

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Transcription by:

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**Also Present**Public Comment:

Dan Ichinose, Orange County Civic Engagement Table  
(OC CET)  
Renee Westa-Lusk  
John Mendoza  
Jacqueline Coto, NALEO Educational Fund  
Unidentified Caller  
Jenna  
John Mendoza  
Renee Westa-Lusk  
Ayana Best  
Rosalind Gold



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P R O C E E D I N G S

1  
2 June 25, 2021

9:30 a.m.

3 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Good morning,  
4 California. Welcome to Friday, June 25th, our meeting of  
5 the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and our  
6 business meeting. I'm glad to see everybody back.

7 What I want to do is -- shall we take roll?

8 MR. SINGH: Yes, Vice-Chair.

9 Commissioner Andersen?

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

11 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.

13 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

15 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

17 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

19 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: My apologies. Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

24 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

25 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?



1 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?

3 Commissioner Vazquez?

4 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here.

5 MR. SINGH: Thank you. Commissioner Yee?

6 Commissioner Ahmad?

7 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

8 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Akutagawa?

9 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here. All right.

10 Thank you, everyone. And I just want to just say  
11 that I will be chairing the meeting for at least through  
12 break. At 11, Vice Chair Linda Akutagawa. I apologize.  
13 I rushed earlier, because I thought my dog was about to  
14 bark. So just wanted to get onto mute.

15 So I do want to -- before we go to public comment, I  
16 just want to just thank and acknowledge the staff for all  
17 of the work that they've been doing over the last several  
18 public input meetings that we've had. And I know that  
19 it -- it's -- they make it look very easy, but I know  
20 that there's a lot of work that goes into it. So I just  
21 wanted to personally give my thanks to them.

22 Shall we -- let's see, why don't we just go to  
23 public comment?

24 And Katy, I think you will be reading off the  
25 instructions.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

2 Good morning. In order to maximize transparency and  
3 public participation in our process, the Commissioners  
4 will be taking public comment by phone too.

5 To call in, dial the telephone number provided on  
6 the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,  
7 enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream  
8 feed. It is 92476505888 for this meeting. When prompted  
9 to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

10 Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a  
11 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press  
12 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.  
13 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message  
14 that says, the host would like you to talk, and to press  
15 star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your name,  
16 please State and spell it for the record. You are not  
17 required to provide your name to give public comment.

18 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
19 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
20 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for  
21 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn  
22 down the livestream volume.

23 And the Commission is taking general public comment  
24 at this time for items not on the agenda. And I would  
25 like to remind those that have called in to please press



1 star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to  
2 comment. Please press star 9.

3 We do have one hand raised. There we go.

4 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead. The floor is  
6 yours.

7 MR. LARSON: Thanks so much. My name is Dan  
8 Ichinose, last name is spelled I-C-H-I-N-O-S-E. I'm with  
9 the Orange County Civic Engagement Table or OCCET, O-C-C-  
10 E-T. We're mobilizing stakeholders in Orange County to  
11 engage in both statewide and local redistricting  
12 processes. And we had a question regarding our  
13 engagement in the public hearings that are coming up.

14 As a coalition, you know, we're organizing to  
15 educate folks about the redistricting process, collect  
16 and articulate communities of interest, and -- and  
17 eventually submit mapping proposals. But as a  
18 coalition -- but we are organizing around communities of  
19 interests, and we're wondering if we might be able to  
20 present as a coalition during one of Orange County's  
21 public hearings.

22 Rather than kind of have folks call in separately,  
23 we were hoping to maybe reserve a block of time for our  
24 coalition. So I don't know if that's something that the  
25 Commission would entertain. And I wanted to just see





1 what your thoughts might be.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 And I'd like to remind those who have called in to  
4 please press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you  
5 wish to comment. Please press star 9 to raise your hand,  
6 indicating you wish to comment.

7 We do have a raised hand at this time. We have two  
8 raised hands.

9 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. Let's hear from the  
10 next person.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. If caller 2829  
12 would follow the prompts that Zoom is giving them.  
13 That's caller with the last four 2829, if you could  
14 follow the prompt that Zoom is giving you to press star  
15 6. There you go. Caller 2829, go ahead, the floor is  
16 yours.

17 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yeah, this is Renee Westa-Lusk, and  
18 I was wondering, what happened to the very first  
19 instructional video that -- for -- that was played during  
20 the June 10th statewide meeting, because that video was  
21 better than the current one that I saw played at later  
22 meetings? But I'm talking about the public input  
23 hearings. Because it had better drawing tool  
24 instructions.

25 The other video just skips over the drawing tools,



1 and I think a lot of people are stumbled by those drawing  
2 tools. I didn't understand how to use them until that --  
3 I watched that first instructional video on June 10th  
4 many times, and then it -- I understood it really well.

5 I -- so I'm asking, could you put that other vid --  
6 original video back on the website so people could look  
7 at that too, besides the current instructional video to  
8 use the COI tool?

9 And then I'm -- I'm asking that they keep those  
10 third input public meetings, because I understand that  
11 those might be reassigned or something? But I think  
12 you're going to need those. And then the handout for  
13 today --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MS. WESTA-LUCK: -- that's Outreach Strategies for  
16 Phase II and Phase III, there's two page 2s, so there  
17 needs to be some renumbering of that handout. Thank you.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

19 And up next, we have caller 1926.

20 Go ahead. The floor is yours.

21 MR. MENDOZA: Yes. My name is John Mendoza. I live  
22 out here in the 31st Congressional district, the 20th  
23 Senate district, and the 52nd Assembly district. And as  
24 you well know, we're facing one of the most extreme  
25 droughts in several decades right now. And there's going



1 to be a lot of policy changes as Democratic, Republicans,  
2 Liberal, Conservative, you know, also try to deal with a  
3 lot of the crises that we face right now.

4       Anyway my -- my public comment is that, over the  
5 last ten years, when we had this redistricting, frankly,  
6 what has really happened is that for a lot of areas, it's  
7 just become an exercise of going to the vote and electing  
8 the same people because the fields have been cleared.

9       And challengers, through some of these Congressional  
10 seats, Federal, Legislative, and the State, you know,  
11 everything's kind of, like, settled down, and it's no  
12 use, you know?

13       I mean, there -- it's just like -- I'd never run for  
14 no opposite, but it's a matter of now, I just, like, you  
15 know, just vote for whatever. And I'm not trying to say  
16 that we're not getting anything done, you know, or  
17 anything. We're getting a lot of good out of this -- out  
18 of these things, you know. But the democratic process  
19 sometimes is undermined where people, like, on the lower  
20 level or the local level are forced to make -- forced to  
21 make decisions.

22       You know who I -- which side do I take? You know,  
23 there's that --

24       MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

25       MR. MENDOZA: -- blah, blah, blah. And so I just

1 hope the redistricting process takes a lot of this into  
2 consideration. Thank you very much.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

4 And up next, we have Caller 7912.

5 Go ahead, the floor is yours.

6 MS. COTO: Hi. Good morning, and happy Friday,  
7 Commissioners. This is Jacqueline Coto, the director of  
8 Civic Engagement Policy with NALEO Educational Fund. And  
9 I'm calling to uplift a couple of items that I have  
10 already flagged to your staff related to the appointment  
11 system to testify at a COI input hearing. And this is  
12 feedback coming directly from our community members that  
13 are attending our workshops, who have started to use your  
14 scheduling system. And they are expressing some  
15 confusion with the automated -- automated email that is  
16 generated after the Google Document is sent out to sign  
17 up and -- and is submitted.

18 The email has no text at all that communicates that  
19 the appointment slot that they -- that the member has  
20 selected was -- is actually confirmed. So we were  
21 wondering and recommending if it's possible to add some  
22 simple language where it clearly -- communicates that the  
23 email is an actual confirmation of their appointment and  
24 that the copy of the Google in the body is in -- is the  
25 email of their submission and not another form that they



1 need to fill out.

2 And then the other feedback is related to the email  
3 that's received the day before the hearing. In addition  
4 to the details provided to access the meeting, the  
5 community members actually are -- are looking for the  
6 time slot that they signed up --

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 MS. COTO: -- in the body of that email. So we're  
9 recommending if you can include the appointment slot  
10 the -- the individual signed up for to facilitate the  
11 system easier for folks to testify, as they are learning  
12 the process --

13 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

14 MS. COTO: -- to engage in your community input  
15 hearings. So thank you for taking the suggestions and --  
16 and for the work that you do. And we hope that these  
17 are -- are able to -- these changes are able to be made.  
18 Thanks a lot.

19 MR. MANOFF: Two minutes.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

21 And I would like to remind those that have just  
22 called in to please press star 9 to raise your hand,  
23 indicating you wish to comment. Please press star 9 to  
24 raise your hand, indicating you wish to comment.

25 And Chair, at this time, we do not -- oh, that was



1 the one I was waiting for. We do have one more raised  
2 hand. Thank you.

3 And go ahead, the floor is yours.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. Thank you. Good  
5 morning. I'm a resident of Sunnyvale, part of  
6 California's 17th Congressional district, and I work in a  
7 Silicon Valley tech company.

8 It would be great to see an Asian-American  
9 representative for Silicon Valley's Congressional  
10 district 18, which is the neighboring district where I  
11 work. The Asian-American community has been contributing  
12 to the growth of Silicon Valley's economy, and we're  
13 keenly interested to continuing to grow it to benefit the  
14 American people.

15 Our community has been engaged in empowering the  
16 tech sector with our hard work and technical skills.  
17 However, our say in the politics of the CA18 district has  
18 been limited. Representation is a key factor for a  
19 diverse and successful society. It makes everyone feel  
20 integrated. So having someone from my community  
21 represent the Congressional 18th district can help upward  
22 mobility of our community by providing us access to key  
23 services, such as education, health care, and more.

24 Asian-Americans are the largest minority community  
25 of the Congressional district 18. But this district has



1 never had a minority Congressional representative.

2 Keeping communities of interest together is an important  
3 principle in redistricting.

4 Can the Redistricting Commission please ensure that  
5 more Asian-Americans have the chance to be elected to  
6 Congress? My recommendation is that you include the  
7 Cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Santa Clara into  
8 Congressional district 18, which will group --

9 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- more Asian communities  
11 into district 18. Thank you for listening to my  
12 suggestion.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

14 And with that, Chair, that is all of our public  
15 comment at this time.

16 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very  
17 much, Katy.

18 And thank you to all who called in and gave public  
19 comment.

20 And for Ms. Westa-Lusk, who asked about the video,  
21 we will go ahead and check into that.

22 Okay. Let's go ahead, and we'll move on to the next  
23 item on our agenda. What we've done is to make things  
24 easier, we have grouped all of the reports from our  
25 directors.



1 So let's start with the Executive Director's report.

2 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair Akutagawa.

3 And good morning, Commissioners. I will be sharing  
4 some information with you this morning about our staff  
5 and personnel. We are continuing to bring on board  
6 additional folks to help with our efforts.

7 I'll start first, we have made a recommendation to  
8 our Finance and Administration -- Administrative  
9 Subcommittee -- Administration Subcommittee -- Finance  
10 and Administration Subcommittee with a candidate for our  
11 Northern Field Lead. So that'll be coming forward later  
12 today.

13 We are also submitted a couple of names for data --  
14 our Data Management Team. We are bringing on board a  
15 data analyst. And that individual, we -- will be -- that  
16 candidate will be mentioned by the Finance and  
17 Administration Committee as well.

18 We are working on finalizing the candidate for the  
19 data management piece -- the data manager. And we'll  
20 probably be providing that information to the Finance and  
21 Administration Subcommittee for the next meeting next  
22 week.

23 So those are the -- the hirings that we've done for  
24 the Data Management Team. We also are bringing on board  
25 a student assistant and a couple of other individuals to





1 help with other tasks in organizing public input and  
2 getting things in order to make sure that we're ready for  
3 the Data Management Team.

4 Moving on to the Protocols and Commission  
5 Communication. Our travel policy, I'd mentioned last  
6 week that we are working on it. We are still working on  
7 it. What we're trying to do is put information that the  
8 Commissioners will need once we begin travel. So we're  
9 trying to streamline that information. There is a lot of  
10 information out there on the CalHR website.

11 Some of it is applicable to the Commissioners in  
12 their travel efforts, some of it is not. So we're trying  
13 to make it as easy as possible to provide the information  
14 that you'll need. And the Finance and Administration  
15 Subcommittee will be providing some more details on the  
16 various scenarios for travel that we'll discuss at that  
17 later date.

18 I also want to mention that I -- we posted the  
19 schedule for future COI input meetings. So one of the  
20 tasks that we were given to put together the times for  
21 those that have been scheduled beyond July 12th. And so  
22 if -- if you haven't had a chance, it is posted on our  
23 website.

24 What I have done -- what we have done, I should say,  
25 is look to make sure that each one of the zones at least



1 has one date that -- or one time frame that is in the  
2 evening. So for example, 12 to 8 being the latest time  
3 frame that we have. So you'll see that the different  
4 times are posted there.

5 We took into consideration whether we had a meeting  
6 the day before, how close to the previous COI input  
7 meeting was had. So we took a lot of different factors  
8 into consideration in putting the times for the following  
9 meetings.

10 This is not to say that this is set in stone because  
11 my plan is that in August, we will be doing a hybrid of  
12 in-person and virtual meetings. And at that point, we  
13 may have to adjust our schedule, the public input  
14 meetings, given the location, you know, trying to find  
15 venues and the time available for those venues.

16 So I just want to make sure that you recognize and  
17 are aware that there may be some slight changes come  
18 August. But for the most part, these are the times that  
19 we are setting forward for the future COI input meetings.  
20 And future being beyond July 12th. And I do apologize  
21 for not having -- well for not having these up a lot  
22 sooner for you to take a look at. But if you have any  
23 questions, I'll entertain any questions at this point.  
24 Okay. Seeing none, I'll go ahead and move on. We have  
25 also -- staff has been working on a budget to present to

1 the Commission to show, you know, our expenditures and  
2 things of that nature. We're still working on that.  
3 We're fine-tuning it.

4       Hopefully, we'll have that to you at the next  
5 meeting next week. We've also -- we'll be discussing  
6 later on today information about our Phase II and Phase  
7 III outreach planning. And this is in -- as a result of  
8 not moving forward with the outreach contracts, or  
9 grants, as we were previously calling them.

10       Staff was asked to put together a plan, so we'll be  
11 discussing that later today. I just wanted to uplift  
12 that to you. And that concludes my report.

13       Any questions?

14       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Looks like  
15 Commissioner Sadhwani has a question for you.

16       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. Sorry, I was just  
17 looking quickly at the timings that you had mentioned.  
18 So it looks -- I'm just wrapping my head around this. So  
19 these are the timings until June 12th.

20       And I'm assuming then it's -- is it too late? Are  
21 we too close to these dates to change any of the times,  
22 based on the fourteen-day Bagley-Keene need?

23       DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So to -- to clarify, this is  
24 beyond the July 12th. This goes through August and into  
25 September. And you'll see the different meetings. And



1 the way I -- I organized this to make sure that each of  
2 the zones was covered, they're organized by zone.

3 So these are the time frames for the zone meetings.  
4 And so that -- that is where you'll see across a zone  
5 when the meetings will be held. In the latter part of  
6 August, we may have some additional changes because of  
7 the venues. So that's where we would be looking to  
8 possibly adjust, if necessary.

9 For July, they pretty much are going to be static,  
10 because we're still in the virtual world through the  
11 month of July.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And when you said it's on  
13 the website, is that a document, or -- I'm -- because I'm  
14 looking at upcoming meetings, and I don't see times after  
15 July.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I apologize. That is a  
17 handout --

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It's a handout.

19 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- for today's meeting.

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay, sorry. Got it. Got  
21 it.

22 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And so I wanted to present it  
23 before I actually started posting them onto the web.

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Gotcha. Okay. I just need  
25 a minute to find that then. I mean, in general, I do

1 have a concern that our input meetings are just very  
2 long, and I would very much advocate for shortening that  
3 time period.

4 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. And I have been --

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I also --

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry.

7 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, go ahead. Go ahead. Go  
8 ahead.

9 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I was going to indicate that  
10 there will be additional discussion later on today as  
11 part of the Public Input Design Meeting Committee as to  
12 how we're moving forward, given our last four meetings --  
13 or our first four meetings, I should say, not last four  
14 meetings -- our first four meetings and how they're going  
15 and then also what we've heard from the community. So  
16 with that, I will defer to them for further discussion on  
17 that topic.

18 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And I saw Commissioner Sinay  
19 with her hand up.

20 Would you like to comment now, or would you want to  
21 reserve it till later? Okay. Thank you.

22 All right. I'm not seeing any additional hands.

23 I do want to also thank you, Director Hernandez, for  
24 the different format in which this handout was created.  
25 It does make it easy to see across each of the zones,

1 what days, what times are going to be available in an  
2 easy enough way.

3 All right. So let's go ahead. Let's move on to the  
4 next agenda or director report, which is Communications  
5 Director report.

6 Director Ceja?

7 DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you so much, Chair.

8 Hi, Commissioners.

9 I couldn't get my mouse to work. Thank you so much.  
10 So wanted to start off by going over some analytics. I  
11 did post the social media analytics for this week.

12 Thank you, Ceci, for getting those to me.

13 I'll just go through them briefly. Not much has  
14 changed since the last meeting we had, because it was  
15 last week, but going over Facebook, we have a total of  
16 891 likes; Instagram, we have 147 followers; Twitter, we  
17 have 1,501, which is really good. Ideally, we'd want all  
18 our channels to look that way, so we'll work to that.

19 On LinkedIn, we have 196 followers, and then on  
20 YouTube we have 53 subscribers. And of course, with all  
21 our messaging, we continue to ask folks to follow us, to  
22 like us, and to subscribe to our stations, so that we can  
23 grow our audience.

24 Also wanted to share analytics for the website. I  
25 still have not figured out how to connect Google



1 Analytics to our website so you can actually see what  
2 pages and what buttons people are hitting. But we'll  
3 give you an overall picture. As of last week, we've had  
4 251 clicks onto our website, which is actual visits to  
5 our website. Total impressions, that's how many times  
6 people have seen our -- our link or our website on the  
7 web, that's 4,024, which is really good.

8       And people are still looking us up as  
9 wedrawthelines. That's the majority of the way folks are  
10 finding us. And folks are accessing our website pretty  
11 much 50/50 via their computer and via their phones. So  
12 people are finding multiple ways to reach us in that  
13 sense.

14       As far as short videos, I did put together language  
15 for three short videos. I know that during some of the  
16 dead silence at our COI input meetings, it was suggested  
17 that we have short videos pretty similar to the ones that  
18 the Statewide Database has put together. So we have  
19 three of those in the making. The scripts are over with  
20 the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee, so we'll get  
21 those going soon, and hopefully, by next week I'll have  
22 those done. They're going to be animated.

23       As far as interviews for this past week, we spoke to  
24 KSRO, Voice of Orange County, The Community Voice,  
25 Capital Weekly, KCBX, Central Coast Public Radio, KUCI,



1 and KQMS Radio. We'll start -- continue pitching to our  
2 media partners, so that we can get more stories in the  
3 coming week.

4 And I'm also working on the website updates. I have  
5 still three to four pages from the Website Subcommittee  
6 on changes and updates, so I'm working on that. Have  
7 done a few, but you'll start seeing the website change a  
8 little as we move along. We've had some suggestions on  
9 how best to make it accessible to folks and are also  
10 working on actually putting the certification for ADA  
11 compliance on our website. So we'll be doing that this  
12 next coming week.

13 And I think that's all I have for my report. I'll  
14 take questions. Concerns.

15 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. It looks like  
16 Direct -- Commissioner Andersen has a question for you.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, it's just the -- about  
18 getting, you know, on the website, if you go to the  
19 meetings and you have a live meeting, then it'll say it's  
20 not secure. And I'm getting that from several people.  
21 And some -- depending on how you're set up, it'll let you  
22 look at it anyway. But on several people, they can't --  
23 that's it. They cannot look further.

24 Have you had a chance to look into that or?

25 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yes. Thank you, Commissioner. So



1 when I first touched base with NationBuilder, they told  
2 me that, depending on what device you're on, if you do  
3 not include a W-W-W, you will often get that error  
4 message. But I know you gave me additional insight, so  
5 I'll look into that and give you a definitive answer in  
6 the next few days.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

8 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, Director Ceja, I'm  
9 getting something similar to what Mr. Andersen is  
10 referring to, but it usually happens after I leave the  
11 browser open for a period of time, and then I come back,  
12 and it said, this is an unsecure website or something  
13 along those lines. And I just refresh.

14 DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. That's not what --  
16 what I'm hearing. It's you're brand new, go to the  
17 website -- you're on the website, and then from the  
18 website you try to go into the live meeting, and you  
19 can't. Then you get then non -- it's from -- so it's  
20 within -- it's within the website. So that's where --  
21 yeah. It's just -- it's -- it's an odd thing. I -- but  
22 I'm hearing it for several -- from a few different people  
23 now.

24 DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thanks for looking into it.



1 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great. Thanks for  
2 letting us know, Commissioner Andersen.

3 And I am not seen any additional hands.

4 All right. Thank you, Director Ceja.

5 Let's go on to our Outreach Director, Director  
6 Kaplan.

7 MS. MARX: Director Kaplan is enjoying a few much-  
8 needed days off. So I'll be giving the -- her report  
9 since her --

10 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: What? You mean you let her  
11 on vacation?

12 MS. MARX: Well, I'll be giving that report today  
13 instead on her behalf.

14 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you.

15 MS. MARX: So it's been a really exciting week for  
16 our Outreach Team. Well, we're more fully staffed now,  
17 so this is allowing our field leads to focus more on  
18 developing connections and engagement in their assigned  
19 areas.

20 And then Marcy and I have been able to engage  
21 further with our statewide sections. We've had really  
22 great teamwork with the field leads, and they're helping  
23 each other across zones to make sure that we're getting  
24 in front of the upcoming zone focus meetings as much as  
25 we can. And I'll tell you a little bit more about what

1 we've been doing as this Phase II is off and running.

2 But before that, we've also collected some of the  
3 Phase I data on all of the Commission's outreach efforts  
4 during the educational phase, and that's being put  
5 together in an easily-digestible way, and we anticipate  
6 sharing that with you soon.

7 But just a few highlights in the meantime. We've  
8 had -- we will have had by the end of July, 182  
9 redistricting basics presentations. Those have been all  
10 conducted. Mostly that all happened because of all of  
11 your -- all of you through your hard work. So these  
12 happened in every outreach zone and in thirty-four out of  
13 our fifty-eight counties.

14 Attendance at meetings these last two months for the  
15 business meetings, the COI input meetings, everything,  
16 it's been up 72 percent since the fall, with an average  
17 of 268 people viewing Commission, Business Committee, and  
18 the public input meetings online. So at least seven of  
19 the presentations that happened were actually conducted  
20 in Spanish or interpreted into Spanish. And language has  
21 just been a piece of the broad access and belonging focus  
22 that went into Phase I and is continuing into Phase II.  
23 So we look forward to sharing more about the strong phase  
24 one effort in the coming week.

25 In the past two weeks, our Outreach Team has



1 connected all of those 182 groups who hosted  
2 presentations and many, many other local and statewide  
3 organizations, including contacts which the Commissioners  
4 provided to staff. We -- just last week we had more than  
5 500 contacts in just the two days that led up to last  
6 Saturday's and Monday's meetings. So really a -- a lot  
7 of contact happening.

8       And you can see that in our actual public input  
9 submission data. So in total, we have received 477  
10 public input. This is through the online form or in the  
11 meetings. And just through last Wednesday, 141 of those  
12 were just from the past week. So you can see that things  
13 are ramping up, and we're getting more -- more responses  
14 and more input.

15       As far as our last three public input meetings, on  
16 the 19th, it was a statewide meeting. We had thirty-one  
17 people provide public input. On Monday, the 21st, the  
18 meeting was focused on El Dorado, Nevada, Placer,  
19 Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba Counties. And  
20 we had thirty-one members of the public providing input.  
21 And then just yesterday on the 24th, we were focused on  
22 southern California counties of Riverside and San  
23 Bernardino. We had a busy meeting with thirty-nine  
24 members of the public speaking.

25       So executing these meetings, as Commissioner



1 Akutagawa mentioned earlier, it's -- it is a lot of work,  
2 and it's specifically a collaboration between staff, line  
3 drawers, our videographers and all of you and the -- as  
4 the meeting moderators. And these different teams have  
5 just been working together so well that we do feel the  
6 meetings have been smooth and successful. And we're --  
7 we're happy with that.

8 Besides that, one of the other things that's  
9 happening that might be invisible to all of you is that,  
10 besides the line drawing team that is capturing the input  
11 during the meetings, our outreach field leads have also  
12 been taking notes. And they'll be meeting with the line  
13 drawers to review notes and fine-tune information that  
14 will get added to the database when that's ready.

15 So that -- that is happening. I -- going forward  
16 after today, the outreach team will keep providing the  
17 Commissioners with these weekly COI submission number  
18 updates. And if you would like to add the total or the  
19 weekly numbers to public input meeting scripts, we could  
20 do that in the opening remarks.

21 Then just to -- to close out, what we're hearing  
22 from many of the organizations that we've connected with  
23 over this past week is that they are gearing up for the  
24 zone-specific COI meetings. And they, especially from  
25 the larger organizations, that they are conducting their



1 own educational efforts, their own COI Tool training  
2 efforts, and that they anticipate many more public input  
3 submissions as we approach mid-July.

4 That's it. If there are any questions, I will do my  
5 best.

6 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. Thank you, Ms. Marx.

7 Okay, any questions? Any comments from the  
8 Commissioners?

9 Commissioner Andersen?

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: First of all, I'm glad that  
11 that Director -- that, let's see -- Kaplan is getting a  
12 vacation. She deserves it.

13 And thank you very much. This is really -- all the  
14 input has been wonderful. All your work is really  
15 appreciated. It's -- and it shows. Thank you.

16 I have one question about if you could, when  
17 you're -- are meeting with the groups, and they're doing  
18 this wonderful outreach education, could you make sure  
19 that as they're collecting, they're doing the Communities  
20 of Interest, that they also ask their -- you know,  
21 their -- the members of their cons -- groups to make sure  
22 that they submit those con -- those COIs to us?

23 Because I know a lot -- I -- I've heard of a couple  
24 of different people have been gathering it for their own  
25 maps, but we need the basics as well. We need, like, the



1 individual components. Please, submit them to us. If  
2 you'd just please additionally bring that up. We  
3 appreciate all the work and thank you very much.

4 MS. MARX: Thank you.

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you,  
6 Commissioner Andersen.

7 Any other comments?

8 Commissioner Sadhwani? Okay.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just really quickly, do we  
10 have a sense of how many folks are registered for  
11 tomorrow's L.A. meeting?

12 MS. MARX: All right. Let me see if I can grab  
13 that. Let me see if that's been forward it. Hold on a  
14 second.

15 And if anybody else on -- has that, feel free to  
16 chime in.

17 Yes. We have twenty-three people that are  
18 registered for tomorrow at this time.

19 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Out of how many slots?

20 MS. MARX: Well, that takes more math on my part, so  
21 I'm --

22 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. That's okay.

23 MS. MARX: Sorry about that.

24 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. No problem. Just  
25 wanted to ask.

1 MS. MARX: I -- I do think we're going into it with  
2 more slots filled than the last meeting. We've had a lot  
3 of people calling in that has brought those numbers up,  
4 so we are going into it with more slots.

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Very good.  
6 Commissioner Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Actually, there were twenty-  
8 eight signed up for yesterday.

9 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Hm.

10 MS. MARX: Okay.

11 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

12 And is the registration closed now? I believe that  
13 it must be closed, I think.

14 MS. MARX: Yes, it was closed yesterday at -- by 5.

15 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

16 All right. Let's see. Okay. Commissioner Le Mons?

17 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Since we are meeting today,  
18 is it possible, and there may be people tuning in, is it  
19 still -- is there a barrier to people being able to fill  
20 slots that are still available, even though registration  
21 officially closed yesterday?

22 MS. MARX: It's part of the -- the organization that  
23 happens with the videographer team and the line drawers  
24 making sure that they have the time to look at which  
25 areas people are planning to bring up and all of that.



1 So that's part of why things are being closed in advance  
2 of the meetings.

3 And then the call-ins are taken, and people are able  
4 to join in in that way as much as possible. But it's  
5 just that they've got a flow process of all of the  
6 different parts of the teams being able to get the  
7 information and do what they need with it in advance.

8 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Okay.

9 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you for  
10 that.

11 Commissioner Sadhwani?

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Is it possible for us as  
13 Commissioners to get that registration information also?  
14 I don't necessarily need people's names or anything, but  
15 it's just really difficult for me. I'm taking my own  
16 notes also, but just having it in front of me would be  
17 really helpful. I know Alvaro sent out, like, the  
18 numbers in advance, which was great. But certainly  
19 having that data available -- actually just hearing  
20 people's input isn't super helpful for me. I kind of  
21 need to have it -- something in writing.

22 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Are you -- Commissioner  
23 Sadhwani, just for clarification, when you ask for a  
24 list, are you -- if you don't need the names, are you  
25 looking for just whether it's numbers or like, some

1 kind -- I mean, what would help?

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, at minimum numbers, if  
3 we can get -- if people have give -- provided their  
4 names, I would use that too. And for example, I'm taking  
5 notes myself, since we don't have access to any notes  
6 yet.

7 And what I've learned is that I'm spelling  
8 everyone's names wrong, or you kind of miss it when they  
9 say their name. So you know, just having access to that  
10 would be really helpful. Yeah.

11 And then I do think also, it would be helpful to  
12 clarify the speaker numbers. I think that there was, for  
13 example, last time, there was a duplicate, and then we  
14 continued the counting. And so I'm -- in my own notes,  
15 I'm not sure how that's going to pan out with the other,  
16 you know, other notes that are being taken or when the  
17 data management team is on board or the line drawers. I,  
18 you know, I -- I don't know how we're going to capture  
19 all of those kinds of things.

20 MS. MARX: Okay. We can definitely take that back  
21 and look into that. And -- and I just -- the list that I  
22 received has the unique I.D. numbers and email addresses.  
23 So we'll have to see what -- what is possible to share  
24 and what formats that information comes back.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you.

1 MS. MARX: And then I saw Commissioner Fernandez  
2 just shared that there were sixty-four slots available  
3 and twenty-three were filled. And we have increased the  
4 number of slots since the very first couple of meetings  
5 because we shortened the period of time in which we were  
6 expecting the transition to happen and are still  
7 reflecting on how much time people have actually been  
8 taking.

9 The average time has not actually been the full  
10 three minutes. Some people are much shorter and some  
11 people (audio interference).

12 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you for that.

13 I did see Commissioner Ahmad have her hand up.

14 Okay. Pass. All right.

15 Okay. Ms. Marx, I do have a couple questions for  
16 you. One is, you know, the information that you're  
17 sharing during these sessions are very helpful. I think  
18 perhaps along the lines of what Commissioner Sadhwani is  
19 saying, it would be helpful if, even if it were, like, a  
20 single PowerPoint slide that just outlined what you'll be  
21 covering, it would be easier to follow along.

22 I think, visually, it just is better for me as a  
23 Commissioner to be able to process it and follow along  
24 with what you're saying. And I'm seeing some nodding  
25 heads, so I think there's some others that also agree.

1           It doesn't have to be fancy. You could just even  
2 have the titles of what you're going to talk about and  
3 give us the numbers. But it just helps us to, I think,  
4 focus a little bit more easily. If that's something that  
5 you could do, I think that would be helpful.

6           MS. MARX: I'll share that was Director Kaplan, and  
7 I would imagine, as we're getting more fully staffed,  
8 something like that would be more possible.

9           VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Thank you.  
10           Commissioner Le Mons?

11           COMMISSIONER LE MONS: While the official  
12 registration for tomorrow's meeting is closed, based on  
13 the data that Commissioner Fernandez just shared, does  
14 this trigger any specific outreach efforts, whether it be  
15 social media or other types of ways of getting the word  
16 out? So while individuals aren't able to reserve slots,  
17 they are able to -- it seems like we need a push, at  
18 thirty-six percent of filled slots in a county because  
19 L.A. -- yeah, I don't think I need to say more on that.

20           MS. MARX: So it -- it -- there are ongoing efforts.  
21 There is an email blast that's going out that highlights  
22 the availability. Over the last week or week and a half,  
23 some of that messaging has changed to make it even more  
24 clear that people can continue to call in, even if they  
25 did not register. So I think that our language has

1 gotten better with that. And again, having some of these  
2 early meetings be on the smaller and is -- is consistent  
3 one hundred percent with what we saw in 2010 where the  
4 meetings just got bigger and bigger as efforts were  
5 ramping up.

6 So it's not unexpected, and I don't -- I don't think  
7 it's an indication of -- of people not paying attention.  
8 I think it's just, like, we've been hearing back. We  
9 put -- push out some of these things and remind them a  
10 day before, and the social media blasts are happening,  
11 and we're actually hearing back. So thank you so much  
12 for this. You'll -- you're going to hear us in a few  
13 more weeks. So we are getting some of that feedback.

14 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And Commissioner Le Mons,  
15 just for clarification, I believe my understanding is the  
16 Outreach and Engagement Committee is going to speak a  
17 little bit more on this.

18 So Commissioners Sinay, I -- I just want to get a  
19 verification from you.

20 Am I putting words into your mouth? My  
21 understanding is that you're going to give us a further  
22 update on outreach efforts?

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: There will be the rolling out  
24 of the plan for Phase II and III, but a lot of the  
25 questions being asked are not necessarily dealt in that.

1 And we do need to have a con -- this is an important  
2 conversation that needs to happen. And I think the best  
3 place for it is under the Public Input Design Committee  
4 Agenda item, which is chaired by Commissioner Fornaciari  
5 and Commissioner Ahmad.

6 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great. I just wanted  
7 to make sure that we are not going off topic. And so  
8 before we did that, I wanted to check with you. Okay.

9 Commissioner Le Mons?

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So I just was wondering,  
11 like, I don't know if we have a tick. I've not looked at  
12 the live feed itself, so I don't know what it looks like,  
13 but I know we -- there have been some talk about, like a  
14 ticker tape that runs along.

15 Do we have something like that currently? If so  
16 well, first of all, do we? No? Yeah?

17 MS. MARX: We -- when I -- I looked yesterday at  
18 some of the livestream, while we had one of the videos  
19 playing, and it did continue to show the call-in number  
20 at the bottom of that screen, if that's what you're  
21 talking about. So that if somebody was seeing the video,  
22 it would say, please call in, and get in the queue. And  
23 that's what I saw during yesterday's meeting.

24 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So what I was going to say,  
25 and only because I know -- I know we're going to talk

1 about this more in depth later in the meeting today. But  
2 I also realize we have an audience right now -- or at  
3 least I think we have an audience -- because we're having  
4 our meeting.

5 And maybe if we had a streamer going along the  
6 bottom of our meeting today that's saying COI input  
7 meeting tomorrow, whatever the time is, L.A. County, is  
8 just sort of reinforcing the message consistently, at  
9 least while we're live. And maybe that's something that  
10 could be folded into some of the future opportunities.

11 But I'm just -- since tomorrow is only X number of  
12 hours away, I was just wondering if there any ways that  
13 we could leverage whatever platform opportunities we have  
14 either vis-a-vis this meeting, maybe we can announce it  
15 when we come back from breaks and things like that, just  
16 to sort of be promoting it more. So anyway, I'll stop,  
17 and I won't beat that horse any further.

18 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner  
19 Le Mons.

20 Any other comments, questions?

21 All right. Thank you.

22 Seeing none, we'll go ahead.

23 Thank you, Ms. Marx.

24 We'll go ahead, and we'll move on to Chief Counsel's  
25 reports with Chief Counsel Pane.



1 MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair.

2 Good morning, Commissioners. For a brief legal  
3 hiring status update, the Legal Affairs Division is  
4 hoping to add two retired annuitant attorneys to the  
5 legal division ranks. And we'll be deferring more to the  
6 Admin and Finance Subcommittee for this later, but I  
7 wanted to give a brief summary. One of the potential  
8 hires is a thirty-seven-year attorney; has a long history  
9 as an attorney with the State of California. He's worked  
10 at various departments and boards and Commissions,  
11 addressed various department of general -- legal --  
12 Department of General Services legal contracts. He has a  
13 tax background, and he will be addressing -- hopefully,  
14 upon hire, be addressing contracts and other legal issues  
15 that arise.

16 The second potential hire is a previous fourteen-  
17 year Superior Court judge in California, previous  
18 administrative law judge, and Deputy Attorney General;  
19 and he will be addressing conflicts of interest and other  
20 legal issues that may arise. Again, we'll -- we can  
21 defer more to as an action item for the subcommittee  
22 regarding those hires.

23 Separately, I just wanted to note for Commissioners,  
24 I will follow up with all of you about the Business  
25 Roundtable communication that was posted for today's





1 handout so I can get your response to that.

2 And also, I want to thank Marian. She's continuing  
3 to do the Legislative updates for all of you, and we'll  
4 continue to send them on Mondays, as well as any time  
5 there's a new development.

6 And with that, if any of you have any questions?

7 Commissioner Vazquez?

8 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. Thank you. I'm trying  
9 to pull up the bill numbers right now. I am interested  
10 in continuing to track the Legislative efforts on  
11 Commissions and Boards and digital access for not just  
12 the public, but also members of those commissioners and  
13 boards. And so there were two bills. I can send those  
14 to you afterwards, but AB-339 is one of them.

15 Current -- my understanding is that the current  
16 bills in play focused mostly on community digital access,  
17 which I think is great. But I have not heard anything  
18 related to shifting access -- digital access for members  
19 of those boards. So my understanding is that once the  
20 public health orders have been lifted, that members of  
21 those Commissions and boards will have to revert back to,  
22 you know, existing rules around digital access, which  
23 would require us to be publicizing our -- publicizing and  
24 make accessible our locations.

25 And that's obviously, an issue for at least one of



1 us, but maybe potentially more. So just wanted to  
2 track -- have us actively track those Legislative issues,  
3 because it impacts our Commission's ability to do its  
4 work.

5 MR. PANE: Noted. Thank you. It looks like Marian  
6 wants to chime in on that as well.

7 MS. JOHNSTON: On AB-339, the coverage for state  
8 agencies was eliminated from the bill, so it only applies  
9 to local agencies.

10 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

11 MS. JOHNSTON: On the other -- there are rumors that  
12 there may be Legislation dealing with that situation.  
13 But I've got a -- I don't know what you call it, an  
14 update that comes to me regularly, and so far there are  
15 no bills that have been introduced on that, but we're  
16 hopeful.

17 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Got it. Yeah, the other one  
18 that I was tracking is AB-361 (Rivas).

19 MS. JOHNSTON: I'm sorry. AB?

20 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: 361.

21 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: 361. And that one's only  
22 Brown Act. And I believe that's also mostly related to  
23 community access.

24 MS. JOHNSTON: Right.

25 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And again, not --



1 MS. JOHNSTON: It's only local governments, not  
2 State governments.

3 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Right. And again, that's  
4 still community access and not board -- members of those  
5 governing boards or Commissions.

6 MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.

7 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Got it.

8 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you. Yep,.  
9 another one? Okay.

10 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sorry. Additional legal  
11 question. I mean, what would -- is there a legal avenue  
12 for the Commission to pursue a Legislative fix? An  
13 amendment to Bagley-Keene.

14 MS. JOHNSTON: I don't know whether --

15 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I mean, granted -- setting  
16 aside capacity, given everything else that we're doing  
17 legally --

18 MS. JOHNSTON: I think that --

19 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: -- is that something that we  
20 could do?

21 MS. JOHNSTON: It would be possible, but if there's  
22 a bill that applies to all state agencies, it probably  
23 would have greater chance of success.

24 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Understood. But I'm, like, I  
25 guess, in terms of, like, taking a position and maybe

1 sort of more actively trying to build a coalition too, so  
2 that we again, also wouldn't have to lead that effort,  
3 but we could sort of try to identify other boards and  
4 Commissions who would be interested in maybe leading that  
5 effort, and then we could sort of take a step back. B

6 But I'm just curious, again, legally, if that would  
7 be possible because I think I would be interested, again,  
8 in in helping to think through what that might look like.

9 MS. JOHNSTON: As soon as I hear about any bill  
10 that's been introduced, we can certainly present to the  
11 Commission so that the Commission can take a position on  
12 it.

13 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani, I see  
14 that you had your hand up, too.

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, I was just like, I  
16 hear you, Commissioner Vazquez, and certainly also  
17 understand, like, the very real impact of this for you,  
18 in particular, as well as for many of us as well.

19 My sense is, like, as Marian said, if other -- if  
20 there is a bill introduced, we should absolutely support  
21 it. And after our maps are done, I think that might be a  
22 really valuable thing for us to dedicate some time to.

23 But in the meantime, you know, the governor's office  
24 has been very responsive in the letter that we sent, in  
25 the request to maintain the executive orders. My sense

1 is perhaps we could just ask for more additional relief  
2 for our Commission, because our process is ongoing,  
3 because we have this time line right now, and then maybe  
4 think about being a part of a larger coalition, as you  
5 mentioned, in the future.

6 We're on this Commission for ten years, so -- but  
7 our -- the bulk of our work, of course, around the maps  
8 is, of co -- is frontloaded now. So my sense is after  
9 that, we could certainly do more of that kind of  
10 advocacy.

11 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commish -- okay. I see  
12 Commissioner Andersen.

13 And we'll come back to you, Commissioner Vazquez.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I see this as -- it's  
15 a new idea, in that it's public access from -- and a  
16 disability issue also, not just from the public's  
17 perception, but from the board's, the actual board  
18 members' area. And it is about access for, you know, all  
19 Californians.

20 So I -- you know, I think this is an issue that  
21 certainly you're absolutely -- Commissioner Sadhwani's  
22 absolutely right. It's an ongoing thing right now. And  
23 it's -- the total access for so many more people is kind  
24 of being reviewed right now, because we're doing all this  
25 by Zoom, and how it's been quite successful at local

1 level certainly, but also at State levels.

2       So it is something where I think, you know, our  
3 letter for -- we're ongoing, we can't wait for, you know,  
4 let's change it later. I think, you know, the idea of  
5 possibly even exception for us, as we're continuing  
6 through this very short window here is something that,  
7 you know, we could, if we need to add, like, a  
8 supplemental to our letter, I think that would be a very  
9 good idea.

10       But again, legally, what -- how would that work?

11       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez?

12       COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And --

13       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I see Marian.

14       MS. JOHNSTON: I just wanted to clarify that under  
15 current law, and it will continue, the Commission can  
16 continue to provide public access via Zoom to all members  
17 of the public.

18       That is permitted under Bagley-Keene. It's just  
19 that right now, under existing law, apart from the  
20 executive order, Commissioners have to be in a public  
21 location.

22       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

23       Commissioner Vazquez?

24       COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes. And I think Marian  
25 somewhat made my point, is that I just don't want us to



1 be caught flat-footed when come September, and the  
2 governor lifts those orders, yes, theoretically, we'll  
3 have -- we'll continue to be able to have, you know,  
4 digital access for community members. But again, my  
5 particular situation is more complicated.

6 But I also, I think to Commissioner Sadhwani's  
7 point, like, I do think there's a longer term, like,  
8 access to being able to serve in government as a disabled  
9 person, as a disabled, homebound person.

10 But just wanted to make sure that, like, the  
11 Commission is not -- I would like to see the Commission  
12 take a more active role in advance of the lifting of the  
13 public health orders, so that when -- so you know,  
14 honestly, come like September 30th or whenever the  
15 tentative deadline is, that I am suddenly forced to make  
16 a choice, because we weren't proactive in seeking relief  
17 or an exception or alleged fix or what have you. So  
18 just -- I really want us to think about what we can do,  
19 so that we're not caught flat-footed.

20 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay?

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted -- I support what  
22 Commissioner Vazquez is saying. And I was just listening  
23 to a podcast regarding kind of disabilities and people of  
24 color.

25 And the truth of the matter is that one out of three

1 people who got COVID ended up -- has -- is now eligible  
2 to be on the long-term disability list. They don't know  
3 it yet. And there's a lot of outreach. But that's going  
4 to be millions of people that are now going to be joining  
5 disability. And the other piece to think through is that  
6 when you look at COVID and how it's affected our  
7 communities, it has been low-income and communities of  
8 colors that got COVID more so.

9       And so this is really an issue about pipeline,  
10 because we always talk about how do we diversify  
11 commissions? How do we diversify those who run for  
12 office? And so this is a much broader issue than just,  
13 we don't want to lose Commissioner Vazquez on this  
14 commission, because she's been affected. This is the big  
15 picture of civic participation and civic engagement in  
16 the United States.

17       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you,  
18 Commissioner Sinay.

19       I think we're -- I'm hearing generally, in agreement  
20 that what you're saying, Commissioner Vazquez, is  
21 something that I think would be something that we'd be  
22 supportive of. I will also add in that I do remain  
23 concerned that, based on news that there could be a  
24 resurgence in some of the COVID cases, as much as, you  
25 know, there's concern for those who have gotten it, I



1 will say that it's better to avoid getting it.

2 And unfortunately, COVID is real, and we're  
3 operating in a different kind of environment than we were  
4 previously. And so I think --

5 If I can, Chief Counsel Pane, I don't know if this  
6 is something that you would be able to help us in, in  
7 terms of whether it's drafting a letter, or if it's  
8 something that we need to perhaps add into the purview of  
9 the Legal Affairs Commission -- Committee or the  
10 Government Affairs Committee to perhaps work with  
11 Chief Counsel Pane to come up with a position from the  
12 Commission on this issue.

13 MR. PANE: I'd be happy to work with the Government  
14 Affairs.

15 Is that -- Commissioner Sadhwani, is that how the  
16 previous correspondence went as well?

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, that's correct.

18 MR. PANE: I am happy to do that.

19 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.

20 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: And I just want to say that  
21 Commissioner Fernandez just also reminded me that  
22 Government Affairs did send an initial letter to the  
23 governor, but I think -- I think to Commissioner  
24 Vazquez's point, we want to make sure that we're not  
25 caught flat-footed. And I think she does bring up some

1 really important points. And so we want to ensure not  
2 only accessibility to our Commissioners, but to anybody  
3 else who may want to continue to participate, whether  
4 it's now or in the future as well too.

5 So thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani. And I think  
6 that is also together with Commissioner Toledo and Chief  
7 Counsel Pane.

8 All right. Chief Counsel Pane, anything else that  
9 we need to know as -- since we were on you before we go  
10 to public comment?

11 MR. PANE: No thanks, Chair. That concludes my  
12 report.

13 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

14 Director Hernandez, did you have something that you  
15 wanted to say? I thought maybe you -- I saw your hand go  
16 up. No? Okay. Very good. Thank you.

17 Katy, we are going to go to public comment on agenda  
18 item number 3, the Director Reports.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

20 The Commission will now take public comment on  
21 agenda item number 3, Director Reports. To give comment,  
22 please call (877) 853-5247, and enter the meeting ID  
23 number, 92476505888.

24 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
25 enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions



1 are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided  
2 in full on the livestream landing page.

3 And I would like to remind those that have called in  
4 previously to press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating  
5 you wish to give comment at this time on agenda item  
6 number 3.

7 And at this time, Chair, we do not have any raised  
8 hands or -- in the queue.

9 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. We'll just wait a  
10 couple minutes for the instructions to finish and give  
11 people a chance to call or hit the star 9 or star 6. I  
12 always get confused.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Star 9. Please press  
14 star 9 to raise your hand --

15 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- at this time.

17 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We don't want to jump  
19 ahead. Thank you. PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And I'd  
20 like to remind those calling in to please press star 9 to  
21 raise your hand, indicating you wish to give comment on  
22 agenda item 3, Director's Reports.

23 And we do have a raised hand at this time. It is  
24 Caller 6946. And again, this is for agenda item number  
25 3, Director's Reports.



1 Now -- perfect. And the floor is yours.

2 JENNA: Hi. Yeah, my name is Jenna, and I was just  
3 wondering if for the data management -- or the database  
4 for the Commission, will those be made publicly available  
5 somehow? That's all I was wondering, if -- I believe it  
6 was under the Communications Director's Report, when they  
7 were saying that the -- compiling notes of the database,  
8 and I just want to know if those will be publicly  
9 available for us to see. Thanks.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And thank you so much.

11 And I'd like to remind those calling in to please  
12 press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to  
13 comment on agenda item number 3, Director's Reports.

14 And we do have one more caller at this time. It's  
15 Caller 2829.

16 And the floor is yours.

17 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I  
18 just have a question regarding the Outreach Director's  
19 Report.

20 How many things have been already implemented to --  
21 for the Regional hearings? Are you implementing all the  
22 communication advertisement that was put in or outlined  
23 in the Outreach Strategies for Phase II and Phase III  
24 report that's in one of the handouts for today?

25 I just wanted to know, are you utilizing all those



1 venues of advertisement for the Regional meetings?

2 That's my question. Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

4 And that is all our public comment at this time.

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very  
6 much.

7 All right. Seeing no one else, all right.

8 I just want to very briefly just address the two  
9 public comments around the reports that will be put into  
10 the database. That is being worked on. We will -- we're  
11 looking at trying to put some interim steps in. We're  
12 just looking at a lot of data to just try to organize,  
13 index so that it's easily found. But it will be -- the  
14 intent is to have it put up, both into an access -- a  
15 publicly-accessible database. And then, as an interim  
16 step, we're hoping to be able to also have it available  
17 on a page on the website as well too.

18 In terms of what was just asked about the  
19 implementation of the Phase II and III report.

20 Ms. Marx, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe  
21 that this is just the proposal, and so not all of the  
22 items will have been implemented just yet.

23 MS. MARX: That's exactly right. So that has not  
24 been put into the -- some parts are happening, and others  
25 are not.

1 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Great. Thank you  
2 very (audio interference).

3 MS. MARX: You're mute.

4 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sorry about that. I put  
5 myself on mute.

6 All right. Let's keep moving on. We have about  
7 twenty minutes before we hit our very first break. And  
8 with that, we will be going to subcommittee updates. And  
9 we'll start with agenda item 4A.

10 And that is Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo.

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry, I didn't have the  
12 agenda up, so I didn't realize it was us.

13 Is Commissioner Toledo here today? No. I thought I  
14 saw him. Nothing -- no -- not too much to report, though  
15 I -- I did want to just bring to your attention. Alvaro  
16 and I had done a follow-up conversation with the -- a  
17 member of the San Diego Commission.

18 I had reported about that, the -- our outreach with  
19 them in the past. Previously, they were trying to get  
20 the Legislature to support a bill that would allow, just  
21 for their county, a carve-out to certify their maps later  
22 in January, I believe January 31st.

23 As a follow up, they -- they reached out to us to  
24 let us know that they have now changed that process, and  
25 they are looking for relief for a January 15th map



1 adaption date. So we had a good conversation about that.  
2 Of course, even if a carve-out is made for San Diego,  
3 that doesn't impact our time line necessarily, though  
4 some -- certainly something that we want to keep on our  
5 radar, as we continue to look at -- at our own time line  
6 as well.

7 I believe that's all that we had. But certainly  
8 we're happy to work with Chief Counsel Pane on the -- the  
9 letter regarding additional relief, and hopefully, a  
10 carve-out just for the CRC, at least for the rest of the  
11 year or beyond.

12 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great.

13 Any questions?

14 Okay, Commissioner Sinay?

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So I'm just going to ask the  
16 million-dollar question. When are we going to have the  
17 discussion of our time line, and when we're going to turn  
18 in our maps? Because I would say that's the number 1  
19 question asked when we went out in the public.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So we have agendized an initial  
21 conversation with Strumwasser-Woocher, and we can mention  
22 this also under -- under the Legal Affairs update. Where  
23 we left this conversation was that this is most certainly  
24 a legal matter, because ultimately, our mop -- map  
25 adoption date was altered by the California Supreme

1 Court. And if we want to see a change in that, or if we  
2 want additional clarification in our understanding of  
3 what triggers that time frame set by the Court, that we  
4 would -- that we would need a legal avenue in which to do  
5 that.

6 So Strumwasser-Woocher is -- we'll talk about this  
7 in Legal Affairs. But that -- that contract has been  
8 executed. They are coming on board June 30th to the  
9 Legal Affairs Committee. We have agendized at -- at  
10 least an initial discussion with them about this matter,  
11 at least at a minimum, to bring them up to speed and  
12 hopefully, to begin to get some understanding of a  
13 strategy that they might recommend.

14 They will also, on June 30th, be joining the full  
15 Commission to do a general introduction and just to talk  
16 briefly about potential litigation, right, and what we  
17 need to be aware of as it relates to litigation. So you  
18 know, we could certainly stress to them the importance of  
19 this issue at that time.

20 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you,  
21 Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 And any other questions before we move onto the next  
23 item under agenda item 4?

24 Okay. I have gotten a request for agenda item 4B.  
25 We are going to move that to after the break. So Finance



1 and Administration Report will be moved to after the  
2 break.

3 So we'll go to agenda item 4C, see the GANTT Chart  
4 Comm -- Subcommittee.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to report  
6 it this time.

7 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very  
8 much -- thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

9 Okay. Let's go to agenda item 4D, VRA Compliance  
10 Subcommittee. And that is Commissioner Sadhwani and --  
11 looks like Commissioner Yee is back.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Welcome back,  
13 Commissioner Yee.

14 Do you do want to take the lead on this one?

15 CHAIR YEE: Sure.

16 So just to say, as Commissioner Sadhwani just  
17 mentioned, we are looking forward to now finally being  
18 able to engage with our VRA Council as it comes on board,  
19 and we'll be starting our discussions on the 30th about  
20 how to proceed with the VRA work and start answering the  
21 questions that have been on our mind all this time. So  
22 that will start happening soon.

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And I'll just add on to  
24 that, that we have asked the team to prepare a short  
25 document, hopefully, which would lay out their proposed

1 VRA strategy that they would advise us to take over the  
2 next several months. And in addition, we have agendized  
3 for July 7th, a VRA training for the Commission.

4 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Looking forward  
5 to that. Did you say July 7th?

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's correct.

7 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Great. All right. So  
8 July 7th, a VRA training. So we will note that. Thank  
9 you very much. All right.

10 Any questions on the VRA compliance?

11 All right. We will go ahead and move on to agenda  
12 item 4E, Outreach and Engagement.

13 Commissioner Sinay and Fornaciari?

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Hi. How are y'all doing  
15 today? So let's see, as was mentioned earlier, I  
16 believe, we're -- Commissioners Sinay and I are putting  
17 together a report that summarizing Phase I, the  
18 educational phase. It's really, you know, the idea is to  
19 look at the work that we did and you know, Commissioner  
20 education, zone outreach, and statewide outreach, you  
21 know, kind of capturing what we did, what the Lessons  
22 Learned are, and ensuring a smooth transition from, you  
23 know, kind of a Commissioner-driven outreach to  
24 staff-driven outreach.

25 So we've been working closely with the staff. I

1 think it's a good -- it's a good opportunity to reflect  
2 back on all the work that we all did and you know,  
3 capture that for the next Commission and also Lessons  
4 Learned, as I mentioned. So we should have that for you  
5 all at our next meeting to take a look at.

6 And then the -- the second thing that was brought up  
7 is this strategy approach for the Phase III -- Phase II  
8 of, you know, outreach and discussion about that  
9 document. And then -- so Phase II is public input and  
10 Phase III is line drawing.

11 And so you know, just to kind of reflect on the  
12 goals that we set forth, you know, it's -- it's an  
13 activation rate of -- our goal was to get 40,000 pieces  
14 of input through the process. And to ensure that we  
15 engage Californians, you know, throughout California,  
16 regard -- you know, geography. There's a whole list here  
17 of different areas of consideration. But to ensure that  
18 we engage in a number of different approaches and ways  
19 and then to ensure that it's, you know, accessible to all  
20 Californians, whether they have internet access or not.

21 And Commissioner Sinay, did I capture that? Okay.  
22 So at this point, we're going to turn it over to Director  
23 Hernandez and to talk about the Phase II/Phase III  
24 proposal.

25 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think that --

1           DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Ann was going to go  
2 ahead and do this part. I apologize. We changed it.

3           So Ann, if you're ready to go, it's all yours.

4           MS. MARX: Sure I am.

5           And Director Hernandez -- I am -- or sorry. Ceja --  
6 Director Ceja, also, if you have anything to add in, feel  
7 free, either one of you.

8           But -- this the plan was put together with the  
9 background that we're not -- we were not able to do the  
10 grants or the statewide contracts that had been  
11 anticipated. And so staff was asked to put together a  
12 new plan. And that's kind of what we did together with  
13 the subcommittee. And we -- we designed this to assure  
14 that there would be multiple exposures to people around  
15 the state, because that's what -- that's what's really  
16 needed to get somebody to engage.

17           So that includes not just what the Commission will  
18 be pushing out, but also through the engagement that  
19 we've done with all of the -- and are doing with all of  
20 the community-based organizations that they -- they'll be  
21 making different exposures also. And so you have an  
22 overlapping of all of these exposures, and hopefully,  
23 people will -- you know, they might see at once on  
24 Facebook, they might see it once in an email they get  
25 from an organization they're part of, and then maybe they

1 hear it once on the radio ads, and that's the kind of  
2 overlaying that we're looking for.

3       As Commissioner Fornaciari said, we are continuing  
4 to target different sectors, and that is a key element,  
5 making sure that -- and different audiences that we're  
6 trying to do that. So the action toolkit that's  
7 mentioned is intended to be something very short, where  
8 there'll be different digital links and kind of a digital  
9 action toolkit that somebody can come on to say, you  
10 know, ways to provide public input and see things  
11 together in one place very easily, and we'll be working  
12 on that.

13       And then the COI Tool training, we've heard  
14 different -- we've heard different feedback about how  
15 that's important and pieces of that are already  
16 happening. But we'll be able to put something together  
17 with some of the short videos that Statewide Database is  
18 putting together to help people to understand the COI  
19 tool and then figuring out what other materials we can  
20 put together in one place and have some kind of a, maybe  
21 a smooth video and/or PowerPoint, some kind of a  
22 presentation, like what happened with the Redistricting  
23 Basics, that people would be able to access or utilize in  
24 their own presentation. So we'll be working on that.

25       And then, I know that the mention was made also



1 about making sure people have internet access and have  
2 access. And so that is something that just that that  
3 ability to get to the COI Tool. We've had some very  
4 positive engagement from the libraries already, so I'd  
5 anticipate they will continue to be a good partner on  
6 that.

7         With the interactive tech speaking campaign, that is  
8 something that we're excited about and hope will -- that  
9 that will be able to be implemented. It will allow  
10 for -- it's two-way interactions. So while people would  
11 be receiving the texting, they also would be able to  
12 respond if they wanted to. And hopefully, looking at  
13 both a Southern and Northern California vendor.

14         In general with -- we're looking for expanded media  
15 outreach. And that would be focused on the August  
16 through December time frame, just because it will take  
17 some time to get that into place. So I'm hoping to have  
18 really strong presence by early August and looking at  
19 different kinds of -- different options there, including  
20 the public service announcements, the short digital  
21 videos that Directors Ceja mentioned earlier, and  
22 directly contracting with ethnic media, so that we can be  
23 working in language with as -- with some of the fourteen  
24 languages that we've been focused on, at least some of  
25 them, and be able to reach monolingual populations in



1 that way.

2 Radio, newspaper, and just, you know, trying to  
3 reach people where they're at. And I'm finding that  
4 there will -- in the newspaper ad, that would tend to be  
5 more of the local media, where some of those smaller  
6 newspapers still do gather large readership from their  
7 communities. The social media ads is something that is  
8 already being looked into. All of these things have been  
9 researched and are being looked into. So we're ready to  
10 move forward once we hear back, if you'd like us to go in  
11 this direction.

12 And with billboard ads, that's something that  
13 there's some excitement around as well. Expecting this  
14 to be a big summer travel season. Some people aren't  
15 flying yet, but they're driving, and there's a lot more  
16 travel, and last summer was so different for everyone.

17 On the budget end of things, this is an estimated  
18 budget. So there -- it will depend on what we're able to  
19 actually implement and put together, but it is an  
20 estimated budget. And these smaller procurement amounts  
21 that are really regionally-focused, will allow us to move  
22 faster on the procurement end of things. So that's part  
23 of what that is designed to do. And that's the  
24 high-level overview of that.

25 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sinay?



1           COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to add, on the  
2 budgets, what really -- we know that this has come to all  
3 of us, and with short notice, to be able to review it and  
4 act upon it. But the idea is that we will be approving  
5 all contracts. That's part of what we do as  
6 Commissioners.

7           And so what staff does need from us is an approval,  
8 if I'm correct, a motion and approval that these budget  
9 es -- that they can move forward on contracting with  
10 these budget estimates. And please correct me if I'm  
11 wrong on that.

12          MS. MARX: That sounds right to me.

13          Director Hernandez, anything else there?

14          DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Sounds good to me.

15          VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I -- okay.

16          Commissioner Kennedy?

17          COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

18          I'm just wondering why billboard and radio are  
19 broken out by outreach zone, but then newspaper ads, for  
20 example, aren't and maybe even why social media  
21 advertising isn't broken out by zone.

22          MS. MARX: Okay. So you were just looking at the --  
23 the billboard radio zone and newspaper, not. I -- there  
24 is a piece of needing to keep certain things on the  
25 smaller end, but also focusing on where we think we'll



1 have the best spread and the best ability to actually  
2 implement. So I think that the way that some of the  
3 media advertisers, they do have access into different  
4 areas. So there might have been, through the research,  
5 and maybe if there is anything else --

6 Director Ceja, feel free to chime in.

7 But there would be some contracting that would go up  
8 in this -- the larger amounts. And then with the  
9 newspaper ads, as you get into some of those smaller  
10 local newspapers, the ads actually get much less  
11 expensive. So part of that is a reflection also of the  
12 costs of the different types of things. But choices that  
13 are being made about where we think we might have the  
14 best responses.

15 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah, and if I can add, so the idea  
16 is to have local contractors deal with radio  
17 advertisements and billboards, because they know the  
18 zones and the areas better. And so everything that we're  
19 doing, as far as utilizing our funds to do outreach and  
20 media, are really tied back to the constraints that we  
21 have as a Commission with regards to contracting.

22 So we've looked at different ways that we can  
23 contract to get things done as quickly as possible with  
24 as least red tape as possible. And the best solution  
25 that we found was small business contracts.



1           So we're looking at a list that California has of  
2 small businesses that are approved to do business with  
3 the state. And from there, we'll be pulling bids, asking  
4 folks to submit bids for each one of these items. The  
5 reason why we did billboards and radio specifically for  
6 zones is that, as you know, California is super diverse,  
7 so all the markets are going to look different for each  
8 zone.

9           And so having one contractor alone is not feasible  
10 financially, because our grants are limited at 250,000  
11 per contractor. So that's why we split it up into one,  
12 two, three, four, five, six different contractors for  
13 those areas. For social media, we can have one  
14 contractor pretty much do a statewide campaign. That  
15 still localizes and concentrates on local markets with  
16 advertisements. And newspaper ads, we have -- we came  
17 across a few contractors that have relationships with  
18 community papers.

19           So instead of contracting with individual newspaper  
20 companies, what they do is they have a master contract,  
21 and they can do ads in about 200 local papers so that we  
22 just go through one entity, as opposed to 200 individual  
23 smaller contracts.

24           VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy, follow  
25 up?



1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, if I can follow.

2 The -- I guess the point of my question was, you  
3 know, we're ensuring by breaking the -- by setting out  
4 the billboard and radio spending by these zones or groups  
5 of zones, we're ensuring, you know, some geographic  
6 spread to that.

7 Newspaper ads, you know, it's just a single lump sum  
8 with no breakout for these zones or groups of zones. So  
9 you know, how are we going to ensure that those funds are  
10 going where they're most needed?

11 MS. MARX: I think the key part was in the very last  
12 part of what Director Ceja said, that it's -- that the  
13 research found a vendor that was able to contract with  
14 200 local newspapers around the state. So I'm not sure  
15 of that vendor's name, but I know with -- as a different  
16 example, different place with bus shelters, there's one  
17 vendor who can put those out into all the cities around  
18 the state. So that's a reflection of a geographical  
19 spread but one vendor being able to provide it.

20 So I think that your desire is being met with that  
21 option. And then social media, it is everywhere, so  
22 there is that -- there wasn't any need to break it out  
23 that way.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Well, and the mention  
25 of bus shelters is a good one, because you know, I've

1 been looking at, you know, what can public transit do for  
2 us in our outreach? So yes, by all means, let's look at  
3 bus shelters as well as advertising inside of buses and  
4 trains.

5 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah.

6 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

7 DIRECTOR CEJA: So we're actually doing some  
8 research on bus shelters and bus advertising. Most  
9 advertising for billboards actually comes in the form of  
10 bus shelters and bus advertising, everything north of  
11 Sacramento pretty much. So you'll see most of that.

12 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you.

13 I also saw Commissioner Toledo.

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Two quick questions, one  
15 around time line for the procurement process and how long  
16 the spickets will take to have contractors on the ground  
17 and beginning to do this work and then secondly, around  
18 ethnic and language minority resources and where you see  
19 that happening given that, I mean, it's a niche of a  
20 contractor that does this type of work, and so I don't  
21 see a carve out here for that. Is it -- so I'm just  
22 wondering your thought process on that.

23 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So I understood about the  
24 time line, I wasn't sure of the last part of your  
25 question.

1           COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: The last part was around  
2 ethnic and language minority, ethnic media and language  
3 minority media contractors and just curious what your  
4 thought process is to ensuring that we're reaching ethnic  
5 minority and language minority populations across the  
6 state and how the contracting fits into that.

7           MS. MARX: Okay, so as far as time line, what we  
8 anticipate again, is that August through December time  
9 frame, so we think that we can be having some of the  
10 procurement pieces of this in place so that ads would be  
11 running or posted by early August and that's if we're  
12 able to move on at this point. And then with the ethnic  
13 media, there is -- some of that may end up being earned  
14 media and other parts of that would be in some of those  
15 newspaper ads and I think that I'm seeing -- because  
16 you're just saying, where is that on a budget breakdown?

17           Yes, go ahead Commissioner Fred -- not Commissioner.

18           VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, so Director Ceja, yeah.

19           DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. So I think that's going to be  
20 included in the scope of work when get bids from  
21 contractors for the different zones as making sure and  
22 ensuring that they have an ethic media breakdown and  
23 solicitations that radio ads and spots going to a diverse  
24 group of radio stations and it's not just English-  
25 speaking radio stations.

1           VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So Director Ceja, and  
2 Commissioner Toledo, I'm glad that you asked that  
3 question. I do have the same question. I am a little  
4 concerned that if you're looking at, you know, a single  
5 contractor, what their ability is to be able to actually  
6 reach many of the diverse communities and they may not  
7 all be familiar with -- or they may not be familiar with  
8 all of the various, you know, nuance communities and so I  
9 was concerned that I didn't see how there was going to be  
10 a way to reach the various ethnic media that was noted in  
11 the plan.

12           And you know, when you look at the money at the end  
13 of the day, it's not going to spread that widely if  
14 you're going to try to include both mainstream and ethnic  
15 media. So that's why I am kind of concerned about, you  
16 know, just how this is all going to actually happen and  
17 whether or not these -- maybe, these dollar amounts,  
18 whether it's for a newspaper ads and even radio is really  
19 going to, you know, reach who we need to reach.

20           MS. MARX: Okay. So that's the only part that I  
21 would clarify is, it's not just one vendor that was  
22 specifically for the newspaper that that might be, but  
23 we'd actually be looking at different vendors for each of  
24 these different buys and part of what will happen, is  
25 within a particular area that we're contracting, for

1 example, central California, they may choose to focus  
2 completely on non-English languages because again, they  
3 know that community and know that region and what would  
4 be most effective there. So those will happen within  
5 that regional decision making.

6 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay, thank you. So I know  
7 that Director Hernandez does what to say something,  
8 however, were are -- my apologies, we are past the time  
9 of our break.

10 And so let's take our fifteen-minute break, we will  
11 be returning at 11:21 and then at that time, Commissioner  
12 Yee will be taking back over as Chair of this meeting and  
13 starting with Director Hernandez as the first comment.

14 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

15 CHAIR YEE: Thank you and welcome back. And special  
16 thanks to Commissioner and Vice Chair Akutagawa for  
17 covering this morning while I was doing an educational  
18 presentation.

19 I am Commissioner Russell Yee and we will continue  
20 this morning's business meeting with item 4E, Outreach  
21 and Engagement.

22 I believe Director Hernandez was next up to comment.

23 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, thank you and welcome back  
24 Commissioner Yee, Chair Yee, I should say. What I wanted  
25 to mention was that there is no one size fits all for any

1 of these buys that we're talking about whether it's  
2 radio, whether its billboards. So even though we're  
3 looking at a specific zone or area, northern California 1  
4 or 2, we may be looking at multiple vendors to accomplish  
5 what we are hoping to do and reach to the greater numbers  
6 and the specific target audiences. So even though we've  
7 put that amount there, that doesn't reflect that it's  
8 only going to be one contract. We may have multiple  
9 contracts with various different vendors that offer  
10 different services. We will be looking at all of them to  
11 see which ones offer a greater service for the least  
12 amount of money, obviously. But there may be some areas  
13 where we have to focus on the ethnic media market, so  
14 we'll look at an ethnic media small business who can  
15 provide that cast, that Broadnet that we cast for that  
16 particular area.

17 Now, Northern California versus Southern California  
18 could be very different, so we are going to be looking by  
19 the area to make sure that we're covering the greatest  
20 number of the targeted goals that the Commission has set  
21 forth and looking at what vendors can provide us that  
22 biggest net to cast for the different targets.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo?

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Just as a follow up to that,  
25 in that I hear you Director Hernandez.





1 I'm just curious. I thought I heard also that we're  
2 going to be looking a certain subset of vendors that  
3 already have relationship with the State of California  
4 and I wonder if that's going to be a limiting factor to  
5 achieving contractors that have expertise with reaching  
6 disk-free hard to reach population or whether that's --  
7 or whether those contractors are in place with the State  
8 that did already have relations with them.

9 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner (sic) Hernandez?

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, so that -- that is a  
11 concern. The list is very broad. I would say probably  
12 in the thousands. So we're going to be looking to see  
13 what is available for the different zones. If something  
14 is not available we may be reaching out to different  
15 vendors and seeing what, you know, what we might be able  
16 to do. So it's, again, although we're talking about a  
17 small business contract, we may be looking at other types  
18 of contracts or how to organize that piece of it to try  
19 to get those services for the Commission.

20 So again, it's not a one size fits all. We may have  
21 different types of contracts that we look into that,  
22 obviously we don't know what we don't know at this point,  
23 but we're going to be casting that Broadnet to try to get  
24 the most vendors in those specific areas to give us the  
25 most outreach and the targeted outreach that we're



1 looking at.

2       So it may change, but again, it's not the one size  
3 fits all. We may have multiple contracts and multiple  
4 types of contracts as well in those specific areas to  
5 reach the people that we want to get to.

6       CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez

7       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you Chair.

8       Yes, I just wanted to comment. I think it was early  
9 on, I think it was Commissioner Sinay or maybe it was  
10 Ann, I can't remember, noted that we were going to be  
11 approving every contract. I really, I will caution us --  
12 I have caution in terms of approving every contract  
13 because I already feel we're behind in outreach and if we  
14 approve the budget and we say yes, my recommendation  
15 would be that they move forward, have the flexibility to  
16 contract with whoever they need to contract with, they  
17 noted the small business and different criteria, but I  
18 just feel that it's -- it will just delay out outreach  
19 efforts and as we can tell from the prior three or four  
20 outreach meetings that we've had, I mean having thirty  
21 percent of our appointments filled or even calling in is  
22 really low, so I -- I would urge us not to approve every  
23 single contract.

24       CHAIR YEE: Chief Counsel Pane, maybe you can give  
25 some thought to that and comment on the need for that,

1 but in the meanwhile, we'll go to Commissioner Sinay.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Hi, I was just going to ask the  
3 same thing because I think legally we do need to  
4 approve -- approve contracts, but I don't know.

5 MR. PANE: Sure, I'll be happy to help with this.

6 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

7 MR. PANE: So the statute says that a commission  
8 shall make contracting decisions regard on staff, legal  
9 counsel and consultants with the special threshold. So I  
10 think the question is, what is a contracting decision.  
11 If the contracting decision is, perhaps, the individual  
12 contracts could come before the Commission. I think  
13 another possibility could be that the Commission allows  
14 staff to pursue particular contracts, but with the  
15 proviso that the Commission approves those contracts. So  
16 I think there's a way to work it.

17 I think Commissioner, I think Commissioner Fernandez  
18 is saying hey, let's make sure that we move this along  
19 efficiently. I think there's a way notwithstanding the  
20 statutory requirements for the Commission to still  
21 approve contracting decisions okay? The statute says  
22 contracting decisions. It doesn't say contracts. And so  
23 I think there are some options available to the  
24 Commission when we're deciding what a contracting  
25 decision is.

1 Does contracting decision include contracts? Sure.  
2 Might it include other options as well? Yes. So I do  
3 think we have some flexibility. I'd be happy to work  
4 with the Commission or particular Commission members on  
5 how we work that out, but we -- I think we do have some  
6 options here.

7 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Can we leave that perhaps to  
8 Outreach and Engagement then to pursue that further with  
9 Chief Counsel?

10 Any other discussion of item 4E, Outreach and  
11 Engagement?

12 Go ahead Commissioner Sinay.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I believe we do need a motion  
14 to move forward so we're getting direct guidance to  
15 staff. Can I please get a confirmation on that from  
16 staff, including Mr. Pane?

17 MR. PANE: Yes, Commissioner. Are you referring to  
18 direction of staff in regards to what specific activity?

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay, so the motion that I  
20 wrote down, just --and just to let staff -- what I said  
21 was just to approve staff to move forward to identify  
22 contractors that ensure we reach our three outreach  
23 goals. Do we need that or not?

24 MR. PANE: Commissioner, I would say that if  
25 that's -- if the Commission believes that that's

1 something that isn't already empowered to staff and we're  
2 in some way focusing or narrowing that, that's entirely  
3 appropriate as a motion.

4 CHAIR YEE: Does this outreach strategy phase 2,  
5 phase 3, plan follow any new ground? Does it go beyond  
6 what's already been authorized?

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: To me, is new grounds, just  
8 because the budget has -- you know, it's the full budget  
9 and everything we want to do. But I just wanted, you  
10 know, I want to make sure that we're just following  
11 whatever needs to be for staff to feel comfortable -- I  
12 mean, for Commissioners to feel comfortable and staff to  
13 move forward because this is urgent.

14 CHAIR YEE: I'm wondering then if the motion might  
15 simply be to approve the draft outreach plan, phases 2  
16 and 3?

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: My only concern with that, is  
18 that we did approve a plan in the past and this is a  
19 living document and people kept going back and saying we  
20 approved this plan and it was supposed to be a living  
21 document and people didn't understand and that's why I  
22 short -- you know, kind of narrowed it to the budget  
23 which is the part that's most related to the  
24 Commissioners' purview.

25 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's see, Commissioner

1 Fornaciari

2           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, to follow up on  
3 Commissioner Fernandez's comment or question or desire or  
4 whatever it is, for us, I mean, I'm wondering if we can  
5 make a motion in such a way that where the Commission  
6 gives approval to the staff to enter into these contracts  
7 ASAP, which is kind of the direction, I'm hoping we can  
8 go here so that we can really get the ball rolling on  
9 this, but I kind of feel like we may need to take a few-  
10 minute sidebar with Chief Counsel and talk about this  
11 to -- to kind of get this right, maybe? I don't know.

12           MR. PANE: Commissioner, I think that that would  
13 probably be advisable. Yeah.

14           CHAIR YEE: Can we do that in open session? So the  
15 question being, can the Commission pre-approve entering  
16 into contracts that have not been brought up yet?

17           MR. PANE: So Chair, what I might recommend is that  
18 we perhaps return to this agenda item and perhaps at a  
19 later time we would -- the Committee would be able to  
20 bring forth any motions. That is an option.

21           CHAIR YEE: Okay. Would the Subcommittee be open to  
22 that, tabling this for the moment and then picking it up  
23 back up later today?

24           Okay, very good. Let's go ahead and do that then  
25 and move on to item 4F, Language Access.

1 Commissioners Fernandez and Akutagawa.

2 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We do not , I believe at  
3 this time, have anything to bring forward.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I think at this  
5 point, we've pretty much -- it's Sunsetting Subcommittee  
6 and it's been forwarded to Outreach and if anything comes  
7 up, Director Kaplan does meet with Commissioner Akutagawa  
8 and myself, but so far, we haven't had the need to meet.

9 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Our language access, I know  
11 that staff has explained why we're not doing social media  
12 and diverse languages, but I have seen other  
13 redistricting commissions and the census and others  
14 really being overt about wanting to engage people at who  
15 are English -- English proficient -- yeah, and so I would  
16 like -- you know, we were just told that that's not a  
17 best practice by state entities, but it is a best  
18 practice among nonprofit and others. So I just wanted to  
19 see how others felt because it's feeling a little  
20 uncomfortable for me that we have -- we're reserving  
21 spots and we're doing all sorts of things to be language  
22 accessible, but nothing we have recreated so far has been  
23 in Spanish or other languages including our signup sheet  
24 and -- and et cetera, even our emails. So I'm strong --  
25 I'm really concerned about this. Oh, sorry I think our

1 flyer was translated, but I'm not sure.

2 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, and Sadhwani.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Sadhwani was  
4 first.

5 CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry, okay. Commissioner Sadhwani  
6 then Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Commissioner  
8 Kennedy. At our last meeting they had asked if we could  
9 just simply get quotes or better understand what it might  
10 look like to hire language interpreter consultants for us  
11 so that we could either have all of our meetings  
12 interpreted into a Spanish potential livestream or  
13 something like that and/or have ongoing Spanish language  
14 interpretation at all of our input meetings. Just  
15 curious about the status of that request.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So we are still looking into  
17 it. I'm sorry, raise my hand, but I blend into the  
18 background so --

19 CHAIR YEE: Yes, please.

20 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. So we are still  
21 looking into it and just in doing the basics, I think is  
22 where -- does that mean just the COI input or does that  
23 mean our business meetings and is it just the public  
24 comment during the business meeting. So there is a lot  
25 of different elements that we're looking into and trying



1 to break it down for you to provide you a better  
2 understanding of what the cost will be. So hoping to  
3 have something for you at our next meeting. We're still  
4 working on the details.

5 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you Chair. I will join  
7 Commissioner Sinay in expressing my deep concern that we  
8 are not doing enough to provide for effective means of  
9 participation in other languages. I -- I just think  
10 we've fallen far short of where I envisioned this  
11 commission being on that topic.

12 CHAIR YEE: And back to Commissioner Sadhwani.

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just as a follow up to  
14 Alvaro, I'm wondering if any service providers have at  
15 least been identified who can provide such services. You  
16 know, for myself, I'm not certain. I do know that there  
17 are interpreter services out there, much like we have ASL  
18 available for all of our meetings. Just wondering, you  
19 know, if we have a sense of that landscape at all or if  
20 maybe any of the folks on the Outreach team or  
21 Communications have any sense of even the possibility  
22 of -- of what that might look like.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa?

24 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Just to respond to what  
25 Commissioner Sadhwani is asking.

1           Commissioner Fernandez and I did look into those --  
2 those costs and they're quite high. We -- and so that --  
3 that's the balance we're trying to do. What we proposed  
4 to offer the interpretation for the public comments was  
5 the best way that we could balance it, but if we were to  
6 undertake full interpretation of the entire meeting for  
7 all the meetings, I mean it -- it became pretty cost-  
8 prohibitive and I think we did speak about that  
9 previously, too.

10           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

11           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, no, I appreciate that  
12 and I'm wondering, like when we say "hi" is it hi  
13 relative. So for example, to the contract that we have  
14 for ASL interpretation and you know, I think when we  
15 discuss this previously, we were still had in our mindset  
16 that we were going to be doing the grants or contracts.  
17 We're not doing that. So we do have additional funds  
18 available and I think before we make decisions or  
19 certainly before we have a motion to utilize all of those  
20 funds for media buys and other things, I -- I -- I would  
21 like to have the opportunity to consider at least using a  
22 portion of those funds towards this. So I understand  
23 that the cost probably would be quite highly, but at the  
24 same time, we have a very large Latino population here in  
25 California as I raised previously. We're spending a

1 whole lot of money to consider VRA strategy for example,  
2 which in a state like California, predominantly -- not  
3 only, but predominantly is -- is taking into  
4 consideration the representation all needs of the Latino  
5 community who has been historically excluded. So if  
6 we're willing to spend that kind of money on legal fees  
7 and quantitative analysis, my census ensuring that we  
8 have the opportunity to receive that qualitative analysis  
9 that we have said is -- is paramount to this process.  
10 It's at least worth -- worth taking a considerable look  
11 at given that these funds are now available.

12 CHAIR YEE: I might note that in 1849, the original  
13 California constitution was a bilingual document and that  
14 was at time when the Spanish speaking population of  
15 California was actually lower by a percentage than it is  
16 today so -- it's certainly precedent.

17 Any further discussion in Language Access?

18 Commissioner Akutagawa?

19 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I'll just say that -- that  
20 what we'll do is -- we'll -- Commissioner Fernandez and I  
21 what we could do is, we could do further analysis and  
22 then to your Commissioner Sadhwani, we can come back  
23 with, you know, the comparative costs and then given what  
24 you did bring up about the availability of - what was  
25 supposed to be used for Outreach contracts, we could look

1 to see if it would be better deployed to provide Spanish  
2 interpretation, minimally, for all of the meetings. So I  
3 think that's what I'm hearing.

4 CHAIR YEE: Okay. So we look forward to hearing  
5 that from the Language access on this matter. Anything  
6 else?

7 Commissioner Sadhwani.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: May I just add, I mean, I  
9 know that I've raised this topic numerous times and I --  
10 I think I've -- I kind of feel like I'm the only one  
11 feeling this. So it would be helpful just to know if  
12 other commissioners --I don't want to have people doing  
13 busy work. So if there's zero interest in moving this  
14 forward as a -- as a directive of the Commission, you  
15 know, that would be helpful to know, because, you know, I  
16 recognize, we're not getting a lot of Spanish speaking  
17 callers into our meetings and it's hard for me to assess.  
18 Is it because it's so hard to -- to get any information  
19 about our meetings in Spanish. I don't know the answer  
20 to that and if so it would be helpful to know if other  
21 Commissioners have a similar concern or not. I don't  
22 want to send staff and -- the Language Access  
23 Subcommittee on a wild goose chase before not going to,  
24 you know, consider it as a -- as a possible path forward.

25 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay and then Kennedy.

1           COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, there's two parts to this  
2 challenge that we're having right now. So if we're  
3 really looking at our goals right now is to get at least  
4 40,000 communities of interest input. And of that, it's  
5 supposed to be reflective of the State of California.  
6 What does that mean? And how are we going to do that?  
7 Part of that is access in the diversity of languages and  
8 we've said from the very beginning that parts really  
9 important to us. But I have felt that we've been passive  
10 on that to a certain extent. We've translated somethings  
11 and have put them on our website but aren't the face of  
12 Commission has not been multilingual. Not even -- you  
13 know, at one point, we said, can we have at least even  
14 "hello" or redistricting in all sorts of different  
15 languages.

16           I know when I do the redistricting basics, I have  
17 put on the last side, thank you in four or five  
18 languages. I am trying, when I say hello in the morning,  
19 you know, we're invited to say it in Spanish and that has  
20 been, obviously intentional, but it's because I'm not  
21 seeing us putting a diverse multilingual face on -- on  
22 the Commission and -- and when I brought it up about  
23 social media, the first things I was told was, well, only  
24 the government of Mexico, put things in Spanish, you know  
25 it's you do it in English.

1           We put a lot of content so that when they're  
2 getting -- yeah, if they're getting things in English  
3 that they're getting in Spanish, it will be translated  
4 and that's fine, but it's still not the face of the  
5 Commission where we actually, like we did one, when we  
6 did do the Spanish redistricting basics. That one was  
7 done in Spanish.

8           And as much as we may say it's getting translated,  
9 it really does make a difference for individuals,  
10 especially because the best -- and I'm focusing on social  
11 media because social media is used by a lot of these  
12 diverse communities and it is the quickest and easiest  
13 way as us Commissioners to get it out to other Facebook  
14 groups and WhatsApp and whatnot. It is a quick and easy  
15 way to share information.

16           I was playing around with our website to figure out  
17 how do you get it in Spanish and you know, you kind of  
18 need to know all those things so even just have  
19 instructions on the website. If you want this in  
20 Spanish, hit Google translate and it will translate the  
21 whole thing. But I feel like we've so much work and the  
22 Language Access Subcommittee has done so much research,  
23 so much work, but it's still not out there as front and  
24 center and so I don't want all that work to be done for  
25 not.

1           So I hear what you're saying Commissioner Sadhwani,  
2 and I kind of feel like there's a cart and a horse and  
3 maybe you do need to do both at the same time, but if we  
4 don't let people know that we're open to hearing them in  
5 Spanish, we may have the translators for not. And so we  
6 need to make sure that we are doing that Outreach in  
7 Spanish and Chinese, and Tagalog, and -- and -- and.

8           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy?

9           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you Chair.

10          Yeah, just again to reassure Commissioner Sadhwani,  
11 you are not the only one. I've been raising this issue  
12 since we were the first eight, before we even had the --  
13 the -- the sacroiliac chosen ones join us. And I will  
14 continue to raise it, you know, having a front end that  
15 is a barrier or not effective -- not an effective gateway  
16 to actual participation. That's what I mean when I'm  
17 referring to effective participation.

18          Yes, we have the backing processes as far as, you  
19 know, we'll hire an interpreter. But if we only say  
20 we'll hire an interpreter in English, we don't say it in  
21 Spanish, or Vietnamese, or Tagalog, or these others, I  
22 don't see that it does us that much good. So we really  
23 need to take a serious look at this issue if making our  
24 process effectively accessible to everyone. Not just  
25 nominally accessible, but effectively accessible.

1 Thank you, Chair.

2 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and I will agree with  
4 my fellow Commissioner on language access. We have  
5 looked at this, and it was cost prohibitive at the time.  
6 There may be other options we can look at in terms of  
7 interpreting or public input meetings into Spanish. And  
8 it was, correct me if I'm wrong, Commissioner Akutagawa,  
9 but it was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, and  
10 that's why we didn't come back. So I think we might come  
11 up with a different option.

12 In terms of social media, I would request that  
13 Director Ceja look into that piece of it, because that  
14 really is not anywhere near my comfort level or zone. So  
15 if you could get that information to us.

16 So we'll just dust off the information that we've  
17 had. We'll revisit it, and hopefully we can have  
18 something maybe by the next meeting. I'm not sure if  
19 that's next week already. But we'll definitely come  
20 forward with different options.

21 And another option that we had thought of as well  
22 was actually hiring interpreter, a Spanish interpreter,  
23 which then they would be on our staff versus having to  
24 contract for that for every single meeting.

25 So we'll look into that information. And





1 Communications Director Ceja, if you can look into the  
2 social media side of it, that would be great. Thank you.

3 CHAIR YEE: Okay, so I'm hearing support for further  
4 investigation into these possibilities of making our  
5 language access more effective.

6 Commissioner Le Mons.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: First, I'd like to say I  
8 support that effort as well.

9 To Commissioner Kennedy's point, effective  
10 participation, I think it raises a bigger question as it  
11 relates to all of the languages. And so I don't know if  
12 we'll feel comfortable just patting ourself on the back  
13 if we address Spanish. I mean, Spanish seems like the  
14 low-hanging fruit, because that's really what I kind of  
15 hear.

16 Because if we're going do this kind of analysis,  
17 particularly when we're going into certain zones,  
18 different zones have different prevalence of different  
19 languages. And with that same opportunity, are we going  
20 to put that same kind of energy into those languages in  
21 those zones. I would recommend that we do, if that's  
22 where we're going.

23 So I think that we are facing sort of this balance  
24 of time, resource, and intention. And I do want to also  
25 acknowledge the Language Access Committee for all the

1 work that they did as well leading up to this point.

2       So I think like with all of these initiatives, we  
3 can go back and say, there was a lot of big dreams that  
4 this Commission had from the first day. And being a part  
5 of the formerly known as the Grants Committee. That was  
6 one of the biggest ones dashed, and so -- I guess I'm  
7 just saying that yes, we have what we want to achieve.  
8 And I think as we make these adjustments and changes,  
9 that we be very mindful of really trying to maximize its  
10 participation that Commissioner Kennedy is talking about.  
11 If this is going to be the jump off for that, then I just  
12 invite us to look.

13       I know Spanish is the predominant, you know, head  
14 and shoulders, so I'm not confused by that. But I just  
15 wanted to make sure that, you know, we don't start  
16 patting ourselves on the back just because we're looking  
17 at Spanish.

18       CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Kennedy, Akutagawa, and  
19 Fernandez.

20       COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair, and thank  
21 you, Commissioner Le Mons.

22       Now, I mean, I continue to be guided by the language  
23 in the Voting Rights Act and in the Federal Regulations  
24 on Implementing the Voting Rights Act regarding language  
25 access. I continue to believe that the work that we do

1 is part of the electoral process. Candidates, you know,  
2 rely on our work in order to get on the ballot. I think  
3 that is part of the electoral process. The electoral  
4 process is not just voting. It's voting, it's  
5 registering, but it also being a candidate, and what we  
6 do is directly related to that.

7       The Voting Rights Act and the determinations that  
8 are based on census data require California to provide  
9 election-related information in Spanish statewide. It  
10 also establishes other languages in those local areas  
11 where there is population that meets a certain threshold.

12       And as I say, I continue to view this through the  
13 lens of wanting us to be, you know, if we don't want to  
14 say compliant, I would at least like us to be guided by  
15 that language. Thank you, Chair.

16       CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa, then Fernandez.

17       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, Commissioner  
18 Fernandez was before me, so. So I'll yield to you first.

19       CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

20       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

21       And I just wanted to reflect back to what  
22 Commissioner Le Mons says. I am so with you, and as  
23 Commissioner Akutagawa would attest to that -- I really,  
24 being a Spanish speaker, it's -- my first language is  
25 Spanish, I really had a problem trying to move forward

1 with Spanish only in terms of providing interpretation  
2 and translation.

3       Because I do want to be as inclusive as possible. I  
4 don't want to show any bias. I just, you know, being  
5 brought up, it was -- I want to make sure that  
6 everyone -- so of course, we're going to go back and  
7 we're going to get the information, not just for Spanish,  
8 but we'll also get the information for the other  
9 languages that we have agreed to. And specifically,  
10 those that we've identified in our upcoming communities  
11 of interest input meetings that we have certain  
12 languages. So definitely look at what those costs could  
13 be.

14       But I'm glad that you brought it up. It's actually  
15 an uncomfortable position for me to be in to say Spanish  
16 only, because I want to make sure that if we're going to  
17 offer in Spanish, it's offered in other languages as  
18 well. So thank you very much for bringing that up.

19       CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

20       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think I want to, perhaps,  
21 just maybe put something out here.

22       You know, I just want to say that we have looked at  
23 other tools. You know, there are AI tools, artificial  
24 intelligence tools, that help to provide, you know,  
25 multilingual translations. I think there was concerns

1 about their accuracy perhaps, or their just kind of  
2 usefulness.

3       However, you know, this conversation, you know, just  
4 brings up for me whether or not we are, you know, maybe  
5 dismissing some of those tools a little too soon in the  
6 quest of perfect versus something is better than nothing.

7       And I don't want to say that, you know, it's not  
8 going to be great but you know, is there a point where,  
9 even if we were to use like an AI type tool, would that  
10 be good enough? Like, is the quality of the  
11 interpretation good enough to convey an understanding to  
12 those who may want to hear in their preferred language,  
13 you know, to understand the proceedings and what is going  
14 on.

15       So I just wanted to put that out there. I think  
16 that's something that Commissioner Fernandez and the  
17 Language Access Committee, along with the Outreach team  
18 can revisit. And I guess we'll also have to look at the  
19 cost of that versus the cost of, you know, the  
20 interpreters through our contractors that we have. So I  
21 just wanted to put that out there as well, too.

22       CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen and  
23 then Kennedy.

24       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, all, for bringing  
25 this up because it is, and Commissioner Kennedy has

1 indeed been mentioning this since essentially day one.  
2 But I have an idea, and you know, we're still in our  
3 early getting our communities of input meetings  
4 advertised, and we're still on our really spreading the  
5 word.

6 We have two meetings tomorrow, Saturday, in L.A.  
7 that we call Zone H, and those are, you know, the special  
8 languages for that meeting that we have special sections  
9 allowed for Spanish and Khmer. And then Monday we have  
10 the Bay Area, sources for the Bay Area. And the  
11 languages are Chinese, Mandarin, and Tagalog. Both those  
12 meetings have very few appointments right now, because  
13 the word isn't quite out yet.

14 Could we possibly really spread the word in these  
15 particular languages with our -- and we're starting to  
16 reach our ethnic newspapers and media, and push, really  
17 push on, you know, those particular COI meetings that  
18 have been so designated for specific languages, really  
19 push in those specific languages about the meetings.

20 And you know, we're still kind of in the early  
21 point, but I think the next one is actually the first  
22 week, July 8th. So it's more time to get this going. I  
23 would recommend that we maybe move, you know, the Spanish  
24 and Khmer. If we add that to another H, you know, Zone,  
25 L.A. meeting, and also the Chinese, Mandarin, and Tagalog,

1 add that to another Zone C, or Bay Area meeting, so we  
2 give those languages time, you know, those special  
3 languages time to really be outreached to. Because I  
4 know, you know, right now we only have a few, like 36  
5 percent sign-ups for Zone H, and clearly that doesn't  
6 represent the people.

7 And Zone C, you know, I live here, I really haven't  
8 heard much about it yet just other than what I know. So  
9 I -- if we could possibly do that, I would recommend  
10 that.

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, then Le Mons.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

14 And Commissioner Akutagawa, you know, yes, I would  
15 love us to be able to use these online tools that are  
16 available. My concern, and you know, I can be persuaded  
17 on this, my concern is, you know, if we're concerned at  
18 all about misinformation or disinformation.

19 I've been at this long enough in enough places  
20 around the world to understand that Google Translate and  
21 any other similar tool, you know, they're better in some  
22 languages than they are in others. And even when they're  
23 generally good, occasionally, depending on the quality  
24 and the simplicity of the base language, what is  
25 otherwise usually a very reliable tool, can completely

1 mangle something. And then we have the problem with  
2 disinformation or misinformation to deal with. So that's  
3 just my concern.

4 And as I say, I can be persuaded. I know that the  
5 quality of the output is better in some languages than in  
6 others. I know that the quality of the output depends  
7 heavily on the quality and simplicity of the input. We  
8 just need to keep all of these things in mind.

9 Thank you, Chair.

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons, and then Sinay.

11 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wanted to lift up  
12 Commissioner Andersen's idea. I actually think it's an  
13 excellent idea. Because we already, as a commission,  
14 agreed to provide translation services in the languages  
15 that we've agreed to.

16 And so I think to Commissioner Sinay's point, and  
17 Commissioner Sadhwani, and the cart before the horse kind  
18 of concept, if the availability of that opportunity is  
19 only communicated in English, then that could be a  
20 barrier to individuals even knowing they can take  
21 advantage of it.

22 So I think where this will dove-tail really nicely  
23 into the media -- the proposed plan, which is heavy  
24 media, radio, ethnic paper, et cetera, this could be the  
25 opportunity for our communications department to really



1 leverage those media opportunities which we did not have,  
2 which is probably our broadest reach with reaching those  
3 groups, and then making sure that we're very clear on the  
4 process in how you engage the translation services.

5       And then that way we're driving demand and then  
6 we're responding to demand, which I think will be a great  
7 use of our resources as opposed to investing resources in  
8 an infrastructure that may or may not show itself, as  
9 Commissioner Sadhwani raised earlier, as a potential  
10 dilemma.

11       So I just wanted to give an uplift to that proposal  
12 that Commissioner -- or the idea that Commissioner  
13 Andersen put forth. Because I do agree, we haven't  
14 really promoted, right? And those groups, I think all  
15 the groups who showed up when the eight was making the  
16 determination, there were many, many groups that came  
17 forward.

18       Activate, you know, your communities as well. Like,  
19 when we're talking about the availability of these  
20 appointments, you know, let them know, I know that you're  
21 training up and all that good stuff, but you don't need  
22 any training to call us and tell us what's important to  
23 you. So I mean, how can I be against the training, I'm  
24 not against anybody doing the training.

25       But just really encourage people to get involved.



1 And I think that if we do more of this promotion of  
2 what's available, and then support it on the backend,  
3 that might be a quick way for us to be able to move on  
4 this and be -- give as much parity as possible.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Sinay, and then  
7 Kennedy, and then I'm going to ask if Language Access has  
8 enough info to move forward with this.

9 Commissioner Sinay?

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Le Mons, I  
11 completely agree with you that -- I think sometimes, and  
12 I've said this before and people disagree with me, but I  
13 think sometimes we make submitting your Communities of  
14 Interest much more difficult than it needs to be. And  
15 I've really appreciated those who have called in and have  
16 just shown how, and tell us what is important to you and  
17 what's important to your neighbors, and whatnot. It  
18 doesn't need to be that complicated.

19 And even talking to my friends who have sat through  
20 our trainings and such. They are like, well, I'm still  
21 trying to figure it out. And I'm like, okay, let me ask  
22 a few key questions, so I -- oh yeah, I can answer this.  
23 So I agree, Commissioner Le Mons, that sometimes we make  
24 things -- civic engagement -- that's a barrier to civic  
25 engagement, is making it complex.

1 I also did want to say that, just for the record,  
2 that I did mention other languages. Like I started with  
3 Spanish, but I did bring up the other languages and have  
4 been -- yeah, as I said, I looked ways to say thank you  
5 even in Chinese characters. Hopefully, I get it right.  
6 That's always one of my paranoias when I use AI to  
7 translate.

8 So I have been impressed by, like, Zoom Interpreter  
9 just in English. I don't know what that's called. If  
10 you're speaking up and it brings it up in English --

11 CHAIR YEE: (Indiscernible).

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, thank you. I'm sorry.  
13 Commissioner Ahmad and I dug up and have played with it  
14 in Google Meets as well, and it's pretty accurate. Where  
15 it gets mixed up is, if it's not set up to speak that  
16 language, and it's trying to translate in English when  
17 you're speaking in Spanish. And that's a mess.

18 But I do think that -- oh, the main thing I want to  
19 say is yes, we need to drive demand, and we need to think  
20 about interpreters. And the Commissioner has already  
21 asked the Outreach Committee to look at the plan that was  
22 put forward, and we were going to meet with legal  
23 counsel. And we'll look to see when looking at the  
24 budget, if this is a piece that needs to be looked into  
25 with staff when we bring the plan back with the motions

1 and the wording.

2 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

3 Commissioner Kennedy?

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

5 I believe that we need to be a little bit clearer  
6 with the public as to what it means, when we say, when we  
7 have that column over to the right with Spanish, and  
8 Khmer, and Mandarin, Tagalog, et cetera. I mean, we've  
9 been saying that anyone, even if they need interpretation  
10 from Spanish to English at this meeting tomorrow, they  
11 still have to come in five days in advance and request  
12 it. And at the same time they could request any other  
13 language, or at least any of the other 12 or 14 languages  
14 that we have committed to support, with that same five  
15 days' notice, and have that interpretation available to  
16 them.

17 So you know, having those languages in the column  
18 over on the right, I'm not seeing a whole lot of value in  
19 that if, A) even if it is for one of those languages,  
20 they still have to submit their request five days in  
21 advance; and B) anyone could request any of the other  
22 languages five days in advance and get that support.

23 Thank you, Chair.

24 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you everyone for your  
25 input. So Language Access Subcommittee, Commissioners

1 Akutagawa and Fernandez, do you have what you need to  
2 move forward on this? Anything else you need?

3 Commissioner Toledo.

4 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I mean, I really do support  
5 Commissioner Henderson's proposal to promote the forms  
6 that we have both on Saturday and Monday that are focused  
7 on the minority populations. And I'm just wondering if  
8 our field staff and our communication staff might need  
9 additional guidance from the group, if that is something  
10 we so want to do. At this point, it's an idea, and I'm  
11 wondering if they want to make -- if we are in support of  
12 directing our staff to focus on increasing engagement in  
13 those, and potentially other meetings.

14 Now, I don't know if they do or if we don't. This  
15 is just an idea for us as Commissioners to go out and  
16 mobilize our networks and communication. But I just want  
17 to be -- I want to make sure that we're giving our staff  
18 the direction that they need, if that's what we're -- if  
19 that's our intent. So just maybe a little bit. I'm not  
20 clear about the intent.

21 CHAIR YEE: Sure. Director Ceja, maybe you can  
22 speak to that?

23 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. So I think both the outreach  
24 and communications teams have been working with the  
25 resources that we have. A large portion of -- thank you,

1 for moving or starting the conversation about expanding  
2 the communications lines so that we can reach additional  
3 members. Right now we're stuck in our bubble.

4       The folks that we're able to communicate to, I know  
5 that the outreach team definitely has been going back to  
6 those organizations that we've worked with, whether we  
7 presented to them, whether we've had any sort of  
8 interaction with them, and going back and saying, hey,  
9 can you share the information for upcoming meetings with  
10 your audience and your membership?

11       And we've been doing blast after blast, seeing our  
12 numbers decreased as people open their messages, and  
13 certainly on social media. But again, we're only talking  
14 to the finite group that we're have in our databases. So  
15 as soon as we're able to reach out outside of outside of  
16 our bubble, once we get approved by Facebook, and I think  
17 we're at the precipice of that, we'll be able to expand  
18 our reach.

19       But certainly, I will speak on behalf of both the  
20 outreach and communication teams, as we have been doing  
21 everything in our power to get the word out, and the  
22 numbers are just not there. So we will take suggestions  
23 on what to do, and what best practices to utilize to  
24 expand our reach. But right now, we're sort of stuck.

25       CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons, and then

1 Akutagawa.

2 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, I just wanted to  
3 clarify and hopefully, maybe respond to Commissioner  
4 Toledo's point. So while I was uplifting Commissioner  
5 Andersen's proposal, I didn't see that as something that  
6 (indiscernible) idea could be triggered immediately, like  
7 for tomorrow. I mean, I think that was my plea this  
8 morning, like, what can we do? Because the meeting is  
9 tomorrow, right.

10 But I think that what I heard is that the Outreach  
11 Committee, the Input Committee, the Language Access  
12 Committees were going to take all the content of this  
13 conversation, looking on the proposal on the table,  
14 looking at feedback from the medias that's happened so  
15 far. Like, look at this in a more global way and see how  
16 all of these needs can be incorporated. And I hope that  
17 my support of that was really -- was twofold. One, in  
18 supporting, even though we're not talking about the plan  
19 specifically yet.

20 But supporting that plan and seeing a way to  
21 leverage, I personally don't feel like we have the luxury  
22 of time on some of the additional research on these  
23 things. So I was -- what triggered for me with  
24 Commissioner Andersen's idea was being able to leverage  
25 what was, like, right in front of us, and be able to get

1 somewhere of -- hopefully get some of the same outcomes,  
2 taking into consideration all of the different sort of  
3 point that have been raised by various Commissioners in  
4 this conversation.

5 So I guess the takeaway was that the path forward,  
6 which would then be associated with direction to staff,  
7 was forthcoming in short order as early as maybe this  
8 afternoon. But if I'm not being too ambitious, that's  
9 what I kind of thought.

10 Chair.

11 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner, thank you. Commissioner  
12 Akutagawa, and then Andersen.

13 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I guess I was going to  
14 just mention something else. But just on what  
15 Commissioner Le Mons said, that -- I think that-- yeah, I  
16 think -- I guess a few things.

17 One, I mean we're struggling to get even English  
18 speakers to call in to our meetings, too. So I just  
19 wanted to just acknowledge that, right? So I think the  
20 further we go in, I'm sensing that we're going to see  
21 increased engagement. Because I think, you know, the  
22 fact that we're having these meetings, I'm going to be  
23 hopeful that that's going to capture more people's  
24 attention. And then as we go into July and August, we'll  
25 start to see the numbers tick up.



1 I think on that note though, I do also support the  
2 idea that we shift some of the language translations that  
3 we had intended for some of the earlier meetings. If  
4 there's possibilities, I think we can shift, you know,  
5 those translations or actually make it available.  
6 Although, technically we did say that, you know, we will  
7 take or accommodate any interpretation request for any of  
8 the meetings, as long as we have the five days in  
9 advance. You know, I also want to just note that too.

10 It can seem a little confusing. It's like -- but to  
11 try to make it easy if people want to group into a  
12 certain meeting, I think that's just what makes it easier  
13 for them to do so.

14 ON the -- the thing that I wanted to originally ask,  
15 I wanted to see, you know, if, Director Ceja, I don't  
16 know if this is more you, or if this is Director Kaplan.  
17 But you know, there is a flyer that lists all of the COI  
18 input meeting dates. It's a little busy, because there's  
19 a lot of dates on there. But that is a really helpful  
20 flyer that I'm now starting to just try to remind people.

21 I've been using social media to try to get people to  
22 show up, but I think there's honestly limits to that too.  
23 So I'm now trying to make some very targeted outreaches  
24 to people just that I know, and saying, hey, this is  
25 coming up. We have L.A. Here's the whole set of

1 meetings. This isn't your first time. There's going to  
2 be other chances, but can you help get the word out.

3 I think to the conversation that we've been having,  
4 I know that we have a set of materials. I think that  
5 would be very helpful to have translated. I would also  
6 say, I would recommend, I know you have the flyer that  
7 says, how you sign up for a appointment. I frankly think  
8 what is more helpful is that section on the website that  
9 has the questions, like, how do -- what do you -- what  
10 can you say, what are some suggested inputs when you call  
11 in.

12 That I think is actually really helpful, and I've  
13 been cutting and pasting those questions into the emails  
14 to say, hey, there are some suggested things that, you  
15 know, you can give as part of your input. I think if  
16 that's also translated, that would be also really helpful  
17 in terms of helping people to understand what it is that  
18 they can do. And so as part of the outreach materials, I  
19 think adding that could be very helpful, along with if  
20 you want, how to make the appointment too. So I just  
21 wanted to give that suggestion.

22 CHAIR YEE: Let's go to Ms. Marx first, and then  
23 Commissioner Andersen.

24 MS. MARX: To that too, that last point and earlier,  
25 the flyer that you referenced with all the COI input

1 meetings, it is already available in Spanish and has been  
2 circulated. And the request was made Monday, I believe,  
3 for the translation into the other languages. So that  
4 should be back today or Monday from our translation  
5 vendor. So we will have that.

6 And then, specifically, we did have at least a  
7 couple organizations that we can say, do you have that in  
8 Korean or do you have that in another language. So there  
9 are some groups that are waiting for that, and that will  
10 get pushed out. And we will be, of course, utilizing  
11 that tool at the outreach in the field stop level as soon  
12 as the different languages are available. So that one is  
13 on the way.

14 And we have already been highlighting the different  
15 materials -- the outreach materials page with different  
16 languages; which for some groups, they were not aware of  
17 that. So we have been trying to raise the profile of  
18 those materials as well.

19 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

20 Commissioner Andersen?

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, thank you very much for  
22 this. And I'm going to be a little more specific. I  
23 love all the additions to my ideas and clarifications.  
24 Thank you.

25 And I was specifically saying, you know, we know



1 that right now, as we're still in the early stage and  
2 getting people aware, and they, there are these meetings.  
3 But for the ones who are now just suddenly becoming aware  
4 of it, if we could on this -- the blue flyer, which has  
5 all the listings of the input meetings, and it also says  
6 on there what languages; two things. Because one, a lot  
7 of people will only be getting it now, and so the  
8 meetings will have passed. The June 26, the June 28,  
9 which specifically say, you know, Khmer, Chinese,  
10 Mandarin, Tagalog. Those languages don't repeat in those  
11 zones again. And so it looks like, oh well, I can't, you  
12 know, I'm not being invited.

13       So if we could maybe update this sheet, and also  
14 include on here about -- on the back we have lines of  
15 little bits of information, one bit of information  
16 about -- for language access, what that means. Because  
17 it's -- you just have, and we also have that on our  
18 meeting page that says, you know, dedicated time. But it  
19 doesn't -- there is no, like extra little star to say a  
20 little bit more of what that means.

21       So if we could add those to those two documents,  
22 that would really be helpful. And I was specifically  
23 saying, you know, we are going to get more and more  
24 people, more and more people aware, and I don't want the  
25 languages for Zone H and Zone C, specifically, who are

1 the ones who are right now, to get lost in that -- if  
2 they could be moved over as well.

3 And I agree with all of the rest of what everyone  
4 has been saying. Thank you, thank you, thank you. I  
5 think this is a very good and fruitful conversation.  
6 Thank you.

7 And also, thanks for the Language Access, who have  
8 been working on this for a long time. So we really  
9 appreciate it. Thank you.

10 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you, everyone, for your  
11 input on this important topic.

12 Let's move on now to item 4G. Materials Development.  
13 Commissioners Fernandez, and Kennedy.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. On -- oh, did you  
15 want to go, Commissioner Kennedy? Go ahead.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Just to let folks know  
17 that we are working on a new entry for the FAQ document.  
18 It may be as a stand-alone, it may be -- whatever  
19 Director Ceja wants to do with it. But we have been  
20 getting quite often the question, why can't my district  
21 just remain exactly as it is. And we want to provide a  
22 clear answer to folks, to the public, as to why districts  
23 can't remain exactly as they are.

24 So we're working on some draft language.  
25 Commissioner Fernandez and I are close to having that

1 finalized, and we will get it to Director Ceja so that he  
2 can take it and run with it.

3 CHAIR YEE: Very good.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And then -- oops, I'm  
5 sorry. Just a couple things. As Director Ceja  
6 mentioned, we're in the process of reviewing -- or  
7 reviewing the language of some of the short videos, which  
8 hopefully that'll come out soon.

9 And then also, we did -- Commissioner Kennedy and I  
10 did provide feedback to the paper COI, and I believe  
11 right now they are working with the post office to figure  
12 out the postage. So I think that is about it for us.  
13 Thank you.

14 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Materials Development.

15 Commissioner Le Mons.

16 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have a question for  
17 Commissioner Kennedy. I wasn't tracking the last -- your  
18 statement. Isn't it conceivable that some communities  
19 may not change? So I guess I may be -- I don't either  
20 understand -- I understand the question, like why can't  
21 my community remain the same, but that could be any  
22 number of reasons, right, by that particular community?

23 So how are we coming up with blanket statements to  
24 that? I must have -- I missed something, but I just  
25 wanted to just have a little bit more clarity of what

1 we're talking about there.

2 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The bottom line is that, you  
4 know, population changes in California have not been  
5 uniform. And to the extent that they're not uniform, and  
6 we have some areas that, you know, are growing much  
7 faster than the rest of the state, we have some areas  
8 that are declining quite a bit.

9 But I mean, it would be statistically not  
10 impossible, but fairly unlikely that any district could  
11 remain exactly the same as it is. And we just want  
12 people to understand all of the factors that go into  
13 that. And the fact of the matter is that, you know, as  
14 population grows and shrinks at different rates around  
15 the states, you know, district boundaries are going to  
16 have to shift to accommodate and reflect those changes.

17 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you.

18 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Moving on to item 4H. Website.  
19 Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: As Director Ceja mentioned,  
21 he is working through our -- some of the first set of  
22 recommendations that we provided to Director Hernandez.  
23 And Commissioner Taylor and I are beginning work on a  
24 second set of recommendations that we will at some point  
25 conclude and share with Director Hernandez for his review

1 and instructing staff.

2 We are going through public input or public comment,  
3 I guess, that comes in, because there are frequently  
4 public comments directed at the Commission related to the  
5 website, and so the Subcommittee is reviewing all of that  
6 public comment for suggestions that we can forward to the  
7 Executive Director for staff to implement.

8 CHAIR YEE: Very good. Anything else? If not, we  
9 can go to 4I. Data Management. Commissioners Ahmad and  
10 Turner.

11 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.

12 So we do have a few updates which have been  
13 mentioned in some of our previous meetings. But the  
14 Airtable contract is in process, and learned it's not as  
15 simple as punching in a credit card number and clicking  
16 purchase, unfortunately. So we are well along in the  
17 process for getting that set up and in place through our  
18 systems.

19 I believe, although I had mentioned this in a  
20 previous meeting, that Phil will be continuing as our  
21 consultant and working with the Data Management team,  
22 which is great. And he is currently working with  
23 Statewide Database to set up the protocols to export the  
24 COI tool into S3, which is that Amazon web server, right?  
25 And then export that COI tool data into our public facing



1 Airtable, which I am so excited about because I, too,  
2 have not seen that information yet, and we are all  
3 waiting together collectively for that to be set up.

4 Alvaro and team will be bringing on a data manager  
5 and a data analyst as part of the data management team,  
6 but also be looking to hire those additional staff for  
7 data entry sometime in the near future.

8 Two other items related to this. Commissioner  
9 Turner and I have stepped back in terms of the interview  
10 process for the data manager and data analyst positions.  
11 So we won't be participating in those interviews. We  
12 have Alvaro and team, and now that we have Phil on board  
13 as a contractor, we have the technical expertise on the  
14 panel to be able to lead that discussion in the hiring  
15 process.

16 And Commissioner Turner and I are also in  
17 conversation in terms of trying to figure out what this  
18 Subcommittee's charge will be after we do have that data  
19 management team in place. And we're trying to figure out  
20 what our purpose will be.

21 So once those pieces are in place, we'll have a more  
22 robust conversation between the two of us, and then  
23 notify you all in an open public meeting on what we are  
24 thinking about the future of the Data Management  
25 Subcommittee.

1 And that is all that we have to report today.

2 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any question for Data  
3 Management?

4 Now, we can move to 4J. Outreach Contracts. I  
5 believe, that's been folded into the outreach discussion.  
6 So Commissioner Le Mons?

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was going to ask the Chair  
8 to sunset that committee, if there is no objection from  
9 my Subcommittee partner, Commissioner Akutagawa.

10 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: There is no objection. I  
11 think our work is done.

12 CHAIR YEE: We will give you a long-suffering award.  
13 Any discussion or recommendation, Commissioner  
14 Andersen.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I want to congratulate the  
16 team for hanging in there as long as they did, trying as  
17 hard as they did, through a myriad of issues, which I  
18 don't think -- the amount of things that they did that we  
19 don't exactly know -- I don't even -- it scares me to  
20 think of how much work they put in. And you know, kudos,  
21 kudos. Thank you very much on behalf of the Commission  
22 and the public.

23 CHAIR YEE: Indeed. So with gratitude I declare the  
24 Outreach Contracts Subcommittee, sunsetted.

25 Moving on to 4K. Community of Interest.



1 Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The latest statistics from  
3 Statewide Database indicate that there are now 438  
4 registered users. And we have had so far 434 communities  
5 of interest submissions from the public. And again, none  
6 of the new community of interest submissions are in non-  
7 English languages. Commissioner Akutagawa.

8 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I also want to note  
9 that the 400 and -- or the total number of communities of  
10 interest submissions does include the communities of  
11 interest input that we had received up until, I think,  
12 the most recent communities of interest meetings.

13 And then also, lastly, I do want to just make note  
14 that the -- I know that we're getting questions about  
15 when the public will be able to see the submissions  
16 through the Communities of Interest tool. However, as  
17 the data management team had also indicated too, they're  
18 waiting for it, and part of this is just the process that  
19 we have to go through from a contracting point of view.

20 And a table needs to be set up. There has to be a  
21 way in which we can actually, you know, have these inputs  
22 all in a place where it could be accessible, secure, but  
23 also organized as well too. I believe that the staff is  
24 also working to -- even though this is a little bit  
25 separate, I want to just reiterate the staff is working

1 to include the inputs that the staff has received via the  
2 public comment, letters, emails, other things like that,  
3 in a single place on the website, so that you don't have  
4 to go through all the handouts. So they are working on  
5 trying to organize that as an interim step.

6 But the inputs that we receive through the  
7 Communities of Interests tool, we will need the Airtable  
8 and the data management system set up to be able to view  
9 all of the input. So that is part of the wait. But I  
10 just wanted to assure the public that it is not because  
11 we don't want to share, we're just all waiting for it as  
12 well too, so.

13 CHAIR YEE: Very good.

14 Commissioner Sinay?

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Did you say that the 434  
16 submissions included those at the COI input sessions, or  
17 that just to the COI tool -- with the COI tool?

18 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That is just the COI tool.  
19 The ones including those submitted from the public input  
20 meetings that the line drawers have put in, it's a total  
21 of 483.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And we have asked them from  
23 here forward to break that out for us. Because when they  
24 first provided us with statistics this week, it was all  
25 lumped into one. And I was, like, wait a minute. How

1 did that happen? And they came back and said, it's  
2 because we're now inputting -- you know, the Statewide  
3 Database team is inputting the input from these sessions.

4 So they're breaking them out for us as to which have  
5 come in from public users as individuals, and which have  
6 come through the input meetings.

7 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm sure this is too difficult,  
9 but we can't get that data right now while we're waiting  
10 for the database. And -- yeah -- can we get this data by  
11 at least the zones right now or is that too difficult  
12 while we're waiting for the other ways that the public  
13 can see. I'm just trying to help the public and others  
14 see, even if it's an aggregate, that we did receive their  
15 COI input.

16 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, Commissioner Sinay.  
18 Was it Monday we had our meeting? I can't remember what  
19 day we -- so on Monday, right before the meeting, I did  
20 ask Karin for that specific information. And because I  
21 was curious as to okay, we're going to have a meeting  
22 with Zone D, what's the information. And she said, at  
23 this point they can't -- they cannot. They need to wait  
24 until the database is completed, and that information can  
25 be entered into the database -- or downloaded.

1 But I did ask if prior to every meeting, if they  
2 could update us with at least the most current  
3 information that's in there, so that we can report it out  
4 prior to -- or during every COI input meeting. Because  
5 that was a concern or a question by someone that called  
6 in as, you know, we're putting emphasis and accolades on  
7 public input meetings, but it's just as valuable the  
8 input that we're receiving in our COI input tool, so.

9 I guess, the answer is they can't do it yet.

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen, then Le Mons.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Just a quick, and during  
12 the line drawing update we'll give you much more detail  
13 about this, but remember the COI input tool is a  
14 Statewide Database. Our line drawers are Haystaq and Q2.  
15 So the only reason why we have a connection there is  
16 because of one of person, who also has two different  
17 jobs, which is why we have this information.

18 The line drawers know they get their information  
19 from us. They don't get it from the Statewide Database  
20 directly. So that's why -- what do they have? They're  
21 inputting it into the tool from input meetings and then,  
22 so you know, so they're, you know, we -- and I'm saying  
23 this for the public's -- basically information that, you  
24 know, we're all hoping to get that and just getting these  
25 things going. And we'll have more about this in the Line

1 Drawing Meeting -- or the Update.

2 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Commissioner Le Mons?

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: The promotion of the COI tool  
4 was our responsibility; is that correct? So with that  
5 said being so -- I'm not certain, but I think so. That's  
6 why, I don't know, if the COI Subcommittee can answer  
7 that question. But I think that is the case. So if that  
8 is the case, this sort of raises -- do you have an answer  
9 to that, Commissioner Andersen?

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, thank you. It's  
11 actually -- Legislature has been charged with accessing  
12 this to the public. I think Commissioner Kennedy  
13 probably can -- knows this better than I, being on the  
14 COI. But and then we're working with the -- for the --  
15 to submit to the Commission. So in terms of who's  
16 responsible for advertising, I don't know if that's been  
17 officially delineated. Commissioner Kennedy? I don't  
18 know that.

19 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So the reason I asked that or  
20 raised that, it's sort of augmenting our earlier  
21 conversation. So this might be something that we want to  
22 consider as the subcommittees that were mentioned  
23 earlier, that are going to be looking at this outreach  
24 and language access, and all that. And what triggered it  
25 was Commissioner Kennedy's report that all of the COI

1 tools so far have been in English. So it was suggested  
2 to me that they're having a very similar issue that we  
3 have, and again, we have a ticking clock.

4 So similar to what Commissioner Vasquez was saying  
5 earlier about certain bills and you know, things that are  
6 happening and may or may not affect, you know, happen in  
7 time to affect us, I see this very similarly. So as  
8 we're looking at promoting, we may need to fold in  
9 driving people through our radio outreach, et cetera, to  
10 the COI tool. Especially in other languages.

11 So I just wanted to put that out there as we're  
12 thinking about this utilization of our research --  
13 resources and approach moving forward.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo?

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I thought it was my -- and it  
16 would be good to get clarification on who's responsible  
17 for the outreach. I thought it was our responsibility  
18 from one of the reports that we've had in the past from  
19 the Legislature, that it was our responsibility. It was  
20 their responsibility to fund the creation of the database  
21 and whatnot. But our responsibility to promote when it  
22 comes to the statewide redistricting of -- it would be  
23 good to clarify that as -- if that's the case.

24 And I think we have been promoting it through our  
25 outreach efforts and in, you know, talking through the



1 media in our op-ed pieces and such. But we may need to  
2 do more, especially around language access and language  
3 minority populations as we expand our media efforts if,  
4 in fact, it's our responsibility to do so.

5 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Anything else for the COI Tool  
6 Subcommittee?

7 MS. JOHNSTON: Marian.

8 CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry, Marian? Yeah, you're right  
9 in the corner.

10 MS. JOHNSTON: Sorry. There is one legal wrinkle  
11 too, to what -- when the Commission receives the public  
12 input data from the COI tool. As you recall, all public  
13 input received by the Commission has to be received in  
14 public. So until you have your mechanisms in place to  
15 make it available to the public, the Commission can't  
16 really receive it. Because at the time of receipt it has  
17 to be in a publicly accessible form. So that's another  
18 reason why you cannot receive it at the present time  
19 before you have your data processing systems all in  
20 place.

21 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's move on to 4L.  
22 Cybersecurity. Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, nothing significant  
24 to report on my end.

25 CHAIR YEE: Mr. Taylor, you look like you're

1 transporting in from somewhere.

2 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, all in an effort to save  
3 bandwidth. I agree with Neal. I guess, since I have a  
4 moment, I'll say it. Remember that the end-user is the  
5 greatest threat to security, so let's all be mindful of  
6 our cybersecurity footprint. Thank you.

7 CHAIR YEE: Good reminder. Thank you, Commissioner  
8 Taylor.

9 4M. Incarcerated Populations, State Facilities.  
10 Commissioners Fernandez and Sinay.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I have a little bit to  
12 report. Hopefully, more to report in the next meeting.  
13 But Commissioner Sinay and I are putting together a  
14 recommendations document that we can bring forward in  
15 terms of what our outreach -- recommendations for  
16 outreach.

17 Initially, we were thinking of holding off on this  
18 until we -- the paper Communities of Interest tool was  
19 completed. But at this point, we feel that we are in a  
20 position where we can bring forward the recommendations,  
21 and then hand it over to the outreach unit for them to  
22 continue with the outreach efforts for the incarcerated  
23 people in California.

24 CHAIR YEE: All good. Thank you.

25 4N. Incarcerated Populations at all Facilities.

1 Commissioners Kennedy and Turner.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to  
3 report.

4 CHAIR YEE: Very good.

5 40. Lessons Learned. Commissioners Ahmad and  
6 Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Please keep them coming. And  
8 one thing that I would like to just remind folks of,  
9 there is a Google Doc, kind of an ongoing Lessons Learned  
10 document from former chairs to future chairs. So that is  
11 available for colleagues to contribute to.

12 CHAIR YEE: So that's in our Google -- shared Google  
13 drive? Maybe we could also -- that's a great idea. Also  
14 maybe, you know, your full working document on Lessons  
15 Learned, maybe making that available sometime too, so we  
16 can get an idea of what you guys are collecting. Maybe  
17 that'll spur further ideas to add.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, what we have so far and  
19 Commissioner Ahmad, correct me if I'm wrong. We've  
20 basically been working on broad categories, not  
21 necessarily populating that outline, that framework. But  
22 we've been working on putting the framework together that  
23 will guide our discussions next year.

24 CHAIR YEE: Okay, thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: And to add to that, I took

1 notes from today's conversation already and Bagley-Keene  
2 is something that comes up over and over again. So I  
3 noted that down from today's conversation as well.

4 CHAIR YEE: Very good.

5 Okay. 4P. IT Recruitment. Commissioners Andersen  
6 and Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Do you want me to go?

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Okay, go ahead.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We met with Director  
10 Hernandez last week to talk about the plan as was  
11 reported out in the data management report. The plan is  
12 to hire a data manager and a data analyst. And so in  
13 those two roles, you know, we feel like we got the IT  
14 needs covered well, and then students in other support  
15 staff. With those two meeting roles, we cover the areas  
16 of IT management that we're concerned about with related  
17 to the data and the database, and how we're going to be  
18 able to, you know.

19 The IT manager is going to stand up the database and  
20 ensure that the nuts and bolts of the database are  
21 working. The data analysts will help us understand and  
22 interpret the data in a way that we can effectively make  
23 use of it. So you know, I think we were both comfortable  
24 with the proposed plan moving forward at this point.

25 Commissioner Andersen, do you have anything you want

1 to add?

2           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, the plan is -- it's a  
3 little different than I think. Just to clarify, the  
4 analyst is essentially the person who will step out and  
5 getting these reports out to us, sort of analyzing what's  
6 in the database. The data manager is the person who is  
7 responsible for collecting and essentially assembling the  
8 database, and then maintaining it. And then, Phil, as  
9 consultant, will stay on through the transition of this.  
10 And then extra people being added in. So that's the  
11 plan, and it depends on the people and how it works. So  
12 yeah, that's basically --

13           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, that's basically it.  
14 So I think from a Subcommittee standpoint, I think  
15 we're -- I kind of feel like we're done.

16           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, there -- you know,  
17 it's just as Data Management said, where do they go from  
18 here. It's also a little recruitment probably. What  
19 happens moving forward is a little vague. So I think  
20 it'll be some sort of switch and change in terms of, you  
21 know, who ends up following the data or the technical  
22 side of it.

23           And that's something we talked about a long time ago  
24 in terms of moving through phases of we've been  
25 recruitment, recruitment, hiring, hiring, and then there

1 is a maintaining moving forward. And so I think that's a  
2 little bit of a transition.

3 As far as recruitment, we -- you know, basically the  
4 staffs were doing that. So you know, I think it might  
5 be -- it's almost sunset, but not maybe quite sunset, or  
6 we may have to revise it as -- once we make the  
7 transition. So that's my perspective.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So yeah, okay. So I guess  
9 that was assuming that, you know, following the data and  
10 how we're working that would have been the data  
11 management -- would fall on the Data Management team. It  
12 all was really focused on recruitment.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. It's just as  
14 Commissioner Ahmad indicted, then whatever happens is,  
15 you know, there is two sides to that. Analyzing the data  
16 and maintaining it. Well, it's like the upload and the  
17 download essentially, so.

18 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. So it sounds like we  
19 need to keep you around a bit more, and that's fine.

20 Commissioner Ahmad?

21 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Hi. I don't want to open up a  
22 conversation if I don't have to, but I might try. If the  
23 purview of the Subcommittee is to recruit an IT manager,  
24 and we are not recruiting an IT manager, then what is the  
25 Subcommittee's responsibility? I guess that's a question

1 more for Commissioner Fornaciari and Andersen.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, I mean -- I thought we  
3 were focused on recruitment, and I think we're done with  
4 that, the recruitment style. I mean, we've identified a  
5 couple of candidates for these roles and you know, we've  
6 identified what our IT structure is going to look like.  
7 I mean, I think following it up, I think that's all of  
8 our responsibility to kind of keep an eye on what's  
9 happening.

10 But to me that -- following what's happening with  
11 the data, and how the data is being managed, and what we  
12 need to do with the data down the road, falls under the  
13 purview, in my mind, of the Data Management team.

14 So I mean, I kind of feel like this Committee is  
15 done. I mean, as individuals we can monitor and monitor  
16 and provide input, but you know, I think we're both  
17 comfortable with the design we have for the IT staff, and  
18 you know, other folks that they're going to be hiring to  
19 support that are really, really support staff students  
20 and that kind of -- that kind of thing. And that's kind  
21 of where I was coming from.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. As far as the IT  
23 recruitment part, you're absolutely right. Do we want to  
24 sunset the IT recruitment? Yes.

25 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Any discussion of that? If not,



1 I will declare the IT Recruitment Subcommittee sunsetted.

2 Okay.

3 It's just a few minutes before our lunch break.

4 It's the line drawing. You will probably need quite a  
5 bit of time.

6 Okay. So after we come back from lunch, we'll go  
7 back to the top, actually, and hear from Finance and  
8 Administration, then we'll come back to Outreach and  
9 Engagement, and check in with them if they've got some  
10 answers to the questions we raised this morning about  
11 contacts and so forth. Then we'll take up line drawer,  
12 Public Input Design Committee, I believe has a fairly  
13 major discussion, and then legal affairs has some  
14 contracts to approve. So wow. Quite a bit for this  
15 afternoon. Don't eat too much. We need you fully awake.  
16 And so why don't we go ahead and break now for lunch, and  
17 come back at 1:48.

18 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

19 CHAIR YEE: Welcome back. We're continuing this  
20 afternoon with agenda item number 4. We're going to  
21 start with 4B, Finance and Administration, go to 4E,  
22 Outreach and Engagement, and then 4Q, line drawing.

23 So Commissioners Fernandez and Fornaciari can start  
24 us off with Finance and Administration, which we skipped  
25 over this morning.



1 You're on mute.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Oh, yeah. I was  
3 just checking to see if Commissioner Fornaciari was back  
4 yet, but not a big deal, because we will go ahead and  
5 take it, or I will go ahead and take it.

6 As Executive Director Hernandez mentioned during his  
7 report, we are putting together a draft travel policy for  
8 the Commission, and hopefully, we'll have that ready for  
9 discussion either at the next meeting or the meeting  
10 after that, as we get -- as we start looking forward to  
11 potentially traveling, which will be great.

12 And the other area that we're looking for, that we  
13 will need some motions for, is we do have, as our Chief  
14 Counsel noted, that we do have two retired annuitants  
15 that he would like to hire, so I would recommend that we  
16 move forward with it. Commissioner Fornaciari and I have  
17 both reviewed the resumes for those positions, and he's  
18 explained what the uses for each one specifically is, so  
19 we would recommend approval for that.

20 And then we also have a data analyst position. We  
21 reviewed the duty statement as well as the application,  
22 and Commissioner Fornaciari -- oh, there he is. Here he  
23 is. I'm speaking for you. We're both in agreement that  
24 we support moving forward with the hire of that position.  
25 And then the third area is the lead analysts for outreach

1 for the northern region. Again, we have reviewed -- we  
2 already had the duty statement from the past and we  
3 reviewed the application, and again, we're in agreement  
4 with moving forward with the hire of that position as  
5 well.

6 So does anyone have any questions before we submit a  
7 motion?

8 CHAIR YEE: Let's see. You mentioned that the two  
9 RAs, you've had some description of the areas of  
10 responsibility. Perhaps you could share that with the  
11 whole Commission?

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I'm going to pass  
13 that on to our Chief Counsel Pane.

14 MR. PANE: Yes, Chair. Again, it's just to briefly  
15 highlight the areas they're going to be working on while  
16 they're here. One of the retired annuitants is going to  
17 be focusing on contracts and working with the contracts  
18 team, and the second retired annuitant is going to be  
19 working on conflicts of interest, both in terms of a  
20 periodic conflicts as issues come up, as well as Form 700  
21 and just a whole host of issues that could potentially  
22 come up regarding conflicts.

23 And as you may recall, the way retired annuitants  
24 work, is they work by essentially assigned project. They  
25 are not a full time -- there's not full-time work. It's

1 by assignment. And there is an -- there are a number --  
2 there's an hour cap by fiscal year.

3 And normally, I believe that's 960 hours in a fiscal  
4 year. And so again, I would be delegating and assigning  
5 specific assignments as needed. But those are going to  
6 at least be the starting focus areas for them.

7 CHAIR YEE: Very good. Okay.

8 Discussion?

9 Commissioner Andersen?

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Was that discussion  
11 about just the legal RAs, or was --

12 CHAIR YEE: Any of them.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. I want to clarify,  
14 and I think it was just a miscue or a miswording. The  
15 Northern California, that is a -- you're saying lead  
16 analyst, but isn't that a -- that's the field lead, is  
17 it, or?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. It's a field lead.  
19 I'm sorry. Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I apologize. For outreach.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay. Okay. That  
23 was my -- I just want to make sure of that. Thank you.

24 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, oh, I'm sorry. I do

1 have one other about travel.

2 Is that in different than it already was? We did  
3 have to travel before the COVID hit, and we had policies,  
4 so I don't know it --

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, I didn't find the -- I  
6 mean, we haven't --

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- formalized the travel  
9 policy, so it's just formalizing the travel policy, and  
10 then also, maybe different scenarios, as well, in terms  
11 of what's approved travel versus not approved, what has  
12 to go through Commission. So just trying to establish,  
13 potentially, boundaries or parameters. So we'll come  
14 forward with that information.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: The travel policy for the  
17 State is huge, right? And it doesn't apply. All of it  
18 doesn't apply to us. So what we're trying to do is  
19 really make a succinct document for the Commissioners to  
20 understand what applies to them, and how we go about and  
21 do travel. Because while we all drove in the first time  
22 around, right? And I guess you --

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- drove back, so you  
25 didn't stay in a hotel. Commissioner Kennedy stayed in

1 hotel, but --

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- I mean, and  
4 Commissioner Sadhwani flew, but I think that's probably  
5 all the travel that this entire Commission has done. And  
6 so when we start traveling more, we're all going to be  
7 having to be involved in it, so just some clarity for how  
8 to do that effectively and ensure we get reimbursed.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa?

11 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I actually have two  
12 questions, on both the hiring, and also, the travel  
13 policy. Just for clarification, Commissioner Fernandez,  
14 you mentioned that -- it sounds like the two retired  
15 annuitants would be a hire. You mentioned that on the  
16 data analyst, you said that you reviewed the duty  
17 statement, and then later, you said on the field lead,  
18 the Northern Cal field, you reviewed the application. So  
19 just for clarity, the data analyst position, is it still  
20 in a duty statement stage, so it needs to be posted?  
21 It's not a person that you have in mind, or is it --

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It is a -- it is a person.  
23 We --

24 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- have the duty statement.

1 We have the application. They've already interviewed the  
2 candidate. So they're ready to move forward with filling  
3 the position.

4 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I just wanted to --  
5 because I heard just -- I just heard "reviewed the duty  
6 statement", and I didn't hear "review application" like  
7 you did for the field lead, so I just wanted to -- I  
8 thought, wait, I thought we had people. So okay. Just  
9 want to make sure.

10 Secondly, and this is similar to what Commissioner  
11 Fornaciari also mentioned, I think in terms of the travel  
12 policy that was -- I mean, before COVID, honestly, I  
13 think I am concerned about what the impacts of travel  
14 on -- given the environment and everything, and what this  
15 means for us.

16 I'll be just blunt, and I'll just say that, do we  
17 put ourselves in any kind of place where we will be  
18 liable should somebody get sick, given what we know? And  
19 so I think we just need to be very careful about how the  
20 travel policy is constructed given that. I also do want  
21 to ask, and Commissioner Fornaciari, you kind of answered  
22 it.

23 My question was, can we opt to drive if we don't  
24 want to get on a plane somewhere? That kind of thing,  
25 and what's that going to look like and stuff. So I guess

1 that would be part of the scenarios that I think you're  
2 talking about.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's certainly part of  
4 the policy. There's a caveat in there for take the  
5 cheapest route, the cheapest travel approach, which in  
6 some cases would probably be flying, but there's also  
7 some language in there that there are -- for exceptions.

8 And so we're planning on getting together with --  
9 Commissioner Fernandez and I with Alvaro, and Raul, and  
10 Anthony, and kind of hash through in detail, what are  
11 these exceptions, and how do we manage these exceptions?  
12 There are some other -- I have some safety concerns with  
13 regard to parking, with regard to hotel rooms and what  
14 type of a hotel could we stay in? Parking, that was a  
15 big deal for the folks I work with, to feel like they're  
16 safe parking in an airport. And that maybe costs more,  
17 but to me, I don't care how much it costs as long as  
18 you're safe. That's all I care about.

19 And so how do we -- how do we work within the rules  
20 of the State? So we'll work through those questions.

21 CHAIR YEE: Okay. So we'll look forward to the  
22 travel policy. Meanwhile, in terms of the hires, it  
23 looks like we have four different hires.

24 Maybe Chief Counsel, you can advise us as to how  
25 many motions we should entertain?

1 MR. PANE: Yes, Chair. And what I could recommend  
2 is we could have one motion, if we wanted -- if the  
3 committee wanted to designate by category. For example,  
4 the hiring of two retired annuitants, et cetera, you  
5 could do it by category, and it could all be in one  
6 motion. On the other hand, we could do them  
7 individually.

8 CHAIR YEE: So that sounds like either three or four  
9 motions, and the committee and subcommittee can --

10 MR. PANE: No, no. I think you could have one  
11 motion. I think you just have to delineate, in that  
12 motion, the categories of the employees, so we're  
13 specific. So that could be in one --

14 CHAIR YEE: Oh, so one motion for all four?

15 MR. PANE: Right.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. We'd have to be  
17 specific.

18 CHAIR YEE: Oh, great. Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Should we go for  
20 one, Commissioner Fornaciari? Okay.

21 So I will move that we move forward with two retired  
22 annuitants in our legal area, move forward with the lead  
23 analysts filling that position for outreach, and then  
24 also, moving forward with the data analyst position.

25 Is that right?





1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: It's a field lead.

2 CHAIR YEE: Field lead.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Field lead.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Field lead. Yes. I keep  
5 getting that wrong. Sorry.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Field lead and data  
7 analyst.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Field lead and data  
9 analyst.

10 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Do we have a second?

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll second.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa, is that a  
13 second?

14 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I was going to just --  
15 yes, second.

16 CHAIR YEE: So Commissioner Akutagawa beat you,  
17 Commissioner Fornaciari. We have a second.

18 Discussion? Yes, Commissioner Akutagawa?

19 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Just a question. So just for  
20 clarification, with the hiring of the Northern California  
21 field lead, that will now complete all of the positions  
22 for the outreach staff; is that true?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It will fill all the field  
24 lead, and now, the next step will be the support  
25 positions for each area, correct? I'm sorry, Anne. I

1 just --

2 MS. MARX: That's exactly correct.

3 CHAIR YEE: That's correct.

4 MS. MARX: That's exactly right.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

6 MS. MARX: It will be the fourth field lead. And we  
7 are working on the duty statements, actually, for the  
8 support staff.

9 CHAIR YEE: Very good. Let's go ahead and go to  
10 public comment.

11 And Katy, if we could have the short form, and open  
12 the lines?

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The  
14 Commission will now take public comment on the motion on  
15 the floor. To give comment, please call 877-8535-5246,  
16 and enter the meeting ID number 924 7650 5888 for this  
17 meeting.

18 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
19 enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions  
20 are read at the beginning of the meeting, and are  
21 provided on the livestream landing page.

22 And I'd like to remind --

23 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, I just wanted to  
25 remind those who have called in, if you would like to



1 make a comment on the motion on the floor, to please  
2 press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to  
3 comment.

4 And with that, we do not have any raised hands,  
5 Chair.

6 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy. Any further discussion  
7 while we wait a minute?

8 Thank you to the Finance and Administration  
9 Subcommittee. It sounds like you guys have done a lot of  
10 work to get these forwarded to us, as well as the travel  
11 policy. We appreciate it.

12 Anymore comments?

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The short form  
14 instructions are completed on the stream, Chair.

15 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

16 Okay. Let's go ahead and call a vote.

17 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Very well, Chair. I'll repeat  
18 the motion. The motion to move to approve for hire of  
19 two RA candidates for legal, one data analyst, and one  
20 northern field lead. Motion being made by Commissioner  
21 Fernandez, seconded by Commissioner Akutagawa, at 2:04  
22 p.m., and we will begin the vote.

23 Commissioner Ahmad?

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

25 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?



1 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

2 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

4 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

8 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

11 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

12 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani?

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

14 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

17 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

18 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

20 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

21 Commissioner Vazquez?

22 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

23 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes, Chair. Oh,

24 I'm sorry. And yourself, Chair Yee? I'm sorry.

25 CHAIR YEE: Yes. Yes.



1 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: My bad.

2 CHAIR YEE: No worries. Thank you, everyone. Thank  
3 you, Finance and Administration. Okay.

4 Moving on. Now, let's return back to 4E, Outreach  
5 and Engagement. And I believe you had some discussions  
6 during lunch, and we can finish up our discussion, then,  
7 on the matter of contracts going forward.

8 So Commissioners Sinay and Fornaciari?

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. So we met at lunch, just  
10 to make sure that we had a motion that took into account  
11 everything that people had shared, what Commissioners had  
12 shared, and the sense of urgency we all have to make sure  
13 we move forward on outreach.

14 And just a reminder that the goals we have will not  
15 change. What will change is how we may get there.

16 And so we kept going back to how do we -- how are we  
17 going to measure success? And it goes back to our goals.  
18 And within our goals is the activation rate of .01  
19 percent, or 40,000 COIs public input. Goal number 2 is  
20 to ensure that California's engagement is representative  
21 of the area. And goal number 3 is engagement is  
22 accessible to a wide range of Californians. And in the  
23 last two, we list out some of it, saying, including but  
24 not limited to.

25 So the motion that we wanted to bring -- oh, we also

1 wanted to highlight that there is interpretation and  
2 translation in the budget, and at the same time,  
3 throughout the proposal, we do bring up ethnic media, as  
4 well as reaching out to California's diversity. And  
5 again, really, goal number 2 is about ensuring that we  
6 are reaching the diversity of Californians, both in  
7 language and in other ways. The diversity in other ways.

8       So with all that in mind, the motion we would like  
9 to put on the table is to delegate to staff the right to  
10 place and approve contracts with vetted vendors to ensure  
11 we that we achieve our outreach goals.

12       And I'm not sure I got that right. I see Neal  
13 moving.

14       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think that's what we had  
15 in mind.

16       COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

17       CHAIR YEE: Okay. That's the motion.

18       Do we have a second?

19       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll second it.

20       CHAIR YEE: Okay. Motion made by Commissioner  
21 Sinay, seconded by Commissioner Fornaciari.

22       Discussion?

23       I'm wondering who does the vetting of the vendors?

24       COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, originally, it was  
25 discussed that there is a State-vetted list, and so it

1 would be who -- it would be from that list.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Great.

3 Other discussion?

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Alvaro.

5 CHAIR YEE: Alvaro. Director Hernandez?

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you.

7 CHAIR YEE: Sorry.

8 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I blend in with the background,  
9 I know.

10 CHAIR YEE: You do.

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I just wanted to also mention  
12 that on top of being part of the State list, the staff  
13 will be doing a lot of the vetting to ensure that they  
14 meet the statement of work for each of the areas, and  
15 meeting the goals, that they have things in place to meet  
16 those goals as well.

17 So it's not just looking at a list and picking from  
18 there. We are going to have staff vetting the vendors  
19 even further.

20 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad?

21 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I just  
22 wanted to ask a clarifying question. Is this motion  
23 giving staff delegated authority on this particular item?  
24 Because I thought -- my understanding was that they  
25 already do this, and already can bring forward a

1 contract, and then the Commission has to approve it, or  
2 is this changing that process?

3 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: It's actually going one step  
5 further, and our contract -- as Commissioners, we need to  
6 make contract decisions. And our contract decision is to  
7 delegate the ability to place, vet, and approve contracts  
8 with --

9 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Got it. Okay. Thank you.

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: The original document that  
12 we looked at had the full amount that would have  
13 previously been used for the grants, which was in the  
14 ballpark of \$2 million. Is that what we're delegating?  
15 Is there an upper threshold to what it is that we are  
16 delegating?

17 And we had a fairly lengthy conversation earlier  
18 this morning about looking into what possible  
19 opportunities we might have to expand our language  
20 access. Does this include possible expansions of our  
21 language access policy?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: We included those  
23 conversations, and in it right now, we have -- yes. So  
24 we're looking at the 2.55, 55 million, the whole budget.  
25 In there, there is 150,000, but staff is -- we're giving



1 staff the flexibility if things need to be moved around,  
2 so that we can achieve our goals. So we keep pushing  
3 it -- focusing on the goals versus the actual work,  
4 because we want to have the flexibility to ensure that we  
5 reach our goals.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll also add that the  
7 Language Access Committee is looking at what the costs  
8 would be for that, and will come back to us with that.  
9 And at that point, we can talk about how we might move  
10 some of the money from one part or other into the  
11 interpretation, if we decide that's the way to go. But  
12 we're really getting the contracts going, which is the  
13 top part.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So basically, you're asking  
16 us to approve the draft of the budget of it, right? So  
17 essentially realizing that, and with authority for the  
18 staff to adjust the budgets, and hence -- what I'm  
19 looking for is at the Commission level what are we -- how  
20 do we oversee this? And is it the budget then changes  
21 based on our goals, or how are we sort of, at a  
22 Commission level, following this?

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay or Fornaciari, you  
24 want to --

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry.

1 CHAIR YEE: -- respond to that?

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Jane, so you're wanting to know  
3 how do we hold the contractors and staff accountable?

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, that's a little more  
5 than what I said. Accountable is one thing, but how do  
6 we even track any of it? I mean, what -- these are  
7 numbers of budgets, say when the budget comes up again,  
8 okay, we can say, hey, we spent this much, or that much,  
9 and this is what we got, but those amounts will shift and  
10 change, so.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. No. That's a great  
12 question, and one of the -- when we met with staff, we  
13 did talk about the need of kind of a time line and  
14 milestones, so that we know when things are -- how things  
15 are moving along with this plan. Currently, the plan  
16 doesn't have all of that, because you need the  
17 contractors input to have that.

18 And so we will constantly be working on ensuring  
19 that we do have ways to measure that success and look at  
20 it. And Commissioner Fornaciari and I are working on  
21 kind of a transition document, and it's the same as --  
22 it's come up with other committees.

23 What's our role now? Now that we are staffed up,  
24 and what do we do as Outreach and Engagement, and what we  
25 keep saying is we need to keep our eye on the big picture

1 versus the details of the every day.

2 And it doesn't look like I'm answering your  
3 question.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. You're answering the  
5 more very specific of how do we -- accountability for  
6 action, exactly what they're doing. More of, like, a  
7 much more micro level. I'm talking about macro level,  
8 where the money's going. Where the money's going, and  
9 how do we keep -- like, budget, you can look at, okay,  
10 this is allocated from that, and here where we are, then  
11 we can kind of get a gauge on how much is being done.  
12 But these categories are all going to float, is what  
13 you're basically saying.

14 So then will the budget amounts that are connected  
15 to those, do they also float, as it's adjusted? Like  
16 when I find out a contract, I'll go, oh, no, no, no, I  
17 don't need that kind of money, or I need less, I need  
18 more. But those other areas need -- like the social  
19 media might go up, where certain newspapers might go  
20 down, newspapers might go up, social media might go down,  
21 that sort of thing, so.

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I don't think -- so  
23 I'll just jump in. No. That's not the intent, right?  
24 The intent is if we decide to do something different as a  
25 Commission, we will figure out how to reallocate money in

1 that budget. Now, as far as how money is spent in  
2 detail, each of the contracts that are placed with a  
3 contractor will have explicit goals and expectations for  
4 those contractors in how they're going to execute their  
5 contract in their specific zone.

6 And they'll be zone specific plans in contracts, to  
7 be the most effective in reaching out to the peoples in  
8 those specific zones, in concert with our Commission  
9 objectives. And so we'll keep track of the progress and  
10 the effectiveness -- staff will keep track of the  
11 progress and effectiveness --

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- of these individual  
14 contractors via the statement of work for the contract.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Does --

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And --

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that answer your  
19 question?

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- who reports back to the  
21 commission? Who -- what -- do we just get an overview?  
22 Every -- you know, do we get a, hey, it's going great?  
23 Or do we have more detail? That's what I mean. What --  
24 you know, we're assigning part of our responsibility and  
25 you know, I don't want us to just blindly go, okay, guys,



1 off you go.

2 So are you -- does -- do you as the subcommittee  
3 report back to the Commission? Or is it a joint thing?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I mean, yes.

5 Yeah, yeah, yeah. That's our role, right? To keep  
6 an eye on what's happening here with outreach. And --

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Because that wasn't clear in  
8 the motion I --

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- so.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, I  
12 think there's a lot -- yeah. Okay. Thank you. Sorry  
13 about that.

14 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Going back a while, I think we  
15 had Commissioners Sadhwani, Le Mons, and then Akutagawa.

16 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'll pass at this time.

17 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

18 Commissioner Le Mons?

19 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'll pass. Well -- yeah.

20 CHAIR YEE: Do I?

21 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, I'll -- I think I kind  
22 of got my question answered already. So I'll wait.  
23 Maybe I'll get some more clarity. I'll pass.

24 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

25 Commissioner Akutagawa and then Toledo.

1 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think -- I'm going to  
2 agree. I'm going to pass for right now too.

3 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

4 Commissioner Toledo.

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm just wanting -- can  
6 somebody repeat the emotion just because I'd just like to  
7 hear the motion again?

8 CHAIR YEE: Sure.

9 Director Hernandez?

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. The motion is to delegate  
11 to staff the right to place and approve contracts with  
12 vetted vendors to ensure the CRC achieves its outreach  
13 goals.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons?

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So I don't have a question.  
16 I have more of a comment.

17 So it sounds like we're -- the motion on the floor  
18 is to give authority, but it's not to do that without  
19 oversight. And the subcommittee would continue to  
20 monitor and give oversight. And through whatever  
21 reporting that we would get back from both the  
22 subcommittee as well as the Executive Director's report  
23 and/or Outreach Director's report, et cetera, we would  
24 have this high-level oversight as to whether or not we  
25 feel like the actions that are being taken are moving in

1 the directions of our goals and objective; is that -- did  
2 I kind of get that? Is that what we're doing?

3 Okay. I'm good.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm hearing --

5 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez. Commissioner  
6 Fernandez then Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: The only -- when Director  
8 Hernandez reread the motion, I think part of it said to  
9 ensure -- what was it? To ensure --

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: To ensure that CRC achieves its  
11 outreach goals.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I don't say -- I don't  
13 think we can say we can put this all on them to ensure  
14 that we reach our goals.

15 There are goals that we have, and there -- they'll  
16 be in alignment with our goals, but -- so if we don't  
17 achieve our goals, it's their fault? I mean, I guess  
18 that's -- I'm probably getting too wordy on it, but it  
19 just seems like a lot for them to shoulder right now --  
20 for all of us to shoulder. So I just I don't have a -- I  
21 don't have any issues. I'm totally supportive of  
22 delegating to them. I just had a little concern with how  
23 it's worded. Thank you.

24 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy -- Kennedy, Sinay,  
25 and then Toledo.

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And then Akutagawa.

2 CHAIR YEE: And Akutagawa.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I would be  
4 much more comfortable supporting this if Commissioner Le  
5 Mons' language was essentially incorporated into the  
6 motion. Thank you.

7 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was -- I was listening in and  
9 then I was -- I was going to do a friendly -- friendly,  
10 what's it called?

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: A friendly amendment?

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Amendment to my own emote -- to  
13 my own emotion. Not my emotion, my motion.

14 But before I go there, CRC to me, Citizen  
15 Redistricting Commission, is all of us, staff and  
16 Commissioners.

17 And if we don't hold ourselves accountable and all  
18 our contractors to reach our goals, then who are we  
19 holding accountable to reach our goals? So I do -- I'm a  
20 firm believer that if you set goals, you have to hold  
21 yourself accountable to those goals.

22 So my friendly amendment, based on what I've been  
23 hearing -- and please do some more friendly amendments,  
24 Neal, I mean Commissioner Fornaciari, if we need them --  
25 is to delegate the staff, the placing, vetting, and



1 approving of contractors not to exceed 2.55 million with  
2 vendors -- contracts with vendors to ensure that CRC  
3 achieves its outreach goals, the Outreach and Education  
4 and Engagement Subcommittee will oversee the  
5 implementation? I wasn't sure what Commissioner Le  
6 Mons's language was, but I know it was around that.

7 With the oversight of Outreach Engagement  
8 Subcommittee; is that the right wording?

9 CHAIR YEE: Let's see what Director Hernandez types  
10 out.

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I missed half of that.  
12 Sorry.

13 CHAIR YEE: Once more.

14 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So I have motion to delegate to  
15 staff the right to place and approve contracts with  
16 vetted vendors not to exceed 2.5 million to ensure the  
17 Commission -- that the Commission achieves the outreach  
18 goals. And then there's something about oversight that I  
19 missed.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, that was the part that I  
21 was trying to figure out exactly what was the language  
22 that Commissioner Kennedy and Commissioner Le Mons and it  
23 sounded like Commissioner Andersen -- yeah, others were  
24 saying about, you know, if that if the committee -- the  
25 subcommittee has. And I didn't know if it was oversight

1 or.

2 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo?

3 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. I'm just curious,  
4 it was my understanding that the full commission has to  
5 approve -- the language sounds like a staff will be  
6 approving the contracts, that we're delegating authority  
7 to approve contracts to them. And I'm just wondering if  
8 we can delegate that authority to sign off on the  
9 contracts, or if that's what is the intent of the  
10 language here. And I think this is just a question to  
11 Anthony if --

12 MR. PANE: Sure. So Commissioner Toledo, the -- the  
13 phrasing of the statute that was at issue a little bit  
14 earlier was that the commission shall make hiring,  
15 removal, or contracting decisions. And that requires a  
16 special vote.

17 So the question is, what is a contract decision? A  
18 contract decision would certainly include contracts but  
19 would not be necessarily limited to contracts. So here,  
20 Commissioner Sinay's motion and seconded by Commissioner  
21 Fornaciari is -- the motion is going to be regarding a  
22 contract decision.

23 And that contract decision is in -- is inclusive of  
24 a delegation to staff regarding -- and then there is a --  
25 there is the motion that I wouldn't be able to reiterate

1 right now. But I hope that helps at least --

2 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No, that's --

3 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- a little bit --

4 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- that's very --

5 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- with the analysis.

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- helpful. That is very  
7 helpful.

8 So you're -- you're also saying that this is a  
9 special vote, then?

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Correct.

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

12 CHAIR YEE: And is it 2.5 or 2.55?

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I put 2.55, the full -- the  
14 full total that's on the budget.

15 CHAIR YEE: Yeah, we should get that precise.

16 Meanwhile, Commissioner Akutagawa, I think you were  
17 next?

18 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I -- actually, I'm  
19 going to pass. I think I got my question answered.  
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I have full trust in our  
23 staff to use these funds appropriately, but I do support  
24 the additional amendment of oversight. I think just as  
25 good stewards of The People of California's money, I

1 think it's important that we continue to be very clear  
2 about that oversight.

3 To that end, you know, one of the things I didn't  
4 see -- and maybe I just overlooked it in the proposal --  
5 I understand that there is a designation between Phase II  
6 and Phase III, which Phase II being activation and Phase  
7 III being line drawing.

8 Is there any sense of how these funds would be  
9 divided between those two time periods? And if so, I  
10 would want to ask to see -- and I -- certainly it could  
11 come through the subcommittee -- some analytics of what  
12 these funds have achieved, right?

13 So if the goal is having more people involved, as  
14 we -- as we've outlined here, then I want to see that  
15 report back before we move into Phase III to make sure  
16 that we're hitting those goals. And again, I think this  
17 just goes to being good stewards of this money.

18 I understand from a contracting -- I don't want to  
19 be in the way of holding up contracts. But I do think we  
20 have an obligation to make sure that these funds are  
21 going to the right places and actually meeting our  
22 targeted goals.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

24 And then at some point we need the whole motion --  
25 amended motion to be stated.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'll state.

2 CHAIR YEE: And seconded, yes.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes, say it again.

4 Commissioner Sadhwani, I fully support what you're  
5 saying. And we had talked with staff about creating  
6 similar to what we have for social media, you know, we  
7 get social media analytics. That's easy because it's  
8 social media and State can pull it up.

9 We are working with staff so that we -- that we have  
10 a report both on outreach and communications. What we've  
11 been waiting for is really for the table, what's a -- the  
12 air table to be able to pull all that information  
13 together quickly and post -- you know, and present it and  
14 it'll be presented by zones and other -- other statistics  
15 that we look at that we think is important.

16 So we are moving towards that. And please send any  
17 analytics that -- what you would like to see in that to  
18 staff, I would say to Director Kaplan, so we can start  
19 kind of vetting through what commissioners would like to  
20 see and what can be done.

21 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Sadhwani, Akutagawa, and  
22 Kennedy.

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Just to that end, I think  
24 it's really difficult to identify like the causal  
25 mechanism for people's participation. However, I think

1 simply adding to the signup form, for example, how did  
2 you hear about today's meeting, might be really  
3 instructive. Not going to be perfect data.

4 But simply capturing a little bit of, like, were the  
5 radio ads effective, right? Were billboards effective?  
6 So I would encourage staff to think through different  
7 ways in which we might further assess the impact of these  
8 funds.

9 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

10 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think -- well, one, I think  
11 along those lines, I know that Director Ceja is tracking  
12 social media statistics. You know, maybe part of it  
13 would also be analytics that show after, let's say, a  
14 radio ad is launched, do we see additional engagement in  
15 our social media in addition to sign-ups and other  
16 participation as part of a multifaceted way of trying to  
17 really, you know, assess whether or not there's any type  
18 of awareness and engagement.

19 It may not necessarily result in an immediate  
20 participation in a community of interest input meeting,  
21 but at least if there is engagement, then there's hope  
22 that what it's doing is resulting in more people  
23 understanding and being aware of the work that we're  
24 doing.

25 I guess, on that end, I -- one other question that I

1 do have, and I just want to get this clarification. I  
2 know that the realm of contractors what I heard this  
3 morning is pretty broad. For the staff, I'm curious as  
4 to I know you mentioned small business. Personally, I  
5 would like to encourage the -- at least some portion of  
6 these funds to be able to go to diverse businesses as  
7 well too. I think that that would be important.

8       So being intentional, in terms of ensuring -- I'm  
9 not saying that all have to be, but I think it would be  
10 nice to see that we do have a good mix of diverse  
11 businesses included as part of the potential contractors  
12 that would receive some of these funds, since I will  
13 still forever be just really sad that we could not  
14 disperse the funds in the way we had hoped to. But I  
15 think it would be nice if we could ensure that some of  
16 these funds do go into diverse communities in other ways,  
17 so.

18       CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy and then Fernandez?

19       COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I've  
20 mentioned in the past the potential utility of a baseline  
21 study or survey. And I'm not necessarily proposing that  
22 we go out and commission a statewide survey, but I know  
23 from my own experience that it's often very cost  
24 effective to piggyback on other peoples' surveys. We  
25 could add two questions to somebody else's statewide

1 survey and I think, you know, relatively -- or certainly  
2 reasonable cost and perhaps get some very useful figures.  
3 And I'd be happy to pitch in on the analysis.

4 I mean, we're just looking for -- to get raw data  
5 piggybacking on somebody else's, we add two or three  
6 questions or whatever, and then, you know, Commissioner  
7 Sadhwani, anyone else, I, we can -- we could all crunch  
8 the numbers and come up with, I think, some useful  
9 information for the Commission. So I just wanted to put  
10 that out there that there are ways of doing this.

11 And I also wanted to highlight one other provision  
12 in our legal framework. It's from 8253.6 of Government  
13 Code Subsection B says, "the Commission with fiscal  
14 oversight from the Department of Finance or its successor  
15 shall have procurement and contracting authority and may  
16 hire staff and consultants exempt from civil service  
17 requirements for the purposes of this act, including  
18 legal representation". That's there in addition to what  
19 the language that Chief Counsel had read earlier.

20 I would like to request that we remove the word  
21 "right" from the motion. As I understand the motion is  
22 currently written, numerous Commissioners have used the  
23 phraseology "delegation of authority". I'm perfectly  
24 happy with that, but rights exist, they don't get  
25 delegated. The authority can be delegated. Thanks.



1 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

2 Commissioner Fernandez. And then hopefully someone  
3 can give us a reading of the revised motion.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you, Chair.  
5 I'm just going to build on Commissioner Sadhwani's. I  
6 have mentioned in the past and I brought it forward to  
7 Lessons Learned that it would have been great to know six  
8 months ago that it would be nice to add the question of,  
9 where did you hear about this communities of interest  
10 tool on the Statewide Database. Because if we do add it  
11 to our appointments, we're only going to get part of the  
12 response because I'm probably a -- it should be a good  
13 assumption on my part that the majority of our input will  
14 be on our tool, hopefully.

15 So I don't know if the Community of Interest Tool  
16 Subcommittee, if they have even forwarded that  
17 possibility to the Statewide Database to see if they can  
18 add that additional question.

19 But I think just overall, if we had that question  
20 answered, we would know did our basics redistricting  
21 presentations, were those effective? I mean, what has  
22 been effective in terms of getting the outreach out  
23 there? So I just wanted to throw that out there again.  
24 Thank you very much.

25 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

1           Okay, Commissioner Sinay, I think you seemed to have  
2 the revised version ready to go?

3           COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. And my mistake for saying  
4 "right". I got all confide but it was never actually in  
5 the written piece.

6           So thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

7           So the new motion, to delegate authority to -- to  
8 delegate authority to staff -- wait. To delegate --  
9 to --

10          Is this right? To delegate authority to staff -- to  
11 delegate --

12          CHAIR YEE: Sounds good.

13          COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. To delegate staff  
14 authority -- no. Hold on. To delegate to staff the  
15 responsibility for placing, vetting, and approving of  
16 contracts not to exceed 2.55 million with vendors -- with  
17 vendors to ensure that CRC achieves its outreach goals  
18 with oversight by the Outreach Education Engagement  
19 Subcommittee. That's a lot of to's.

20          CHAIR YEE: To address one of their previous  
21 concerns, how about "to help ensure"? Just so that it's  
22 clear it's not entirely on them?

23          COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don't accept that friendly  
24 amendment. I'm a firm believer in holding us to our  
25 goals.

1 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

2 So with the original rereading by Commissioner  
3 Sinay, Commissioner Fornaciari, do you uphold your  
4 second?

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I uphold my second.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Do you need me to read it  
7 again, Alvaro?

8 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: One more time, please.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I figured. Sorry.  
10 To delegate to staff the responsibility for placing,  
11 vetting, and approving of contracts not to exceed \$2.55  
12 million dollars with vendor -- contracts with vendors to  
13 ensure that the CRC achieves its outreach goals with  
14 oversight by the Outreach Education and Engagement  
15 Subcommittee.

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Why don't we go to public comment  
17 on the motion? And since we are at the end of item  
18 number 4, let's also take any public comment on any of  
19 the other subcommittee reports in item number 4, closing  
20 out item number 4. So we're taking public comment on the  
21 motion on the floor, as well as anything else under item  
22 4.

23 Commissioner Fernandez and then Andersen.

24 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I will respectfully  
25 disagree regarding using -- we can always set goals, but

1 we can never ensure that we're going to reach those  
2 goals. So I just want to be up front as to why I would  
3 not support it, because we can't ensure that a goal is  
4 going to be achieved. We can try to achieve the goal. I  
5 know it's just language issue, but I just want to let you  
6 know why I will not be able to support this motion.

7 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, that -- that's  
9 separate. The line drawers are still on item 4. Unless  
10 you want to lump us into --

11 CHAIR YEE: Oh. Oh, my goodness. You're right.  
12 So it -- my bad.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We could --

14 CHAIR YEE: -- my bad.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- we could shift to the end  
16 and just do all that at one time but.

17 CHAIR YEE: No, that's fine. We'll not take comment  
18 on item 4, then.

19 Commissioner Taylor?

20 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. Thank you, Chair. I  
21 agree. I think the language of it is important. I think  
22 I would have to side with Commissioner Fernandez.

23 It's hard to -- it's hard to put our work and have  
24 it rely on a response. All we can do is ensure what we  
25 do and not necessarily the response that might be in

1 hand. Thank you.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

3 Well, Commissioner Vazquez.

4 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I just wanted to weigh in on  
5 how I hear and understand this whole ensure thing. My  
6 understanding, it's clarifying the purpose of the action,  
7 and it's a much broader, ensure, like we're ensuring that  
8 we are moving toward this goal.

9 And so I don't view it as sort of a stick-to to  
10 bludgeon our staff or our efforts overall, but rather  
11 it's defining and clarifying the purpose of the action.  
12 So I think it's fine as it is.

13 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I appreciate that  
15 interpretation. But you know, from one who's had to  
16 write things that are carefully scrutinized for years,  
17 you don't write it so it can be interpreted properly.  
18 You write it so it can't be not misinterpreted.

19 And so I think we, with that idea, we need to -- we  
20 need to modify the words because we have an idea of what  
21 we're trying to get to, but we don't quite have the  
22 words. So I think it's worth the time to adjust.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner -- oh yeah, thank you.

24 Commissioner Le Mons?

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Might we change "ensure" to

1 "in service of" CRC goals or whatever that statement is?  
2 Because the actions that they're going to be taking are  
3 in service of the goals that we are outlining. And we  
4 know we are all responsible for meeting those goals  
5 collectively.

6 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay, it's your motion.  
7 What do you think?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Commissioner Le Mons  
9 and Commissioner Vazquez knows where I'm coming from  
10 being nonprofit leaders and so you can see how much I've  
11 pushed my client. I would almost be more comfortable  
12 saying "that ensure" versus "to ensure". But it is -- it  
13 is about the contracts, not the contacts.

14 I could do "in service of". But again, I -- going  
15 back to what Commissioner Andersen says, all these words  
16 weaken, I think, what we're trying to achieve and let the  
17 contractors off the hook.

18 But -- so I'm seeing it the opposite of you all.  
19 I'm seeing it as we're weakening it and the contractors  
20 can say, oh, we were in service of. Oh, yeah, we got --  
21 we got ten percent, come on, we got towards that.

22 But if my colleague Commissioner Fornaciari is,  
23 which he already shook his head yes, I will -- I will  
24 accept the amendment. But I think "in serv" -- yeah.

25 CHAIR YEE: So "in service of" rather than "ensure"?

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, I was waiting to see what  
2 Commissioner Fornaciari said.

3 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari and then  
4 Commissioner Ahmad.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll defer to Commissioner  
6 Ahmed.

7 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you. I was just going to  
8 say the motion language is not the contract with the  
9 vendor, so they can't use the motion language as we  
10 reached our deliverables or not. I think this is just  
11 getting staff the delegated authority to move through the  
12 process. I'm on the fence about this "ensure", "not  
13 ensure" thing.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. I will move it -- I will  
15 make the amendment "in service of".

16 CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Fornaciari, are you  
17 okay with that?

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I'm fine with that.

19 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

20 Commissioner Kennedy?

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I had already raised my hand  
22 and it was just to say I -- someone had mentioned a while  
23 back the phrasing "consistent with", which I think, you  
24 know, to me does what we want it to do. Thank you.

25 CHAIR YEE: Well, we're at "in service of", unless

1 Commissioner Sinay wants to change it.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm okay either way. I like  
3 both -- or the same.

4 CHAIR YEE: We need you to pick one.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right. Well, we can go  
6 with "consistent with".

7 CHAIR YEE: "Consistent with". Okay.

8 And Commissioner Fornaciari, "consistent with"?  
9 Okay.

10 Director Hernandez?

11 Let's see, let's hear from Commissioner Ahmad.

12 And Director Hernandez, if you could read the  
13 revised motion.

14 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Oh, I was just going to ask if  
15 Commissioner Sinay can read her fully-revised motion.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I will go ahead and read what I  
17 have. It may or may not be correct, but we'll do our  
18 best. Okay. "The motion to delegate to staff the  
19 responsibility to place and vet and approve contracts  
20 with vendors not to exceed 2.550 million consistent with  
21 Commission outreach goals with oversight of the Outreach  
22 and Engagement Subcommittee".

23 CHAIR YEE: Okay. I see heads nodding. Let's go  
24 ahead and take public comment on the motion on the floor,  
25 not on other item 4 reports.



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

2 CHAIR YEE: Katy?

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

4 The Commission will now take public comment on  
5 item -- on the motion on the floor. To give comment,  
6 please call 877-853-5247. Enter the meeting ID number 924  
7 7650 5888 for this meeting.

8 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
9 enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions  
10 are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided  
11 on the livestream landing page.

12 And at this time we do not have anyone in the queue.  
13 I would like to remind those in the queue that star --  
14 please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you  
15 wish to comment. The public comment is for the motion on  
16 the floor at this time.

17 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Um-hum.

19 CHAIR YEE: And just to confirm, this is a special  
20 vote?

21 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: That is correct.

22 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Wait a moment.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions are  
24 complete on the stream, Chair.

25 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.



1 Okay. Director Hernandez, let's call the vote.

2 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Once again, the motion is to  
3 delegate to staff the responsibility to place and vet and  
4 approve contracts with vendors, not to exceed 2,550,000,  
5 consistent with the Commission's outreach goals and  
6 oversight of the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee.

7 Motion made by Commissioner Sinay, seconded by  
8 Commissioner Fornaciari. We'll begin the vote.

9 CHAIR YEE: And one typo, responsibility.

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Oh. It looks right to me.

11 Where is spellcheck when you need it?

12 CHAIR YEE: [Sibility].

13 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Is that correct? Okay.

14 Anything else?

15 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. That's a good word, though,  
16 responsibility (sic), needs to respond.

17 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Commissioner  
18 Fernandez, for that additional edit. Appreciate it.  
19 Okay. We will begin the vote.

20 We'll begin, Commissioner Ahmad?

21 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

22 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

23 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.



1 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

3 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari? Wow.

4 Darn.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. Yeah. Commissioner

7 Kennedy?

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

9 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: COMMISSIONER SADHWANI?

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

13 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

15 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

17 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

18 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

19 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

20 Commissioner Vazquez?

21 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

22 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And Commissioner Yee?

23 CHAIR YEE: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

25 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, everyone.



1 Thank you outreach and engagement for this big step  
2 by -- for your work.

3 Okay. So wrapping up item 4, we have item 4Q, and  
4 the be the report from the line drawer -- line drawing  
5 subcommittee, Commissioners Andersen and Sadhwani.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you, everybody.  
7 Just leading off here, going over the -- what the line  
8 drawers have been doing in our community of interest  
9 meetings. I believe they've been -- the maps has -- has  
10 been pretty well received. A couple of ideas have  
11 changes. I just want to, kind of, go over with you.

12 In the statewide meeting between each  
13 presentation -- you know, each input, then the -- you  
14 know, the big screen you go back to will be the full  
15 state.

16 If you'll notice about halfway through Zone D,  
17 the -- it went from, rather than going back to the full  
18 state, it went just back to the zone area itself with a  
19 little bit larger. And that was, sort of, the -- that  
20 was, kind of, done and then -- then approved by the  
21 chairs of that day. Thank you because it gave the  
22 whole -- the public and the commission just more an idea  
23 focusing on that area, and you could see a bit more of  
24 it, like, you know, some feedback on that.

25 Also, one thing that has -- and I wanted to get into



1 the -- the major highways. One issue, which, you know,  
2 we've been saying, boy, would be nice to be have the  
3 highways. The problem is the way the -- it's -- it's all  
4 in one layer. It's all the roads, and so what the line  
5 drawers are trying to work out is if they can divide a  
6 layer in the -- the software that they're using to only  
7 show, like, you know, the interstates and the major  
8 highways. And they're still working on that. So that's  
9 an issue to come -- coming up with, and so I'd like  
10 feedback on that.

11 But then a biggie is coming up in Los Angeles here,  
12 and I'm going to sub introduce this, and then  
13 Commissioner Sadhwani's going to give us more information  
14 on this. Los Angeles -- the -- the county of -- City of  
15 Los Angeles, I believe it is, has what's called a  
16 neighborhood council's group, and they have actually  
17 official neighborhood maps because -- like, you've heard  
18 of city -- Studio City, other area like this. Those  
19 aren't actually cities, and you know, I'm not from  
20 southern California.

21 AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: Thank you for calling  
22 Lorento Urology in Greenburg.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I've worked there a lot.  
24 All right. Whoops. We're good. And --

25 AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: (Indiscernible) --



1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So the line drawers would  
2 like to show that, but they don't want to promote those  
3 neighborhoods as that's the lines, you know, and that's  
4 the way they are because some people will say, well,  
5 that -- but that's not how I how interpret Studio City.  
6 So they'd like some direction from the commission on this  
7 topic.

8           So I might -- Commissioner Sadhwani, if you could  
9 add a bit more to that, I see Commissioner Akutagawa has  
10 a hand up -- about that, and we can, sort of, any other  
11 comments about the line drawing.

12           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, sure. So it was just  
13 brought up, if it's helpful, to have the neighborhood  
14 council lines. So for example, we have had calls about  
15 Studio City, or if we get call about Woodland Hills, or  
16 Boyle Heights, right? Like, these are neighborhoods  
17 within the City of Los Angeles.

18           There are neighborhood councils that have a boundary  
19 map. Fredy was helping out and -- to make sure that  
20 it's -- I -- this -- these are boundaries that are  
21 approved by the city council, but that doesn't mean  
22 that -- that someone might have a different boundary for  
23 their neighborhood, right?

24           But is it helpful so that when we have a caller  
25 calling in saying, keep Studio City together, or keep the

1 San -- two city -- you know, two San Fernando Valley  
2 neighborhoods together that we have that, both in terms  
3 of when we are viewing it during the meeting?

4 But also, more importantly -- and this was, kind of  
5 the key question she was asking is -- you know, on the  
6 backend, the mappers are also drawing those COIs so that  
7 it goes it in with the COI tool submissions as well, so  
8 that every time a caller comes in, we generate a shape  
9 file, right, in -- in a map, basically. Do we want to  
10 have those lines on there, right?

11 And I think it -- the real question is, is this  
12 helpful for us? Or you know, do we anticipate that this  
13 is going to be more problematic? Personally, I think  
14 it's helpful, much like our zones, right? I mean, our  
15 zones are not -- they are arbitrary when it comes to  
16 actual line drawing, but they are helpful just in terms  
17 of organizing ourselves and orienting ourselves towards  
18 the state.

19 To me, I would look at the neighborhood councils the  
20 same way as it might be helpful just to, kind of, orient  
21 ourselves to the different neighborhoods within the City  
22 of Los Angeles, but that doesn't necessarily mean that it  
23 means anything with comes to actual line drawing, right?  
24 This is, kind of, the purpose of -- of getting this --  
25 this COI input.

1           So I leave that to you, but they are looking for  
2 that direction from the commission. And so -- so it  
3 would be very helpful to have -- have something to take  
4 back with -- to them, so that they know for tomorrow how  
5 to proceed.

6           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And this is a two-  
7 pronged approach as Commissioner Sadhwani just said.  
8 Visually, it's -- it's really easy, but we don't want to  
9 then further promote, and say, and this is how you have  
10 defined your neighborhood. And that's the subtle  
11 difference here.

12           And I don't know if we can -- I think visually for  
13 tomorrow, it'd be, sort of, beneficial, but beyond that,  
14 either do we want to say, and then make that part of the  
15 announcement for any time we do zone H. You know, like  
16 we do L.A., so people understand. It might elaborate  
17 more, and I -- that's, sort of, the base of that  
18 discussion.

19           So I think I saw Commissioner Akutagawa, and then  
20 Kennedy, and the Fernandez. Unless -- actually --

21           CHAIR YEE: It was Akutagawa --

22           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- (indiscernible).

23           CHAIR YEE: -- Fernandez, and Kennedy, yes.

24           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

25           CHAIR YEE: Um-hum. Commissioner Akutagawa.



1 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sure, and thank you. And it  
2 looks like Commissioner Fornaciari also wants to say  
3 something.

4 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So my offices is in the City  
6 of L.A., so it's in the Little Tokyo area, which does  
7 have a neighborhood council. And I think that -- to what  
8 Commissioner Sadhwani was saying, I think that using the  
9 neighborhood councils are doing to be helpful. Most  
10 people, whether or not they agree with the, quote,  
11 unquotes, lines of what would be the neighborhood as  
12 defined by the neighborhood council, you know, that's up  
13 for debate.

14 But I think in terms of being to visualize the  
15 regions that -- that the callers will be talking about,  
16 most people who live in the city that -- that is the City  
17 of L.A. that has these neighborhood councils, most people  
18 generally are familiar with the neighborhood councils.  
19 And -- and I remember that some of the people who did  
20 call in refer to the neighborhood councils.

21 And so I think using it as a guide, and if we are  
22 upfront in saying, look, we're just using this for the  
23 purposes of visualization, not for the purposes of line  
24 drawing or anything else. I think most people will be  
25 okay.

1 I think the only caution that I do want to give to  
2 those who are not from region, is that it is not  
3 representative of L.A. County, which is much, much  
4 larger. It is just specific to the City of Los Angeles.  
5 And so that's the only -- the -- the caveat that I would  
6 give.

7 So we'd probably be able to get much better detail  
8 for the city, but the county level --

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

10 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: -- we'd probably have to rely  
11 on some of the other maps that the line drawers will  
12 be -- you know, will have to show us.

13 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, I -- I'm just going to  
15 go ditto with what Commissioner Akutagawa -- for me  
16 that -- I am not familiar with Los Angeles, so it would  
17 be helpful. Just listening, I think it was a statewide,  
18 and they were talking about some neighborhoods, and I  
19 wasn't exactly sure other than what they're showing --

20 CHAIR YEE: Um-hum.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- as, like, this round  
22 area. And as long as we have a disclaimer saying that  
23 they're not our lines. And I -- I would have to say  
24 there will probably be some residents in L.A. that would  
25 appreciate that information as well because they can

1 either agree or disagree, or oh, that's where that are  
2 is.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum. Um-hum.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So yes, I would appreciate  
5 that, me personally. Thank you.

6 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I -- I see  
8 great value in having the neighborhood council names as  
9 labels on the map. I think it --

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- would help the mappers  
12 zone us in faster. I am still having problems, and you  
13 know, you all heard me having to guide the mappers to an  
14 area --

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- in San Bernadino County  
17 the other day that they couldn't find. And -- and  
18 meanwhile, the -- the callers clock was ticking, and I'm  
19 like, this is why the clock shouldn't be ticking if I'm  
20 sitting --

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- there having to help the  
23 mapper find the location. I think having the labels is  
24 going to be helpful. I would say, can we have the labels  
25 without the lines?

1 Having the labels without the lines would not --

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I really don't know.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- put us on record as, you  
4 know, even having to endorse or disclaim the lines while  
5 still having the information that helps us zone in. It  
6 would also help us because people, invariably, are  
7 talking about neighboring areas, and having those labels  
8 on the map is going to help us understand what nearby  
9 areas they're talking about.

10 And I, frankly, don't need the precise lines. If  
11 somebody wants to -- and -- and we want people to give us  
12 what they see as the outline of their neighborhood or  
13 community of interest, I'd rather they tell us what the  
14 lines are, but I'm happy to have the labels. Thank you.

15 CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Fornaciari, and then I  
16 have a comment, and Commissioner Ahmad.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I -- I guess I look  
18 at it a little differently. I mean, I'm looking at the  
19 map right now on Google Maps of the -- San Fernando  
20 Valley. It says Northridge, but I don't know if  
21 Northridge is, you know, two blocks wide or a hundred  
22 blocks wide and -- and tall, or anything. So for me, I  
23 really want to see the lines.

24 And -- and it sounds like the neighborhoods in L.A.  
25 are -- are, kind of, official or least semi-official. If

1 you're electing people to represent your neighborhood,  
2 then -- the the -- the definition of the neighborhoods  
3 sounds to me like it's official. And if it's official,  
4 then I don't see why we wouldn't use that as a starting  
5 point and offer folks the opportunity to use that as a --  
6 as a basis for starting, and then modify that as -- as,  
7 you know, they see fit.

8 But I would certainly help me to, kind of,  
9 understand, you know, what the area they're talking about  
10 is. And just to add to that, I don't know if it's  
11 possible. If there's a definition of the San Fernando  
12 Valley, the San Gabriel Valley, and whatever that other  
13 valley was over -- over by --

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Simi.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No.

16 CHAIR YEE: Cochran.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No. Kind of around Chino  
18 Hills, and Chino, and there's some other valley.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, Canyon.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't --

21 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh yeah, the Canyon.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The Canyon.

23 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Carbon Canyon and --

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Yeah.

25 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: -- and like the Coachella



1 Valley and Yucca Valley.

2 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Pomona Valley.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: It's -- it's Pomona Valley.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Pomona Valley.

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Pomona Valley.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Pomona Valley. That's it.

7 The Pomona Valley.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: It was just like, oh,  
9 okay. Yeah. I don't know -- it -- so I don't know if  
10 there's any -- any kind of definition of those valleys,  
11 but that might be helpful as another layer. Thank you.

12 CHAIR YEE: Okay. My comment, yeah. I think I'm  
13 for lines because, you know, if one of the lines us  
14 under -- under dispute, if that's the caller's interest,  
15 then they'll mention that, and that'll be part of the  
16 testimony.

17 Meanwhile, you know, we don't ask people to clearly  
18 define the whole boundary around what they're talking  
19 about, and the line drawers have to digitize something,  
20 right? So it -- it's really -- is more efficient if they  
21 start with, at least, official neighborhood boundaries, I  
22 think.

23 And you know, makes me, kind of, wonder what exactly  
24 are they digitizing. Some of the input we've been  
25 getting, some of it is pretty -- pretty vague, you know,

1 so it'll be interesting to get, you know -- to close the  
2 loop on some of those, and found out what -- what we're  
3 putting down on -- for our data.

4 Okay. Commissioner Ahmad?

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I think I'm  
6 in agreement with Commissioner Kennedy on this one. From  
7 my understanding, there are lines that have been  
8 designated by many government systems for cities and  
9 counties, but it's neighborhoods and communities of  
10 interest lines that we need from Californians directly,  
11 which should sound familiar because it's exactly verbatim  
12 from our presentation.

13 And Commissioner Taylor and I actually reached out  
14 to every neighborhood council in Los Angeles during our  
15 outreach phase, and I -- I don't know if I'm comfortable  
16 going with something that may be semi-official, that if I  
17 Google it from my end, and someone else Googles it from  
18 their end, will they find the same results. Whereas, we  
19 know, you know, you can't dispute the lines of a city.  
20 No one can say, hey San Jose starts here. It's -- no,  
21 no, no. It's established where it starts.

22 So I would be more comfortable with this if, you  
23 know, we can label the general area, then we ask  
24 Californians directly to tell us where those boundaries  
25 are.

1           And to your point, Commissioner Yee, some of the  
2 feedback, the community of interest input that we are  
3 getting, has been difficult because we don't have the  
4 polygon, right? And those polygons are going to be used  
5 as building blocks to build these districts.

6           And so if we're saying that, you know, these  
7 neighborhood lines should be there, we're making an  
8 assumption, but this is what someone is telling us is  
9 there polygon, which we'll then -- we will use to draw  
10 these lines for a district, so I'm -- I'm -- I'm  
11 uncomfortable with any lines being on any map except for  
12 cities and counties at this point.

13           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

14           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

15           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Um-hum.

16           CHAIR YEE: So Commissioner Sadhwani?

17           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, sorry. So -- so I don't  
18 know if it's technologically possible for them to load  
19 labels and not the boundaries themselves by tomorrow. My  
20 understanding is I think it would be a -- like, a GIS  
21 layer, that they would be adding to their map --

22           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

23           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- that they would then be  
24 able to show us. That map is available, and my  
25 understanding -- maybe Fredy, if you want to chime in



1 here. I know you worked for the City of Los Angeles. I  
2 believe these neighborhood councils are considered, like,  
3 neighborhood council districts, and -- and there are  
4 neighborhood councils, and -- and yes -- and Commissioner  
5 Vazquez, of course, you -- you -- you live in the city as  
6 well.

7 So I do believe that they are official boundaries.  
8 That -- like I said before, that does not --

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- mean that we have to use  
11 them for the purposes of our line drawing, but simply in  
12 terms of visualization when people call in, do we want to  
13 do it?

14 And so I'm going to -- the website in which that is  
15 available is empower L.A. dot org, backslash city, dash  
16 map, so empower L.A. dot org, bash -- backslash city, dot  
17 map. And so you can see that they -- this is a GIS  
18 layer, basically, if you pull up that --

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- website in which it shows  
21 you on there very -- all of the various neighborhood  
22 council districts. I believe that the map that's here --

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- is a clickable map. So  
25 it would be having these boundaries available visually,

1 as well as in the development of those COIs. So that if  
2 someone calls in and says, keep these two neighborhood  
3 council districts together, the line drawers would have  
4 access --

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- to them. But I certainly  
7 hear the concerns. And of course, that's -- that's the  
8 point of this conversations. The -- the line drawers  
9 want to take the -- the --

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- the desires of the  
12 commission and they don't want to have -- you know, be  
13 making a policy decision such as this.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And I -- I just want  
15 to add onto that, as Commissioner Sadhwani said, this is  
16 unusual, which is why we're bringing it up. You always  
17 hear about neighborhoods all over the state, and you  
18 know, there's a -- a -- next thing you know, you know,  
19 they're recalling all sorts of various different things.

20 L.A. City has -- this is very different. It -- it's  
21 very specific. They vote on them. They have -- they  
22 have councils that draw these lines, which is why this  
23 is -- this is why we're bringing this up.

24 But we don't want to -- as Commissioner Ahmad was  
25 indicating, we don't want to say that, and so therefore

1 it is. We want to say, this is what we're using, and do  
2 you like it? And if we just have the label there, the  
3 people won't know. They'll just -- they can assume. Oh,  
4 well, what they're saying is exactly what I think. And  
5 that's why I thought, you know, if we put the lines on --  
6 also, Commissioner Sadhwani is completely correct. We  
7 want to see it tomorrow. It's the full layer. It has to  
8 be another label and the picture.

9 So I just wanted to bring that up. It is a little  
10 bit from the City of L.A.

11 CHAIR YEE: And the head commissioner is Vazquez,  
12 Fornaciari, Sinay, and Akutagawa, and then also Director  
13 Ceja.

14 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: An additional option, which  
15 would broaden out from the City of L.A. would be to use  
16 the L.A. Times, Los Angeles City -- Los Angeles metro  
17 area boundaries. I can forward around the -- the link on  
18 the L.A. Times website, but they went through a similar  
19 process. I believe it's inclusive of the  
20 neighborhoods -- the designated neighborhoods within the  
21 City of L.A., and then also includes unincorporated  
22 areas.

23 They have detailed their process for how they've --  
24 they created their L.A. Times map, which was -- had, you  
25 know, a bunch of community input. It -- in some -- I

1 don't remember, but I believe there were, like, debates  
2 about how and why there -- the L.A. Times map deferred  
3 from L.A. City's official map. Again, because this is  
4 all about political power, about who is in what  
5 community.

6 And so that's an additional option for helping us  
7 structure, and I'm not sure -- I am -- I could be swayed  
8 either way that -- that using the L.A. Times versus the  
9 L.A. City, like, official maps could be more or less  
10 problematic, depending on how you approach this work. So  
11 it could -- it -- it's an option.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll just pass for now.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: At first, I was yes because I  
16 just spoke to the westside council that was -- was -- the  
17 westside council is comprised of all the other -- a -- a  
18 bunch of neighborhoods. And then I thought, no, wait a  
19 second. L.A. City is not the only one who's done these  
20 neighborhood councils. We've got them in San Diego, too,  
21 as well, and there's over a hundred and one, as well in  
22 the City of San Diego.

23 It may not be as official looking and everything,  
24 but there was a time that San Diego unified -- San Diego  
25 unified. San Diego Union Tribune had put out the map of

1 the hundred and one neighborhoods, and I asked somebody  
2 about it the other day, and they were like, no, it's just  
3 a hundred and twenty-three or something.

4 And so neighborhood lines are really -- and I  
5 remember when we first got all seated, and someone  
6 talked about the L.A. Times one. They said that just  
7 trying to figure out what was Koreatown was a huge  
8 debate, and that you ask a hundred people, and a hundred  
9 people tell you something different. So I would rather  
10 not confuse people who are calling in and then debate us  
11 on these arbitrary -- these lines versus let them tell --  
12 you know.

13 I -- so I'm -- I'm with Commissioner Ahmad. Kind  
14 of, let's use what's already there, and not open a can of  
15 worms because we may have to open them in other cities as  
16 well.

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

18 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I will say that I  
19 just -- I think I will reconsider what I was going to  
20 say. I was going to just say, I think just these are  
21 official -- I mean, like -- I mean, these are as official  
22 as it can get in some ways.

23 Yes, you're right. It is up for debate about it,  
24 but I think -- I think then, given what's just been said,  
25 I think I would just rather go on the side of let's not

1 use these maps at all, and I would definitely not want to  
2 use the L.A. Times one because I think becomes a slippery  
3 slope in terms of we're using not even a -- an -- you  
4 know, a really -- a government one.

5 Even though it had community input, I -- I would be  
6 pretty uncomfortable with that. But I think if this is  
7 the case, then we're better off just, you know, doing  
8 what we've been doing and -- and it just means then that,  
9 you know, we just use the same maps that we've been using  
10 all along.

11 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner -- and Director  
12 Ceja, the Commissioner Le Mons, and they have about five  
13 minutes until break. Then Commissioner Fornaciari, then  
14 Vazquez. Okay, Director --

15 DIRECTOR CEJA: I'm going to pass.

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Le Mons.

17 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I just wanted to weigh in on  
18 this and say I agree that we should use the same maps  
19 that we've been using. I don't know if there is a better  
20 way to instruct the caller into the information that they  
21 give us because it's really supposed to be the  
22 information they're giving us.

23 And the other thing is, tomorrow is L.A. County, not  
24 L.A. City, and L.A. County is huge beyond L.A. City. So  
25 I think while the city is neighborhood'ed out in a



1 particular way, the County, once you get out of L.A.  
2 City, looks a little bit -- is -- is -- is not as clean.  
3 So I -- I think we end up privileging L.A. City because  
4 it's done that work, and it might make it easier for us,  
5 but the -- from my perspective, it's really about the  
6 person or -- or group -- whoever's calling in to tell us  
7 their community of interest.

8       And I agree that I find it difficult when they don't  
9 get specific, and I know we don't have an exchange, which  
10 is a little bit difficult because sometimes I want to  
11 say, well -- well -- okay, well, where are those  
12 boundaries. So I -- that's just, I guess, something we  
13 have to figure out how to overcome, and maybe it is, if  
14 they are planning -- or -- or if they want us to focus in  
15 on a particular swath of area, whether that be a  
16 neighborhood, a block, or whatever it is, if they want to  
17 be that specific.

18       A lot of the feedback sounded -- I heard was more  
19 about cities as they understand it, like the official  
20 city and keeping this city with that city, or -- or  
21 keeping groups of cities together, as opposed to how  
22 they've been broken up, or -- or talking about how they  
23 feel like their city has been cut in half.

24       So I haven't really heard very specific neighborhood  
25 testimony actually. So I don't know if that'll look very



1 different tomorrow because we are talking about L.A.  
2 This will be a learning experience, at least for me, in  
3 terms of how the feedback comes in tomorrow.

4 But I -- I do want to support the idea that we not  
5 start to narrow -- I -- I -- I -- I don't disagree that  
6 it make it a better understanding, but I think the cons  
7 to it are -- are -- are more than I think the benefit  
8 actually. And we should err on the side of being open  
9 and letting the caller narrow it to whatever degree that  
10 they're comfortable narrowing it.

11 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari, Vazquez,  
12 and Fernandez.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I just want to echo  
14 some of Commissioner Le Mons comments. You know, I --  
15 I -- I seem to recall that we had at least a few callers  
16 talking about San Fernando Valley, and they were just  
17 naming off names of neighborhoods that they wanted to  
18 have together, and -- and so you know, if we don't have  
19 an interaction that asks them to be more specific in  
20 defining what that means, then we continue to have mushy  
21 maps.

22 And so you know, if we want, you know, actionable  
23 maps, we either need to use the neighborhoods as they're  
24 defined or ask the person to be, you know, more specific  
25 in some way. So -- and -- and I think we need to do



1 that, or -- or try to do that, you know, in other  
2 examples to, but I -- I just to be more -- to have more  
3 effective maps for us to use down the road, I think we  
4 need to -- to interact in some way and get some clarity.

5 CHAIR YEE: And Commissioners Vazquez, and then  
6 Hernandez, and then Sadhwani, but we'll have to take a  
7 break somewhere in there.

8 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I -- I hear all of the  
9 reservation and am -- am pretty moved by them in terms  
10 of, you know, potentially privileging communities that  
11 are much more well defined currently, particularly in the  
12 City of L.A.

13 That being said, I am thinking about those folks for  
14 whom this is, sort of, like their entry -- their -- this  
15 is -- entry -- we're trying to think of, like, entry  
16 level civic engagement, and when you're working with  
17 someone who is new to a process, in many ways, you get  
18 more engagement by giving them something to react to even  
19 if it's oh, God, no. That is totally wrong. That is not  
20 my community. Let me tell you, like, where those  
21 boundaries are.

22 And I -- I know -- and I say this because even with  
23 our zone outreach, even though we've said a million times  
24 that they're just to structure outreach, we -- I actually  
25 think we continue to get feedback on these maps because

1 it's something for people to react to.

2       And I think we've also heard from other community  
3 advocates that, you know, issued draft maps earlier  
4 because we just -- we're going to keep giving you squishy  
5 feedback until we have something to respond to, reflect  
6 on, and go, actually no. It makes sense here, not here.

7       And so for me, in terms of, like -- I think a tool  
8 for us increase the kind of engagement and the kind of  
9 specificity that we want and need to draw these maps, we  
10 may have to put something out there for people to tear  
11 down in some ways rather than leaving an open canvas.

12       That's really difficult for -- for me. I'm even  
13 just thinking for me. Like, if someone gave me a blank  
14 map of L.A., it would take me really long time and  
15 probably too much brain power to -- to draw my own map,  
16 but if, you know, I have a -- a map of Mount Washington,  
17 and I could, sort of, play around the edges of being like  
18 actually, you know, it should be cut up this way.

19       So for me, I think where I would ultimately land is  
20 leaning more toward to the side of giving people things  
21 to reflect and respond to as a way to solicit more  
22 feedback. Yeah. That's where I'm at.

23       CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you. We need to go to  
24 break. So after break, we'll start with Commissioner  
25 Fornaciari, and Sadhwani, and others. So let's come back

1 at 3:37.

2 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

3 Thank you. Welcome back. We continue with agenda  
4 item 4Q, discussion of our line drawing subcommittee's  
5 question of how to present neighborhoods in our community  
6 of interest input map.

7 Let me note that also still on our agenda is -- are  
8 items under number 5, Public Input Design Committee,  
9 which I believe has a substantial discussion, and then  
10 two contracts for the Legal Affairs Committee, which we  
11 will be seeking approval on. So we have at least that  
12 still on the agenda. We'll see how far we can get.

13 So we're continuing with 4Q, and I believe  
14 Commissioners Fernandez and Sadhwani were next, and then  
15 there others, but I'm sorry. I didn't note who was after  
16 that. Commissioner Kennedy and then Le Mons. Okay.

17 So Commissioner Fernandez?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. I agree with what  
19 Commissioner Vazquez said. I can't remember exactly what  
20 she said, but I liked what she said. It's been twenty  
21 minutes. And for me personally, I know that it's --  
22 wouldn't be a district map, or an official map, or lines,  
23 or whatever. It would just help me in terms of trying to  
24 figure out what area they're talking about.

25 And then the other comment wanted to make, I think a

1 few of you said -- were questioning whether you could ask  
2 follow-up questions, and I know when I did -- when I  
3 chaired it on Monday, I talked with Karin, and she said  
4 that she would send me something through chat if she  
5 needed a follow-up on any of the speakers. And I did not  
6 see anything from her, so I assume that it -- I did not  
7 need a follow-up question from them.

8         So maybe that's something we need to solidify, so  
9 that, in the future, we do have, like, the few extra  
10 seconds that we can ask them follow-up if we need to  
11 figure out what their communities of interest are. Thank  
12 you.

13         CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Sadhwani, Kennedy, Le  
14 Mons, and Akutagawa.

15         COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. So two pieces. So  
16 first, I -- I -- my original comment was that I was going  
17 to talk about some of the inputs that we've received.

18         So for example, on June 10th, we had a caller who  
19 called in and said to keep the west side neighborhood  
20 council together grouped with Brentwood, Pacific  
21 Palisades, and Santa Monica.

22         So from a mapping standpoint, for the mappers, when  
23 they go back in to draw that COI, they're not going to  
24 have that layer for the west side neighborhood council.  
25 Then they would have to go and look that up. So I think

1 that this is the kind of issue that we have, and like,  
2 when we're -- if we get a caller like that, do we want to  
3 have the ability to add that layer in, right, so that  
4 it's preloaded so that we can look and see where the west  
5 side neighborhood council is?

6       During the break, I did just let Karin know that  
7 we're, kind of, headed in the direction of not using the  
8 neighborhood council maps, and she said that's fine.  
9 It's completely the prerogative of the commission, but  
10 then, kind of, to Commissioner Fernandez's point, please  
11 direct the chairs to ask follow-up questions of the exact  
12 boundaries, because from the perspective of the meeting,  
13 what we'll often see is, you know, Jaime, or whoever the  
14 mapper is, will -- will look in on an area and kind of,  
15 just zoom in.

16       But happening on the backend, they are mapping those  
17 COIs so that we have them as a map file in a GIS file to  
18 put them, eventually, into Airtable so that we have -- so  
19 that everything has a polygon.

20       So in order to do that, if the assumption from -- so  
21 if a caller calls in and talks about Studio City, if  
22 we're not making an assumption that it's the neighborhood  
23 council, then she's asking that the chair please follow  
24 up and say, tell me more specifically what you're  
25 boundaries for Studio City are because it is a

1 neighborhood otherwise.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Just  
4 quickly in response to that, and I did get some notes  
5 from Karin, but by the time I got them, Katy had already  
6 gone on to the next caller, you know. So if we're going  
7 to go with that, then we need to discuss with our support  
8 team, and make sure that part of the script is, Chair,  
9 are there any follow-up questions because otherwise, you  
10 know, we're -- we're moving through these things as fast  
11 as we can, basically.

12 So what I wanted to say in terms of this  
13 conversation is in my conception of this, and I've tried  
14 to make this clear in the past, what I personally am  
15 looking for at this point in the process is something  
16 very subjective. I'm looking to listen to people tell me  
17 about their neighborhood or their community of interest.  
18 How they see it, you know.

19 Something to react to, I understand that that's  
20 going to solicit or elicit, you know, maybe stronger  
21 responses, but to me, that's what the mapping phase is  
22 all about, is eliciting a response to something concrete  
23 that's on the table. And what I'm looking for now is  
24 that subjective part that's tell me about your  
25 neighborhood.

1           And actually, I think staff, I guess, came up with  
2 this. This whole idea of, you know, tell me about your  
3 neighborhood or community of interest as if you were  
4 describing it to a visitor. You know, that's a really --  
5 to me, that's a really great way of helping people  
6 understand what it is that we're looking at this --  
7 looking for at this point, not, you know -- not so much  
8 something very objective, like react to this map. Thank  
9 you.

10           CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Le Mons, and then  
11 Akutagawa, and the Andersen.

12           COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I was thinking the exact same  
13 thing as Commissioner Kennedy is -- and that's what I  
14 wanted to get some clarification on because that's what I  
15 was thinking. Where we are in the process. We're  
16 getting the subjective information, and I found what  
17 people were sharing -- I wasn't so focused on the map,  
18 quite frankly, even when the people are talking. I mean,  
19 I can see it, but I'm listening to what they're saying  
20 about what's important to them and why.

21           And to me, that's what I thought this particular  
22 stage of the process was all about because the highly  
23 motivated individuals who are already in this process who  
24 are jumping in early, they are reacting to something.  
25 And we can hear that when they call in and say, this

1 was -- district was such-and-such, and they made a  
2 mistake ten years ago. They are reacting.

3       And so I think we're getting the mix of commentary  
4 from the callers based upon where they are in relation to  
5 the process and what they want to share with us. So I  
6 didn't think that we were trying to narrow them to the  
7 very specific lines. I thought that was going to be the  
8 next phase, and they're actually reacting to the maps,  
9 and said oh, you -- no, you need to move it here. You  
10 need to move it there, that that's coming.

11       And so I agree with Commissioner Vazquez and others  
12 who make the point that people need something to react  
13 to. I absolutely agree with that, but we didn't start  
14 that way. We didn't start with the current map, and put  
15 it up, and say react to the map. This is how they drew  
16 it in 2010. We're here to draw it with all the changes  
17 and make it different, so let's zero in on your section  
18 of the -- of the state and see what you want changed.

19       We didn't -- we're not approaching it that way. So  
20 just putting up a neighborhood, I don't know how that  
21 really gives anybody anything to necessarily specifically  
22 react to. It might help up wrap our brain around what  
23 they're talking about. And again, I'll just say for me  
24 personally, I haven't been so much focused on block-by-  
25 block what they're talking about, more on the anecdotal



1 information that they're sharing.

2       So when we start doing that, we have the -- the  
3 transcripts of these callers. We have our memories. Not  
4 that we're going to be able to depend that for hundreds  
5 and hundreds of people, but we -- we were there. We felt  
6 it. We knew what the -- the -- Coachella Valley group  
7 had been very clear. So when we get to that part, I'm  
8 going to be like, oh, no, no, no. I remember them  
9 saying, you know, that kind of thing.

10       So I -- I don't think that we're not trying to  
11 accomplish the same goals. We may be looking at it from  
12 different perspectives, so -- and again, I'm not saying  
13 I'm right that that's the process that we're in, but  
14 that's just been how I've been approaching it.

15       CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Akutagawa, and then  
16 Andersen.

17       VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I wanted to say that  
18 when I was hearing most of the previous callers, they  
19 weren't getting specific. Partly because in some cases,  
20 I think I agree with Commissioner Le Mons said. I think  
21 at this stage for a lot of people, if we're asking them  
22 to tell us about their communities of interest, it may be  
23 just a generality.

24       So hearing how some of these speakers, you know,  
25 talked about we're in the high desert versus low desert.

1 Some were very specific more by the freeways that  
2 bordered their particular area.

3 Like, for example, those who were calling from,  
4 like, the Chino Hills area, they were talking about  
5 specific freeways in the area. Those in, you know, like,  
6 the Calabasas when we were doing more of the statewide,  
7 people were saying, you know, keep Calabasas with the  
8 Simi Valley. And then when we were doing the further  
9 northern areas where they were talking about Placer and  
10 Eldorado should be kept together, they weren't super  
11 specific because I think they -- they were thinking in  
12 broader terms.

13 And as this conversation's been going on, I was just  
14 thinking that about that, too. I don't know -- I think  
15 now I'm even more convinced that I think the maps that we  
16 have will be good enough. I think, maybe, the maps is  
17 more for our reference more so than the callers reference  
18 because I think most people, I expect, will be similar to  
19 the previous callers that we've had.

20 Somebody's going to call in about the San Gabriel  
21 Valley, and they're going to say the San Gabriel Valley,  
22 you know, is going to include X-Y-Z communities, some of  
23 which is going to sound like it overlaps with some of the  
24 communities that people were just calling about yesterday  
25 because the -- kind of, the definition is what is --

1 constitutes the San Gabriel Valley is expanding because  
2 of -- and again, this depends on who's calling from which  
3 community, but if it's the Asian American community,  
4 that -- that kind of definition of the San Gabriel Valley  
5 is expanding because as the community so does the  
6 definition of what is the San Gabriel Valley.

7       And so I -- I guess -- I think I would still  
8 continue now. I think I'm even more convinced that I  
9 think we're better off just continuing to use the maps  
10 that we're doing rather than to try to use some of these  
11 other maps. Again, it's more for our benefit than --  
12 than I think this -- the callers, and to ask them to be  
13 very specific, I think, some may, some may not.

14       You know, and I think, you know, are we going to  
15 turn people off if we're asking them to do that just yet,  
16 when we're not even there yet?

17       CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Andersen, and the I  
18 have a comment.

19       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for this -- all  
20 this conversation. I think we're going around. I keep  
21 on telling -- that I don't -- I wish we would not divorce  
22 the two.

23       What they say, and what they're talking about, and  
24 how heartfelt it is does not have to be completely  
25 separated from what the --the actual location of it.

1 Now, it usually helps most people to say, you know, this  
2 is about it, and -- and really get passionate, and then  
3 get into the, okay, now, so where actually is it?

4       You know, if -- if you -- actually, right. If you  
5 lead with, where it is, duh, duh, duh, da, duh, it often  
6 throws them, and then they don't get into the passion of  
7 it. But the idea that we're going to do this detail next  
8 time around, I don't -- we're not going to have time for  
9 that. This is -- this is the lot of time where the  
10 people can tell us passionately about their community,  
11 and then we can ask them in terms of the idea of follow  
12 up. Now, could you give us a little bit more information  
13 about that?

14       So then we can take it down, and they don't have to  
15 come back because a lot of people will be upset as we go  
16 back around and say, well, you weren't paying attention  
17 to me at all in the first place. And I -- I'd like us  
18 to, kind of, consider these -- I don't want us to think  
19 that it's one or the other. These are connected.

20       And you know, if -- so the idea of a bit more  
21 communication as, you know, the follow-up questions,  
22 we've all seen how that would be really helpful, and we  
23 get the public to be much more engaging rather than the  
24 very, sort of, cold early issue was time. But -- because  
25 from the line-drawing perspective, they're actually

1 asking -- the line drawers are saying, well, you know, so  
2 this is the way we could do Los Angeles. They're  
3 actually, kind of, thinking, as we start looking on,  
4 again, the more populated areas, how do we want to handle  
5 neighborhoods in all the different big cities?

6 And so we just haven't brought this to your  
7 attention yet because we haven't had, you know, the --  
8 some time for it. You know, I -- since we are adjusting  
9 things as we go, an idea would be try it one way or  
10 other, and then differently the next time is something I  
11 would recommend because, you know, a lot of people, they  
12 are assuming when they say, hey, well, Chino Hills and  
13 those areas. Those are very well defined. They are  
14 cities. Those are counties.

15 Most people in -- you know, in the cities  
16 themselves, they have an idea where their neighborhood  
17 is. So once they, sort of, tell us this, I think it's up  
18 to us to, maybe, go with more prodding. And the idea  
19 with the maps of -- in L.A., the city -- I know the  
20 county doesn't have it -- but would give that prodding,  
21 and it's one particular set.

22 Commissioner Sadhwani, I'd like to have her  
23 elaborate on this a bit because we've been working with  
24 the line drawers and communicating with them about this.

25 CHAIR YEE: Go ahead, Commissioner Sadhwani.

1           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I mean, I think the  
2 key piece here is, what is the instruction to the line  
3 drawers? So people have three minutes, right? So the  
4 difference, for example, in some of the thing that we  
5 have heard about San Gabriel, if we hear them say to  
6 Commissioner Andersen's point, San Gabriel Valley  
7 includes Monterey Park and Alhambra.

8           Those are cities separate from the City of Los  
9 Angeles, but if we have someone calling about San  
10 Fernando Valley and say keep these parts of the San  
11 Fernando Valley together, Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, and  
12 Studio City. The mapper isn't going to know what to --  
13 polygon to draw because those are neighborhoods inside of  
14 the City of Los Angeles.

15           So if we're going -- if we don't want to use the  
16 neighborhood councils, that's fine. But then we need to  
17 give greater instruction to the mappers of what is the  
18 polygon going to be that they draw that then later gets  
19 input into the Airtable, so that we can go back and see  
20 it.

21           We have this whole data management system set up.  
22 And if we don't want to use neighborhood councils, that's  
23 fine. But then there has to be some response to the  
24 callers to say, when say you say Sherman Oaks, what does  
25 that include, so that they know what to draw. Otherwise,

1 we're leaving it to their subjectivity, to the mappers  
2 subjectivity to draw that out.

3       And to me, that's worse, right, because some of the  
4 mappers are not from California. So what is that going  
5 to look like? So I -- you know, to me, like, I think we  
6 can say, upfront, for the purposes of understanding the  
7 City of Los Angeles, we will be using neighborhood  
8 council districts. If you do -- if you disagree with  
9 those districts, please be very specific about how you  
10 disagree with them so that we can capture it.

11       But if we don't use them, then we're leaving a lot  
12 open to interpretation by the mappers themselves, and I  
13 think that should be just as worrisome. So you know, I  
14 don't really have any skin in the game here, but I think  
15 if -- ultimately, what the line drawers are asking for is  
16 clear direction.

17       CHAIR YEE: Yeah. I have comment, and Commissioner  
18 Le Mons, and Commissioner Ahmad.

19       Yeah, you know, I'm wondering if we might actually  
20 might have -- if it would be helpful if the line drawing  
21 subcommittee brings in some of the line drawers at a  
22 future meeting, and we can have some back and forth, and  
23 actually look some sample input and sample maps because  
24 in the abstract, we have idea what -- like you say, we  
25 have no idea what the mapper is imagining or putting down

1 based on, you know, references that don't involve actual  
2 political boundaries.

3       So yeah. I mean, I think I -- talking in the  
4 abstract is kind of impossible without knowing how they  
5 actually go about this, and seeing some samples of what  
6 actually go digitized based on what kind of testimony,  
7 you know. And then we can -- then every -- we'd have a  
8 much more concrete sense of how the process works and how  
9 we might need to adjust it.

10       Okay. Commissioner Le Mons, and then Ahmad, and  
11 then Andersen.

12       COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, thanks -- thanks  
13 Commissioner Sadhwani for that perspective. I had no --  
14 that is very worrisome to, quite frankly.

15       The idea that the -- if the mapper's objective  
16 behind the scenes is to capture -- and I'm not acting  
17 like I'm surprised at that, but to capture what the  
18 caller is saying, and they then --may not -- I'm biased  
19 because I know L.A. So when you say Studio City,  
20 Sherman, I knew exactly what you're talk -- you know, in  
21 my head, I see it very easily. But it had never occurred  
22 to me that the mapper may have no idea what that means.  
23 So I think as a tool to getting to being able to capture  
24 what's being said, that's critical.

25       It brings up another issue to me is the time



1 allotment. If that is really the goal, I think three  
2 minutes is grossly under budgeted for what we need in  
3 many cases, not all. I mean, some people, depending on  
4 how broadly they're speaking about their interests, but  
5 in some case, it -- I could see in many cases that that  
6 back and forth, which we really have not been doing,  
7 where -- how do we make sure there's equity and parity in  
8 time for individuals to share their community of  
9 interest?

10       So we have a model that I think is a little bit --  
11 makes us vulnerable to getting the kind of quality  
12 information that we are seeking to get. So I stand by  
13 what I said earlier from my perception, but I do take in  
14 the additional information you just provided. That seems  
15 very critical. So we may really need to look at what  
16 we're doing here in a lot of ways.

17       CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Ahmad, Andersen,  
18 Kennedy, and Vazquez.

19       COMMISSIONER AHMAD: And Taylor.

20       CHAIR YEE: And Taylor.

21       COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. And  
22 thank you Commissioner Sadhwani for bringing that up, and  
23 I totally understand what you're saying that the ultimate  
24 goal of the line drawers is to get polygons that then we  
25 can call up like we learned in our training to start

1 looking at how to do we minimize the division of these  
2 communities of interest.

3       Where I didn't know, and maybe I need some clarity  
4 on this. My understanding was that if clear polygon  
5 information is not received by the caller, the mapper is  
6 not creating a polygon for that input, correct? Or are  
7 they filling -- finishing the shape on there, based off  
8 of their on judgment. I'm not sure about that. That  
9 part kind of raised some red flags in my mind.

10       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I be -- this is really a  
11 question for them because I'm not sure how they're  
12 handling that, but you know, I believe that they are  
13 doing their best to finish that off. And I guess this --  
14 that begs the question, right?

15       Like, so in the instance of the San Fernando Valley,  
16 for example, right --

17       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

18       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- if someone calls in and  
19 says keep Studio City, and -- what did I say before? I  
20 don't -- Van Nuys, and Sherman Oaks together, is that  
21 complete? If we're using the neighborhood city councils  
22 as our --

23       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um--hum.

24       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- baseline, we can say --

25       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.



1           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- we can say, yes, it is  
2 complete because they're going to go and pull those three  
3 neighborhood councils and make a polygon out of them.

4           If we're saying no, that those are not  
5 neighborhood -- the -- we're not using neighborhood  
6 councils as our baseline, then perhaps that's not  
7 complete, and that's why she had said in -- during the  
8 break, please ask the Chair for the follow-up information  
9 then on well, what is --

10          COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Uh-huh.

11          COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- the boundary of those  
12 three neighborhoods according to that caller? And that's  
13 where it starts getting into more issues around, like,  
14 okay, well, what does that mean in terms of those three  
15 minutes?

16          COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. And the -- I did receive  
17 pings from Karin during my turn to get additional clarity  
18 from callers.

19          COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Um-hum.

20          COMMISSIONER AHMAD: But where it gets messing is, I  
21 heard the caller clearly on what mountain range they  
22 said, but then the line drawers may not have heard it, or  
23 someone else might not have heard. So up to the  
24 discretion of the Chair at that point also becomes a  
25 little uncertain in terms of what we are documenting and

1 if we're documenting in a systematic way.

2 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Andersen, Kennedy,  
3 Vazquez, Taylor.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. These are all very  
5 good questions. And a little bit, we'd -- next week, the  
6 line drawers are going to be presenting to us, and we can  
7 certainly have -- elaborate more on exactly what they're  
8 doing. It doesn't help for tomorrow.

9 But one thing that I believe Commissioner Kennedy  
10 might be about to elaborate on, and if so, please nod and  
11 I'll stop, but the idea of before their time starts,  
12 locate their area on the map, in which case I might go to  
13 Commissioner Kennedy, and I'll stop right there. I can  
14 wrap up later.

15 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair, and thank  
17 you Commissioner Andersen. Yes, I do continue to believe  
18 that we're going to be better served by starting the  
19 clock for the sharing of the subjective story, you know,  
20 anecdotal information that we're looking for from the  
21 callers after their area is clearly identified and  
22 located on the map.

23 And I would even say that that would be the point  
24 where the mappers could, themselves, ask the caller to  
25 provide any further detail that they need to determine

1 what area that they want to talk about. Then when it's  
2 time to talk about it, that's the three minutes, and the  
3 mappers don't get involved. The caller is talking to us.  
4 Thank you, Chair.

5 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Vazquez.

6 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I think this goes back  
7 to a little bit of the core debate about some of these  
8 meetings about the art and the science, right? That,  
9 like, part of why we really want to continue to have  
10 open, public meetings where we hear from folks, and you  
11 know, we had this whole talk about being able to see  
12 folks if we can is I agree we really want that  
13 subjective, qualitative data.

14 And that's actually -- I've not been taking a lot of  
15 notes because what I've been trying to do is just listen  
16 for impressions and themes around certain areas. And  
17 that being said, I also feel like we do to -- I've heard  
18 Commissioner Andersen in particular talk about, like, we  
19 do need both. And our initial maps need that more  
20 quantitative, hard, specific data because, in many ways  
21 then, I think what we'll find, especially for some of  
22 these communities of interest that are very big, like,  
23 keep Van Nuys and Sherman Oaks together. I think we'll  
24 be hard pressed to do that on a broad level across the  
25 state to keep these, like, big regions together.

1 I think we'll -- by having so much broad not-super-  
2 specific data at the front end, we set ourselves up to  
3 having to make decisions in an interim step, like for our  
4 draft maps, that force us to cut up communities in ways  
5 that, maybe, aren't particularly informed, right?

6 We don't -- we won't have the information to go well  
7 if you did have to break up -- you know, draw a line,  
8 where it be? And we're -- we would, sort of, in some  
9 ways, maybe go -- going blind into that first round of  
10 decisions, which, again, we can do, but I'm not sure,  
11 like -- I think we're also then, maybe, kicking the can  
12 down the road in terms of when those decisions have to be  
13 made and setting ourselves up to not make the best use of  
14 this time now.

15 Like, we've had a debate about whether we were even  
16 ready to start receiving public input, and we made the  
17 decision as a group to push forward, and I feel like we  
18 won't be using the best -- making the best use of this  
19 time now to get specific, and setting ourselves to just  
20 get a deluge of this is so wrong. This is so off base,  
21 which will just complicate our efforts to revise the  
22 draft maps and also compact the time that we have to do  
23 that in. So yeah.

24 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Taylor, and then  
25 let's try to land the plane here. Also, I believe the

1 Public Input Design Committee, I think some of these  
2 issues actually overlap with -- probably overlap with  
3 some of things you'll be discussing as well. So this is  
4 probably not the last shot at this topic. So --but for  
5 now, Commissioner Taylor.

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: All right. So you know,  
7 again, looking for a little bit of direction for  
8 tomorrow. I think I would have to agree with Sara and  
9 Angela in that, I think we're set up right now where  
10 we're working off of defined definitions and not  
11 necessarily a blank slate. So I think for efficiency's  
12 sake, we need the neighborhoods to be present.

13 There's over eighty-eight neighborhoods that  
14 consists of Los Angeles. I would challenge a mapper or  
15 even some of us to just, off the top of their head,  
16 define where Village Green is, where Winnetka is, where  
17 University Park is. If you're not familiar to that area,  
18 it'd be hard enough for some of those -- some of us that  
19 live here. Are we talking about the University Park over  
20 by USC, or we talking about the one the valley?

21 So these things are hard enough to define as it is.  
22 So I think for efficiency, we have to use it. I think  
23 our remedy is to have some sort of disclaimer. I know  
24 we're putting a lot on Katy, but a disclaimer that these  
25 now are not our district lines. If you have a question

1 as to the definition of this neighborhood, then please  
2 state that in your testimony.

3 And then also from conditioning, some people almost  
4 view these as cities -- incorporated cities, so that when  
5 they're talking about them, it's almost a given that you  
6 know where -- because we've been using it, Studio City,  
7 Sherman Oaks, and Van Nuys are. It's almost given that  
8 you -- and you don't. You don't realize that they're a  
9 part of Los Angeles that has been segmented. Thank you.

10 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

11 I think, actually, Director Hernandez, you had a  
12 thought for us, or? Director Hernandez, did you have  
13 a --

14 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes.

15 CHAIR YEE: All right.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I just wanted to point out just  
17 two things. One, we are making -- we, I say the staff is  
18 making adjustments and working with the line drawers and  
19 also the videographers to adjust as we go. As far as  
20 giving additional time to communicate if there's  
21 additional information needed, we've given a couple of  
22 seconds after the caller concludes the three minutes to  
23 see if anything is coming in to adjust and ask for  
24 additional questions. That being said, we don't know --  
25 at times, we don't what the actual caller is going to



1 talk about. They don't provide much detail as we would  
2 like them to do so. And so when we do get the  
3 information, it may not start off with the map. Katy  
4 will try to get that in there to ask them to provide the  
5 map. And they just go right into their narrative. So  
6 those are some of the challenges we're trying to cut off  
7 and make sure that we're able to provide the maps.

8 But those are the two things that I wanted to share.

9 CHAIR YEE: So right now, I believe we were told  
10 that the clock starts when they start talking. So we've  
11 had a suggestion that the clock should start when the map  
12 is in place. I don't know how to go forward with that.  
13 But that's been voiced.

14 Commissioner Le Mons?

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I'd like to make a  
16 motion that the call begin with basically what  
17 Commissioner Kennedy said, that the call begins with the  
18 caller establishing what area they are talking about.  
19 And then, want -- and actually, I was thinking the same  
20 thing Commissioner Kennedy is, why isn't the line drawer  
21 at that point, like, getting that part kind of situated?  
22 Like, if we could have that done distinctly, right? And  
23 then once that is established -- and if it's broad, they  
24 may be talking about, you know, something broad, that's  
25 fine. We don't have to narrow them to -- like, force

1 them to get into a neighborhood. But we're trying to get  
2 as close to understanding the boundaries that they're  
3 talking about. So the map drawer could get them in that  
4 point, right?

5 And then, once that piece has been established, then  
6 they move to -- oh this, I made a motion, so we won't  
7 have all this language in there. Basically, the motion  
8 will just be -- I forgot that I was making a motion. I'd  
9 like to make a motion that the caller establish, with the  
10 support of the line drawer, the area that they want to  
11 discuss. Once that has been established, the caller will  
12 then have three minutes to tell us why is it -- you know,  
13 why they're calling and why this area is important to  
14 them.

15 And then, what we're going to have to gauge -- and  
16 if the other commissioner wants to do this as a pilot to  
17 see how it works, because to Commissioner Andersen's  
18 point, we're still trying to kind of find our way, in  
19 terms of timing, we still give everybody three minutes to  
20 talk. But we establish that framework that we need to,  
21 kind of, wrap our heads around the context of what's  
22 being discussed with us, so.

23 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So Commissioner Le Mons, is it  
24 fair to say, then, the motion is that the three minutes  
25 begins once the area has been located by the line

1 drawers?

2 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. Yes.

3 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

4 CHAIR YEE: Okay, a motion has been made. Is there  
5 a second?

6 Commissioner Andersen is that a second? Yes? Okay.  
7 Can you -- we hear you?

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. I second that  
9 motion.

10 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

11 Discussion? Commissioner Ahmad?

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Awesome solution for the time  
13 being. Great idea. I love it.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I would also -- we  
16 will get -- Commissioner Sadhwani will get back to line  
17 drawers tonight just to give them -- it's not to the  
18 point of exact, okay, now, which line and which -- you  
19 know, not that level. So in terms of everyone has  
20 considered, you know, oh, god, how much time is this  
21 going to take? It is the overall area, because many of  
22 them, of the people who give their testimony, mention  
23 streets and things like that, do not expect the line  
24 drawers to actually draw all those lines, but will see  
25 the area. And then they, at the backend, can pick that

1 up. And remember, because they're not actually putting  
2 it on the COI Tool right now. But they're collecting all  
3 the information.

4 So I think this is going to be, you know, certainly  
5 enough direction. And then, once we take care of this, I  
6 have a quick summary that I think would wrap everything  
7 up.

8 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari?

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I would just -- I  
10 support the idea. I just would offer that we would ask  
11 the Chair to be responsible for focusing the person on  
12 zooming in on their area first, because there have been  
13 some callers who just started talking about their input,  
14 and in, either never got to a map or didn't, or got to  
15 the map at the end. So we just want to make sure that,  
16 you know, we're as fair with the three minutes for  
17 everybody as we can -- can be.

18 And I just wanted to ask, so we're not suddenly --  
19 we're not all -- make to the question of neighborhoods  
20 that we were -- at this point, it sounds like we're not  
21 going to implement anything new in terms of the -- where  
22 there are neighborhood -- official neighborhoods. But  
23 we'll continue to display only at the level of  
24 incorporated cities and no further?

25 Okay, Commissioner Le Mons and Andersen?

1           COMMISSIONER LE MONS:  Actually, if we need to  
2 follow that in there -- I mean, I think it should open to  
3 get in neighborhood if we need to.  And that will be the  
4 map that'll allow you to do that, right?  I don't think  
5 they can get neighborhood on the other one.  So it's  
6 whatever tools they have at their disposal to get to what  
7 the person is telling us is their area, understanding  
8 that they are mapping this behind the scenes separate and  
9 apart.

10           So these are to me just tools, right?  Is that right  
11 Commissioner Sadhwani?  Yeah.  So we would give them the  
12 open space to use the tools that they need to establish  
13 the location that the caller is establishing.

14           CHAIR YEE:  But if I understand the discussion  
15 earlier, I mean, if somebody says Sherman Oaks, the  
16 question is whether the mapper would display a map that  
17 has the official LA City boundaries for the neighborhood  
18 of Sherman Oaks, or not, right?  Isn't that still an open  
19 question?

20           COMMISSIONER LE MONS:  Well, they would in what I'm  
21 suggesting, they would.  And the person might say, well,  
22 no, it's -- I'm talking about these streets and these  
23 streets.  So it's just to help them, because you --  
24 because if you don't have the ability to get that  
25 granular, right?  How are you -- how's the person going

1 to be able to say whether you're right or wrong, right?

2 So yeah, that's my thought.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Let's see.

4 Commissioner Akutagawa?

5 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I would agree with  
6 what Commissioner Le Mons is proposing. And I think if  
7 with this proposal to enable the caller to specify what  
8 area of the map you want. You don't have to worry about  
9 these other neighborhood maps.

10 If they say it's Studio City, and then, the map --  
11 whoever's doing the map will have to say, okay, how  
12 specific do you want me to get? And that person will  
13 have to say, you know, either street boundaries or just  
14 freeways, whatever it is that they want to say. I think  
15 then it's defined by them. And then, we don't run into  
16 these other issues that we're talking about earlier  
17 about, well, what if this is not what they agree with is  
18 the neighborhood?

19 They'll just -- we'll just have to have then, the  
20 caller define it, which is what we say we want them to do  
21 also. And the degree to which they want to talk about  
22 their specific communities of interest. It's up to them  
23 if they want to keep it broad, or if they really want to  
24 hone in on a very particular area that they think is  
25 important to them.

1 But in that context, they could say it connects to  
2 these places. And then, it's up to the mapper to, you  
3 know, to see how they'll be able to show that. But I  
4 think -- I like this option. I think it's one that we  
5 could test out and see how it works. And it may -- it  
6 may satisfy all of the concerns that we've expressed  
7 previous to this.

8 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Any other discussion? Okay, why  
9 don't we go to public comment.

10 Katy, if we could have the short form and public  
11 comment on the motion on the floor.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

13 The Commission will now take public comment on the  
14 motion on the floor. To give comment, please call  
15 (877)853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number of  
16 92476505888 for this meeting. Once you have dialed in,  
17 please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full  
18 call and instructions are read at the beginning of the  
19 meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page.

20 We do have a raised hand at this time.

21 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Before we take that call, can we  
22 also make it a comment on any item under -- any of the  
23 subcommittee reports under item 4?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

25 CHAIR YEE: Since we are now at the end of that?



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. So public comment  
2 will be for the agenda on the floor and agenda -- or I'm  
3 sorry, the motion on the floor and agenda item number 4,  
4 subcommittee reports. Correct?

5 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy, correct.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect.

7 CHAIR YEE: And we'll take that call, then.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. And go ahead. The  
9 floor is yours.

10 MR. MENDOZA: Good afternoon, commissioners. My  
11 name is John Mendoza. I live out here in the City of  
12 Pomona, which is in close proximity to Chino Hills, San  
13 Bernardino, Montara. There's a lot of these other cities  
14 that I think you're having a very interesting  
15 conversation about public input.

16 I had a public input that I gave on to the (audio  
17 interference) Redistricting Commission the other night.  
18 And the first thing they asked me was, what was my ZIP  
19 code? I gave them my ZIP code. And they brought that --  
20 that area into a map. And then from there when I was  
21 giving my public testimony, they gave a precinct number  
22 so for us. And they focused in narrowly on the area I  
23 was talking about and some of the bordering that was  
24 having to do with the supervisor -- supervisor of  
25 district 1.



1           So I just wanted to share my -- share my thoughts  
2 and so forth. And thank you very much. Have a good day.

3           CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Mr. Mendoza.

4           PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

5           And our next caller is caller 2829. Go ahead.

6           MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I  
7 fully support Commissioner Le Mons' motion. I saw two  
8 instances during the statewide meetings, one where it had  
9 to do with the Lake Isabella area, where the map wasn't  
10 focused on the area the speaker called in about. And  
11 then, a second one was the San Bernardino County, where a  
12 person was from Upland. And they didn't get the map  
13 focused on Upland. Matter of fact, they just showed all  
14 of the norther part of San Bernardino County. So you  
15 absolutely need to locate the area where the person's  
16 from.

17           And then that said, I have a question about the  
18 libraries under the Materials Committee. They mentioned  
19 that it -- I believe, the paper COI is going to be sent  
20 to all the libraries. Will there be follow up with each  
21 library? And are you going to send, like, to a major  
22 county library and expect them to distribute to the  
23 branches, or will you mail the COI paper tools to all the  
24 branch libraries in the State of California?

25           And then, I have a question regarding the public

1 access to the COI material that Marian Johnston  
2 brought -- brought up, do you have a time date when  
3 Airtable will make the data from the COI --

4 AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: Thirty seconds.

5 MS. WESTA-LUSK: -- all the COI Tool collections  
6 available to the public? Do you have like a ballpark  
7 figure when that might happen? Thank you.

8 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ms. Westa-Lusk.

9 Let's see, the Materials Committee, could you  
10 respond briefly to the caller concerning the libraries  
11 and distribution of the paper COI Tool, Commissioner  
12 Fornaciari?

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think that the library, that  
14 would be Outreach efforts, in terms of getting that  
15 information to the libraries, right?

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

17 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. We're working with  
18 staff right now to come up with an efficient and  
19 effective way of doing it, because if we just sent it to  
20 all libraries, not all libraries will necessarily put  
21 them out or even share them. So we will, as we create  
22 the process, we will make sure to report back out to the  
23 public.

24 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: And there's an -- there's

1 just to say, we want to have an engagement portion with  
2 this, right? It's just not mail them out in the dark.  
3 You know, we want to have the library be prepared and  
4 understand how it -- how to effectively use the tool.

5 CHAIR YEE: Very good. And then, the timeline for  
6 the Airtable, I believe that's still basically open,  
7 right? Can anyone give more specifics than that?

8 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, I can ask team if that's  
9 accurate. But I believe we're inching closer. It's  
10 still dependent on that contracting process being in  
11 place, because we can't punch in our credit card and  
12 click buy.

13 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

14 Okay. Any more callers, Katy?

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair, we do have  
16 one more caller with their hand raised.

17 CHAIR YEE: Very good.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead. The floor is  
19 yours.

20 MS. BEST: Good afternoon, commissioners. My name  
21 is Ayana Best. And I'm calling on behalf of the  
22 California Black Census and Redistricting Hub, a  
23 coalition of thirty black-lead and black certain  
24 organizations across the State of California. As always,  
25 we want to thank you for your hard work and your

1 dedication to ensuring a transparent and meaningful and  
2 authentic public participation process for members of the  
3 public.

4       We are calling today to ask the commissioners for a  
5 clarity around the Commission weighing on COI testimony  
6 from various sources. No doubt the Commission is, and  
7 will receive public testimony from communities of  
8 interest that may conflict or overlap with each other.  
9 Ultimately, where there's overlapping or conflicting --  
10 conflicting testimony, the Commission will have to  
11 determine which testimony will be considered in their  
12 final line-drawing process, and which is not.

13       Our question is, is the Commission planning to  
14 outline the criteria, and will -- it will use to assess  
15 and weigh COI testimony and service of line drawing? Is  
16 there a particular process you will use to work with the  
17 line drawers to resolve conflicting COIs? If so for the  
18 sake of transparency, it would be helpful to provide some  
19 clarity on when and where the Commission will decide on  
20 these issues, for the public to weigh in, if they wish  
21 to.

22       In addition in the spirit of transparency, we also  
23 ask that the Commission move with urgency to publicly  
24 share the COI map and narratives and testimony it is  
25 receiving through the public through the COI Tool. In

1 addition --

2 AUTOMATED VOICE SYSTEM: Thirty seconds.

3 MS. BEST: Thank you. Again, thank you for your  
4 hard work and dedication and we'll look forward to your  
5 comment on this.

6 CHAIR YEE: Thank you so much. It certainly is our  
7 intention to have that COI data made public as soon as  
8 possible. And we feel the pain as much as anyone that  
9 that is not in place yet, so. We've been trying to  
10 expedite that. In terms of discussions of our weighing  
11 of COI input, that is a huge question that will no doubt  
12 absorb us in future meetings. We will certainly be  
13 applying our six statutory criteria as best we can. And  
14 then, how to weigh conflicting COI input, for instance,  
15 that will be a discussion that will open fully for us at  
16 some point, I'm sure.

17 Okay. Any other calls?

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was our last  
19 caller, Chair.

20 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Katy.

21 Director Hernandez, if we could go to the vote?

22 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Let's make sure we have the  
23 motion correct. I've been known to make errors. The  
24 motion is that the three minutes begin once the caller  
25 establishes the area they want to discuss, with the

1 assistance of the Chair and/or line drawers.

2 Is that correct, Commissioner Le Mons?

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Partially.

4 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

5 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I'll repeat it. That's an  
6 aspect of it. Give me one second here. I actually wrote  
7 it down.

8 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Okay. So the motion is, a  
10 caller will be allowed to establish their area of  
11 interest with the line drawer prior to offering their  
12 verbal testimony. The three minutes will begin once the  
13 area has been established. And the final part was that  
14 the Chair will facilitate the caller in this process, if  
15 needed.

16 Commissioner Andersen, you okay with that?

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I think we could,  
18 sort of, condense it a little bit, similar to what Alvaro  
19 was kind of saying. But were we also putting in that  
20 that we are going to be using the neighborhood maps with  
21 discussion --

22 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Oh, yeah.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- with follow-up  
24 discussion?

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, the tool -- well, it

1 was the tools in general, so neighborhood maps in this  
2 case. But it may be a different tool somewhere else. So  
3 that's I said with the line drawer. And that's sort of  
4 implied --

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: -- to me what --

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: -- tools they use, if  
9 everybody's okay with that. Gives it a little --

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Then that, then I  
11 understand the clarification versus from what Alvaro had  
12 written. And I like it.

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you.

14 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I've copied and pasted from the  
15 email received. I don't believe there are any additional  
16 changes there, Commissioner Le Mons?

17 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: No, no additional changes.

18 CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Andersen, all good?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Sorry, I was trying to  
20 find the unmute.

21 CHAIR YEE: All good. Thank you.

22 Let's have the vote.

23 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: All right. And it is p.m., not  
24 a.m. We'll begin the vote now.

25 Commissioner Ahmad?



1 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

2 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

3 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

4 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen?

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

8 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

12 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

14 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani?

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

18 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

20 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

21 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

22 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

23 Commissioner Vasquez?

24 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

25 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee?



1 CHAIR YEE: Yes.

2 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner Le  
4 Mons and everyone for that good discussion.

5 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you, Commissioner  
6 Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner -- yeah.

8 Commissioner Andersen?

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. And just to wrap  
10 up, everyone's been calling in asking about, you know,  
11 how are we going to see how are we going to see this COI  
12 information? So I just want to give you a little preview  
13 here. I'm going to share the screen. And I think you  
14 can still hear me when I -- I just got to find share  
15 screen. Not here. Not share. Oh. No, that's not it.  
16 Trying to find my share-screen button now. There we go.

17 Okay. This is from the line drawers. Oh, there we  
18 go. In terms of what Pinmap (sic), right, this is just a  
19 rough picture of approximately what might end up either  
20 on our website. All of these dots -- I'd back it out  
21 just a little bit. You can see little black dots on  
22 that, so I backed that out a little bit, these are the  
23 170-community of input's points that we were -- had. We  
24 were just putting out an initial preliminary. The line  
25 drawers have been playing with this. So this is about a



1 third of the COIs that we have to date.

2       The problem is, this is -- these are just the  
3 shapefiles, so it was located. And we had a little tiny  
4 Airtable display. And it's only about seven actual  
5 information were put into the Airtable that we actually  
6 could say, hey, and let's go over here and click on that  
7 and you can go to it. So next week the line drawers are  
8 going to be doing the presentation of this -- and let's  
9 see if I can go to that one. Here is -- this is more  
10 what it looks like, you know, down in LA.

11       And again, these are just for all the public's --  
12 you know, saying, hey, are we really getting any of these  
13 in? Yes, we are. We don't have the information all the  
14 way. And this is what we did back quite some time ago.  
15 The line drawers are playing with how they can do this.  
16 And as soon as, you know, Commissioner Le Mons very  
17 graciously said, as soon as we get that Airtable contract  
18 signed and ongoing, and then, the information goes  
19 through to the line drawers, this will then be populated.  
20 And you should be able to go over here and click on one  
21 and actually go to more of the information about that  
22 community of interest.

23       So this is what we're working on behind the scenes.  
24 This is for commissioners' perspective, as well as all  
25 the public. You know, yes, we are getting COI input.

1 And we are going to be, as soon as that Airtable and our  
2 data management system is all set up and starts working,  
3 it's going to be -- we'll see it. And again, the one  
4 time, if you did turn in when we first did that little  
5 presentation, this was actually more -- it was KML files,  
6 as opposed to shapefiles, which basically is like Google  
7 Earth. So it looked better. And you could really see  
8 things. It would -- might look a bit more like this.  
9 The line drawers are playing with that. And we will see  
10 this next week.

11 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner. We look  
12 forward to that.

13 And that's a good segue to agenda item number 5A.  
14 Public Input Design Committee, Commissioners Ahmad and  
15 Fornaciari, and the time is yours.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, let's see. We've  
17 talked about a lot of this stuff that, you know, was on  
18 our plate to talk about already. Just kind of a preview  
19 of where we headed, our next -- we haven't had a meeting  
20 since our last business meeting. And we don't have one  
21 scheduled until July 6th. On July 6th, we were going to,  
22 you know, review the feedback from the zone-specific  
23 meetings and provide recommendations for changes. We  
24 were going to review a proposal for a transition to  
25 hybrids/live meetings.

1           And then also in an answer to a question that a  
2 caller at the beginning asked, so with regard to group-  
3 specific public input. So we had discussed potentially  
4 having some group-specific meetings. But we haven't made  
5 a final decision on that. The committee was going to  
6 look at that on the 6th and bring our thoughts forward to  
7 the full Commission in the subsequent meeting. But the  
8 callers question was specific to an upcoming meeting.

9           Linda?

10          VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I had some clarification. He  
11 sent an email, because he's -- to both Commissioner  
12 Sadhwani and I, because he's from the Zone J. What he  
13 asked actually, or what he clarified is, that there's a  
14 group of people, and he just asked if instead of  
15 individually having each person sign up for a appointment  
16 block, could they just say, we have this X number of  
17 people who would like to give testimony, can they all be  
18 put into the same block, essentially.

19          Commissioner Sadhwani, did I interpret that request  
20 correctly, based on what you wrote?

21          COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I mean, I think so. I mean,  
22 it seems like that would be reasonable. And certainly,  
23 we'd let them know that of course we need to maintain and  
24 uphold the fairness and equity that we've established in  
25 this process for individual callers. So it does sound

1 like it's a matter of grouping them together. So I think  
2 if there's a way that we can figure that out, that would  
3 be great. I think a lot of it will depend on how many  
4 slots are filled moving forward.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So I -- Anthony has chimed in  
6 on this. I think it is sub -- was it in a subcommittee  
7 meeting or with the entire Commission? You know, I --  
8 and correct me if I'm wrong here, right, I mean, so the  
9 idea would be we -- or the advice would be not to set  
10 aside a specific number of places for a group, but allow  
11 the group to sign up. And I think what the question is  
12 if the group all signs up, you know, in the same block of  
13 time, can they all go in a row? Is that what he's asking  
14 for?

15 CHAIR YEE: You're on mute, Commissioner Sadhwani.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Akutagawa?

17 CHAIR YEE: Or Commissioner -- yeah.

18 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, the response that I  
19 gave is that -- just for clarification, I asked, I said,  
20 I told -- I wrote back, I said, I think what I'm hearing  
21 or reading is that you just want to know if your group,  
22 the individuals who would like to give testimony, if they  
23 can all be -- instead of individually signing up for  
24 appointments, can they just, you know, be added to a  
25 appointment block? But their delivery of their testimony

1 would be contingent upon them calling in just like  
2 everybody else. And then, they would be put in the order  
3 based on when they all come -- call in.

4       It sounded like it was more of a logistical question  
5 of, instead of each individual person signing up, can  
6 they just send a list of names. And then, they just be  
7 added to that block, if there is the appropriate number  
8 of openings? But then on the day of when it's time to  
9 give testimony, just like everybody else they would just  
10 have to all call in. And then, they would be put in the  
11 order in which they would be called in. They wouldn't be  
12 given priority order over anybody else who may have  
13 called in ahead of them.

14       MR. PANE: If I could just maybe just jump in here  
15 real fast?

16       CHAIR YEE: Sure.

17       MR. PANE: Maybe this is a clarification point. You  
18 know, maybe we can work out with Commissioner Fornaciari  
19 as part of the July 6th -- I don't know if that time line  
20 is still okay -- that could be inclusive of this possible  
21 ask. Initial thoughts are -- and the Commissioner --  
22 Commissioner Fornaciari mentioned this early on -- we  
23 want to make sure that we're fair and equitable to  
24 everybody. Everyone has the same opportunity to sign in.  
25       Again, what we're trying to do is allow for maximum

1 participation from folks. And if they can have  
2 appointment times, I realize there is some flexibility, I  
3 think, inherent in the system of if you sign up for a  
4 particular appointment times and depending upon -- and  
5 this would be in coordination with Katy -- you know,  
6 being able to find out if it's this caller, then the next  
7 caller, then the next caller. There may be a way to do  
8 it, but there may not be.

9 I will say, another option, I'm not sure this is  
10 relevant here, but you certainly could have one person  
11 speak for the three minutes and be a representative for a  
12 hundred people. And that doesn't mean a hundred people  
13 go in line. It means one person is speaking for a  
14 hundred people. That's also an option as well. But I'm  
15 not sure if that addresses the question.

16 So if we could, maybe there's a way to work this out  
17 so that we can work out the details in anticipation for  
18 the 6th.

19 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Sinay, Fernandez,  
20 and Sadhwani -- and I should mention it would be  
21 advantageous if we can wrap things up by 5:07 today. Not  
22 a hard, hard deadline but would be helpful.

23 So Commissioner Sinay?

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Pass.

25 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I kind of understand what  
2 they are asking for but I also feel, to be equitable,  
3 they would each need -- my opinion, they would each need  
4 to sign up separately. They would have a caller ID  
5 number, and then maybe they could forward all the  
6 different caller ID numbers, and we could work with that.

7           We have seen in the last couple of meetings that  
8 even if they signed up for the second block or third  
9 block, some of them still call in a different block time.  
10 So I think they should all sign up separately, and then  
11 give us those numbers, and then we can work with that. I  
12 think.

13          CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

14          COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Pass. I agree.

15          CHAIR YEE: Okay. Does PIDC need any action?

16          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, well that's the  
17 current policy that --

18          CHAIR YEE: Yeah.

19          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that we have right now.  
20 So --

21          CHAIR YEE: Right. Right.

22          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- that doesn't change.

23 So we'll see. I mean, a lot of the stuff -- again, a lot  
24 of the stuff we were going to talk about is already come  
25 up. We're not going to have a meeting for a couple of



1 weeks. If there's something, you know, especially the  
2 chairs of the prior meetings, I mean, if they have some  
3 observations or anything they want to share or you know,  
4 maybe some direction for the staff. Commissioner  
5 Sadhwani earlier made a comment that the meetings seem  
6 kind of long. So I'm going to actually turn it over to  
7 Commissioner Sadhwani to let her comment on that further.

8           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I do think that the  
9 days are very long. And I -- because we're not filling  
10 those days at this point in time, I would strongly  
11 encourage the subcommittee and staff to consider  
12 shortening the time of our meetings. Even if we met,  
13 like, two hours in the morning and two hours in the  
14 evening and operate a waitlist. So if we -- you know, if  
15 our outreach and the media buys and everything have a  
16 huge impact and we can operate a waitlist, if more people  
17 want to register, then we can extend our time, right, if  
18 need be, for the future. But you know, we're taking up  
19 full days and we don't have the callers, quite frankly.  
20 Right?

21           So I think we need to reassess what we're -- what  
22 our plan is moving forward, because I don't think this is  
23 an effective use of time. And certainly, like,  
24 especially for many of us who are working other jobs,  
25 could be using that time in other activities.

1           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Yeah, we'll  
2 definitely take a look at that. I think it's a good  
3 idea.

4           Commissioner Fernandez?

5           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. And something else  
6 that hopefully we can look at is, I guess I didn't  
7 realize when we initially approved the whole appointment  
8 system, was that block four would have no appointments.  
9 I -- my opinion is that we should have appointments in  
10 all of the blocks to try to accommodate people that maybe  
11 can only make it for the last block, or for the fourth or  
12 fifth block, so that they at least know that they'll have  
13 a chance to talk. Because right now, that fourth and  
14 fifth block is just completely open. So maybe spreading  
15 those out and maybe just having like an open time at each  
16 block at the end, maybe the last ten minutes are for  
17 those that don't have appointments. So anyway, just so  
18 we can look at that.

19           And back to Commissioner Sadhwani's point, so if we  
20 wait until July 6th to make that appointment -- or to  
21 make that decision, we're already two weeks out, right?  
22 So it's -- I almost feel like if we want to make that  
23 decision, maybe we make it now because now, you know,  
24 we're two weeks out right now, versus the 6th is another  
25 couple of weeks so it's pushing it further out. So just

1 throwing that out there. Thank you.

2 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay then Vazquez.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I agree that we should make the  
4 decision sooner rather than later, especially because two  
5 weeks from now, a month from now, we may be getting more  
6 people. But you know, I'm concerned about the week of --  
7 4th of July week because a lot of people are traveling  
8 and we have some of the -- some of the hard to reach  
9 zones. And so I would like us to think through now what  
10 our time -- what are -- how to reduce the number of hours  
11 that we're waiting.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Vazquez?

13 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I continue to be an  
14 advocate of trying to push us later after business hours.  
15 I absolutely agree, we could shorten the meeting. And I  
16 also think we could sort of direct -- if we're looking  
17 for more like a four or six-hour community input meeting,  
18 especially now as we're still trying to get people to  
19 actually come, I'd really, really advocate for us to  
20 consider going later in the evening after business hours.  
21 Continue to feel like having our input meetings during  
22 banking hours is just not as accessible as we had hoped.  
23 So continue to urge us to think about both shortening and  
24 also going into the evenings.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So on that topic, we've --

1 I mean, is there --

2 Director Hernandez, we've agendized out at this  
3 point the 9th, I believe?

4 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I know the 6th --

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is --

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- for sure. I believe the 9th  
7 is --

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: The 9th is --

9 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Is it agendized?

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- two weeks from now.

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, that might be going out  
12 today. We have agendized the 8th --

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: But we only have a meeting  
14 on the 9th, but --

15 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: We have agendized on the 8th,  
16 which is Zone J. We do not -- we do not have July 10th,  
17 would be the next meeting that we would have to agendize.  
18 That is not currently agendized.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So July 10th is a  
20 Saturday. And then we would -- then we've got F on the  
21 12th. And then H on the 15th.

22 So -- oh, sorry, Commissioner Yee, go ahead.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad then Sinay.

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I just had a clarifying  
25 question on that. I'm all for shortening the meetings at

1 this point. This just speaks to how, you know, we came  
2 up with a plan, we tried it out, it might not be working  
3 right now, so we can change it. And then we can always  
4 extend it if people, for some reason, are wanting to join  
5 us at our meetings.

6 But my question right now, though, is because the  
7 agendas have been posted two weeks out, are we not  
8 allowed to shorten those meetings that we have already  
9 agendized, or is that something that we can still do at  
10 this point?

11 CHAIR YEE: Um-hum.

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I think that's a question for  
13 Anthony.

14 MR. PANE: So Commissioner, when you say shorten,  
15 I'm not -- what exactly do you mean by that?

16 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: So for example, tomorrow the  
17 meeting runs from 10 to 6, I believe. Are we allowed to  
18 sat that now it's from 10 to 3? This is just an example.  
19 I know we're not changing anything, but just as an  
20 example.

21 MR. PANE: I would recommend not doing that inside  
22 the fourteen-day window --

23 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

24 MR. PANE: -- for -- and so to your point about  
25 shortening it, if each meeting is "or upon conclusion of

1 business" so --

2 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Right.

3 MR. PANE: -- you do have that, that's always an  
4 option in every one of the meetings. And so in some  
5 respects, it doesn't really matter as much from a length  
6 of time perspective to shorten it for something that's  
7 already advertised inside the --

8 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Right.

9 MR. PANE: -- fourteen-day window.

10 To Commissioner Sadhwani's point, if we want to  
11 separate them, you know, have shorter bunches in -- you  
12 know, one in the morning and one in the evening,  
13 something along those lines, then, yes, that does require  
14 separate agendizing. But if we're talking about the same  
15 block of time and we want to shorten that in some way, I  
16 would recommend at least for -- to achieve that goal, for  
17 something that's already posted, we do have the "or upon  
18 conclusion of business."

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay. So I guess my question  
20 is more for after fourteen days, are we still interested  
21 in shortening the meeting time frame? And if we are, I  
22 would propose that we just hand that responsibility off  
23 to Alvaro and the team to work within the time frames  
24 that we've already established as a commission. That we  
25 want to hold these meetings and then have them shorten it

1 with respect to, you know, evening times, et cetera.

2 That's just a potential solution to move us forward.

3 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Vazquez?

4 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I just --

5 CHAIR YEE: Then Turner.

6 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I disagree. Well, the "upon  
7 conclusion of business" piece feels in some ways less  
8 community access friendly than noticing a shortened or  
9 different timed agenda.

10 It feels -- it does not feel great to me when we  
11 say, like, we're -- you know, we're going to host a  
12 public input meeting from 10 to 6, and we cut out at 5  
13 because, you know, no one is there and we've concluded  
14 business, as opposed to actually, you know, we're going  
15 to try to compact all of these meetings -- all of the  
16 input today from 2 to 6 and give people, if not fourteen  
17 days, at least ten-days' notice that we're compact --  
18 we're going to achieve business in this window.

19 So I don't have a particular proposal. But I just,  
20 I don't love the "upon conclusion of business" as, like,  
21 our way to shorten existing noticed meetings. I don't  
22 like that.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Taylor, Sinay, and Ahmad.

24 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. I've never been  
25 a -- for lack of a better term, a fan of the "upon

1 conclusion of business" for our public input meetings.

2 So I think we should be explicit as to when we will and  
3 won't be there.

4 And then, number 2, as we consider the constriction  
5 of the times, at least for the time being, I'd just like  
6 what -- I would like us all to be mindful that this is  
7 supposed to be the people's process, in the hands of the  
8 people, and that we don't want to -- we don't want to  
9 reduce access. We want to -- and even, you know, later  
10 on down the road, from a legal standpoint, we want to be  
11 able to exhibit access, and that people were available to  
12 provide that input. That is the purpose of why we're  
13 here. And we want to ensure that we maintain that  
14 purpose. Thank you.

15 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay then Ahmad.

16 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That was really well said,  
17 Commissioner Taylor. I mean, I'm struggling because for  
18 instance, on Monday, I think we have five people who have  
19 RSVPed. And if we know that there is five, and they're  
20 all between the hours of -- I don't know what our time  
21 is, but it's between a certain number of hours, can we  
22 start later?

23 But I really appreciate also what Commissioner  
24 Taylor is saying. And on that note, I want to really  
25 appreciate Commissioner Le Mons last night just trying to



1 find ways to keep us open and engaged as long as possible  
2 so that people could call in versus just ending it when  
3 we didn't have people in line. Because I'm a believer  
4 that more people are going to call in later versus  
5 earlier.

6 And that's why I keep trying to figure out how could  
7 we start later if we don't have the -- if we don't have  
8 people in line -- if we have -- if we don't have people  
9 signed up, can we start later?

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad?

11 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Pass.

12 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Le Mons?

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: This just reignited my  
14 question around the appointments. And I think the  
15 explanation I was given earlier was that the line drawers  
16 needed time to prepare maps and things in order to be  
17 prepared for the people who had appointments. I think I  
18 heard that correctly.

19 And I'm wondering if we're opening up, in some ways,  
20 the accessibility. Because I know it was for them to be  
21 prepared to be able to go to a particular place on the  
22 map.

23 But since we've -- the motion that passed just a  
24 little while ago, it gives them added time to establish  
25 the geography that the caller is referencing. I'm

1 wondering, can we take appointments longer than we are  
2 currently taking them? So I don't know if that's opened  
3 up that opportunity or not.

4       Because I think the problem with having  
5 appointments, while we understand that you can -- anyone  
6 can call in at any time, if we don't have people making  
7 appointments, I think we're fooling ourselves to just  
8 think that, oh, we're going to have this rash of callers  
9 in that space that no one -- that's not been what we've  
10 seen so far. As we get further into the process, that  
11 may -- that probably will change, of course. But for  
12 right now, that's not the reality.

13       Right?

14       And then we have people with appointments who call  
15 in different time blocks, which is fine, but we then have  
16 all this empty space. And so I think the truncating of  
17 the meeting suggest in that -- Commissioner Sadhwani  
18 suggested, I totally support, at least in these beginning  
19 weeks and months, maybe the next month or so. And then  
20 we expand as necessary.

21       Now, the question becomes -- Commissioner Vazquez  
22 dropped the ten-days. We always act like that's not an  
23 option for whatever reason. I know this is music to  
24 Commissioner Kennedy's ears. But we at least have that  
25 latitude if we wanted to leverage it.



1           So I suggest we try to extend appointments longer if  
2 possible, meaning giving people an opportunity to get in  
3 to appointments. Don't cut it off as early as we do.  
4 And then secondly, using the ten-day option to revise  
5 where we can. I don't know how it shakes out with the  
6 calendar, but those are my thoughts.

7           CHAIR YEE: Okay. A lot of different suggestions.  
8 I'm not quite sure how to move forward.

9           Director Hernandez, have you heard enough in a  
10 coherent fashion to shape further plans?

11          DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes and no. I've heard also  
12 what Chief Counsel has suggested. I've also heard the  
13 Commissioners and their desire to be more efficient with  
14 our time. And so moving forward, our staff will look at  
15 how to try to become more efficient with the time blocks.  
16 Again, the appointment system that we created was to  
17 allow people to call in during those times.

18          Now, do we truncate that? Do we adjust that and  
19 make it just less blocks and maybe break them down to  
20 smaller blocks even?

21          But I do think that if we're going to adjust the  
22 time frame, we're going to limit the number of people  
23 that will have appointments. And so with that said, that  
24 is something that we could explore and adjust to if that  
25 is the direction of the commission.

1 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay? You're muted,  
2 Commissioner Sinay.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And I just said the best stuff  
4 ever. No.

5 How do we -- is it possible, probably not right this  
6 moment, but to do maybe shorter -- okay -- expand the  
7 number of time groups we have as people sign up and they  
8 get filled? And I know that there's an issue of  
9 accessibility and where they want their time, but -- so  
10 that's just one thought.

11 The other one that I -- you know, I feel like we're  
12 in the weeds, kind of, on process versus discussing  
13 demand.

14 How do we increase demand? We have some meetings  
15 right now that -- you know, we're already invested in the  
16 ones that are scheduled. What are we -- what are we  
17 going to do right now for tomorrow and the next -- and  
18 the ones in the next two weeks? And that we haven't  
19 discussed.

20 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Kennedy then Fernandez.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. My  
22 suggestion was going to be since we've had the schedule  
23 out for some time with not only dates but times through  
24 the 12th of July, that we go with what we've announced  
25 through the 12th of July. What we have from staff in the

1 form of Director Hernandez' table is a proposal; that  
2 proposal can be modified.

3 So that would begin with the communities of interest  
4 input meeting on the 15th. And that, you know, staff  
5 take what we have said this afternoon as guidance and  
6 come back to us with another proposal that would go into  
7 place beginning with the meeting on the 15th. Thank you.

8 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I was using the wrong one.  
10 I agree with Commissioner Kennedy. The only thing is if  
11 we do wait for the information from our Executive  
12 Director, it's going to take us beyond the two weeks  
13 because our next meeting is not until -- when's our next  
14 meeting? Oh, you can come back next week. Can you come  
15 back next week? Okay, never mind. He said he can come  
16 back next week, so we're good to go.

17 I just wanted to remind everyone that the prior  
18 Commission had three-hour meetings. So -- and yes, of  
19 course, they went over sometimes. But our meetings are  
20 eight hours.

21 It does include a lunch break, but that's just  
22 something also to think about, Executive Director  
23 Hernandez, as you go forward. Thanks.

24 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani?

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think three hours sounds

1 perfect, right? Two ninety-minute blocks, maybe with a  
2 fifteen-minute break in between.

3 Right? So three hours and fifteen minutes. That  
4 sounds like a very good amount of time. Maybe we can  
5 switch them up between days and evenings. And then,  
6 like, as I said before, if we're seeing demand increase,  
7 let's increase the meetings, right? And that's -- I  
8 don't have a problem with that. But you know, when we're  
9 sitting around without callers, I don't know who that  
10 serves.

11 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy then  
12 Andersen.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes, they -- the "or upon  
14 conclusion of business" can work in the other direction,  
15 also. It can mean that, as the 2010 Commission did, we  
16 stay later than the announced hours. Thank you.

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen?

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: One thing I -- in terms  
19 of -- you know, here's another one for the staff. Why do  
20 we have, like, the end -- you know, Commissioner Vazquez  
21 keeps on mentioning, which I think she's correct, later  
22 hours?

23 So why don't we actually have one of those  
24 assignment blocks be that later hour? You know, and  
25 maybe either take a time off in the middle, because I

1 always keep on thinking, well, after 5 we get more calls  
2 in, and it's -- we're gone. And we wouldn't necessarily  
3 know, unless they get back to us. So you know, do we  
4 want to make -- if we were doing to a shifting to a four-  
5 hour -- my only issue with that is, though, I think we  
6 pay -- it's all the same costs.

7 I think that's correct, right? I'm getting probably  
8 a nod on that one.

9 But you know, have them go, like, you know, 4 to 8  
10 like our meetings. You have some be the day, but some --  
11 then really switch to the evening. As opposed to like,  
12 we go 10, 6, 12, 8, you know, go, you know, 10, 2, 4, 8.  
13 Something like that.

14 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Director Hernandez?

15 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I just wanted to remind the  
16 Commission that this is only the fourth COI input  
17 meeting, and the Commission had decided to wait until the  
18 fourth meeting to really do an analysis and evaluate  
19 where we were. So this conversation is very timely,  
20 first of all, and I think there is room for adjustments  
21 moving forward.

22 I am concerned with trying to adjust anything  
23 thereafter. If we make any changes thereafter, you know,  
24 the fourteen days, we won't be able to make adjustments  
25 at that point. And we're -- again, I'm thinking of the

1 appointment system, how we do that. Some of these  
2 logistical issues that we were talking about earlier  
3 today, making sure that that's also part of the  
4 considerations that staff are going to make in  
5 accommodating a different time schedule and moving  
6 forward.

7 Now, again, this is going to be through July. And  
8 then when we come into August, we're looking at a whole  
9 different type of input meeting because it will be in-  
10 person as well as in virtual world. So there will be  
11 some additional logistics and dynamics that we'll have to  
12 adjust to at that point as well. So I just want to  
13 uplift those two things to you.

14 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Director Hernandez. Okay.  
15 To wrap up this item, I'm wondering, do we need anything  
16 further? Director Hernandez, you've heard all the input  
17 and considerations, and as you direct staff, I guess  
18 we'll be working with you to guide those.

19 Any further thoughts for Dr. Hernandez?

20 Let's see. Commissioner Akutagawa, you're pointing  
21 to someone; I'm not seeing who.

22 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Vazquez has a  
23 comment.

24 CHAIR YEE: Ah, there we go. Commissioner Vazquez?

25 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I am just -- I'd like



1 the commission to -- I understand and I'm hearing an  
2 anticipation of like, external logistical factors being  
3 weighed with consideration to timing of these meetings.  
4 And I just really want to uplift that I personally  
5 believe that we, the commission, should bend to fit  
6 community need, and not feel so overburdened by external  
7 factors that I think are problems for us to solve and not  
8 avoid solving.

9       So I'm just thinking, again, especially in terms of  
10 thinking about, you know, future in-person meetings,  
11 like, I don't actually think space availability is going  
12 to be such a huge burden to overcome in terms of like,  
13 deciding on times for community. Like, people have  
14 evening community meetings all the time. There will be  
15 evening community space that is open later. We just have  
16 to think a little bit creative.

17       So I just -- I want to continue to urge us to bend  
18 to meet community need, and not -- and meet some of these  
19 challenges with a willingness to be creative, and not  
20 take certain things as given, and that we can't adjust  
21 our thinking or our practices or our administrative  
22 decisions to get around them. That's all. Thank you.

23       CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Let's see. Commissioner  
24 Akutagawa, before you speak I'd like to check with Chief  
25 Counsel Pane concerning the litigation contracts. We had

1 scheduled to propose and seek approval for those today.

2 Is that still a priority for us or do you think we  
3 could postpone it?

4 MR. PANE: I would probably defer to the Legal  
5 Affairs Committee, but I do think it's something that  
6 does not necessarily need to be approved today.

7 CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. Commissioner  
8 Akutagawa, and Katy, in a moment, we'll open up for open  
9 comment on item 5, and then closing public comment.

10 Commissioner Akutagawa?

11 VICE-CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Chair Yee. Just  
12 quick clarification. So if -- it sounds like we're going  
13 to agree to shorten our meetings.

14 I think based on what Commissioner Vazquez also  
15 said, I just want to ask, are we going to entertain or  
16 are we willing to add additional meetings for sure? I  
17 know that that came up, but I think I'm just trying to  
18 understand, you know, impacts to our schedule, which is  
19 fine if we're talking about shorter time frames. I think  
20 I just want to walk away from here with being prepared to  
21 also think that we're going to have -- we're going to be  
22 adding some additional dates to accommodate, you know,  
23 more -- more time for people if we're going to shorten  
24 our meetings.

25 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez?

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I don't know -- was that  
2 Commissioner Vazquez that had said additional meetings?  
3 I can't remember. But I thought it was more of -- the  
4 way, I guess, I interpreted it was, you know, right now  
5 we have this eight-hour block. Maybe we do two four-hour  
6 blocks, and it's two different zones. That's how I saw  
7 it in terms of increasing the number of meetings, not  
8 necessarily dates because -- well, I mean, we could do  
9 that. It's just going to be a little bit more  
10 challenging because our schedule, as you've seen, is very  
11 full. And it'll -- I.

12           And as we move forward, as Executive Director  
13 Hernandez mentioned in the beginning, when we start  
14 looking at August, some of those meetings potentially  
15 might change to make them back-to-back meetings because  
16 it might be more efficient. If you're traveling to an  
17 area and the two meetings are close to each other, then  
18 it makes sense to have them back-to-back versus a day in  
19 between.

20           So it looks like there might be some other changes  
21 coming our way. But I was hoping we weren't going to  
22 necessarily increase the number of days. But of course,  
23 that's up for deliberation.

24           CHAIR YEE: Okay. We are up against the required  
25 break. Let's think. I guess we'll just have to go ahead

1 and take that break and come back. Okay. It's 5:07;  
2 we'll come back at 5:22.

3 Thank you, and welcome back. Just a few more items;  
4 this should wrap up fairly quickly.

5 Public Input Design, was that all for your report?  
6 Very good.

7 So we'll go to 5-B, Legal Affairs Committee. And so  
8 today we had posted -- proposed two contracts for our  
9 litigation counsel, Gibson Dunn and Strumwasser-Woocher.  
10 And we're going to postpone seeking approval on this till  
11 the 30th.

12 So please in the meantime, take a look at those.  
13 Commissioner Toledo and Chief Counsel and staff have  
14 worked very hard on those. Please note that both  
15 contracts will give us and our Chief Counsel full  
16 discretion on assigning matters to one or the other or  
17 both of the firms as we deem fit and appropriate.

18 For contract purposes, we are required to put down  
19 dollar amounts, and we've decided to divide those amounts  
20 seventy percent for Strumwasser-Woocher and thirty  
21 percent for Gibson Dunn. That does not lock us in to  
22 actually spending those monies in that proportion. That  
23 is our initial division of the budget item.

24 There is also a designation of Strumwasser-Woocher  
25 as the primary litigation counsel based on the greater

1 proportion of the contract. However, it's still going to  
2 be entirely up to us how the work is assigned to one, the  
3 other, or both. So.

4 Chief Counsel, anything else to highlight just in  
5 preview of what we'll bring forth on the 30th?

6 MR. PANE: No, Chair. I think that captures --  
7 actually, the just -- the updates changes. And thank  
8 you, Commissioner Fornaciari, it is now David Becker and  
9 not Mr. Levitt. So.

10 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's think. Anything else for  
11 Legal Affairs Committee?

12 Commissioner Sadhwani? Commissioner Toledo's on the  
13 road right now.

14 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think I mentioned under  
15 VRA, but appropriate to mention here too, that on June  
16 30th, in addition to finalizing the contracts, the  
17 Strumwasser, Woocher, Becker team will be with us for the  
18 full commission meeting. They're going to do a short  
19 presentation just on general litigation risks.

20 When we interviewed all of the candidates, we asked  
21 a question around what are the ways in which we might get  
22 sued? And the responses were tremendous. So we wanted  
23 to provide an opportunity to have that discussion with  
24 the full commission, as well as have an initial  
25 opportunity for everyone to meet the team, as well as

1 Californians to meet the team.

2 We will be paying hourly, so please be sure to have  
3 your questions ready for them. We probably won't have  
4 the full team come on a regular basis, for that reason I  
5 would imagine, so you know, definitely, if you have  
6 questions or thoughts that you want to raise at this  
7 point in time, please, please have them ready.

8 CHAIR YEE: And preceding that meeting on the 30th,  
9 the Legal Affairs Committee will be meeting with  
10 Strumwasser Woocher and the line drawers. That'll be the  
11 first time we all get together. And we're going to take  
12 a shot at our initial discussions of our VRA strategy  
13 going forward. And that meeting is open.

14 Okay. Before we take comment on item 5, let's see,  
15 line drawer, you've already told us you're going to do  
16 the Pin map presentation next time. So that's covered.

17 Item 6, I believe we have no closed session items  
18 for today.

19 Item 7, will we -- and I'm anticipating these so I  
20 can perhaps call for public comment on all of them  
21 together. Item 7, discussion of future meeting dates and  
22 agenda items. Do we need to do that today? I think  
23 we're all set for now, correct? I'm not seeing --

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Can I just ask -- so coming  
25 out of the input design meeting, did we give staff

1 clarity of what kind of change we want? Was that clear?

2 It wasn't clear for me. That's why I was just -- Alvaro,  
3 are you going to take our input and run with it and --

4 CHAIR YEE: Director Hernandez, you can speak to --

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Uh-huh, three-  
6 hour (indiscernible).

7 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

8 CHAIR YEE: What did you catch?

9 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah.

10 CHAIR YEE: Three or not?

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: That's what we're going to do.  
12 Definitely. No, we will take back your recommendations  
13 and look to shorten them, change them, and agendize them  
14 appropriately. We'll have more information at the next  
15 meeting for you to look at what has changed and so forth.

16 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you.

17 CHAIR YEE: If there's no other discussion of future  
18 meeting dates and agenda items, can we take public  
19 comment for agenda items 5, 7, and 8?

20 Katy or Kristian?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair, one moment.

22 CHAIR YEE: Sure.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: My mouth is just not  
24 agreeing with me, but I can read the instructions whether  
25 I can do that or not.

1 The Commission will now take public comment on --

2 CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry, items 5 and 8, since there  
3 was no 6 or 7.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. The Commission will  
5 now take public comment on items 5 and 8. To give  
6 comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting  
7 ID number, 92476505888.

8 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
9 enter the queue. The full call in instructions are read  
10 at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the  
11 livestream landing page.

12 We do have a caller with their hand raised. I would  
13 like to remind those that have called in and have been  
14 waiting in the queue to please press star 9 to raise your  
15 hand indicating you wish to comment.

16 At this time we will -- the caller 6337, go ahead.  
17 The floor is yours.

18 ROSALIND GOLD: Yes. Good afternoon, Commissioners.  
19 This is Rosalind Gold with the NALEO Educational Fund.  
20 Thank you so much for the discussion regarding the design  
21 and scheduling of community of interest public input  
22 meetings. We would just like to encourage the Commission  
23 to consider seriously about retaining meetings in as much  
24 of the evening hours, after close of business, as  
25 possible, because those are the times that we have found





1 that many community members are most likely to attend.

2 We know that some questions have been raised about  
3 the ability to get community locations or locations where  
4 these meetings can be held once we start to have in-  
5 person meetings. I -- I would just note our experience  
6 from the last cycle is that there were -- that they --  
7 there was an ability to find those locations. There were  
8 often meetings that started at 5 and went till 9 or 10 in  
9 the evening because demand just increased.

10 And that would be the final thing I would note, is  
11 that we really do expect as word gets out, as the  
12 outreach of the Commission and its staff continues, you  
13 will be seeing greater participation in the meetings.  
14 Thank you so much.

15 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ms. Gold.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. I  
17 would like to give the other caller one more chance to  
18 please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you  
19 wish to comment. Please press star 9 to raise your hand  
20 indicating you wish to comment.

21 With that Chair, we do not have any other raised  
22 hands.

23 CHAIR YEE: Wait just a moment.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Um-hum.

25 CHAIR YEE: Okay. If there are no further callers



1 and no further matters of business, this meeting is  
2 adjourned.

3 (Whereupon, the Public Meeting meeting  
4 adjourned at 6:08 p.m.)

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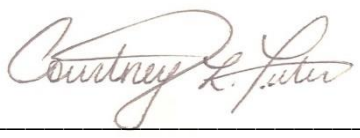
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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.



COURTNEY L. FUTER, CDLT-261

August 16, 2022  
DATE

