear description of how those are documented
19 and archived publicly, so that, again, in the spirit of
20 risk mitigation, we can, you know, make it clear how
21 we're keeping all this very public, I think that would be
22 useful.

23 Also to the point -- if I can back up some, I was
24 thinking over lunch about the question of education and
25 this whole idea about taking public input. I was

1 thinking, you know, we should work that into the
2 education.

3 You know, one of the first things we talk about in a
4 presentation is public input, and maybe, as example, I
5 was thinking historically of 19th-century California, the
6 railroad barons, railroad monopoly, which was considered
7 such a threat by so many, and you know, maybe put a slide
8 of those up and say, you know, if those guys were here
9 today, they could not give us input unless we're in a
10 public setting. Don't you think that's a good idea?
11 They can't influence our work in a private back room.
12 Well, the same rule applies to you as applies to them.
13 Therefore, you know, this educational event, we can have
14 discussion, but I can't take public input. Please use
15 one of these other avenues to give that, so you know, to
16 work it into a positive part of the education, and so
17 make it, you know, something that people will value,
18 rather than fight against.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

20 So then we're going to table this discussion, and
21 come back to it tomorrow for a possible vote. Am I
22 correct?

23 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes, Chair.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So then, I'm going to
25 open up the floor for public comment, for general

1 comment, as well as to agenda item number 6.

2 Kristian -- I'm sorry, Katy. We have Katy. Katy,
3 can you --

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That's okay.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: -- invite the public in, please.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, definitely.

7 In order to maximize transparency and public
8 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
9 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
10 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is
11 877-853-5247.

12 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number that is
13 provided on the livestream feed, it is 97679349222 for
14 this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
15 participant ID, simply press the pound key.

16 Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a
17 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
18 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

19 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear an
20 automated message that says, "The host would like you to
21 talk", and to press star 6 to speak.

22 If you would like to give your name, please state
23 and spell it for the record. You are not required to
24 provide your name to give public comment.

25 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream

1 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during the
2 call.

3 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when
4 it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the
5 volume of the livestream feed.

6 We do not -- oh, well, let me -- we do have one
7 person in the queue.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Invite them in, please.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And if you would like to
10 state and spell your name, you can, but you do not have
11 to. The floor is yours.

12 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. This is Renee Westa-Lusk,
13 R-E-N-E-E, and the last name is W-E-S-T-A, and then
14 there's a hyphen, and then it's Lusk, L-U-S-K.

15 My questions mainly have to do with the executive
16 director's report. There was mention of that you were
17 going to have small, thirty-second videos on social
18 media, which would include YouTube, and will you be
19 putting those thirty-second videos on the website of the
20 CRC? That's my first question.

21 Then you mentioned an e-blast newsletter. When you
22 say "e-blast", does that mean all the people you have on
23 file, emails, that want to be contacted by the
24 Commission, their emailing list? Is that what you're
25 referring to, how to get the newsletter, or will the

1 newsletter be posted on the website?

2 Then I wanted to say I support Commissioner
3 Kennedy's emphasis on advertising the educational
4 presentations, and maybe the future input meetings, on
5 radio, for a lot of hard-to-reach areas of the state, as
6 far as geography goes, because there's a lot of
7 communities that don't have much local paper coverage.

8 Then I had one other question regarding if you're --
9 when Commissioner Kennedy asked about posting the
10 speakers request form, will that actually be on the
11 website, or -- the outgoing website, or are you planning
12 to email that or e-blast that to people that are on your
13 email list? Those are my questions.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 Is staff able to answer or have any opinion on any
16 of those questions put forth by Ms. Westa-Lusk?

17 Go ahead, Director Ceja.

18 MR. HERNANDEZ: So if I may, while Director Ceja
19 reboots his system again, I'll answer those questions.
20 In regard to the videos that we will be producing, they
21 will be available on our website, and also through the
22 different social media applications, whether it's
23 YouTube, Facebook, Twitter. There will be either links
24 to them or the videos themselves.

25 In regards to e-blasts, that's typically what we do.

1 We have a list of emails. We'll send that information
2 out to those who have provided us those emails, and other
3 contacts that we may have. We'll be sending that
4 information in our e-blasts, whatever information is
5 available and relevant.

6 As far as advertising on the radio, that is
7 definitely something that we are looking to do. We have
8 already discussed a plan, moving forward, to make sure
9 that we have radio advertisement funds available. So
10 that is definitely part of our plan.

11 As far as posting the speaker request form, we are
12 trying to get it on the current website so that it is
13 available for everyone, and in when the new website -- it
14 will definitely be available when that comes up. Thank
15 you.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. If I could
18 just suggest that Director Hernandez or Director Ceja
19 inform those listening how they can get on the list for
20 e-blasts if they're not already on that list. Thank you.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Do we have any more callers in the
22 queue?

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sorry. My microphone
24 wasn't on. No, Chair, we do not.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

1 Then we'll move on to our next agenda item. We will
2 table our vote -- Commissioner Kennedy?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I just
4 wanted to go back for a second to Commissioner Yee's
5 remarks a while ago, and reiterate something that I
6 believe I had said in the last meeting, which is I think
7 we're better off if we have a long-form expanded
8 presentation that includes anything and everything, I
9 mean, you know, to the extent that we can.

10 If we have everything in a presentation, and then
11 whittle down from there to fit into the time available,
12 we reduce the possibility of anything that's not
13 absolutely factually correct, and has been vetted and so
14 forth internally, going out. We can always whittle down,
15 but once we start adding things that haven't been vetted,
16 we increase our risk.

17 So I would encourage us to think in terms of
18 let's -- you know, everything that's in the FAQs,
19 everything that -- you know, just have a repository that
20 we draw from for, you know, a long-form presentation that
21 we would cut down from, and I think that that could help
22 us in the long run. Thank you.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 Any other comments from Commissioners?

25 All right. We're now going to move on to --

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair?

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Director Hernandez would like
4 to respond.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: You guys. Yes, sir, go ahead.

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: I apologize for that, Chair. I just
7 wanted to respond to Commissioner Kennedy. That is the
8 reason that we created a long PowerPoint and a short
9 PowerPoint. The long one has as much information as we
10 can. As far as a repository, we have FAQs that are
11 available. We have a fact sheet that is being worked on,
12 and we'll talk about those in the subcommittee report for
13 materials.

14 So I just wanted to make sure that you are aware
15 that we are working on that, and I know that, in doing
16 presentations, they're never going to be the same twice.
17 There's variations, but the information is what we'll be
18 talking to. You may say it a different way. Each one of
19 us are very unique, and we're going to say it a different
20 way, but the content will be the same. It's just the
21 delivery, that we're allowing for that flexibility for
22 you, as Commissioners, to interject your experience. And
23 that's it. Thank you.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right, Commissioners. Going
25 once, going twice.

1 All right. So we're going to table this for the
2 moment, table a possible vote, and move on to agenda item
3 number 7, chief counsel's report.

4 The floor is yours, Chief Counsel Marshall.

5 MS. MARSHALL: I appreciate the comity. As usual,
6 my chief counsel report is very brief and succinct.

7 Again, I just want to remind everybody to be
8 cognizant of Bagley-Keene compliance when communicating,
9 and one of the things that legal office is going to do,
10 we're going to provide a cheat sheet, because a lot of
11 times we come up -- we hear a lot of repetitive questions
12 regarding the same thing, and I get it. There's a lot of
13 time that spans, you know, through these different
14 meetings, but that's something we're going to have for
15 you by the end of next week. It's going to be real
16 simple, pretty much cut-and-dried.

17 Also anyone have any legal questions, and they feel
18 as though, after the fact, that they need more
19 clarification, I don't want you to hesitate to ask for
20 clarification. A week or so ago, there was an issue in
21 regards to -- well, I had a question in regards to why
22 there was voting on the applicability of the Election
23 Code.

24 The thing is -- and they actually thought the vote
25 was probably, you know, pretty much superfluous, but what

1 people may not know is that, when it comes to the law in
2 itself, different code sections, different chapters, are
3 applicable to different persons, places, and entities and
4 subjects. So it doesn't necessarily mean it's applicable
5 to you.

6 So if you flip through the pages, and you happen to
7 miss that one little paragraph where it says, "Only
8 applicable to the Franchise Tax Board", you may
9 misinterpret it and think that it's applicable to us, and
10 with this particular issue, it was just applicable to the
11 local level, and not the state level.

12 In regards to anything derivative of any
13 memorandums, or the VRA counsel, or litigation, or things
14 of that nature on other subcommittees that I've been
15 working with, I'm going to defer to them, to -- an effort
16 to prevent duplication. Thanks.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

18 Any questions or comments regarding the chief
19 counsel's report?

20 All right. We will move on to agenda item number 9,
21 the subcommittee updates, and we'll start off with action
22 on the census, and this comes after Commissioner Sadhwani
23 laid the bomb on us.

24 The floor is yours, Commissioner Sadhwani and
25 Commissioner Toledo.

1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure.

2 Commissioner Toledo, do you want to start us off and
3 give the background on the letter?

4 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Sure.

5 You should have all received the letter that we
6 drafted. It's very familiar to the initial letter we did
7 a couple months back to the legislature, to our U.S.
8 Senators, and to the U.S. Census Bureau, and other
9 federal legislators. There's one key difference, though.
10 This also speaks to some of the methodology that has been
11 used to protect privacy, and so what we're asking for is
12 all of the data that's necessary for us to be able to do
13 our job, and that's the piece that changes. So it's a
14 little bit more specific in that regard.

15 You have the letter in front of you, so you can see
16 what the letter says. In addition to asking the federal
17 government to take its time, and for the Census Bureau to
18 take its time, in making sure that the quality of the
19 data that we get is good. I mean, we want good, accurate
20 data, and that's initially the spirit of that letter.

21 So with that, I'll hand it over to Commissioner
22 Sadhwani.

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. Just a little bit of
24 a background here. You know, at our last meeting, I
25 believe it was Commissioner Sinay, and I forget which

1 subcommittee, Commissioner Sinay, that you had had the
2 conversation with Karin Mac Donald.

3 We had a follow-up conversation with her that was
4 suggested at the last meeting, and so that did happen,
5 and in that conversation, she had just suggested that
6 continuing to advocate for high-quality data would be in
7 the interests of the CRC.

8 We felt that that was absolutely correct and true,
9 and we wanted to bring that back to you all for your
10 consideration. If you recall, in the fall, we were
11 writing letters of a very similar nature -- we used much
12 of the language from the fall letters again here -- to
13 ensure a complete count.

14 While the count period is over, there are quality --
15 you know, quality controls that the U.S. Census Bureau
16 can take to ensure that this is a full and complete data
17 set, to the best of their ability, and we believe it is
18 in the interest of the CRC to advocate as such to a new
19 administration.

20 So this letter was originally crafted to ask the new
21 Biden administration and the Census Bureau to take the
22 time necessary to ensure any such statistical measures
23 that can be taken to improve the quality of the data are
24 taken, so they don't feel rushed to do so.

25 In addition, after a lengthy conversation with Ms.

1 Mac Donald, we took the recommendation that the
2 differential privacy considerations that the U.S. Census
3 Bureau is attempting to enact would be best to be laid
4 aside for the 2020 census. I think the concern of most
5 data scientists and statisticians is that this was rolled
6 out in 2018.

7 Typically, when changes to the methodology of the
8 census occur, they are tested for many, many years, and
9 so while differential privacy -- while we can support
10 privacy in general, this new methodology, and the
11 algorithms that are being used, it is the sense of many
12 that this is going to create real problems for our data.
13 From the Statewide Database's perspective, in particular,
14 it would cause problems for the prisoner reallocation
15 data as well.

16 So we bring this for you all today to consider. Due
17 to the, you know, agendaing two weeks in advance, it was
18 not possible to have Ms. Mac Donald present to us today.
19 We have put her on as a placeholder for our next meeting,
20 February 8th, should there be any additional questions or
21 if we want to have her provide any additional updates in
22 terms of the census.

23 That being said, you know, it may not be necessary
24 to advocate, you know, for the Census Bureau taking this
25 longer time, now that we have this information that they

1 plan to send reapportionment data April 30th. That
2 appears to be the -- it appears that they are taking that
3 additional time. I don't think it's problematic if it
4 stays in our letter. I think that's for discussion of
5 this Commission.

6 I'll also say, you know, in terms of soliciting
7 feedback from you all, I think what has worked well in
8 previous kinds of documents like these is, if you have
9 wordsmithing components, please feel free to send them
10 through staff, and they can forward them on to us. We're
11 happy to work through any, you know, grammatical errors,
12 or even just better fit of words, but I think what we
13 would prefer to focus our conversation on is whether or
14 not we should send the letter, and the major components
15 of the letter.

16 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, or if there's any
17 substantive issues with the letter. If folks have any
18 substantive issues with regards to some of the advocacy
19 points that we're making, those would be things that we
20 want to do in public comment.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much for the
23 letter and everything. I just had a question about --
24 looking at the letter, it's the third paragraph, when
25 you're asking specifically asking about to remove the

1 differential privacy algorithm.

2 I recall back in the fall, when Ms. Mac Donald
3 was speaking to us, there -- because privacy, of course,
4 is a big issue, and the problem is this particular
5 differential privacy algorithm that hadn't -- that they
6 suddenly introduced, but there were other steps, as I
7 understood it, that basically were kind of in the normal
8 process, and were kind of continuing.

9 So I'm just concerned. Are we specific enough to
10 say -- and specifically to who we're sending it to --
11 we're only talking about this particular algorithm?
12 Because if they're -- you know, I don't want us -- I want
13 our wording to be specific to address the issue that's
14 the problem, and not overly inclusive, and eliminate --
15 you know, essentially, there is a problem if it's the
16 exact numbers, because then you can basically drill down.
17 You can find out, almost, who is were, not quite.

18 You know, that's an oversimplification of the real
19 need for the privacy, some sort of privacy thing, and I
20 thought that there was a little something that they were
21 doing, and I don't know if you've already talked about
22 that, or if this wording is specific enough to only
23 eliminate that.

24 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I know that we're asking for the
25 data at the block level, and so it's at the block level,

1 and so that we would have enough information to be able
2 to do our job, and ensure we're in compliance with, you
3 know, the Voting Rights Act and other compliance
4 requirements that may require us to look at, you know,
5 where certain demographics might live, or certain types
6 of individuals might live, because of the way the
7 methodology works -- and Sara probably understands this a
8 lot better than I do, but that's my understanding, is we
9 want block census -- data to the block level.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, that's my
11 understanding as well, and I think, you know,
12 Commissioner Andersen, to your point, I think we would be
13 happy -- we have not shared this letter directly with Ms.
14 Mac Donald, though it is posted to our website. I would
15 be happy to kind of follow up with her, if it is the
16 desire of the Commission, to make sure that we are being
17 as specific as possible and to get additional clarity for
18 you, for your question.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Thank you very much.
20 Yes. I understand that when you're trying to add the
21 prisoner reallocation, it's very important to have that
22 so you can match apples to apples, but I just don't know
23 quite -- I want us to be sure that we're specific enough
24 to not muddy the waters, but I don't know -- and this is
25 kind of meant to Legal -- can we do that? Can we get, I

1 guess, you know, feedback? I guess it's public comment
2 feedback, that that should be no legal issue.

3 Counsel, is there any sort of issue with that?

4 MS. MARSHALL: I guess I'm trying to understand your
5 question.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: As Commissioner Sadhwani
7 said, we can just verify with Ms. Mac Donald the
8 specificity of the wording. Is that proper, because we
9 have the same intent, but then, going back to her, is
10 that okay?

11 MS. MARSHALL: You know what? I would have to --
12 I'm not going to going -- I'm looking at just general
13 public comment, and she has the opportunity to call in to
14 comment on the matter. You know, at this time, I have --
15 you know, I don't have a different response, other than
16 it wouldn't be improper for her to call in at this time
17 to provide a comment on it.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Or maybe, if I can chime in, is there
19 any violation if the subcommittee was then -- for
20 something such as this -- if they were to recontact their
21 source for clarification of verbiage or the proper terms,
22 so that our intent is properly conveyed?

23 Commissioner Sadhwani, did I say that correctly?

24 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm just wondering if maybe we
25 can just send her an email, and just ask her to send us,

1 in writing, to the Commission, any feedback that she
2 might have, so that it's through our public process, and
3 it can be posted, so that everybody knows what it is, and
4 that should meet the requirement, I believe.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I mean, my --
6 sorry, if Ms. Marshall wants to go ahead.

7 MS. MARSHALL: No, go ahead.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My sense is that, as Chair
9 Taylor laid out, I think it should be okay if we go back
10 and ask for that clarity. You know, she is the director
11 of the Statewide Database, who is the entity that will be
12 providing us with this data, so my sense is that it is
13 expected that we would have a working relationship with
14 her.

15 And I will say, as we put this letter together, our
16 intent was not to be terribly specific about the details.
17 We felt like we are not the statisticians here. The
18 Statewide Database is. So if they want to advocate for
19 those more specific details, that is certainly within
20 their purview. However, as the Commission, I think our
21 interest is having the highest-quality data possible,
22 right, so that we can draw maps that are defensible.

23 So my interest in preparing this letter was not to
24 drill down too deeply into the nitty-gritty of, you know,
25 statistical methodology of the U.S. Census Bureau, but

1 instead to make a strong ask for high-quality data, and
2 that they take the time necessary to ensure that that is
3 delivered.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

5 MS. MARSHALL: Just to maintain consistency, we're
6 actually in the process of developing protocols when it
7 comes to memorandums and things of that nature, and so
8 until we have that developed, which should hopefully be
9 soon, I'll be able to give you a definitive response.
10 Thank you.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

12 So Commissioner Toledo, Commissioner Sadhwani, is
13 there anything that you need from us today?

14 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My sense is, if there is
15 agreement that it is indeed in our interest as a
16 Commission to move forward with such a letter -- and
17 obviously, the census situation is developing rapidly --
18 but you know, is there general approval to move forward
19 with such a letter?

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez, then
21 Commissioner Andersen.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you,
23 Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo. I do think it's still
24 important for us a Commission to send this letter.
25 Regardless of the census data being delayed, there's

1 still an issue with the differential privacy that we
2 still want to address, because we don't know. Is that
3 what's causing the delay? So I think, you know, it's an
4 issue that was brought up, and I think we should still
5 move forward with it. So thank you.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I have just one
8 other item, and then I will be happy to make a motion
9 that we do move ahead on this. It's just, when we refer
10 to -- and this is for, again, clarity -- the last part,
11 "our fourteen-member Commission, we have five
12 Republicans, five Democrats," and we say, "four nonparty
13 affiliates." Are all four of them nonparty, or are they
14 of a particular party?

15 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: My understanding is all
16 nonpartisan, no party.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I believe we discussed this
18 previously, and we came up with the terminology "nonparty
19 affiliates", as opposed to the use of the term
20 "independents", but if we want to revisit that --

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, no. It was actually --
22 it's just because there -- remember, in California, there
23 is a "no party", and then, you know, there are the other
24 parties, but I thought the "nonparty" -- that they
25 actually were all indeed no party, and that's where

1 the -- and if that's -- I'm getting -- I'm seeing nods
2 from the people involved, in which case I would say I
3 would make a -- I propose that we move this letter ahead.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons, did you have a
5 comment?

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I was just going to
7 affirm that I was nonparty affiliate. That's all. I
8 just wanted to -- I understand Commissioner Andersen's
9 question, because there is other parties, like the Green
10 Party and others, and so you're just clarifying whether
11 or not that "nonparty affiliate" representation
12 represents the -- I think it's four of us?

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: The four of us. So I'll say,
15 for me, it does.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa?

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I think, officially, I
18 think we're called "decline to state".

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. It was --

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, you're off
21 mute.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Sorry. I'm terribly
23 sorry. But Commissioner Le Mons and Commissioner Ahmad
24 were answering.

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I think that that's

1 what the Statewide Auditor was using, because I saw
2 "decline to state" somewhere, and it was being used quite
3 often.

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Can I just -- it was
5 formerly -- like, when you register to vote, the form
6 formerly used to say, "decline to state," when you
7 register your political party, but that has since
8 changed, if I am recollecting, because I put "decline to
9 state" when I registered to vote, because I didn't know
10 what political parties meant, and what that entailed. So
11 I just put "decline to state", and then, as you learn
12 about it, you know.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez, and then
14 Chief Counsel Marshall.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: When I was reading some of
16 the legislation that was applicable to us, the California
17 Code, the way they put it, I mean, sometimes they put it
18 the long way, but they also do "fourteen members
19 comprised of five Republicans, five Democrats, and four
20 members from either party", and that's how they explained
21 it, I guess.

22 For me, it was clear, but I think we've already
23 addressed this at the last letter that we went, early on
24 in the Commission, when we were established, and I think
25 that the "nonparty affiliates" -- I think that's what we

1 agreed to early on.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Correct. That's my recollection, and
3 I would be -- I would promote sending out the letter with
4 the same verbiage.

5 Commissioner Sinay.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I would like to second the
7 motion that was made, and for the outreach committee,
8 please note just the conversation we just had, because
9 we've been using a lot longer verbiage on our outreach
10 material.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: So the motion was proposed by
12 Commissioner Andersen and seconded by Commissioner Sinay,
13 correct? So then, is there any further discussion?

14 So then, we need to move -- Commissioner Sadhwani.

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You know, I just also wanted
16 to highlight for you all that we need to figure out who,
17 exactly, the new census director is. I believe there is
18 a change happening there, so that's just an update. We
19 will clarify that.

20 Commissioner Toledo and I also had discussed that
21 there may be other people that it would make sense to
22 send it to, either within the new administration --
23 possibly the vice president could play a role in the
24 census. Of course, she has strong ties to California.
25 So we would also ask that we have the leeway to explore

1 who the best options would be to send this to.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you for saying that. I
4 was wondering if we should CC the folks that we sent the
5 first census letter to, just so that we're still keeping
6 them in the loop on what we're doing, especially since we
7 have a new senator.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's a great idea.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Then we need to invite in
10 public comment regarding the motion on the floor for
11 approval of the letter to support the strongest
12 statistics possible. Does that sound correct? And
13 that's agenda item 9A.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I think I'm going to
15 stick with 9A. No, I'm just kidding. Okay.

16 In order to maximize transparency and public
17 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
18 taking public comment by phone. To dial in, the
19 telephone number provided on the livestream feed is 877-
20 853-5247.

21 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number that is
22 provided on the livestream feed, it is 97679349222 for
23 this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
24 participant ID, simply press the pound key.

25 Once you've dialed in, you will be placed in a

1 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
2 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

3 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear an
4 automated message that says, "The host would like you to
5 talk", and to press star 6 to speak.

6 If you would like to give your name, please state
7 and spell it for the record. You are not required to
8 provide your name to give public comment.

9 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
10 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
11 call.

12 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when
13 it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the
14 livestream volume.

15 The Commission is taking public comment on the
16 motion made about the letter relating to 9A.

17 And we do not have anybody in the queue at this
18 time.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give it a few
20 minutes. We'll be in pause.

21 MS. MARSHALL: This is Chief Counsel Marshall. Here
22 at headquarters, we weren't able to get the name of the
23 person who did the second on the motion.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: The second is Commissioner Sinay.

25 MS. MARSHALL: All right. Thank you.

1 What was that, Commissioner Fornaciari?

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I just had a question for
3 Chair -- can I ask a question, Chair Taylor, while we're
4 waiting?

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sadhwani, so
7 is it official at this point that -- is it officially
8 announced that it won't be released until April -- the
9 apportionment data won't be released until April 21st?

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: The correspondence that I
11 received was from Karin Mac Donald. She said she was at
12 a meeting of the National Conference of State
13 Legislatures, in which a U.S. Census spokesperson
14 announced that it would not be released until April 30th,
15 the reapportionment data, and that it's expected that
16 that data would be released to the states three months
17 later.

18 I don't know what constitutes official at this
19 point, but she did email that update. That's as best as
20 I can share with you at this point. I haven't yet seen
21 any, you know, news release or anything to that effect.
22 I know Ms. Johnston is often following this topic. I
23 don't know if you've seen anything yet this afternoon.
24 No.

25 I know there's a reporter, Hansi Lo Wang, who tends

1 to follow changes in the census. I'll check it out on
2 Twitter, but I haven't seen anything as of yet besides
3 the email that I received from Ms. Mac Donald.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Great. So I just want to
5 share with everyone kind of a reaction I had to that
6 news. I feel like we've been going full speed ahead, you
7 know, in the anticipation that, you know, we're going to
8 have this compressed schedule. We talked about, you
9 know, alternative scenario planning. Well, now we have a
10 new scenario, and so it's kind of clear to me that, you
11 know, we're not ending August 15th at this point.

12 We're, you know, more like December 15th, and so
13 that's another several months for everyone, especially
14 those folks who are working, are working full-time, and
15 so I'd like to kind of have us take a little think here
16 about the rate of movement that we're working under right
17 now, and see if we can, you know, give folks a little
18 break, because it is going to get -- you know, crunch
19 time is going to be August, September, October, you know,
20 kind of time -- or September, October kind of time frame
21 now.

22 So that was just one reaction I wanted to share with
23 you guys. You know, I don't work, but I really worry
24 about all of you who do work, and how much, you know,
25 toll it's taking on you, and now we've got four more

1 months or whatever of toll on you all. So just thought
2 I'd share.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari,
4 especially for your concern for those of us that are
5 hustling in and out from one place to another. I
6 appreciate it. Thank you.

7 We've had sufficient time. There doesn't appear to
8 be any callers in the queue.

9 Am I correct, Katy?

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You are correct, Chair.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: So I believe that I will move to a
12 vote.

13 Ms. Sheffield.

14 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Toledo.

15 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

16 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Turner.

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

18 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Vazquez.

19 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

20 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Yee.

21 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

22 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Ahmad.

23 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

24 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Akutagawa.

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

1 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Andersen.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

3 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fernandez.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

5 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fornaciari.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

7 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Kennedy.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

9 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Le Mons.

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

11 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

13 MS. SHEFFIELD: And Commissioner Sinay.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

15 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Taylor.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

17 MS. SHEFFIELD: Okay. Motion passes.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 MS. SHEFFIELD: You're welcome.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So we move on to 9B,
21 finance and administration, Commissioners Fernandez and
22 Fornaciari.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So we've been asked to
24 look at, you know, a process for approving letters. That
25 came up in Director Claypool's report. There were a

1 couple things going on. There was this letter. There
2 was another letter response to the now-Secretary of
3 State's recommendation for, you know, prisoners at their
4 home address, and so you know, we've been given that
5 task, and we'll take care of it. We have a couple other
6 policies that we're going to bring forward, not this
7 meeting, next meeting, but the one after.

8 There has been a request to look at a security
9 policy, you know, and be prepared for the time, when and
10 if we can go out, and get that prepared and in place, and
11 so I'm not sure what we're going to do. I guess it's up
12 to Chair Taylor at this point. We thought we might
13 expand the role of the cybersecurity committee to be the
14 broader security committee, potentially, and we can work
15 on that policy, and just have that in place and ready to
16 go for when we go out, so we ensure we have a -- we're
17 prepared, from a security standpoint, when it comes to
18 (indiscernible).

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, and (audio
20 interference) --

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oops.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. My leanings at the moment
23 would be to expand the role of the cybersecurity team,
24 and to put -- to add that to that detail.

25 Anything? Commissioner Toledo?

1 VICE CHAIR TOLEDO: This is a quick question for the
2 committee. Are we planning to do performance reviews?
3 Because I know that -- for our staff -- and just the time
4 frame for that? Because I know that was a topic that we
5 talked about as we were hiring staff, that we'd do some
6 kind of, like, ninety-day or -- I can't remember what the
7 exact time frame was, but I think it would be important
8 to just give, you know, feedback, things are going great,
9 things that could be improved, that sort of thing, to
10 everyone, just so that we're clear, and all moving in the
11 same direction.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and actually I'll
13 defer to Executive Director Claypool. He actually
14 brought this up, and they're going to start drafting
15 that, and of course, it will go through our subcommittee,
16 but I'll defer to Executive Director Claypool.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Executive Director Claypool.

18 MR. CLAYPOOL: So where we finally landed on that,
19 when we were discussing it during the hiring, was that we
20 do a one-year evaluation, and that I would go ahead and
21 put together some evaluation criteria, and then, clearly,
22 it would move through, again, the finance and
23 administrative committee to take a look at.

24 Typically, within the state, you can have earlier
25 evaluations. You can have evaluations for people who are

1 on probation, but we don't have any probationary staff.
2 Or you can -- if you decide, you can ask your managers to
3 give people evaluations at any interval you choose, but
4 it would be kind of onerous if it were more than, say, a
5 three-month or six-month evaluation, because they take
6 some time to write, and then, if there's a problem, then
7 you have to basically go through and make sure that your
8 staff has been correctly evaluated and so forth.

9 So I would say, in this particular case, if there is
10 an evaluation that needs to be given, it could be given
11 informally. If there's something you want improved, make
12 that informal evaluation, but just keep it on a one-year
13 basis, because that would also conform to when there
14 would be a decision made on whether that individual would
15 receive a merit raise.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I mean, when we put
17 together the policy that we approved, you know, we agreed
18 on a one-year annual evaluation process for everyone,
19 although, I mean, I would just -- I'm a huge proponent of
20 ongoing feedback as we go along, just to let people know
21 how they're doing in a more informal setting, rather
22 than, you know, formal feedback processes.

23 Just for me personally, I find it much, much more
24 effective. If you do it on a regular basis, it becomes
25 just part of the culture and process of doing business.

1 Again, just to reiterate, the policy we put in place was
2 annual reviews.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then just one
4 more thing, for transparency purposes. Staff did prepare
5 an evacuation plan, because we didn't have one in place
6 yet. So because of the inauguration last week, the
7 governor ordered that the state offices be closed, so we
8 quickly -- I shouldn't say "we" -- staff quickly drafted
9 something. We reviewed it, and then we'll bring it to
10 the Commission for approval at our next meeting.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, we have.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

13 MR. CLAYPOOL: Yes. Just to be -- just to add onto
14 that, though, all staff are fully informed of that, that
15 policy for evacuation.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

17 Any other comments or questions for the finance and
18 administration subcommittee?

19 We'll move on to 9C, the Gantt chart subcommittee,
20 Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. As I
22 mentioned earlier, in light of today's news, we will need
23 to put our noses back to the grindstone on this and
24 generate another iteration of the Gantt chart. You know,
25 I have started work on that, and we, as always, remain

1 subject to further changes in the census schedule, but
2 we'll have a new version of a Gantt chart for you for the
3 next meeting.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 Commissioner Sinay.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to point out
7 that, in Hansi Lo Wang's report, that it says it will be
8 released after July 30th, so that does affect the -- you
9 know, so it will be after, and that right now the
10 delivery of the redistricting data is to be determined --
11 and that came from the census, I believe. So a lot is
12 still up in the air.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Claypool.

14 MR. CLAYPOOL: I'd just like to tell you that the
15 2010 experience was much the same. The data didn't come
16 until pretty late, and so they started with their public
17 meetings and gathering COI data while the information was
18 being gathered. This does press you deeply into the
19 Supreme Court's deadline, but you are already taking
20 steps to move onto those first series of meetings. So I
21 think that it's a pace that will be manageable to you.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 Commissioner Kennedy, I did not assume when I took
24 this that redistricting was going to be our Christmas
25 gift to California.

1 On to agenda item 9D, the line drawers,

2 Commissioners Andersen and Sadhwani.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I'll go ahead and
4 speak up on this. Obviously -- well, I'm not going to
5 say obviously. The RFP did indeed go out. It is posted
6 on our website. If you go look under the job
7 opportunities, it is there.

8 It was out for the questioning period, and we did
9 receive a question from Mr. Doug Johnson, who is a
10 redistricting person. He is a familiar person in all of
11 the field of redistricting experts, and he specifically
12 asked -- the way he interpreted the RFP was that we were
13 not considering or taking into public consideration their
14 drawing of, actually, district lines, and that was not
15 the case.

16 We were very specific in the RFP about emphasizing
17 the COI tool, because this is different from last time,
18 from ten years ago, and we really want people to use the
19 COI tool, and so it looked out of proportion a little
20 bit, because we didn't emphasize what kind of maps
21 before, and now we really did emphasize the COI, and so
22 he read it as we're not doing the districting.

23 Raul wrote a very appropriate reply, yes, it is
24 indeed included, and laid that out. That is also now
25 answered, sent to him, but the legislature then heard

1 this as public comment, and was concerned, and wrote a
2 letter, also public comment for us, that it's all of our
3 intentions to indeed look at district maps.

4 So we felt, the subcommittee felt, that it was
5 indeed time to go ahead and put an addendum out, which we
6 have put together. It is in the process of just going
7 through legal verification, and will be posted soon. It
8 basically just adds -- it's not a change of scope, of
9 scope of work. It just adds the specificity of, we're
10 also considering the districting, and that is part of the
11 discussion that we had a little bit before about well,
12 when are doing what?

13 We can do the COI tools. We can do the COI tools,
14 and collecting the communities of interest information,
15 with line drawers, well before the census data gets here,
16 and that is what we need to -- we've been considering,
17 and it's just been a little confusion. We really want
18 the communities' input before the census data gets here,
19 because, as we're hearing, more and more of the census
20 data could be a little bit later.

21 Now, there will indeed, then, be other additional
22 line drawing, when other people will be submitting
23 districts to us, to the Commission, and we'll have line
24 drawers for that. We'll have line drawers well before we
25 start doing, actually, district maps.

1 So that's kind of the -- that's the bulk of where we
2 are. There's a little bit more in terms of making -- as
3 we change later on, when we talk about changing meeting
4 dates, we do have to make a bit of a change there, but
5 that's the update as far as I see it.

6 Commissioner Sadhwani, do you want to add in,
7 please?

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure, just to provide a
9 little additional context. The district maps that
10 Commissioner Andersen is referring to, you might recall,
11 we had discussed in the development of sort of that time
12 line for the RFP. There was a date at the end of last
13 year, in which I had had up, like, a PowerPoint, just so
14 that we could see some potential dates.

15 I specifically recall Rosalind Gold from NALEO had
16 called in and said, well, you need to add a date for
17 receiving maps, the actual full district maps, from
18 various organizations and entities, and hearing that, we
19 said, yes, absolutely. That is something that the 2010
20 Commission did.

21 You heard that actually mentioned again in the VRA
22 training, that various organizations and interested
23 parties will go through and draw their own set of maps
24 that they feel would be compliant to the VRA, and so my
25 understanding of the comment from Mr. Johnson was to

1 ensure that we clarify, that we will indeed be receiving
2 them.

3 We felt like the language we had was broad enough
4 already to be inclusive of that, and we felt it was our
5 intention. We had discussed it as a Commission. But it
6 wasn't specific, so the addendum that Commissioner
7 Andersen speaks of adds that level of specificity. And
8 we're happy to take questions on that.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any questions or comments for the
10 line drawer subcommittee?

11 Go ahead, Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I just want to note --
13 thank you, Chair -- that the RFP is out. So if you
14 happen to know a line drawer, make sure that you share
15 that information. The world of line drawers is not that
16 big, but certainly we would love to have a broad pool of
17 applicants to consider.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, it looks like
19 you're on mute.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Thank you.

21 Any line drawers who are out there, please pay
22 attention, and go to our website, read the RFP, and
23 please make a proposal. We would love it.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja.

25 MR. CEJA: In addition to that, I know Commissioner

1 Kennedy suggested we post it in a particular site. If
2 you have listservs or places where you feel we should be
3 posting the RFP opportunity, please let us know so we can
4 get it out there.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

6 No further questions or comments?

7 We will move on to agenda item number 9E, VRA
8 compliance, with Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee.

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I can chime in
10 a bit, and then Commissioner Sadhwani can also chime in.

11 So we brought you yesterday's panel, and will
12 continue to look towards further educational
13 opportunities going forward. VRA is very complex, and as
14 we actually start looking at actual districts and so
15 forth, I'm sure questions will continue to develop in our
16 minds. So we'll anticipate that and keep working on
17 that.

18 Meanwhile, of course, the legal affairs committee
19 has been formed. We'll have our first meeting tomorrow,
20 with Commissioner Sadhwani, Commissioner Toledo, and
21 myself. Commissioner Sadhwani will be the initial chair.
22 So tomorrow afternoon, we'll have our first meeting, set
23 some policies.

24 The applications for the VRA and litigation
25 counsels, the deadline is two days from now, and we have

1 gotten some inquiries, nothing in hand yet, but we think
2 we will have some good candidates to consider. So the
3 actual consideration of those will happen February 10th,
4 and then, February 18th, we'll try to narrow down to a
5 decision. That will involve interviews, which the legal
6 affairs committee will conduct, public interviews, and so
7 we're continuing to plan for those.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.
9 Just to add to that, just as a reminder, that legal
10 affairs committee and the review of all of those
11 applications for VRA counsel and outside litigation will
12 be completely public. All of the documentation will be
13 posted for public viewing, and we welcome public feedback
14 on the applicants. We feel like that's a really
15 important area to receive public feedback.

16 In addition, you know, if I may just take a brief
17 moment, I just kind of want to -- would love to just hear
18 from Commissioners if the VRA training yesterday was
19 helpful, if it spurred more questions. If so, what else
20 might be useful for the Commission? I think we are happy
21 to continue to do trainings. We've thrown around a lot
22 of different ideas within the subcommittee, but it would
23 be great to hear from you all, in brief, if you have any
24 additional ideas for us.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, then Commissioner

1 Fornaciari, then Commissioner Kennedy.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: The one question I wrote down
3 that I have as, you know, out there, is, one of the
4 conversations was about the importance of doing
5 historical research on different communities, and I
6 couldn't remember -- I knew that PPI was doing some type
7 of research for us, but I wasn't sure on that historical
8 piece.

9 I know that it's also come up in conversations with
10 different Commissioners about their zones, on how we're
11 collecting information and how -- and that might be --
12 the historical data is different when it comes to VRA,
13 but also how we want to kind of set the stage when we're
14 going into different zones, different community -- I
15 mean, different -- you know, we would have to think
16 through, so that we know -- since we're not traveling
17 there, we kind of -- you know, how to put it in
18 perspective. But sorry. I'm confusing two things, so
19 let's just stay with the historical information. I was
20 just wondering who's going to do that historical
21 research, or how we're going to get that historical
22 research.

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Chair, do you want us to
24 respond now, or should we collect all the comments and
25 then respond? However you'd like to do that.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: No, I find it better if you can
2 respond directly.

3 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. I think that that's a
4 great point. You know, my understanding from VRA
5 litigation is that there are typically scholars who will
6 attest to historical discrimination.

7 It's not something we've considered previously, but
8 you know, perhaps Commissioner Yee and I could brainstorm
9 a little bit and put together -- we had previously talked
10 about a briefing book, and then we kind of let that go,
11 and we thought, maybe there is going to be new
12 legislation. Now, we hear maybe there's not going to be
13 new legislation.

14 But perhaps, if we revisited that -- I am hesitant
15 to say those scholars who appear in VRA litigation cases
16 would be willing to, for free, provide such research, but
17 I think, if we could identify scholars who would be
18 willing to, you know, write a one- to two-page document
19 about the application of the VRA to historically
20 discriminated-against communities, I think that might be
21 valuable to us as a Commission, and I think Commissioner
22 Yee and I could discuss that further.

23 I'm not sure how that relates to the zone outreach
24 piece. If there's a specific tie-in or something there,
25 please let us know, and you know, we'd be happy to be

1 responsive.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: I think we're going to look to
3 our VRA counsel, once that counsel is in place, to guide
4 us in some of this, and recommend to us, you know, what
5 research we should do, and you know, we'll work together
6 with counsel to pursue that.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's right. I will also
8 add, I thought it was really interesting, the perspective
9 of Mr. Dunn in his training yesterday, that, while we
10 could have VRA counsel, we could also employ secondary
11 opinion specifically on application of Section 2 of the
12 VRA, right, and to write kind of reports about when,
13 where, why we would draw districts that we believe are
14 compliant with the VRA. I actually really liked that
15 suggestion. Certainly that would have budgetary
16 considerations for us to consider, but I think it
17 certainly would be the Commission covering itself as we
18 develop districts that we believe to be VRA-compliant.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

20 Commissioner Fornaciari.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I thought the presentation
22 and the discussion were outstanding, and really, really
23 helpful, also kind of overwhelming, how are we going to
24 do this, you know, kind of thing. I think both points
25 that were just brought up, about the history and about

1 the second opinion kind of things, I think we need to not
2 lose those points, and keep considering those things. I
3 would just -- you know, as we get closer, I'd just like
4 to have another refresher.

5 COMMISSIONER YEE: Sure.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you.

7 Commissioner Kennedy.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. I
9 thought yesterday was extremely valuable. I'm looking
10 forward to more.

11 I would still encourage you to ask around, through
12 Mr. Dunn and any others, to see if you can identify any
13 moot court exercises related to VRA. I had mentioned
14 previously that StreetLaw.org has some resources online
15 related to redistricting.

16 They don't -- as far as I can tell, they don't
17 include moot court exercises, but I don't know. Maybe
18 they have some that aren't right there on their website
19 or something. But I think watching a moot court exercise
20 that is based on VRA would be very useful to us.

21 I also think that, you know, there are the cases
22 that were brought against the work of the 2010
23 Commission, and I think it would be useful for us to have
24 someone walk us through those cases, what they were based
25 on, what the arguments were. I think that's going to

1 help us be that much more prepared for anything that
2 might hit us. So those are my two thoughts at this
3 point.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani, you have a
5 response?

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you.

7 Thank you so much, Commissioner Kennedy. We'll
8 certainly look into the moot court exercises. I do
9 recall that you had mentioned that previously. My
10 apologies for not following up on that sooner.

11 In terms of the 2010 cases, you know, I had had a
12 conversation about this, or an email exchange, I suppose,
13 with Ms. Johnston some time ago, and I know, Ms.
14 Johnston, you had been contacted. I think it was by a
15 graduate student or a law student who was tracking the
16 cases. I haven't followed up with that student.

17 I was thinking about it, and I haven't, but you
18 know, I think that this might be a great area for us, or
19 if we could even get a California -- the law student, I
20 believe, was in, I believe, Wisconsin or Michigan, and
21 perhaps was thinking about it for the Michigan
22 Commission, perhaps, but perhaps, if we could find a law
23 student here in California who would be interested to
24 kind of take this on for us, and kind of provide us that
25 overview, I think that would be really exciting, you

1 know, if anyone has contacts at a law school, or I can
2 certainly reach out to some folks and see if that's
3 something that could be doable.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 Ms. Johnston, did you have a response?

6 MS. JOHNSTON: I was also going to say that the
7 Supreme Court argument in the Shelby County case is
8 available online. If anybody is interested in reviewing
9 that, I can get the citation for them.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I think, yes, that would
11 be helpful to have in our repository of information.

12 Commissioner Andersen, and then Commissioner Turner,
13 then Commissioner Akutagawa.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, thank you. I
15 didn't really have my hand raised at this time. My only
16 one idea, as I think I've already mentioned, is, one, it
17 was great. The presentation was very good, and I loved
18 the different points brought up.

19 I would also agree with Commissioner Fornaciari,
20 great till of information. I would like us at some point
21 to do, in the training, kind of a little bit of a
22 workshop, actually how it would really apply, because
23 there's nothing like trying to do the work, you know,
24 that really puts your hands on, and with completely
25 made-up information, so there's no way anyone thinks

1 we're actually trying to do the work; we're not. This is
2 really as to go, how would we do this work? But thank
3 you, and keep on going.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 Commissioner Turner.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair.

7 Yes. Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee, I want to
8 thank you for continually putting this type of
9 presentation in front of us. I found it to be helpful,
10 and also still challenging.

11 I think, when there's not the background that you
12 all typically have, sometimes information, it's like,
13 okay, am I absorbing it or am I not? I'm not sure all
14 the time. What I am hopeful in, in this entire process,
15 is that, as we're moving forward, having more
16 conversations, I'm more sticking than I can imagine, than
17 I would have imagined is. So I'm going to hold onto
18 that, that some of this is sticking as well.

19 Now, for this past presentation, I did appreciate
20 the examples that were used. It did drive more questions
21 in my mind, some of which have already been discussed.
22 As far as the research component, there was the one piece
23 when we were talking about if someone just called and
24 says, my community needs to be together because of
25 whatever their ethnicity was, and you couldn't use that,

1 but there is research you can do around it and see if
2 they're historically, you know, underserved, and I kept
3 thinking, well, who's doing that research? Where is that
4 in the training? Right? So I'm glad we're talking about
5 that piece.

6 And Commissioner Andersen, thank you, because I am
7 still hopeful that, in this COVID moment, the time that
8 we're in, that there are ways to do more of a workshop
9 that will offer a different method of learning, and being
10 able to assess, and be able to speak the information,
11 where it can either be corrected or what have you.
12 Sometimes I'm like, I think I'm tracking, but I don't
13 necessarily trust me to say that again.

14 I'm going to rely on, you know, Commissioners
15 Sadhwani and Andersen, and all those of you that have
16 that. I'd like to access it as well, and maybe that's
17 happening. I don't 100 percent know if it is right now.
18 So yes, additional presentations, a different learning
19 format, a quiz, I don't care what, something, I'd like to
20 suggest, particularly for this part of the Commission's
21 work. Thank you.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 We have Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner
24 Ahmad.

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Yesterday, well, I

1 just want to say both Professor Dunn but also the panel
2 was very interesting and helpful, and it did create some
3 questions.

4 One of the things that stuck in my mind, and I don't
5 know if it's necessarily relevant right now, but it did
6 stick in my mind, is what Professor Dunn said about, I
7 guess -- what I heard is there seems to be some debate as
8 to whether or not these independent, you know, like us,
9 redistricting commissions will remain legal. That was an
10 interesting one. I don't necessarily think it's a
11 question for training, but I just wanted to say that out
12 loud.

13 I think what was interesting, and I think this kind
14 of goes back to some of what Professor Dunn was saying
15 about, you know, like, the communities of interest --
16 what I found interesting was just this idea about the VRA
17 not necessarily being most helpful for some communities.
18 And I think that, I feel like, may be worth a further
19 exploration, because -- and this may relate to, partly,
20 what Commissioner Andersen was saying about, you know,
21 just like, you know, when the rubber meets the road, how
22 do we start really applying all of this? And as we're
23 starting to actually get into it, is that when we're
24 going to kind of start to understand what was said about,
25 like, VRA doesn't necessarily -- it's not the silver

1 bullet, as I think Ms. Ma said about, you know, just how
2 we think about VRA and other things like that?

3 I know that a caller asked about, you know, what
4 does this mean in terms of, you know, nonrace-based
5 communities? You know, like, where socioeconomic status
6 may be impacted by this. I don't know if I'm just
7 making -- like, overthinking this, but there does seem to
8 be -- at least in my mind, I mean, I would like some more
9 clarity, and maybe just some more exploration of it,
10 because I hadn't thought about it in that way before, and
11 now I'm kind of like, oh, man.

12 It's like, I feel like I have to do kind of a
13 mindset shift in terms of how I think about what I
14 thought VRA was supposed to mean, and now kind of like,
15 what's this going to mean for, you know, especially some
16 of the smaller communities, and what does this mean for
17 even other communities that we may not think about in
18 terms of race, too?

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

20 Commissioner Ahmad.

21 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I just
22 wanted to quickly uplift Commissioner Andersen's idea of
23 a hands-on workshop style, and we can even, you know, go
24 away from earth and go to, you know, the Kree Galaxy or
25 Vormir, or anywhere in the Avengers comics, and do our

1 redistricting there, or elsewhere, but I really like that
2 idea of putting it -- you know, a tangible activity that
3 not only myself can learn, all of us can learn, but
4 everyone watching can take away some lessons and key
5 learning points as well.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Let me second your
7 thoughts, Commissioner Ahmad. I agree.

8 Commissioner Sadhwani, maybe if you can -- or
9 Commissioner Yee -- maybe you can help me with a little
10 bit of clarity, too. The racially polarized voting, is
11 that driven by our VRA counsel, or is that a separate
12 issue that we have to analyze and then push ourselves?

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. So the racially
14 polarized voting analysis, RPV, we would hire out a
15 separate analyst or statistician to do that analysis, but
16 we would do it at the advice of counsel. So you know,
17 previously, we had talked about running RPV statewide.

18 We ultimately decided not to move forward with that.
19 It was just too costly, and wouldn't really get us that
20 much additional information in terms of actually drawing
21 the districts. So we have kind of put that to the side
22 for now, and I think our intention -- and Commissioner
23 Yee, please correct me if I misspeak here -- but soon
24 after we are able to hire a VRA attorney, we would then
25 employ an RPV analyst.

1 There's a handful of people who typically do this
2 analysis in VRA litigation cases. Many of them are
3 political scientists, and the idea being that they would
4 be looking for where there is polarization within various
5 communities that would satisfy those Gingles requirements
6 under Section 2, right, that Mr. Dunn had talked about,
7 where we anticipate a community's vote could otherwise
8 become diluted, but yet, at the same time, that there's
9 enough members of that community, and that they are
10 geographically compact enough to create that district.

11 So I think, in response to, you know, Commissioner
12 Akutagawa and the concern for various communities, I
13 think you're right, right? Like, it's not -- the VRA has
14 not been applied to all communities that have ever faced
15 discrimination here in the United States, largely because
16 many of those communities are not -- there's not enough
17 people in a geographic space to consider them from a
18 redistricting standpoint.

19 That's not to say they haven't been discriminated
20 against. It's not to say that that discrimination isn't
21 valid, generally, but that it's not going to necessarily
22 influence the redistricting component. I hope that
23 answers your question.

24 COMMISSIONER YEE: That's right. So the RPV
25 analysis has to be done, but there's two options. One is

1 that we do go out and hire, probably through an
2 interagency agreement, an analyst to have the work done.
3 Or the VRA counsel -- we may have an option to have the
4 VRA counsel pursue its own RPV analysis; or both.

5 Part of the question, you may recall, is the
6 discussion of confidentiality, whether the analysis would
7 be kept confidential as an attorney work product, and
8 there are some arguments for doing that. So it's a
9 little bit -- it remains to be seen, but the analysis
10 will definitely have to be done, one way or another.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

12 Any other questions or comments?

13 All right. Seeing none, this would be the optimal
14 time to take our last break before we conclude today, and
15 we'll return with agenda item 9F, outreach and
16 engagement. So see you guys back at 3:30.

17 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 3:14 p.m.
18 until 3:30 p.m.)

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Good afternoon. It is
20 3:30, January 27th, of the California Citizens
21 Redistricting Commission meeting, day 2. We are
22 returning to agenda item number 9F, outreach and
23 engagement, with Commissioners Sinay and Vazquez.

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

25 I was just -- there you are, Commissioner Vazquez.

1 Why don't you begin.

2 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sure. So I think the bulk of
3 our update -- we were going to invite everyone to share
4 their outreach updates, but I think we had most of the
5 actual updates yesterday at the top of the meeting. So I
6 guess I will pause and make sure -- not make assumptions,
7 and make sure that folks have shared what they would like
8 to about any meetings that they have had or scheduled in
9 terms of outreach in their zones.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: As well as any challenges you
11 might be having, so we can brainstorm collectively.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I'll just share
14 that today I had an opportunity to participate on a panel
15 with Sierra Health Foundation. There was about 120 or so
16 individuals that there were for Region 4, Census Region
17 4, predominantly Region 6, and some from the other region
18 as well.

19 There were a lot of funders there that was
20 interested in redistricting. There was also a lot of the
21 coalition partners that work through census, and so of
22 course, I did make them aware of our website, told them
23 that all of the Commissioners throughout California was
24 willing to do presentations, and was wanting to make sure
25 that they are reaching out to all of their partners to

1 make them aware of the process.

2 So it was a very good, I think, convening. All of
3 the speakers that was there, with Jakara Movement, and
4 Camila was on from Dolores Huerta Foundation. I was on a
5 panel with those two, and we had some elected officials,
6 and a lot of the census people, Sidney (phonetic). Yes.
7 So it was a good session.

8 So I just wanted to share that, not so much that we
9 set up anything in the meeting, but I did make the
10 invitation, and there was a lot of people interested.
11 Some of our speakers that we've had before, in addition
12 to Camila, even those from the Black Census and
13 Redistricting Hub, was on, and there were lots of amazing
14 things said about us, on behalf of our Commission, and
15 extreme appreciation for us reaching out in regards to
16 language access, and so I think we're off to a great
17 start as a 2020 Commission.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Turner. Some
19 of that positive feedback also is very helpful, to know
20 that we're traveling down the right road with our
21 constituents.

22 Commissioner Yee.

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Last week, I had a chance
24 to guest lecture at a colleague's class on
25 gerrymandering, and to talk about the Commission's work,

1 at St. Mary's College of California, and in the Q and A,
2 interestingly, the students -- most of the questions
3 actually -- I think January 6th was fresh in everyone's
4 minds, in Washington, D.C., and most of the questions had
5 to do with, are you worried for your own safety, standing
6 up to be a public official? And I wasn't expecting that,
7 so we got to discuss that a bit, but I, you know,
8 encouraged the students to get involved, and also to
9 think about, you know, applying to the 2030 Commission.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

11 Commissioner Fornaciari.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So Zone E has finally made
13 a breakthrough, and I've had a meeting with Maricela
14 Morales from Cause Now -- or CAUSE, I'm sorry -- and
15 Central Coast Alliance United for Sustainable Economy,
16 and she provided some written feedback that's up on the
17 website about the Mixteco language of the indigenous
18 peoples of Southern Mexico, and so we talked a lot about
19 that, and how to engage that community, and she gave some
20 really good direction on that.

21 We also talked about the Region E, and about the
22 different regions and how they fit together, the
23 different farming regions, in particular. She sent along
24 a list of all the organizations that were involved in
25 redistricting in the 2011 effort, and so that was

1 outstanding. She's working on putting together the --
2 you know, they're working on getting together a list of
3 organizations for this time around, but it's a great
4 place to start. So that was really helpful. She's going
5 to call in tomorrow during our language access
6 presentation.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 Any other comments related to outreach?

9 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I think Commissioner Andersen
10 has her hand up.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: I see it; Commissioner Andersen.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

13 I have a follow-up with Commissioner Fornaciari.
14 The list of all the people who were involved in the 2010,
15 was that exclusively for -- well, now it's called Zone
16 E -- or was it in other areas?

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. No, it was Zone E.
18 It was the six counties in Zone E, and I forwarded that
19 to Deputy Director Hernandez.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. We'll use that as
22 our basis for further outreach.

23 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Great. And I think this
24 committee -- if there are no other outreach updates from
25 the Commissioners, this committee is -- oh, yes, Director

1 Ceja.

2 MR. CEJA: I wanted to remind Commissioners that, as
3 you're setting up these meetings, and even completing
4 them, to copy Marcy or one of us, so that we can keep
5 track of the total meetings that we've done, educational
6 meetings included, please.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Fredy, on that, are you asking
8 for just one-on-one conversations, as well as formal --
9 you know, everything?

10 MR. CEJA: Presentations, yes.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just presentations, not just
12 one-on-one conversations? Okay.

13 MR. CEJA: Yes.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, go ahead.

15 MS. KAPLAN: And just to clarify, if you can send
16 what was done to date. The new speaker request form,
17 that will be on the website, hopefully, today, and that
18 we will share with everyone will now streamline that
19 process. So it will all come to me, and then I'll
20 coordinate with you all, so that we have it in one place.
21 So as you get requests, redirect folks to the link, and
22 then it will funnel in, so just any that you have done so
23 far, to make sure that we're tracking those as well.
24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, that's a wonderful

1 update. So there's going to be a speaker request form on
2 the WeDrawTheLines website, correct?

3 MS. KAPLAN: Yes. We are working to get that up
4 today, but we'll confirm with all of you. It's
5 completed, and there's a link available, so we'll
6 circulate that as well.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. That's much appreciated.
8 Thank you.

9 MS. KAPLAN: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Taylor, you had
11 asked me just to update really quickly regarding the
12 presentation tomorrow. It's with the API Initiative in
13 San Diego, and it will be Commissioner Ahmad and I on
14 Facebook Live, and we're sharing the link on our
15 Twitter -- on Twitter, I believe, if people want to
16 follow along or see it.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. That's great.

18 Director Ceja, Ms. Reyes, can we make sure that that
19 is accomplished, and can we also get that posted to
20 Instagram, where we doubled our following today? It's
21 amazing.

22 MR. CEJA: Yeah, yeah. All that is going on our
23 social media and on the website. It's already in the
24 queue for posting. Would you like us to go through the
25 actual link, so that you can see the information we're

1 gathering?

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely, and a shoutout to
3 Statewide Database that's now following us.

4 MR. CEJA: Marcy, do you want to do that?

5 MS. KAPLAN: Fredy, just because I'm on this other
6 computer, I don't know if I have access to the link.
7 Could you bring it up? Thank you.

8 MR. CEJA: Yes, I can. I will be your Vanna White.

9 MS. KAPLAN: All right.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: While Fredy is doing that, I
11 just wanted to update everybody. As you can -- now that
12 we have staff, the outreach committee has kind of changed
13 a little bit on what our focus has been.

14 Obviously, we're still here to support you all in
15 your outreach efforts, as staff is as well, and we're
16 continuing to bring in panels and listen to -- you know,
17 getting us ready for the communities. So as we said
18 earlier, please do share those areas you feel that we
19 could use more information on.

20 Angela, did you want to give an update?

21 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sure. Yes. This is a good
22 time, I think, to say that I will be stepping down from
23 the outreach committee, so that I can focus my limited
24 capacity, given I have a full-time job, as well as still
25 recovering, ten months on, from long COVID -- I want to

1 be able to devote my capacity to supporting Commissioner
2 Turner in Zone F with our actual outreach. So with that,
3 will be stepping down from the committee, and I believe
4 we have a volunteer who is stepping up to replace me.

5 Commissioner Fornaciari?

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: That's correct. We do have a
7 volunteer. We just want to make sure that it's equitable
8 to all. Is there anyone that -- anyone else that would
9 like to volunteer to replace Commissioner Vazquez?

10 Commissioner Fornaciari, it is yours.

11 Commissioner Kennedy.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I would volunteer, but I
13 think that Commissioner Fornaciari, being of a different
14 political party in a different part of the state, is a
15 better fit for it than I would be.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: I would agree that that is a -- more
17 a fit, and it helps for our -- it helps to convey the
18 message that we want to represent to all of California.
19 So if there's no objections, I would -- I'm in full
20 support of Commissioner Fornaciari taking that up, that
21 space.

22 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Thank you, Commissioner
23 Fornaciari, and thank you, Commissioner Sinay. It's been
24 wonderful working with you, and we'll still be working
25 together, but yes, thank you for everyone. Yes. That's

1 it for me.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Angela, for your work thus
3 far. I appreciate it.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Fredy, are you going to talk?

5 MS. KAPLAN: I was going to do it. I just don't
6 know if I should be called on. Sorry.

7 MR. CEJA: Yes.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan and Director Ceja, you
9 guys have -- when you went to the share screen, you left.
10 So the floor is yours.

11 MS. KAPLAN: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Fredy,
12 for cueing this up.

13 So this is the request form, with just a brief
14 overview at the beginning. We did include a seven-day
15 request, just in order for staff, you know, to have time
16 to coordinate scheduling with Commissioners through this
17 process. So there's input on that, and understanding,
18 you know, even now, we're getting last-minute requests.

19 So it's more of a recommendation for folks who are
20 requesting, and it's also noted here that this is for
21 non-in-person events, so just the event title,
22 description, date and time. There may be folks who don't
23 already, you know, have a specific time in mind, and so
24 we're asking to give a range of dates, to just help
25 facilitate scheduling, and the amount of time that they

1 want -- and they're requesting the Commissioner to speak
2 for, their contact name, phone, email, the organization
3 name, a brief description of the organization, location,
4 although these are going to be online, in order for us to
5 facilitate which Commissioners, which zones.

6 I'm just requesting that location so I can identify
7 which Commissioners would be speaking, just an estimate
8 number of individuals attending, the target audience, to
9 get a sense, is it business leaders, community members,
10 (audio interference) specific, you know, just to have a
11 sense for the Commissioners as you're going into these
12 presentations. If anyone else will be speaking, who will
13 be those folks, what platform will they be using, and if
14 there is recording capacity, as Director Claypool noted
15 earlier that we are going to want to record these
16 sessions, and when Commissioners are presenting to a
17 particular group, just recording the presentation section
18 and Q and A, and for promotional purposes, for
19 communications team to be able to promote these as well.

20 Then we thought this was a good place to also have
21 folks join our email list, to sign up there. So I don't
22 know if there's other items that folks think would be
23 helpful to have as you're going into presentations.
24 Again, this would all funnel into a spreadsheet that then
25 staff would be sharing with the Commissioners when

1 narrowing down potential dates.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Johnston, then Commissioner Yee.

3 MS. JOHNSTON: To make expectations clear, should
4 there also be a notice on this that, at this time, they
5 Commissioners are only providing information about the
6 redistricting process, and not taking input?

7 MS. KAPLAN: Okay. I'll have that added in.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you for this good work. A
10 couple of questions. So you know, there's situations
11 where people come to us, of course we can refer them to
12 this form, but there may be times when it's just easier
13 for us to fill it out, you know, for an event. So I just
14 want to make sure that's okay.

15 MS. KAPLAN: Yeah.

16 COMMISSIONER YEE: Second, the recording
17 requirement, I think that probably still needs some
18 discussion. I mean, we're not going to make it a
19 requirement, I don't think, based on this morning's
20 discussion, but if it's possible, I mean, it's a whole
21 technical task, then, to, you know, get the recording,
22 upload the recording, all that stuff. So I think we
23 probably need somebody to discuss that more.

24 Then also, I'm thinking it would be good to have a
25 follow-up form for Commissioners to fill out after the

1 event, just to document what actually happened, what did
2 you talk about, what handouts did you give out, or what
3 slides did you use? You know, in the spirit of this
4 morning's discussion, that way, that is documented, and
5 if anyone questioned what happened at that event, you
6 would actually have that documentation to refer to, so
7 maybe a tickler email that goes out after the event that
8 Commissioners fill out.

9 MS. KAPLAN: Yeah. So I've added columns into the
10 spreadsheet that this would go into, and so I think, if
11 there are particular just -- well, I'll take note of what
12 Commissioner Yee noted. If there's other feedback on
13 things that you would like to keep track of, please share
14 those with me as well, so I can make sure that that's
15 included in that follow-up, after.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

17 Commissioner Kennedy.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

19 Two things. One, thank -- well, three things.

20 Number one, thank you for doing this. I look forward to
21 having it up there on the website.

22 Number two, as far as promotion, it seems to me like
23 it might be useful, particularly to Fredy, to have a
24 question as to whether the event would be open to media,
25 so that if so, we could promote it to media as well.

1 Then, finally, a lot of these -- and I realize
2 that -- or I'm seeing that NationBuilder has some
3 limitations with how it handles stuff, but I'm
4 wondering -- some of your questions require two different
5 data elements in response, and if it's feeding into a
6 spreadsheet, and we want to be able to sort the
7 spreadsheet, eventually, it seems to me that you would
8 just want one response per question. So date would be
9 separate from time, those sorts of things, so that when
10 it goes into the spreadsheet, each field is sortable.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. CEJA: If I may add -- I'm sorry.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja.

14 MR. CEJA: We are actually using Google
15 spreadsheets, Google Docs, to generate the form. So
16 everything is -- we can manipulate any aspect of it, so
17 splitting up questions into two or whatever.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments,
19 Deputy Executive Director Hernandez?

20 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. In regards to the
21 recording, I had mentioned it in my report, that we would
22 be recording these events. If we wanted to have further
23 discussion on that, as to whether or not that's feasible
24 or necessary, we can, but my understanding is that,
25 because it's in Google or Zoom, or any of the other

1 platforms, that the function is easy to do. You press a
2 button, and it's essentially going to record.

3 The communication to the community-based
4 organization would be to ask to record the session, the
5 educational session that the Commissioners are
6 presenting, not their entire meeting, or anything before
7 or anything after. So that's the intent. I mentioned it
8 earlier, but if we need to discuss that, I think it's
9 pertinent to do so now, before we move on.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, then
11 Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner Ahmad.

12 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair. I
13 appreciate the discussion.

14 I am wondering, to the last comment, when I'm
15 conducting a Zoom meeting, and if I choose to record,
16 typically I want to do so because I want to, you know,
17 retain the whole -- all of whatever is discussed,
18 whatever the training is.

19 If we're asking community partners to record only
20 the portion of the presentation, I don't necessarily know
21 how they would do that, to have one piece part that's
22 ours, and another piece part that they can retain for
23 whatever they're recording. So I just want to lift that.
24 I'm not sure what that would look like, without splitting
25 their recordings.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, do you have a response?

2 MS. KAPLAN: Yes. And so this ties into staff
3 joining these sessions, and working with the organization
4 for them to allow staff the permission to record, and so
5 then staff can support in that effort, to just be
6 recording that portion of the session, when it is a
7 Commissioner joining a nonpublic meeting.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, do you have a
9 follow-up to your question?

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: No. I need to go back and
11 see.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. And mine is kind of
14 associated with Commissioner Turner. I just wanted --
15 if we're asking to record, we have to ask for permission
16 if we can record, and if that's the case, then maybe, on
17 our request form, should we put something in there, in
18 terms of, can we record, just so we kind of know ahead of
19 time? Because I'm assuming we not only have to ask who's
20 inviting us, but we would have to (audio interference)
21 approval from everyone that's there as well, I would
22 think. Anyway, that was just a question I needed to get
23 some clarification on.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

25 Commissioner Ahmad.

1 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you.

2 Just on the recording piece, I think it depends on
3 how you're accessing it, so if you're watching it like a
4 webinar-type style, where it's just a screen, and you're
5 watching someone else, versus being a participant or a
6 panelist in the meeting. So if you scroll on this Zoom
7 window -- I just tested it out myself. I just clicked
8 "Record", and it started recording, and the recording
9 will save.

10 So I don't know if we should necessarily ask our
11 community partners to record, or if we even need staff
12 there to record, because, if it's a platform like this,
13 it takes, like, two seconds to click the record button,
14 and then it will download onto the computer afterwards,
15 and then we can send it over. I don't know if I'm
16 creating more work for ourselves. I don't want to, if we
17 don't have to, but just throwing that out there.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I wanted to --
20 I am still preferring that we not record, and not have to
21 record, if we utilize consistent data. We have material.
22 This is the question that's been asked and answered.
23 This is what we're presenting. These are our FAQs, you
24 know, frequently asked questions, and these are the
25 answers to them.

1 I think, if we could commit, as a Commission, that
2 this is what we're delivering, I would want to just
3 really push back and say that I really don't -- it's
4 education. I think it feels like we're making it more
5 difficult than what we need to, in having to record every
6 public education session.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Gomez, do you have a response --
8 Ms. Reyes?

9 MS. REYES: I actually have a comment and a
10 question. If we do record, and if we do have to ask
11 permission from the community partners -- my question is
12 kind of directed more to counsel. Similarly, when we
13 have, like, a filming of the public, like, there has to
14 be some kind of disclaimer, right?

15 So if we're in private/public presentation, like
16 it's their Rotary meeting, for example, and we have to
17 ask them permission, so then, do we have to draft
18 language for that permission or allowance? And then that
19 would have to be uniform throughout, if we decided to go,
20 moving forward, to recording the portion that's going to
21 be presented to these community partners.

22 MS. MARSHALL: No. I think, in general, you know,
23 it's great to go ahead and ask for permission to record.
24 Your question is kind of open-ended, in that, when it
25 comes just to the general public, I'm walking down the

1 street and somebody is recording. There's not a whole
2 lot I can do about it, because I'm out there in public,
3 and so this is -- if it's a conversation -- if you're
4 talking on your cell phone, walking down the street, you
5 know, if somebody happens to hear it, they hear it.

6 But when it comes to -- you know, say, in
7 particular, when, I'll call it, an entity, say, like law
8 enforcement, and they're having some type of
9 closed-session meeting, and they want to invite you guys
10 to come and speak, I think it would be imperative to ask
11 permission to record, and chances are they'll probably
12 give notification to those that are coming to that
13 particular briefing room or whatever the case may be.

14 Does that answer your question? It varies, but
15 that's just more of a generic response. But just in
16 general, you can't just walk into my house and record.
17 You have to ask my permission, so.

18 MS. REYES: And then, on the other --

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa, and then --

20 MS. REYES: I'm sorry.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead.

22 MS. REYES: On the other comment that Commissioner
23 Ahmad said, as far as recording it on the Zoom
24 capability, when the Zoom is set up, sometimes the host
25 doesn't set it up where it allows you to record. So

1 permission would need to be asked of the host, just so
2 you are able to record it.

3 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: You know --

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa, and then
5 Commissioner Sadhwani.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: So I just want to follow up
7 real quickly on what Ms. Gomez said. One, yeah, the host
8 is the one that can control who records. The host is the
9 one who's also going to receive whatever recording there
10 is.

11 Secondly, I want to just comment on asking
12 permission. When we do public events, or any event that
13 is, like, just my organization, but it is people who
14 come, we're obligated -- if we're taking photos or
15 videos, we are obligated to notify people that we're
16 taking photos and videos that could be used in a public
17 way, whether it's on the website or something else.

18 So I would guess that kind of same principle would
19 apply here, whether it's for a specific group, but if
20 it's recorded, I think we, as a courtesy, need to let
21 everybody know.

22 I think Zoom also will -- I've noticed, depending on
23 what version of Zoom you have, when the meeting is being
24 recorded, as a person comes in, or if the recording
25 starts after a person comes in, a message will pop up

1 that says, "This meeting is being recorded. Do you want
2 to stay?" Or you could choose to exit the meeting. So
3 now it does automatically force that kind of
4 notification.

5 Thirdly, I wanted to just follow up on what
6 Commissioner Turner said about whether or not recording
7 should be done anyway, if it's for education, and if
8 we're following a very similar type of agenda. I want to
9 just also lift up what she said as well, too.

10 I've been thinking a lot about the recording, not
11 recording. I'll be honest. I mean, I have mixed
12 feelings about that, and I only say that -- I know that,
13 in the interest of public disclosure and all that, but I
14 think there are some groups that may feel uncomfortable
15 being recorded even though there's, you know, nothing
16 untoward happening.

17 I mean, we're just giving a very basic presentation
18 about redistricting, but I would be cautious about doing
19 something that could put a damper on the potential
20 participation of those that we want to reach, because
21 they may just feel uncomfortable with the recording, and
22 if there's not really a -- maybe I'll just say a legally
23 compelling reason that we have to record, then I would be
24 cautious about recording just for the sake of recording.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Johnston, and then Commissioner

1 Fernandez, and Commissioner Le Mons.

2 MS. JOHNSTON: When you get to the point of having
3 your public input meetings, there is a statute saying
4 that anybody has an absolute right to record, as long as
5 it's not being disruptive to the meeting, so just to
6 realize that, at some point, it will become something
7 that can be recorded, no matter whether people want it to
8 be or not.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Marian,
11 for that clarification, and I would assume that, because
12 it's our meeting, then we can set the parameters. Again,
13 I mean, I agree with Commissioner Akutagawa and
14 Commissioner Turner. I personally don't think we should
15 record, and what if someone that reached out to us wants
16 us to do an educational session, but they don't want us
17 to record? So are we not going to accept that request?
18 I mean, I'd prefer not to record.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Ceja, do you have a
20 response?

21 MR. CEJA: Yes. I think, just quickly, speaking on
22 a staff level, if we were to record, it would mostly be
23 for our own purposes, to repurpose them to social media
24 and to use snippets to highlight the Commissioners at
25 their work, not necessarily to put the entire

1 presentation out after every single one, because we're
2 going to have fifty versions of the same presentation,
3 over and over, which would be redundant and boring.

4 But I also wanted to mention that when we are
5 recording, we are able to go into the view on Zoom and do
6 speaker view only, so it's only the speaker that shows up
7 on my screen, and we're not capturing the people around.
8 So that's another option, to do away with recording other
9 people that might not want to be recorded.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

11 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wanted to support not
12 making recording a requirement unless there is some
13 legally compelling reason that we have to do it. That's
14 often a barrier, particularly with certain communities,
15 and the whole point of this is we're trying to lower
16 barriers, not create them.

17 And when we're talking about this, we're talking
18 about the education piece, and I just want to make that
19 distinction. We're not talking about the other input
20 meeting. We can put that line in the sand that they are
21 different, there's a different guidance and frame that we
22 have to have around the input meetings, but these are the
23 education meetings.

24 So I think, if we wanted, we could also do it for
25 our own purposes, for the website or social media. I

1 thought we were going to do a recorded version, anyway,
2 that people could download from the website and use, so
3 maybe we could take those snippets from there, or we can
4 stage those snippets, and Commissioners can just record
5 some of the segments if we want to use them for
6 promotional purposes. But none of those purposes, to me,
7 should be a reason for us to insist upon recording the
8 public meetings -- the public education meetings. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I've actually seen Chief
12 Counsel Marshall has had her hand up. May I defer to
13 her?

14 MS. MARSHALL: Yeah, it's been a minute.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Marshall.

16 MS. MARSHALL: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

17 Just a quick comment, just to make sure that there's
18 a distinction in between non-CRC events and CRC events.
19 I have found no law that requires non-CRC events to be
20 recorded. It's totally a prerogative.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you. I had
23 originally raised my hand to be in agreement with
24 Commissioner Turner. I don't think that these need to be
25 recorded, and I would prefer to not have them recorded.

1 I'm wondering, since these issues keep coming up
2 around the educational meetings -- and I don't mean to
3 add more work to your plate, Ms. Marshall -- but perhaps
4 it's worth having a one-page document that we can all
5 agree upon about what is our legal interpretation of
6 these educational meetings? What are the boundaries of
7 them? What are the expectations of the Commissioners
8 during this time, such as not taking any public input,
9 and that recording is not required, as these are meetings
10 of other organizations?

11 I don't know if that would be helpful, but I feel
12 like it would offer us some clarity moving forward, that
13 this is our confirmed, you know, understanding of the
14 law, and what we are operating under.

15 MS. MARSHALL: Commissioner Le Mons has already beat
16 you to the punch, and so I totally agree.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm not sure if this came
20 up in the early conversation, but something that
21 Commissioner Sadhwani just said just got me thinking. I
22 do believe -- it does sound like staff will be joining
23 us, or a staff member will be joining us, if we're going
24 to be making an education presentation.

25 I'm just thinking, it helps sometimes to have, you

1 know, somebody who's going to be able to do a little
2 blocking and tackling, and so if some member of the, you
3 know, audience wants to stray into public comment,
4 perhaps we can tag team on making sure -- and maybe this
5 can be something that the staff member, if they're
6 willing to do -- is to help us, you know, chime in and
7 say, hey, you know, this strays into the public comment,
8 and the Commissioner will not be taking those kind of
9 questions, or taking that kind of input.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

11 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Can you give some clarity on
12 that, Chair? I think we talked about this earlier, and I
13 know that -- or I believe that Commissioner Vazquez was
14 on the page of wanting that support at the meeting, but I
15 didn't think that we had gotten agreement that we were
16 going to -- that staff was going to be at all these
17 meetings.

18 It doesn't seem like it's going to be doable, number
19 one, for the size of our staff, to be at all of these
20 meetings, and I would also imagine that some of these
21 meetings might be happening simultaneously. So it
22 sounded like that was a possibility, where requested or
23 potentially needed, but certainly not a staple of what
24 these education meetings were going to be.

25 So I just want some clarity on that, because I think

1 that will cause some logistical issues and scheduling
2 issues, because we have a very small staff, and there's
3 fourteen of us, and that's probably about -- what do we
4 have, two? And if we hire those other positions, we're
5 talking maybe six, and I wouldn't imagine that we would
6 be expecting Director Ceja or our directors to be at an
7 education meeting with us to ward off questions from the
8 public.

9 I think we kind of talked about earlier being clear
10 with our parameters, and knowing that -- keeping our Q
11 and A to a clarification Q and A, to the content of the
12 presentation, and being able to say that we can't respond
13 to those types of questions, and then redirecting those
14 questions to the appropriate mechanism, be it email or
15 our meetings, et cetera, for that kind of input. So I
16 just wanted to get clarity on that, so we don't get
17 confused on what we're doing.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: So to the best of my understanding,
19 we have not required that a staff member be present at
20 any of the educational outreach meetings, so that would
21 have to speak directly to the outreach plan of Deputy
22 Executive Director Hernandez.

23 Does he have something to speak to that piece?

24 MR. HERNANDEZ: I will take another look at it, to
25 see if we do say we're going to have a staff person, but

1 I don't recall at this point. If you'll give me a
2 minute, I'll look through it.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

4 Any other questions of -- Commissioner Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I have a quick one, which is
6 not really this deep. I missed -- on the form, the
7 actual request for speaker form, is there a line that
8 says that they can request who they want?

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Ms. Kaplan, do you have a response?

10 MS. KAPLAN: No, it's not on there, so we were going
11 to auto-assign based on the zone, but if you want that
12 added --

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, please, because, you
14 know, I know someone who actually -- they contacted me,
15 because they wanted a particular -- so I think that would
16 help.

17 MS. KAPLAN: Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, it can be
19 underneath, but certain people certainly want that on
20 there. Thank you.

21 MS. KAPLAN: Okay. Thank you.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I guess twofold. One, in
24 response to Commissioner Andersen's request, if there is
25 something on there that they request a specific

1 Commissioner, if it happens to be in my zone, I would
2 like to at least be informed that there's some sort of a
3 (indiscernible) meeting going on in my zone.

4 Then, also back to Commissioner Ahmad's point about
5 staff being there, I agree that they shouldn't --
6 they don't have to be there. One, it's just another
7 scheduling person you have to coordinate schedules with,
8 and then, two, if they're with you, then they're not
9 doing, probably, some of the other stuff that we really
10 need them to do.

11 I mean, just even in our meetings, yesterday, today,
12 and then tomorrow, I mean, that's two-and-a-half days
13 that (audio interference) all of the other wonderful work
14 that they're doing. So I would be of the opinion that
15 they don't have to be there.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

17 Any other questions or comments?

18 I guess I do have one comment. I don't think that
19 we should necessarily shy away when given the opportunity
20 to record a meeting. I think, if they feel it's
21 allowable, we should do it. We should ask, make that
22 attempt, and if not, we proceed accordingly. I think
23 we're going to find out the legal ramifications of
24 recording at the very end, when it's noted in a -- when
25 it's noted in a legal action.

1 Executive Director Hernandez, go ahead.

2 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I've perused the education
3 outreach -- or the outreach plan -- and it does not
4 reference anything that requires a staff to attend the
5 educational presentations. I think that was just
6 something that we were talking about outside of the
7 strategic plan.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

9 Commissioner Le Mons.

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. I just wanted to
11 clarify that I didn't raise that point to suggest that,
12 if that support is needed, that we couldn't ask for it,
13 but I just wanted to clarify that that wasn't a
14 requirement. So I just wanted to further clarify that.

15 I'm not even taking a position and saying I don't
16 think staff should be there. If someone needs that
17 support, and staff is available to do that, by all means,
18 but I didn't feel like we had agreed that it was a
19 requirement, and my position would be that it shouldn't
20 be.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Akutagawa.

23 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, and I appreciate
24 the clarification. I think maybe some further
25 clarification, because it could go the other way, is that

1 we could just go ahead and move on without the staff, and
2 so maybe it would be helpful to know, maybe, some general
3 guidelines.

4 Are there certain types of presentations that the
5 staff might want to be at, does it make sense for them to
6 be at, or, if not -- I mean, it's just, if they go, and
7 they know what's coming up, and they want to try to join
8 us, they will, but in the meantime, you know, as
9 Commissioners, as we -- if we receive requests directly,
10 we'll let the staff know, but we'll just keep moving
11 along, and just, you know, schedule it?

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Director Hernandez, do you have a
13 response?

14 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. I would agree with that, only
15 because, you know, we are limited on staff. So I don't
16 want to hinder the Commissioners from doing so. The idea
17 was just to make sure that we had a record of those
18 presentations, and if need be, staff was available to
19 help in that effort to record those presentations, and
20 answer any additional questions from the community-based
21 organization, not so much from the audience members, but
22 from the community-based organization, on any of the
23 their -- the platform that's being used, the links,
24 things of that nature.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, then

1 Commissioner Le Mons.

2 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. I mean, I think it's
3 fine, and we should proceed with staff flexibility. You
4 all know your workload, and you are professionals who can
5 say, you know, this week I'm slammed, can't make any
6 presentations, and perhaps even, if support is requested,
7 you know, we do have more than one staff now, so there
8 can also be a bit of sharing of this, as necessary, thank
9 goodness.

10 You know, like, I'll be honest. I'm working fifty
11 hours a week, plus, you know, full business days that are
12 taken away doing this work, and weekend work. So we're
13 just -- we're going to be busy. So I definitely
14 understand that staff is overloaded, and we're all, I
15 think, firing on all cylinders, and just negotiating our
16 capacity, and giving each other grace.

17 So I certainly don't think it has to be requirement
18 that staff attend these meetings, but certainly I know
19 that I feel like I would be more efficient, in particular
20 meetings, not having to shepherd certain administrative
21 follow-up tasks, or oh, let me get back to you, and now I
22 have, like, four people I have to follow up with about
23 specific questions that they have, which are honestly
24 much better fielded through and by staff. I just don't
25 have the bandwidth to do that, and so they're better

1 addressed by the staff that we hired to do those things.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

3 Commissioner Le Mons.

4 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have way more opinions on
5 this than I ever dreamed I would have. I'm shocked. I
6 really am. I'm like, really, I have another comment
7 about this? But I do, and I think that the -- so there's
8 a delineation for me in staff attending the presentation
9 with me, as opposed to supporting the logistics and the
10 organization of -- even setup of the meeting.

11 So I might need some support with that, like, if
12 someone reaches out and wants -- like, if they fill out
13 that form, I wouldn't expect the form to just be sent to
14 me, and then I take it from there. So I wasn't thinking
15 that this was a solo Commission operation, that we have
16 our little PowerPoint and we're just off doing our thing.
17 So I hope that's not what I'm hearing.

18 So I want to just clarify for myself that I do think
19 that the presentation should be coordinated with staff.
20 Now, "coordinated" is a very broad statement, but
21 coordinated with staff, whether the person reaches out to
22 us directly or not, because they should be tracking this,
23 and they're keeping track of it for us, and all of that.

24 Now, that coordination could take on a different
25 level of complexion depending upon the group, what the

1 needs are, et cetera, and I guess that's that flexibility
2 that I think Commissioner Vazquez is talking about, that
3 I'm talking about as well, that I'm not asking you to
4 join me at the meeting, where that's a half-hour or hour
5 of your time, where you're basically kind of sitting
6 there with me.

7 I don't personally need that, but I may need you to
8 give them the heads-up on what to expect, whatever that
9 frontline introduction information is, you can expect
10 Commissioner Le Mons at such-and-such a time, and then I
11 show up and do my thing and get out of there, and any
12 follow-up would, again, come to the staff. I wouldn't be
13 fielding follow-up calls after the meeting and all that.
14 I would not want to take on that responsibility, either.

15 So I think maybe staff might want to give us a
16 little outline of how this is going to work, and what our
17 options are, because I think there are some varying needs
18 among us, and I'm sure that it can all be handled and
19 taken care of. I promise that's my last comment on this
20 topic.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 Deputy Executive Director Hernandez, do you have a
23 response?

24 MR. HERNANDEZ: I do, yes. That is what we are
25 planning on doing. Marcy was shaking her head as you

1 were speaking about giving you some direction and
2 guidance as far as what we're going to do on your behalf
3 in the planning and coordinating and so forth, and making
4 sure that, as we are reaching out to these
5 community-based organizations, they have an understanding
6 of what to expect for the presentation, and you also have
7 an understanding of what to expect for the presentation
8 itself.

9 So that's something that Marcy and I are working on
10 to share with you. So as soon as we get an opportunity
11 to do so we will get that out to you, for the purposes of
12 moving forward and coordinating these educational
13 presentations.

14 So I think we're thinking what your needs might be
15 ahead of time. We just haven't got that information out
16 to you, because we were waiting, predominantly, on the
17 educational plan, or the outreach plan, to move forward
18 with some of these other elements that are tied to the
19 plan.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

21 Any other questions or comments?

22 So I think that we're able to close the book on
23 agenda item 9F, outreach and engagement.

24 All right. So now onto agenda item number 9G,
25 language access, acknowledging that we have space on the

1 agenda specifically for this item tomorrow at 10 a.m.

2 Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Fernandez.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. So tomorrow we'll
4 discuss our recommendations. So there's nothing further
5 to discuss right now.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

7 On to agenda item number 9H, materials development.

8 Commissioner Fernandez and Commissioner Sadhwani.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: What I just said, but for,
10 let's see, agenda item 15, we'll discuss that tomorrow.

11 Is that okay, Commissioner Sadhwani?

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I might also raise --
13 I know you and Fredy are looking at me like, don't do it.

14 I just wanted to raise to the Commission, as well as
15 to the Chair, that I feel like, as has been mentioned,
16 you know, by Commissioner Fornaciari, recognizing the
17 enormous amount of work that many of us are taking on,
18 and I think Commissioner Vazquez mentioned as well, I
19 feel like I'm on many committees, and I'd like to ask to
20 step back from this one.

21 I feel like I -- especially this coming month, with,
22 you know, the RFIs and RFPs for a line drawer, VRA
23 counsel, and outside litigation all coming to a head, I
24 feel like I will certainly already be spending quite a
25 lot of time on that work.

1 That being said, I do know -- I have my
2 recommendation, and I believe we have a volunteer from
3 Commissioner Sinay. I know she has a lot of input to
4 give in this committee. You know, I think, also just
5 following the spirit of, you know, having different
6 parties on subcommittees, it would exchanging a Democrat
7 for a Democrat. So I would offer that to you, Chair, to
8 make that change.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: So I'm hearing correctly,
10 Commissioner Sadhwani, you want to step down from the
11 materials development subcommittee, and -- hang on.

12 Commissioner Kennedy, you have a question or
13 comment?

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I had a comment, and that has
15 flown my mind, but this is the first time I'm hearing of
16 this. I'm very interested. I was waving my hand when
17 this committee was first established, but I don't think
18 Chairman Le Mons was able to see me on his screen at the
19 time. So I'm definitely interested in this.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: So right now, if I'm hearing
21 correctly, we have Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner
22 Kennedy that are interested in taking up this position,
23 this space; is that correct? And how do we propose we
24 have them fight it out?

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm good stepping back. I've

1 got plenty to do.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other Commissioner interested in
3 this subcommittee?

4 Commissioner Le Mons?

5 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'm not interested in the
6 subcommittee, but I will say, first of all, I'm sorry,
7 Commissioner Kennedy, and as my former Vice Chair, Chair
8 Taylor, I think you can right this wrong by making
9 Commissioner Kennedy a member of this committee. That's
10 what I wanted to say.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee, they're trying to
12 bring out deference and -- go ahead.

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: That's fine. I mean, I would be
14 interested, but I don't want to complicate matters. If
15 there are specific tasks, for instance, the PowerPoint
16 presentation or whatever, I'd love to give input. So if
17 it's just something that you could just receive those
18 kinds of suggestions, if there's a way to do that, that
19 would be great.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No, it was just kind of
22 exciting. You guys are kind of fighting over to be my
23 partner, which is really nice. Sorry. I just had to put
24 some levity into the conversation. But I do --

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: She's a wonderful partner.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I do want to say that I
2 just have really appreciated working with Commissioner
3 Sadhwani. She's given some great advice, great input.
4 So it does sadden me to see her leave, but I completely
5 understand because I've felt overwhelmed for a while,
6 too. So thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. And certainly I've
8 definitely loved the work thus far. I just feel like I
9 have too much on my plate.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: And the last word, Commissioner
11 Kennedy.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I did remember my question
13 that I was going to start with, and that is, will we be
14 receiving a copy, a draft script, before tomorrow's
15 discussion, or what's the status of the draft script to
16 go with the PowerPoint? Thank you.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernandez.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So we thought about
19 finalizing the script, but really felt that we should go
20 through the presentation first, because, obviously, once
21 we make changes to the presentation, then we can go back
22 and finalize the script. That was our thinking.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 So aside from Commissioner Fernandez and I being of
25 the same party, which would have caused another battle, I

1 will gladly appoint Commissioner Kennedy to the materials
2 subcommittee.

3 Did you guys hear me? Great. All right. So onto
4 now agenda item number 9I, data management, Commissioner
5 Ahmad and Commissioner Turner.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair Taylor.
7 We're on for agenda item 16, and would love to cover that
8 at the top of the day.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Correct. You guys will be directly
10 after the language access conversation.

11 Now onto agenda item number 9K, community of
12 interest, Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner
13 Kennedy.

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm going to defer to
15 Commissioner Kennedy on this. I think he's most up to
16 date right now.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner
18 Akutagawa.

19 The main news from us is that we do have
20 confirmation from the Statewide Database that the
21 communities of interest tool will be active with the 2020
22 census geography enabled as of the 8th of February. So
23 Commissioner Fernandez and I will be working on some
24 materials to promote the launch of the communities of
25 interest tool, but that's the main news from the

1 communities of interest tool subcommittee. I don't know
2 if Commissioner Akutagawa wants to add anything else to
3 that.

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you very much.
5 We're excited that when that will -- we will be able to
6 officially launch it. We just want to make sure that all
7 the T's are crossed and the I's are dotted on that, that
8 communities of interest tool, and so we're just really
9 looking forward to its rollout.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes. And I see Director Ceja
11 has his hand raised, and he's probably, or, hopefully,
12 going to answer my question, which is, where do we stand
13 with the URL DrawMyCommunity.CA.gov?

14 MR. CEJA: Thank you. So I'll respond to that
15 first. That is on hold, along with our website. We're
16 just trying to figure out how to secure the web
17 addresses, but as soon as our web address is
18 transferable, then we can create a subdomain for
19 DrawMyCommunity.CA.gov.

20 The other question that I had for your committee is,
21 the Statewide Database had mentioned that they were going
22 to provide instructional collateral material for how to
23 use the COI. I was wondering if that's already done, and
24 I know that they were going to do it in multiple
25 languages, which is amazing.

1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: My understanding on that is
2 that they are working on it. I do believe that they are
3 going to start with Spanish, the Spanish translation
4 first, but I think, slowly but surely, they're going to
5 be rolling out all of the other languages as well, too.

6 MR. CEJA: (Indiscernible) fast, because we
7 definitely want to utilize that information for our
8 trainings, our PowerPoints.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments
10 regarding the COI tool?

11 Thank you very much. Now onto item 9L,
12 cybersecurity, Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, other than, you
14 know, expanding the responsibility for the committee, I
15 don't have anything to report out.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: I agree, just that expanded to that
17 we'll also be mindful or be responsible for physical
18 security, as well as cybersecurity. Thank you.

19 Lastly for our subcommittee report-outs, 9M, lessons
20 learned, Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner Kennedy.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Ahmad, do you
22 have anything at this point?

23 I'll just say that I think our discussion earlier
24 today regarding educational events is something that we
25 will need to discuss at length when we get to lessons

1 learned, at some point next year, and that we should be
2 thinking of what legislative proposals or regulatory
3 proposals we might want to make.

4 So I've added that to my list, and just want to
5 continue to encourage colleagues to share their thoughts
6 with us, so that we can keep our list growing for next
7 year's lessons learned exercise. Thank you.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was going to say,
10 Commissioner Kennedy, in line with what you just said,
11 could you guys make sure to put grants on there as well?
12 Thanks.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And also to add to the list,
15 if it isn't already, our information that we did, our
16 decision process in relocating the prison population.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments for
18 the lessons learned subcommittee?

19 Thank you. Hearing none, I believe that concludes
20 our subcommittee report-outs. So looking at our agenda,
21 tomorrow morning we will have -- we will begin with
22 agenda item 15, outreach plan and materials. We also can
23 include in that a potential vote on the outreach plan.

24 We have at 10 o'clock our language access
25 recommendations, and that will be followed with the

1 discussion on data management. Does that -- that seems
2 to follow, correct? Yes.

3 So we have a few times left before we have to
4 conclude at 5 o'clock, and take public comment. So in
5 this space right now, we can discuss future meeting dates
6 and agenda.

7 I know that Commissioner Andersen wanted to speak to
8 that specifically. So you have the floor, Commissioner
9 Andersen.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

11 If I could ask everyone to get their calendars up,
12 because the line drawing -- I'll give you a bit of
13 background on why, as we're getting our calendars.

14 The line drawing committee, as I mentioned, we have
15 a few dates issues. We would like to make a few
16 modifications in some of our scheduled meetings, and the
17 reason is, when counsel brought up the fact that there
18 are rules that apply to us, as the Commission, and there
19 are also rules that apply in other portions of our state
20 rules and regulations, that caught us in the state
21 contract, and we had specifically said, okay.

22 I believe March 1st was when we would be able to
23 have a signed contract with the line drawer. Well, that
24 did not allow five business days for -- in case of --
25 allowing for a protest, to file a protest. We had to

1 have five calendar days, which did not work. So we have
2 switched things, and if we could look at the last week in
3 February, I believe -- I had it down that we were meeting
4 on the 24th, 25th.

5 I was talking to Commissioner Sadhwani, and she
6 said, well, that she thought it was through the 26th. If
7 it is not through the 26th, we would like to propose that
8 it indeed go through the 26th, because we need, on the
9 24th and 25th, to be basically doing the presentations
10 for the line drawer, and voting. So I would like to
11 propose that it does indeed extend to the 26th, if you
12 don't have it already.

13 Then, in March, we had down a day, essentially, for
14 line drawing training, or essentially a little
15 mini-workshop on what they do, reacquaint ourselves, on
16 March 3rd. The protest date -- and we can actually sign
17 a contract, assuming there is no protest -- would be
18 March 5th. Therefore, we propose to eliminate the March
19 3rd meeting, but extend the March 7, 8 scheduled meeting
20 to March 7, 8 -- I mean, I'm sorry, the March 8, 9
21 meeting to March 8, 9, 10, and the idea being we can put
22 an introduction or workshop on the 10th.

23 So any further discussion on that?

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Turner, go ahead.

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: This is to kind of real

1 quickly follow her, but also look to see if there were
2 some other options we have, so that we're not moving back
3 into three-day meetings where we don't have to. I
4 appreciated Commissioner Fornaciari's comment, and
5 Commissioner Vazquez, and so I want to know if there are
6 other options.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Vazquez, and
8 Commissioner Sadhwani.

9 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: So this could -- in thinking
10 out of the box -- and I'm thinking about other volunteer
11 commissions, and really thinking about moving us -- us
12 considering making our meetings more accessible to the
13 larger community. Have we considered a weekend-day
14 meeting, and/or an evening, one that starts at noon and
15 goes later?

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Or even one that starts after 5.

17 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Because I know, at least for
18 me, part of it is that I'm losing whole business days,
19 and it makes it -- I can't schedule my business work on
20 the weekend. So I'm losing business hours, whereas I'm
21 much more flexible in the evening, and can do serial
22 meetings in the evenings, because I'm not -- that's not
23 time that is spoken by other professional obligations,
24 and that's how school board meetings, and many city
25 councils and things, often work, because that's also when

1 folks in the public can view meetings.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen, you had your
3 hand up.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Since I sort of
5 brought up these changes, first of all, is that 24, 25,
6 26 was -- I'm sorry. I'm looking down. 24, 25, 26 of
7 February, was that already on our schedule? I'm getting
8 a lot of nods. Okay. Then it's really ditching the 3rd,
9 March 3rd, scratching that, and adding another day at
10 some point.

11 That does not necessarily have to be 8, 9, 10. I
12 just thought, for purposes of keeping it together -- I
13 don't know at this point, you know -- we should add in a
14 date at some point to also introduce the line drawer, and
15 maybe do, like, a bit of a presentation. When that could
16 be I don't quite know, if we want to -- you know, I'm
17 open to other ideas on that.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sadhwani, then
19 Commissioner Akutagawa.

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: So a couple of things. For
21 the February 24th through 26th, we really need those
22 dates, largely because the RFIs and RFPs have already
23 gone out and are public with those dates as the days in
24 which we are going to be selecting and finalizing line
25 drawer, VRA, and outside litigation. So we have a lot to

1 do those days.

2 I hear everyone. I, too, am kind of feeling the
3 burn. Not that burn, the other burn. You know,
4 Commissioner Vazquez, I'm totally amenable to discussing
5 other options. For me personally, I actually rearranged
6 my schedule, because I assumed they were days, so I'm
7 actually now teaching nights, which makes for very long
8 days when we have Commission meetings, but you know,
9 certainly, I'll take a look at nights and weekends.

10 I'm open to that, but I'm also wondering, given the
11 delay in the census -- and as I'm looking at Twitter,
12 everyone is kind of talking about it, and really not
13 expecting now census data until at least the end of July,
14 if not even later. (Audio interference) here, but have
15 some (audio interference) business now, you know, moving
16 towards being quite well staffed up.

17 I'm wondering, after we finalize the hires for these
18 attorneys and line drawers, if we might want to take a
19 slight hiatus, at least of a couple of weeks in March, to
20 allow ourselves a little bit of a break, and also to
21 allow the new folks that we're bringing on to kind of get
22 up to speed and prepare, you know, properly prepare to
23 give us a workshop, and to conduct additional VRA
24 training for us and such, right, so that we can pick back
25 up, you know, at the end of March or early April, and go

1 full speed ahead.

2 It sounds like, throughout March, we're still going
3 to be having a lot of educational meetings that we're all
4 going to be doing, and other kinds of outreach. Might it
5 make sense to hold off on some of these all-day business
6 meetings, if possible?

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions or comments?

8 Commissioner Le Mons.

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'm flexible. I concur with
10 Commissioner Vazquez. The three-day meetings, the
11 three-day business meetings, are definitely a challenge.
12 So I'll start with that point. If we can avoid those,
13 three days back to back, it is very challenging for those
14 of us that have other obligations during the day.

15 I mean, I'm making it work as best as possible, but
16 when we go and add that third day, like, when she said --
17 when Commissioner Andersen was suggesting adding the 9th,
18 I was like, oh, my God. Really? Another three days?
19 Because that's the whole week, and it's usually Monday,
20 Tuesday, Wednesday. Friday tends to be a smaller day.

21 So you end up with one really week (sic) -- I mean,
22 one day that week, and not that that's the Commission's
23 problem, so I don't want to make it -- I've borne the
24 burden of that personally, because I understand, you
25 know, this is demanding, et cetera. I think, with that

1 in mind, I certainly am open to there being more of a
2 mix, even if there are some, you know, day meetings and
3 some evening meetings. I think we have to think it
4 through.

5 And then, to Commissioner Sadhwani's point, that
6 does not count the presentations, and these other
7 external things that we also are doing. I know I have a
8 little bit of a challenge with even some of the zone
9 meetings, as Commissioner Kennedy -- as his partner, you
10 know, he certainly understands my scheduling challenges,
11 because, on that day that I'm not here, those end up
12 being the days that those are scheduled. It becomes very
13 difficult, because I've got all this backed-up,
14 stacked-up work that I've got try to get done.

15 So I'm just sharing sort of my reality, and so as we
16 move forward, we're taking into consideration each
17 other's realities, to whatever we end up shaking out
18 with. So I'll still say that I'm prepared to be
19 flexible, but I think a little variation -- and if that
20 includes the weekend, that's fine, too. I would hope
21 that suddenly it wouldn't be like, now every weekend
22 there's a meeting. So I think we've got to kind of
23 temper it. So that's the feedback I'd like to share on
24 that point.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I was debating
2 whether or not I would just pile on on this, but I think
3 I will, just so that we get a host of what's happening.

4 I want to also affirm what Commissioner Vazquez
5 says. I also hear what Commissioner Sadhwani is saying,
6 too, and in line with what Commissioner Le Mons just also
7 said, too, I would appreciate maybe an occasional weekend
8 meeting, just so that I'm not trying to stuff in
9 back-to-back-to-back meetings.

10 On those days when we're off -- on the off-days that
11 we don't have the Commission meetings, the remaining two
12 days, I'm going from, like, literally, 7 a.m. to like 6
13 p.m., back to back, because that's the only time I have
14 time to, you know, place calls, and I'm sure that others
15 who are working probably know that.

16 I would also like the idea of maybe, like, we do a
17 day meeting here, shift, and maybe start in the
18 afternoon, and go into kind of like, you know, the early
19 to mid-evening, just so that we can mix it up for some
20 people, throw a Saturday in here or there, you know, just
21 so that we're kind of making it so that there are times
22 when we're not trying to multitask too much.

23 Even though we're trying to stay focused as best as
24 we can, I think, you know, sometimes we have to leave
25 meetings, and you know, not being able to fully

1 participate, I think, is, I think, something that I would
2 probably suspect that we're all feeling, for those of us
3 who have to leave occasionally for other commitments,
4 work, day job-related commitments.

5 So I don't know what that's going to look like, but
6 I also want to touch on what Commissioner Sadhwani said
7 about maybe taking maybe a couple-weeks break in March,
8 only because, you know, that might also alleviate some of
9 the -- if we have to add that third day to that March
10 time frame, and/or, you know, does that training
11 absolutely need to happen in March? You know, because,
12 if there's an extension, you know, maybe we could do that
13 line drawing training, like, in early April or something
14 like that, just so that we're not adding the third day
15 onto that March meeting. I just want to throw out that,
16 you know, can we look at some other alternatives there,
17 too?

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 So my understanding, and what I'm hearing right now,
20 is the February calendar will remain as is. Is that
21 correct, no changes to the February?

22 So what I would ask of Commissioner Andersen is
23 perhaps tomorrow we could look at maybe what might
24 possibly be an alternative day or time, and we can
25 propose it tomorrow, and we can conclude the meeting

1 tomorrow with this discussion on calendar. Is that
2 acceptable?

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, yes. I'll sort of have
4 a look, and an idea that if we do two weeks, what could
5 that training maybe look like? It might be a little
6 more -- be more involved, rather than just having
7 separate. We might do a couple of half-days, with a bit
8 of a mix.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure. Just explore that whole
10 calendar, and the days and times.

11 Commissioner Le Mons, Commissioner Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was going to suggest that,
13 since we did bring up the time variation, that maybe we
14 could try that, not change the days in February, like,
15 leave the dates alone, but maybe, one of those weeks, try
16 the different schedule, since we brought it up. I mean,
17 that might be an opportunity to try.

18 I know that, you know, in the case of Commissioner
19 Sadhwani, with her evening teaching, that might not work.
20 I'm not sure. But that might be -- I know at
21 (indiscernible), for myself, when they saw the February
22 schedule, they just said, whoa, like, look, because it's
23 like three weeks. It's a short month. They said, well,
24 it's a short month, and it's three days for three weeks.
25 Okay.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

2 Commissioner Sinay.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to confirm.

4 March 3rd, we no longer need it, so we can take it off
5 the calendar? Okay.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, I am going to confirm
7 that. Pull that date. There is no reason to have that
8 for the reason why we had it on there.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Can I just ask, maybe, for
11 the training, is that something that we can hold on a
12 Saturday? Because it just seems like that one might be
13 something good to have on a weekend, where we could all
14 be fully present and paying attention, you know, versus
15 doing it during the week, where -- you know, as much as
16 we can, I think we do try to make sure that we're free
17 for the entire time, but I would like to be fully present
18 for a training, so yeah, maybe that could be done on a
19 weekend.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: That's a great suggestion. Again, I
21 challenge -- so we'll revisit this conversation tomorrow.
22 I challenge us all to look at the calendar and be
23 creative, come up with times that work best with our
24 schedule, that will also help the community also engage
25 with us, and a day when I don't have to wear a tie.

1 That's fine.

2 Any other comments or suggestions from Commissioners
3 regarding scheduling?

4 So then we're going to move to general public
5 comments. Katy, if you can invite the public in, I'd
6 appreciate it.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: In order to maximize
8 transparency and public participation in our process, the
9 Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To
10 call in, dial the telephone number provided on the
11 livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247.

12 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number that is
13 provided on the livestream feed, it is 97679349222 for
14 this week's meeting. When prompted to enter a
15 participant ID, simply press the pound key.

16 Once you've dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue.
17 To indicate you wish to comment, please press star 9.
18 This will raise your hand for the moderator.

19 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear an
20 automated message that says, "The host would like you to
21 talk", and to press star 6 to speak.

22 If you would like to give your name, please state
23 and please state and spell it for the record. You are
24 not required to provide your name to give public comment.

25 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream

1 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
2 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for
3 when it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn
4 down the livestream volume.

5 The Commission is taking general public comment at
6 this time, and we do have one caller, and I will say
7 hello.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If you would like to,
10 please state and share your name for the court reporter,
11 but you do not have to.

12 MS. SHELLENBERGER: Hi. This is Lori Shellenberger,
13 redistricting consultant for Common Cause, and I just
14 wondered if you could read off your upcoming meeting
15 dates, because I'm still a little uncertain now as to
16 what the dates are, or if you could -- I know I've asked
17 this before. They haven't been posted on the website,
18 but if it's possible to do that, or if I'm missing that,
19 can you point me to where those are? But if you could
20 just clarify those meeting dates that you have landed on,
21 and hopefully, for the public, just post those for the
22 future, that would be great. Thank you.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 Is there a Commissioner that has the February
25 meeting dates handy, or the meeting dates we have

1 scheduled?

2 Commissioner Sinay, can you read out those dates for
3 me, please? I'd appreciate it.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sure. For February, right now
5 we have February 8th through 9th, February 16 through 17,
6 and February 24th through 26th.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I just want to notice --
9 I think that's why Commissioner Yee probably had his hand
10 up -- the legal committee is also meeting on the 10th and
11 the 18th, and that is -- those are open for the public.
12 It's just not the full Commission.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Can you repeat that for me one more
14 time, the legal affairs committee?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So just in total, starting
16 at the beginning of February, the full meetings are the
17 8th and 9th. The legal subcommittee, or legal --

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Legal affairs committee.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- legal affairs
20 committee -- is on the 10th. The full Commission is on
21 the 16 and 17, legal affairs on the 18th. Well, actually
22 on the 22nd, the morning of the 22nd, there will be a
23 line drawing subcommittee public meeting of just opening
24 proposals. That will be maybe an hour. That will be
25 public. I was going to bring that up tomorrow. But the

1 full Commission is the 24th through the 26th of February.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Le Mons.

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Since we left this open, and
4 we're going to be discussing it again tomorrow, wouldn't
5 it probably be a good idea for us to respond to the
6 caller's question tomorrow, when we have something more
7 definitive? Because that's as it sits today, and it may
8 look very different tomorrow, and then we also make a
9 commitment to post.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: I agree. So as it sits today, that's
11 what we have scheduled. It will be confirmed tomorrow,
12 and we will post accordingly. So thank you.

13 Katy, do we have any additional callers in the
14 queue?

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not, Chair.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. I think, ladies and
17 gentlemen, that day 2 is concluded. I will see everyone
18 bright and early, 9:30 tomorrow morning. Thank you.
19 Have a good night.

20 (Whereupon, the CRC Business Meeting adjourned)

21

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, of the videoconference recording of the proceedings provided by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Traci Fine

TRACI FINE, CDLT-169

June 20, 2022

DATE