

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Transcription By:

eScribers, LLC



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

Russell Yee, Moderator  
Pedro Toledo, Moderator  
Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner  
Trena Turner, Commissioner  
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner  
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner  
Jane Andersen, Commissioner  
Alicia Fernández, Commissioner  
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner  
J. Kennedy, Commissioner  
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner  
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner  
Derric Taylor, Commissioner  
Angela Vázquez, Commissioner

STAFF

Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator  
Katy Manoff, Comment Moderator

LINE DRAWING TEAM

Haystaq DNA  
Q2 Data & Research, LLC

PUBLIC PRESENT

Michael Dupree  
Harry Thurston  
Conan Moats  
Renee Torres, Student  
Skyler Rockmill, Youth Activist  
Phil Grosse, President, Hacienda Improvement Association  
Ms. Erica, Fellow, Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center  
Ms. Mia  
Ms. Isa, Student  
Eloise Scott  
Caller 11  
Don Pruitt, Staff Member for Contra Costa County  
Supervisor Candace Andersen  
Caller 13  
Rozzana Verder-Aliga, Vice Mayor of Vallejo



Ruthe Catolico Ashley  
Marivel Mendoza, President and Co-Founder, Hijas del  
Campo  
Suzanna Williams

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1  
2 July 29, 2021

4:00 p.m.

3 CHAIR YEE: Good afternoon, California. Welcome,  
4 and thank you for tuning in to the California Citizens  
5 Redistricting Commission Communities of Interest Input  
6 Meeting with a focus on the Bay Area.

7 I am Commissioner Russell Yee. I'm here in my  
8 hometown of Oakland, and I'll be co-chairing this meeting  
9 along with Commissioner Pedro Toledo.

10 Let's start off with the roll call. Ravi?

11 MR. SINGH: Yes, Chair.

12 Commissioner Ahmad?

13 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa?

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

16 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Presente.

20 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

22 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

24 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.



1 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

3 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY.: Here.

5 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?

8 Commissioner Turner?

9 VICE CHAIR TURNER: I am here.

10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vazquez?

11 And Commissioner Yee.

12 CHAIR YEE: Here.

13 MR. SINGH: Roll Call is complete, Chair.

14 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ravi.

15 I'll start by sharing a little bit about the

16 Commission. Every ten years, after the Federal

17 Government publishes updated Census information,

18 California must redraw the boundaries of its

19 Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and State

20 Board of Equalization districts, so that the districts

21 correctly reflect the State's population.

22 In 2008, California voters authorized the creation

23 of the Commission when they passed the Voters FIRST Act.

24 It authorized the Commission to draw the new district

25 lines for the State Senate, State Assembly, and State

1 Board of Equalization Districts.

2       Then in 2010, the Congressional Voters FIRST Act  
3 added the responsibility of drawing the Congressional  
4 Districts to the Commission. The fourteen-member  
5 Commission is made up of five Republicans, five  
6 Democrats, and four not affiliated with either of those  
7 two parties. The Commission must draw the district lines  
8 in conformity with strict, nonpartisan rules designed to  
9 create districts of relatively equal population that will  
10 provide fair representation for all Californians.

11       When we receive the Census data, the Commission  
12 begins drawing Census maps using six line-drawing  
13 criteria as outlined in the California Constitution. One  
14 of these criteria is minimizing the division of cities,  
15 counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to  
16 the extent possible.

17       We can obtain the city and county information from  
18 those jurisdictions. But we need the neighborhood and  
19 communities of interest information from Californians  
20 directly. That's why we have launched these Communities  
21 of Interest Input Sessions, to get that valuable  
22 information from you directly. We encourage all  
23 Californians to participate in this process.

24       If you would rather submit your community of  
25 interest input over the internet, you can do so from our



1 website by visiting drawmycacommunity.org. That's  
2 drawmycacommunity.org; drawmycacommunity is all one word.  
3 And there you can find our mapping tool and a place where  
4 you can describe your community of interest. Skip the  
5 line, go online. That tool is available in English, as  
6 well as twelve other languages.

7 Now I will call on all Commissioners to introduce  
8 themselves and say hello. To see the biographies of all  
9 fourteen Commissioners, or for additional information, or  
10 to sign up for our emails, please visit our website at  
11 wedrawthelinesca.org. That's wedrawthelinesca, all one  
12 word, dot org.

13 I'll begin with my co-chair, Commissioner Toledo.

14 Let's see, is he not here yet?

15 Okay, let's go to Commissioner Ahmad.

16 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Good afternoon, everyone. I am  
17 very excited to continue to learn about your communities,  
18 and I look forward to a great meeting.

19 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Hi, everyone. Good  
21 afternoon. Looking forward to hearing again from those  
22 of you who have not yet told us about your communities in  
23 the greater Bay Area. And so we look forward to hearing  
24 what you have to tell us.

25 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen.

1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Hello, California, and  
2 hello, Bay Area specifically. I'm looking forward to  
3 hearing about your communities and can't wait to write  
4 this all down. Thank you very much.

5           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

6           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: (Speaks in Spanish). Good  
7 afternoon, Californians. I'm Alicia Fernandez from Yolo  
8 County, looking forward to hearing all of the input from  
9 my neighbors to the -- let's see, west. I'm really not  
10 good with directions.

11          CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

12          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Good morning, California  
13 in the Bay Area. I'm Neal Fornaciari, coming to you from  
14 San Joaquin County, your neighbor to the east. Looking  
15 forward to hearing all of your input about your  
16 communities of interest in the Bay Area. Thanks.

17          CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

18          COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Good afternoon. I'm Ray  
19 Kennedy, coming to you from Morongo Valley, which is one  
20 of the Joshua Tree Gateway Communities in rural southern  
21 San Bernadino County. Looking forward to hearing what  
22 makes your community special to you. So thank you very  
23 much.

24          CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons.

25          COMMISSIONER LE MONS: (Speaks in Spanish). Good

1 afternoon, California. I'm Antonio Le Mons, coming to  
2 you today from Rancho Mirage. I split my time between  
3 Riverside and Los Angeles Counties, and looking forward  
4 to hearing about the communities of interest in the Bay  
5 Area. Thank you.

6 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Good afternoon. Thank you  
8 so much to all who are here today and planning to call  
9 in. My name is Sara Sadhwani. I am calling in today  
10 from Pasadena, California and looking forward to hearing  
11 more about the Bay Area.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: (Speaks in Spanish). Welcome  
14 to one of the four areas I have called home in  
15 California. It's an honor to serve you from San Diego.  
16 I'm Patricia Sinay.

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Taylor.

18 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon, California. I  
19 hope everyone is doing well. I come to you from the San  
20 Gabriel Valley today, the foothills of Altadena. I am  
21 looking forward to learning more about the Bay Area.  
22 I've always enjoyed my time when I am there.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Turner.

24 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Well, good afternoon,  
25 California. I'm Trena Turner, Bay Area born and raised.

1 But I'm hailing to you now from the San Joaquin Central  
2 Valley, so. But I left my heart truly in San Francisco.  
3 Looking forward to hearing from you all.

4 CHAIR YEE: And Commissioner Vazquez is still not  
5 here? Commissioner Toledo?

6 Okay. And I am Commissioner Russell Yee once again.  
7 And a hundred years ago, my grandparents immigrated from  
8 southern China and landed in Oakland. And we've been  
9 here ever since.

10 For the Commission, please follow us on social  
11 media. You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter,  
12 LinkedIn, and YouTube. Our handle is @wedrawthelinesca.  
13 That's @wedrawthelinesca, all one word. There you'll  
14 find a lot of useful information about redistricting and  
15 updates from the Commission.

16 Today's meeting is primarily for communities of  
17 interest testimony focused on Alameda, Contra Costa,  
18 Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano  
19 Counties and surrounding areas. However, anyone in  
20 California can call in to provide input for any part of  
21 California. General public comment will also be taken at  
22 the end of the meeting.

23 Although the Commission has divided up California  
24 into eleven zones, that in no way relates to or reflects  
25 redistricting lines or boundaries. It's simply for

1 outreach purposes. The Commission created the zones to  
2 assist Commissioners and staff in their outreach efforts  
3 and is not an indication of planned district boundaries.

4 Today we're also joined by our Line Drawing Team of  
5 Haystaq DNA and Q2 Data & Research, LLC. They will be  
6 displaying a map of areas as callers describe them.

7 As you call in, please start with the area you would  
8 like to discuss, and be as specific as possible as to the  
9 boundaries of where your community of interest is  
10 located. Our goal is to find that area on the map and  
11 display it before your three minutes of testimony. If  
12 you're within a specific neighborhood of a large city,  
13 please mention that neighborhood by name.

14 Once we are able to locate your area, your three  
15 minutes will begin. You will not be able to share your  
16 own screen.

17 We are joined today by our comment moderator, Katy,  
18 who will be introducing attendees when it's their turn to  
19 speak.

20 When you join the meeting, please use the Raised  
21 Hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter the  
22 queue. If you have registered for a timeslot, we  
23 encourage you to call in during your appointment  
24 timeslot.

25 When it's your turn to speak, Katy will be



1 identifying you by your assigned unique ID number. You  
2 will be reconnected to the session with the ability to  
3 enable your own video and/or audio.

4 The comment moderator will assign you a Speaker  
5 Order Number before you begin speaking. Please make a  
6 note of that number for future reference. You will be  
7 able to use this number to identify your community of  
8 interest testimony on our website at a future date.

9 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time  
10 limit. There will be a warning at thirty seconds and at  
11 fifteen seconds remaining.

12 At the beginning of your input you will see a map on  
13 the screen. Please tell the mapper what area you would  
14 like to see on the screen, and be as specific as possible  
15 as to the boundaries of where your community is located.

16 Registration is not required to participate in this  
17 public input meeting. The public also has the option of  
18 calling in during this meeting to get into the queue to  
19 speak, even without an appointment. The call-in  
20 information and access code are listed on the livestream.

21 While there are no cut-and-dry rules on how to  
22 define your community of interest, we've identified some  
23 ways that will help you. Begin with your city or county,  
24 mention street names or highways, or other significant  
25 locations in your neighborhood to help you -- to help us

1 identify the parameters of your community.

2 Tell us about your shared interests of things that  
3 bring you together. Tell us what's important to your  
4 community. Tell us what other nearby areas you would  
5 like to be included with, you know, in an election  
6 district. Also tell us areas nearby that you don't want  
7 to be included with, and why or -- tell us why or why  
8 not.

9 You might tell us about how your community has come  
10 together to advocate for important services like schools,  
11 roads, health centers, or other facilities. And we  
12 welcome you to describe your community of interest in any  
13 way that makes sense to you.

14 We also invite you to use our Community of Interest  
15 Tool to draw a map. That's at [drawmycommunity.org](http://drawmycommunity.org);  
16 [drawmycommunity](http://drawmycommunity.org), all one word, dot org. There you'll  
17 find a mapping tool. And you're welcome to use that in  
18 place of, or in addition to your testimony today.

19 We'll now begin the public input session. I will  
20 pass the moderation over to Katy, our comment moderator.  
21 We'll start first with people who are registered. And  
22 then we will open the phonedlines if there is time before  
23 the next session. This session will go until 5:30.

24 So Katy?

25 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.



1 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the  
2 Raise Your Hand button at the bottom of your screen to  
3 enter the queue. When it is your turn to speak, you will  
4 be identified by your assigned unique ID number, which  
5 you were emailed yesterday. You will be reconnected to  
6 the session with the ability to enable your own video  
7 and/or audio.

8 You will then be assigned a Speaker Order Number  
9 before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your  
10 Speaker Order Number for future reference.

11 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time  
12 limit. There will be a warning at thirty seconds and  
13 fifteen seconds remaining.

14 It is the Commission's goal to find the area on the  
15 map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony.  
16 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large  
17 city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to  
18 locate your area, your three-minute testimony will begin.  
19 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

20 At the end of your public input or at the end of  
21 your time, you will be reconnected in a listen and view-  
22 only mode. At the beginning of your input, please remind  
23 the mapper what area you would like to see on the screen.

24 Right now, we have 003, and then up next will be  
25 004.

1 MR. DUPREE: Am I up, 003?

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, sir, 003. Your Speaker  
3 Order Number will be Number 1. If you will please make  
4 note of that for future reference.

5 MR. DUPREE: Yes.

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: And if you'll please let the  
7 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. The  
8 floor is yours.

9 003, I will be promoting you now. There seemed to  
10 have been a glitch in the system.

11 003? You can now unmute yourself.

12 MR. DUPREE: Okay, I'm back.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead. The floor is yours.

14 MR. DUPREE: Okay. All right.

15 My name is Michael Dupree. I'm from Congressional  
16 District 9, living in Oakley, California, off the Big  
17 Break Road and Vintage Parkway. As people age and  
18 retire, they are driven east by a lower cost of living,  
19 and become part of the San Joaquin Delta Community. The  
20 Delta Community needs one representative to maintain the  
21 best connection between government and the people.

22 The current fair market value, or current fair  
23 market rent area calculation used to calculate the  
24 average rents, is disproportionate to the demographics of  
25 far-east Contra Costa County; and it should be

1 reorganized to reflect a more equitable area median  
2 income such as our current district represents.

3       Due to a complex system of calculating Social  
4 Security COLAs, COLAs do not match actual increases to  
5 individual incomes. Old age, survivor, and disability  
6 insurance, or Social Security benefits, are indexed for  
7 inflation to protect against loss of purchasing power by  
8 inflation.

9       By statute, COLAs for those benefits are calculated  
10 using the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index  
11 for urban wage earners and clerical workers. Many argue  
12 that it doesn't accurately reflect the inflation  
13 experienced by the elderly and should be changed to an --  
14 an elderly-specific price index, such as the Consumer  
15 Price Index for Americans sixty-two years of age and  
16 older.

17       Inadequate calculations and taxation of Social  
18 Security are eroding the economic stability of recipients  
19 and must be corrected. There is a lack of adequate  
20 Federal funding and housing inventory in the county. The  
21 county's project-based voucher waiting list is closed  
22 indefinitely. State and Federal programs, as well as  
23 current laws do not meet the needs of those on fixed  
24 incomes. They only benefit developers and owners.

25       Many of our seniors are paying up to eighty percent

1 of their incomes on rent alone and are facing increases  
2 in rent up to ten percent. With rising costs of living  
3 not accounted for, those on fixed low incomes are being  
4 priced out of existence. All renters on fixed incomes,  
5 especially senior citizens who are unable to increase  
6 their incomes to match the growing cost of living,  
7 needs -- they need local, State, and Federal protections.

8 It is imperative that our District remain as it is  
9 to make the necessary changes in legislation to stop  
10 abusive, immoral, and unethical rent increases for all  
11 those on fixed incomes.

12 Can I answer any questions?

13 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

14 CHAIR YEE: Yes. Yeah, Mr. Dupree, so you mentioned  
15 your in Town of Oakley, are you thinking -- and district.

16 Which district are you thinking of? Is it  
17 Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly?

18 MR. DUPREE: Congressional District 9.

19 CHAIR YEE: Congressional District 9.

20 And that's the district which you have in mind with  
21 your comments?

22 MR. DUPREE: Yes.

23 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Very good. Thank you so much.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now, we will have 004.

25 And up next will be 001. Right now will be 004. And up

1 next will be 001.

2 004, I will be promoting you now. 004, your Speaker  
3 Order Number is Number 2. If you'll please make note of  
4 that for future reference.

5 You can now enable your audio and video in the lower  
6 left corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the  
7 mapper what area you would like to discuss today. The  
8 floor is yours.

9 MR. THURSTON: Hello. I live in Antioch,  
10 California.

11 Hello?

12 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.

13 MR. THURSTON: Okay.

14 Can I begin now?

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, please.

16 MR. MANOFF: Yes.

17 MR. THURSTON: Okay. I am Harry Thurston. I am a  
18 thirty-four-year resident of the city of Antioch,  
19 California. Antioch is located in east Contra Costa  
20 County, situated on the southern bank of the San Joaquin  
21 River, bordered to the west by the city of Pittsburg, to  
22 the east by the city of Oakley, and to the south by the  
23 city of Brentwood.

24 Antioch is a San -- Antioch is a San Joaquin River  
25 Delta city, noted for being the Gateway to the San

1 Joaquin -- San Joaquin River Delta. The water management  
2 of the -- of the San Joaquin River Delta is a major  
3 concern to -- for the citizens of Antioch, population of  
4 115,000; but also for all the citizens of Stockton,  
5 Brentwood, Oakley, Discovery Bay, Bethel Island,  
6 Knightsen, Byron, also located in southern -- in around  
7 the San Joaquin River Delta. Thus, this is a regional  
8 water manage -- thus, this is a region -- a regional  
9 water management concern for our combined citizenry --  
10 citizenry, estimated at 542,000.

11 The regional water management concerns are over  
12 availability and quality of drinking water, recreational  
13 water use, and agricultural use of this Delta resource.  
14 This requires unified regional water governance of these  
15 water resources from the -- from the San Joaquin River  
16 Delta, that is -- is shared between these various Delta  
17 locations.

18 Thus my ask, I am requesting that the California  
19 Citizens Redistricting Commission consider in any  
20 redistricting recommendations that these cities, due to  
21 their proximity and their shared need for a regional  
22 Delta water management approach, that these cities be  
23 grouped together in a [re-de-dist-er-ing] [bound-er-  
24 ing] -- in together in a redistricting boundary decision.  
25 Thus, currently they are in CD-9, and probably best to

1 leave them in CD-9.

2 That's thank you very much. Any questions?

3 CHAIR YEE: No, that was very clear. And thank you  
4 for listing all the different cities.

5 MR. THURSTON: Thank you for your time.

6 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 Right now, we have 001, and up next will be 005.

9 001, I will be promoting you now. 001, your Speaker  
10 Order Number will be Number 3. If you'll please make  
11 note of that for future reference.

12 If you'll please remind the mapper what area you  
13 would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

14 MR. MOATS: Hello, can you hear me?

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure can.

16 MR. MOATS: Okay, great. My name is Conan Moats,  
17 and I live in Oakley, California, as well. It looks like  
18 we've got a strong showing for east Contra Costa County  
19 here, which makes me happy. And like the two previous  
20 speakers, I would like to show my support for District 9  
21 maintaining the integrity that it current (audio  
22 interference).

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: It looks like we have a frozen  
24 screen.

25 MR. MOATS: (Audio interference) us a distinct

1 community --

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Sir, sir?

3 MR. MOATS: Hello?

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: Can you restart? You actually  
5 froze.

6 MR. MOATS: Yes, hello?

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, you're live now, but you  
8 did freeze.

9 So if you'll go ahead and just restart?

10 MR. MOATS: Yeah. My -- it says my internet  
11 connection is unstable. I pay top dollar for it, but I  
12 don't know what to say.

13 Can you hear me?

14 MR. MANOFF: Yes, I can.

15 Speaker 001, could you please disable your video?  
16 That might help with your --

17 MR. MOATS: Sure.

18 MR. MANOFF: -- with your transmission.

19 MR. MOATS: Video is disabled.

20 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. All right. We're going to  
21 start your time again. Go ahead and start over. Thank  
22 you.

23 MR. MOATS: Okay. Thank you.

24 If for some reason I should have more technical  
25 difficulties, I want it to be known that the previous two

1 speakers share my sentiments.

2       So again, I live in Oakley, California. My name is  
3 Conan Moats, and I am speaking on behalf of District 9  
4 maintaining its integrity as a District. Should  
5 reapportionment occur, I would like it to be essentially  
6 what it is now.

7       To the, what do we have in common as a community,  
8 east Contra Costa County? Well, we have the Delta. The  
9 Delta essentially forms a natural cohesive unit from  
10 Antioch, the Gateway to the Delta, Oakley is the heart of  
11 the Delta, Knightsen, Brentwood, Disco Bay, Byron. Even,  
12 you know, I consider Stockton, which is in San Joaquin  
13 County, but still to be part of us.

14       We have a huge boating community out here. People  
15 come from the Bay Area and from other parts of the state  
16 to enjoy our thousands of miles of waterways. This is --  
17 this employs several thousand people in the -- in water  
18 recreation, from boat mechanics to -- to the many marinas  
19 that are out here.

20       And so the water in the Delta is what is one thing  
21 that we definitely have in common. We drink the same  
22 water, and we recreate on the same water.

23       The district that we're not, so you know, the  
24 between the us and the other. I always -- in my mind I  
25 think of it as the -- once you got into east Contra Costa

1 County, once you've gone over the hill, if you know the  
2 geography, which is technically in Pittsburg, I believe,  
3 the -- the Mount Diablo -- we're kind of in the range  
4 shadow of Mount Diablo. There is a hill that Pittsburg  
5 is part of it as well, and then on the other side you  
6 have Concord and Bay Point, Clayton, et cetera.

7       So I feel like, once you get past that hill, you're  
8 in East County and you're in the Delta. And you can see  
9 that Antioch is split right in half. I don't know the  
10 history of that or why that is. I don't necessarily have  
11 a problem with it. But I do think that, you know, the  
12 Delta water, that's who we are -- the San Joaquin Delta,  
13 as opposed to --

14       MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15       MR. MOATS: -- the Sacramento Delta, so.

16       I think that I've made my point clear. And I thank  
17 you for your time.

18       Do you have any questions for me?

19       CHAIR YEE: No, that was very clear. Thank you.

20       MR. MOATS: All right.

21       COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

22       I'd like to invite 006. Oh, there you go; I see  
23 your hand.

24       So right now will be 005. And then up next will be  
25 006.

1           005, I will be promoting you now. 005, your Speaker  
2 Order Number will be Number 4. If you'll please make  
3 note of that for future reference.

4           And if you'll please remind the mapper of what area  
5 you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

6           MS. TORRES: Yes. If I can remind the mapper to  
7 please pull up Oakland area and Alameda County.  
8 Especially Interstate 980 area, Old Town Oakland, please.

9           MR. MANOFF: Thank you, go ahead.

10          MS. TORRES: Okay. Good afternoon, Commission. My  
11 name is Renee Torres (ph.), and I'm a student of the  
12 Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center in Oakland. The  
13 Freedom Center is an independent nonprofit that gets  
14 youth involved in civic engagement and community  
15 organizing, following Dr. King's principles of  
16 nonviolence. We advocate for democracy and work to  
17 ensure that historically-omitted voices are heard.

18          Today, I will be addressing redistricting in  
19 Congressional District 13. District 13 is filled with  
20 people from every demographic and generation. Our  
21 district is intersectional, and it must be kept together  
22 in order to preserve the bonds we have formed. District  
23 13 is home to every social identity and demographic. It  
24 is the embodiment of California's culture and is the most  
25 diverse state in our country.

1           So Saturday, June 19th, 2021, I attended a  
2 Juneteenth Festival at Lake Merritt, which is located in  
3 the center of Oakland. The three-mile shoreline was  
4 filled with vendors and businesses, mainly from the black  
5 community, in order to commemorate and honor the roots  
6 they share with Juneteenth.

7           It was a historical and moving experience, as I have  
8 never been immersed in any single culture as much as I  
9 was on Juneteenth. The environment was comforting and  
10 lively, attendees were walking, picnicking, socializing,  
11 and exercising unity.

12           Juneteenth at Lake Merritt is not the only gathering  
13 hosted there. It is home to a multitude of  
14 organizations, demographics, and social classes. Every  
15 walk of life within District 13 contributes to the  
16 vitality and unity of the lake.

17           Currently, grassroots organizers are working to  
18 reconnect the black and brown communities of western and  
19 downtown Oakland by advocating for the remodeling  
20 highways such as Interstate 980.

21           If District 13's lines are not maintained, movements  
22 like these will suffer. Moreover, as this community  
23 navigates these issues, they cannot afford any additional  
24 transportation changes that could arise from  
25 redistricting.

1 Congressional District 13 is home to single parents,  
2 immigrant workers, LGBTQIA-plus members, animal rights  
3 activists, bipartisan residents, religious groups,  
4 impoverished youth, and so many more. Our communities  
5 and neighborhoods --

6 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

7 MS. TORRES: -- thrive off intersectionality and  
8 deserve a seat at the table.

9 Having taken the time to study and commemorate  
10 certain communities of interest in District 13, it has  
11 become more clear to me that this is not just a place of  
12 residency for over 760,000 --

13 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

14 MS. TORRES: -- people. It is a home where  
15 diversity, community, amiability are instilled within  
16 each resident.

17 Thank you all for your time today in granting me the  
18 space to provide my input on Congressional District 13.  
19 Thank you.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're on camera.

21 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ms. Torres.

22 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

23 Right now, will be 006. I'd like to invite those  
24 that have called in to please press star 9 on their  
25 telephone keypad to raise their hand, indicating they

1 wish to comment.

2 Right now, we have 006. And up next will be caller  
3 5414.

4 006, I will be promoting you now. 006, your Speaker  
5 Order Number will be Number 5. If you'll please make  
6 note of that for future reference.

7 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
8 you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

9 MS. ROCKMILL: Hi. Could I please have an area in  
10 Oakland, 6th Street to 12th Street, Chinatown?

11 CHAIR YEE: More westerly.

12 MS. ROCKMILL: Hm?

13 CHAIR YEE: We're just bringing up the map.

14 MS. ROCKMILL: Oh.

15 CHAIR YEE: A little bit more westerly, yeah. Okay,  
16 there.

17 MS. ROCKMILL: Okay.

18 Okay, can I start?

19 MR. MANOFF: Yes, go ahead.

20 CHAIR YEE: Yes, please.

21 MS. ROCKMILL: Okay. Hi. My name is Skyler  
22 Rockmill (ph.). I'm a youth activist from the Martin  
23 Luther King Freedom Center, who is passionate about  
24 issues related to redistricting. I live in Berkeley,  
25 California, and I am a proud citizen of Congressional

1 District 13.

2 I'm here today, because I believe that strength and  
3 change come from unity. Now I ask you, Commissioners, to  
4 hear my thinking, hours of research, and positive  
5 intentions for my community.

6 In these last months, Asian hate has immensely  
7 spiked. BBC shared that there is nine times more Asian  
8 American hate today than in 2019. These recent acts of  
9 terror spotlight the importance of keeping Asian  
10 communities intact and united. In order to do this, the  
11 city of Oakland must not split up.

12 In Oakland, there is a lively Chinatown from 6th  
13 Street to 12th Street. This area allows traditional  
14 Chinese businesses and culture to thrive. It is a bubble  
15 inside the vast diversity of Oakland that unites Asian  
16 Americans.

17 In my research on communities of interest in the Bay  
18 Area, I found a larger number of Asian businesses in  
19 District 13 than I did in neighboring Districts 11 and  
20 15. Such businesses include Asian markets, salons, and  
21 tea houses.

22 Unlike District 13, the cities of Kensington and  
23 Lafayette in District 11 have few Asian businesses, and  
24 Asian populations below twelve percent. With such a low  
25 Asian population and less diversity, the fight for Asian

1 American rights would not be as strong as it is in  
2 District 13. By including these cities in District 13,  
3 the white population will grow disproportionately, and  
4 the diverse culture and activism would be diminished.

5 In my research, I also found different priorities  
6 among Congressional Districts 13 and 15. I discovered  
7 numerous organizations in District 13 advocating for  
8 equal LGBTQ-plus, racial, and gender rights.

9 While in District 15, I did not find an abundance of  
10 these organizations, I instead saw that District 15 had  
11 more organizations that focused on support for children.  
12 With such different priorities, expansions into any of  
13 these cities will create a complete disconnect in the  
14 community.

15 Finally, I'd like to talk about my personal  
16 perspective as a Jewish teenager living in District 13.  
17 In District 13, I proudly wear my Jewish Star of David  
18 necklace. This is one of the few districts where I  
19 publicly --

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MS. ROCKMILL: -- share my religion. My religion is  
22 a small, closeknit community that has dealt with years of  
23 antisemitism. Although we are -- we are small in  
24 numbers, we are strong in spirit, and we value community.

25 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

1 MS. ROCKMILL: Splitting up District 13 that --  
2 would dilute the voice of the already small Jewish  
3 population. I urge the Commission to please keep  
4 Congressional 13 the same.

5 Thank you for your time.

6 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 Right now, we have caller 5414. And up next will be  
9 caller 7033. And I would like to invite those other  
10 callers in the queue to please press star 9, indicating  
11 you wish to comment. Again, please press star 9 to raise  
12 your hand, indicating you wish to comment.

13 Caller with the last four 5414, if you'll please  
14 follow the prompts to unmute at this time by pressing  
15 star 6 on your telephone keypad.

16 Caller 5414, I have a couple of brief instructions  
17 for you. Your Speaker Order Number will be Number 6. If  
18 you'll please make note of that for future reference.

19 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
20 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

21 MR. GROSSE: I'd like to discuss the Second  
22 Congressional District, which runs from Marin County up  
23 the coast to the Oregon border.

24 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

25 MR. GROSSE: My name is Phil Grosse, G-R-O-S-S-E.



1 I'm President of the Hacienda Improvement Association,  
2 which is a homeowners association in a small  
3 unincorporated town along the lower Russian River. I'm a  
4 resident of Petaluma, California in Sonoma County. I'm  
5 also a Legislative advocate for the California Democratic  
6 Party Rural Caucus.

7 I'm here today to advocate for keeping the coastal  
8 counties together in a single district. Our common  
9 social and economic interests from the Golden Gate Bridge  
10 to the Oregon border include the redwoods, our Native  
11 American communities, our dairy and agriculture  
12 industries, our fisheries, Highway 101, and lousy  
13 broadband, with the hope that perhaps help in that regard  
14 is on the way.

15 And the most important features, in my opinion, are  
16 the rivers; specifically, the Russian and the Eel. Since  
17 1908, when they punched a hole in a mountain and diverted  
18 water from the Eel River to the headwaters of the Russian  
19 River, those two rivers have been physically linked.  
20 Diversions from the Eel keep the Russian River flowing in  
21 the summertime. It used to dry up in the summer.

22 That provides recreation, it provides irrigation for  
23 our vineyards and our agriculture. And of course, it  
24 provides drinking water for 600,000 people, from north of  
25 Ukiah all the way to Marin County.



1           Since PG&E unceremoniously decided not to renew  
2 their ownership of the two dams that create that  
3 diversion, there has been a two-basin task force trying  
4 to find solutions to help both rivers, to improve the  
5 fisheries in the Eel River, and to make sure that the  
6 Russian River has enough water flowing through it to  
7 support the people that live along that river now that  
8 didn't live there in 1908.

9           The last thing we need is to have this District  
10 broken up, so that people representing each of those two  
11 watersheds are on opposite sides of political divide.

12           MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

13           MR. GROSSE: It's really critical that we keep  
14 the -- the Second Congressional District together.

15           Thank you very much.

16           CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

17           COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

18           Right now, we have caller 7033, and up next will be  
19 caller 0564. And again, I would like to invite those in  
20 the queue to please press star 9, indicating you wish to  
21 comment.

22           Caller 7033, if you will please follow the prompts  
23 to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 7033,  
24 I have a couple of brief instructions. Your Speaker  
25 Order Number will be Number 7. If you will please make



1 note of that for future reference.

2 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
3 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

4 MS. ERICA: Yes.

5 Can the -- can you pull up International Boulevard,  
6 MacArthur Boulevard, cross street Durant Avenue?

7 Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Erica.  
8 I'm a fellow of the Martin Luther King Freedom Center,  
9 and a rising sophomore at Bishop O'Dowd High School. I  
10 lived in the 13th Congressional District in Alameda  
11 County. I am here to talk about the African-American  
12 communities in District 13.

13 I've lived in Oakland for ten years, so I know the  
14 environment well. My parents are Pastor and First Lady  
15 of a local church. And while living here, we've done  
16 outreach and missionary work in the local community. We  
17 go to different neighborhoods, speak to the people living  
18 there, invite them to church, and hear their stories.

19 I have had the privilege to never live under or  
20 close to the poverty line. However, based on the  
21 knowledge that we have acquired during our missionary  
22 work, I can say that that is not the case for a lot of  
23 the people living in this city.

24 From my personal experience, I have seen that the  
25 people of this city have learned to depend on their

1 neighborhood shops and businesses. Those fortunate  
2 enough to have cars don't want to have to pay high gas  
3 prices when that money could be used instead for rent,  
4 groceries, or bills.

5 In Oakland, African-American-owned or catered  
6 businesses tend to be concentrated together. And the  
7 people who utilize them tend to live close by as well.

8 For example, there are a lot of beauty supplies that  
9 are on International Boulevard and on MacArthur  
10 Boulevard. To name a few, you have Beauty Supply Shop,  
11 TNT Beauty, and Ebony Beauty Supply. All of these happen  
12 to be within ten blocks of each other and get a lot of  
13 business from the people who live close by.

14 For people who don't have cars, public  
15 transportation is their only way to get places. If the  
16 shops they visit regularly were more spread out, getting  
17 around would be more costly. Even though public  
18 transportation is cheap, riding it every day can start to  
19 add up.

20 Separating these shops and businesses into different  
21 districts could prevent residents from being able to vote  
22 in their own interests. Losing or breaking up any part  
23 of the cities of Oakland or San Leandro would be  
24 devastating for the African-American community in  
25 Congressional District 13.

1 Thank you for your time and consideration this  
2 afternoon.

3 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

5 And now, we have caller 0564.

6 I'd like to invite unique ID code 007 to please use  
7 the Raise your Hand button at the bottom of your screen  
8 if you are ready to give comment.

9 So right now, we will have caller 0564. And then up  
10 next will be 007.

11 Caller 0564, if you will please follow the prompts  
12 to unmute. Caller 0564, I have a couple of brief  
13 instructions. Your Speaker Order Number will be Number  
14 8. If you'll please make note of that for future  
15 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what  
16 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is  
17 yours.

18 MS. MIA: Hi, my name is Mia (ph.). I'd like to  
19 speak about the east Solano County. I've lived in Solano  
20 County for most of my life. I have family members  
21 throughout the whole Bay Area. My grandma lives in  
22 Benicia. My mother owns a small business in Vacaville.  
23 And Solano County is where I'm raising my family.

24 I can see how in the last ten years, Solano and many  
25 surrounding countries (sic) have been affected by the Bay

1 Area's ballooning growth. Old lines that have been  
2 blurred. Whether it's Tracy in San Joaquin County,  
3 Brentwood in Contra Costa, or Rio Vista in Solano County,  
4 it's all the same story.

5 The Delta is not a physical barrier, but rather  
6 unites a common experience. It is also -- it also  
7 creates common problems in need of common solutions.  
8 Maybe not this year because of the drought, but the Delta  
9 is incredibly vulnerable to flooding. Much of the new  
10 housing is replacing low-lying farmland, and sometimes  
11 below sea level.

12 Many Solano residents commute out of the county,  
13 going to -- going west to the Bay Area or east to  
14 Sacramento. Most people means -- more people means more  
15 traffic. As a former healthcare provider, I can tell you  
16 air quality is growing -- to a growing concern. These  
17 new residents are only adding to longstanding ties  
18 between Solano and the Bay Area.

19 Jelly Belly may have historical roots in Oakland,  
20 and have been Ronald Reagan's favorite Bay Area treat,  
21 but they are actually now made here in Solano. We, of  
22 course, do not -- do have our County supervisors who talk  
23 to local concerns.

24 But the other issues from water access to freeways,  
25 having State and Federal legislators who can look for

1 common solutions to broader issues, sometimes does mean  
2 crossing county lines.

3 District lines should also allow us to address, not  
4 only the growth in the last ten years, but the challenges  
5 sure to come in the next ten.

6 Thank you for letting me share a little bit of the  
7 community and Solano County. Thank you.

8 CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

10 Right now, we will have unique ID code 007. I'd  
11 like to invite those in the queue that have called in to  
12 please press star 9 on their telephone keypad, indicating  
13 they wish to comment at this time.

14 007, I will be promoting you now. 007, your Speaker  
15 Order Number will be Number 9. If you'll please make  
16 note of that for future reference. You can now enable  
17 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your  
18 screen.

19 If you'll please remind the mapper know what area  
20 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

21 MS. HIGGINS: Hi, my name is Sue Higgins (ph.), and  
22 I would like to discuss Oakley, California, to Stockton,  
23 California. I have lived in Oakley since 1999 for  
24 twenty-two years.

25 I would like to keep my community together. We are



1 connected by water. Through the Big Break Marina in  
2 Oakley and East Bay parks, we have access to the Delta.  
3 Just this year, I have attended two fishing tournaments,  
4 where we get in the boats, and they go all the way to  
5 Stockton, bringing anglers from all over. We enjoy the  
6 best fishing around.

7 Oakley is one of the biggest employers of school  
8 teachers. And unlike Stockton, who needs those jobs,  
9 we've been working together in our school districts and  
10 in our employment; look at how we can cooperate together  
11 and keeping this together.

12 Our Congressman, who is a scientist, also working on  
13 how the Delta, and the climate change, and he advocates  
14 for prevention of the -- the sea rise. And he wants to  
15 keep -- we want to keep our communities united. It is  
16 important to serve the whole picture as one in helping  
17 our environment. Thank you.

18 CHAIR YEE: Caller, you mentioned that Stockton and  
19 Oakley -- keeping them together.

20 Are you thinking of other communities as well, or  
21 just those two in particular?

22 MS. HIGGINS: Well, it's the whole line. Because  
23 Oakley -- it starts with the water along Antioch,  
24 Brentwood, Oakley, and then we grab in Knightsen, Bethel  
25 Island as we continue all the way to the San Joaquin.

1 And that whole environment is really one structure.

2 If you look at the Delta, you know, it's -- it's our  
3 waterway, it's our life, it's -- it's one community along  
4 there.

5 CHAIR YEE: That helps. Thank you.

6 MS. HIGGINS: Thank you.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 Right now, we have caller with the last four 2547.  
9 I'd like to invite those that have called in to please  
10 press star 9 on their telephone keypad, indicating they  
11 wish to comment.

12 But at this time, caller 2547, I you will please  
13 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6 on your  
14 telephone keypad.

15 Thank you so much, caller 2547. Your Speaker Order  
16 Number will be Number 10. If you'll please make note of  
17 that for future reference.

18 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
19 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

20 MS. ISA: I would like to discuss District 13,  
21 particularly the cities of Berkeley, Oakland, and San  
22 Leandro. Okay.

23 Good afternoon, Commissioners. First, thank you for  
24 all of your work. I really appreciate you taking time to  
25 listen to me today. My name is Isa (ph.), and I'm a

1 rising senior at Bishop O'Dowd High School in Oakland.  
2 And I'm also a student at the Martin Luther King Freedom  
3 Center.

4 I love living in District 13 because it constantly  
5 offers opportunities for me to experience a variety of  
6 cultures, meet different kinds of people, and ultimately,  
7 grow as a person. For this reason, I'm spending my last  
8 summer of high school working to keep it together. And  
9 I'm here to ask you to make sure that it is not divided  
10 during the redistricting process.

11 This summer, I have been researching the Native  
12 American communities interest, and I discovered that it  
13 is thriving, despite America's troubled history.  
14 According to the Bay Area Equity Atlas, today, the Bay  
15 Area has become one of the largest populations of  
16 intertribal Indians in the country.

17 For some historical context, District 13 was  
18 originally home to the Ohlone Tribe. But this changed  
19 when the Government passed the 1965 (sic) Indian  
20 Relocation Act, which was an effort to encourage Native  
21 Americans to leave their reservations and assimilate into  
22 urban society with the promise of a better life.  
23 Unfortunately, the Act ultimately failed to make good on  
24 that promise.

25 But many Native Americans from communities in the

1 southwest, Great Plains, and Eastern Woodlands still  
2 ended up in urban areas, particularly, the Bay Area.  
3 This led to the establishment of the first urban Native  
4 American Community Center known as the Intertribal  
5 Friendship House, which still stands in Oakland today.

6 District 13 also houses the Native American Health  
7 Center, which has been providing health services to  
8 Native Americans in the area since 1972. Healthcare is  
9 an important issue for Native Americans, because moving  
10 to urban areas often results in loss of access to tribal  
11 healthcare services.

12 There are several other significant Native American  
13 Cultural Centers in District 13, located in Oakland and  
14 San Leandro. And Berkeley is home to a Native American-  
15 run publishing company and the only Native American  
16 newspaper in all of California.

17 Dividing the Native community in District 13 would  
18 likely disrupt the unity and strength they have worked  
19 hard to build up. So please don't.

20 Of course, there is a possibility that District 13  
21 will need to expand. Native Americans in District 13 do  
22 not share much in common with the communities of  
23 surrounding districts other than District 11. In  
24 particular --

25 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

1 MS. ISA: Richmond has a branch of the Native  
2 American Health Center, and El Cerrito contains the main  
3 office of the California Indian Environmental Alliance.

4 Therefore, if expansion is necessary, please  
5 consider expanding District 13 into District 11 --

6 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

7 MS. ISA: -- because it will bolster a connection  
8 that already exists.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Actually, the Native  
11 American Health Center is where I got my COVID shots.

12 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

13 I would like to invite those in the queue to please  
14 press star 9, indicating you wish to comment. For those  
15 waiting in the queue, if you wish to comment, pressing  
16 star 9 on your telephone keypad will raise your hand. So  
17 please press star 9.

18 Ah, caller 6715, if you'll please follow the prompts  
19 to unmute by pressing star 6 on your telephone keypad.  
20 Caller 6715, you are unmuted. I have a couple of brief  
21 instructions. Your Speaker Order Number will be Number  
22 11. If you'll please make note of that for future  
23 reference.

24 If you'll please let the mapper know what area you  
25 would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.



1 MS. SCOTT: I'd like to discuss on District 5.

2 Hi, I'm Eloise Scott. I've been here in Vallejo for  
3 more than forty years. And I really would like to  
4 recommend that District 5 will be maintained. And  
5 Vallejo and Napa, we are directly located between -- we  
6 share -- we share in the Napa Valley or (indiscernible)  
7 west.

8 We share the water and economy management authority.  
9 And the reason what Vallejo and Napa industry are closely  
10 integrated, such as the winery, (indiscernible) business,  
11 Six Flags, Mare Island, and our common interest with  
12 water and transportation. Our economies really did  
13 (indiscernible).

14 Both Vallejo and Napa are very diverse communities.  
15 So I really encourage to maintain the District 5.

16 CHAIR YEE: Thank you so much.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

18 I would like to invite those in the queue to please  
19 press star 9 on their telephone keypad, indicating they  
20 wish to comment. Please press star 9 on your telephone  
21 keypad, indicating you wish to comment.

22 Caller 1270, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
23 unmute by pressing star 6. Caller 1270, if you'll press  
24 star 6 on your telephone keypad to unmute. Caller 1270  
25 you are unmuted. I have a couple of brief instructions.



1 Your Speaker Order Number will be Number 12.

2 If you'll please make note of that for future  
3 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what  
4 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello?

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello, can you hear me?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. The floor is yours.

9 Go ahead.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. My family and I  
11 moved to Brentwood, California from Georgia because it  
12 was not only affordable, but also because of the  
13 picturesque nature trails, the amazing farmers markets,  
14 and the proximity to the Delta waterways.

15 The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta impacts not only my  
16 city, but many other cities out here in the east Contra  
17 Costa County. I have a friend who lives on Peat Moss  
18 Island/Bethel Island, which means that she experiences  
19 both the good and the bad of being connected to the  
20 Delta.

21 We in east Contra Costa are concerned about what can  
22 happen to the ecosystem of the Sacramento-San Joaquin  
23 Delta and its tributaries. If the district lines are not  
24 drawn properly, there are many concerns, including the  
25 future existence of the Delta and the effort -- and the



1 effects of climate change, if they aren't addressed to  
2 include specific issues like salt intrusion into the  
3 fresh water estuaries of the Delta.

4 As an example, this is like farmers in Rio Vista and  
5 other cities who can't irrigate with high tide because of  
6 the salinity in the water, which not only will destroy  
7 their crops, but also destroy the balance of the soil.  
8 Mitigating the soil after it's been saturated with salt  
9 is very expensive and time consuming; farmers have  
10 neither.

11 The health of the only remaining agricultural lands  
12 and cultivation in Contra Costa County, and the shared  
13 label with the San Joaquin farming communities, create  
14 the strong agricultural contribution that is necessary  
15 for our continued wellbeing.

16 Another concern is the sea levels rising, which  
17 present flooding threats to communities and farms as I  
18 mentioned before. Especially after an El Nino drought,  
19 followed by a really wet El Nino rainy season. This can  
20 result in catastrophic infrastructure and property  
21 damage.

22 From a practical standpoint, all the cities around  
23 the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta should be in the same  
24 district, and including the little piece of -- the City  
25 of Antioch, which is currently not included, to make the

1 city whole.

2 We need representation that will listen and properly  
3 legislate to protect, keep healthy, and help the Delta  
4 ecosystem thrive. Thank you.

5 CHAIR YEE: Caller, thank you so much for your  
6 input. You mentioned Brentwood and part of Antioch, and  
7 Bethel Island.

8 Could you name other cities that you have in mind  
9 when you talk about the Delta?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. In east Contra Costa,  
11 the cities that are around there are Knightsen, Byron,  
12 Oakley, Brentwood, Antioch, which is in the -- in the  
13 forest part. And then when you continue further, of  
14 course, Rio Vista. And then before that it would be  
15 Pittsburg, which is not in our district, but it's also  
16 affected by the same waterflow.

17 CHAIR YEE: Very good. Thank you so much.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're welcome.

19 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

20 And right now, we have a caller with the last four  
21 8860. If you will please follow the prompts to unmute by  
22 pressing star 6. Caller 8860, you are unmuted.

23 I have a couple of brief instructions for you. Your  
24 Speaker Order Number will be 13. If you'll please make  
25 note of that for future reference.



1           And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
2 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

3           Hello, can you hear me? Caller with the last four  
4 digits 8860, can you hear me?

5           Sir, you just muted yourself. If you'll press star  
6 6 on your telephone keypad it will unmute you.

7           Caller 8860, can you hear me?

8           MR. PRUITT: I can.

9           Can you hear me?

10          COMMENT MODERATOR: I sure can. Your Speaker Order  
11 Number will be 13. If you'll please make note of that.  
12 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area you  
13 would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

14          MR. PRUITT: Okay. Yes, my name is Don Pruitt  
15 (ph.), and I'm a staff member for Contra Costa County  
16 Supervisor Candace Andersen, speaking today on her  
17 behalf. Her current district, District 2, currently  
18 includes San Ramon, Danville, Alamo, Lafayette, Moraga,  
19 Orinda, Canyon, Rossmoor, Parkmead, Saranap, and a  
20 portion of Walnut Creek.

21          Three of these communities, San Ramon, Danville, and  
22 Alamo help make up a distinct region on the East Bay that  
23 spreads across both Contra Costa County and Alameda  
24 County, the Tri-Valley.

25          Given her role in representing a portion of the Tri-

1 Valley, Supervisor Andersen views it as an important --  
2 to keep this region together. There is extensive  
3 government collaboration and coordination to accomplish  
4 this. However, her District would need to add several  
5 communities to the east such as Tracy and Mountain House,  
6 and even possibly parts of eastern Contra Costa to  
7 comprise a full district and meet the population  
8 requirements.

9 This is a community of interest, one with an  
10 abundance of residents who work and live together as a  
11 broader community. Common community destinations include  
12 the likes of Livermore National Laboratory and Bishop  
13 Ranch.

14 Many of the students at Las Positas College in  
15 Livermore are from Tracy and Mountain House. The Tri-  
16 Valley Transportation needs serves those towns, which  
17 also share Interstate 580. And the Valley Link Project,  
18 and eight stops in Livermore and Pleasanton.

19 If the Tri-Valley must be divided, however, for any  
20 of these three Legislative Districts you write, the  
21 natural dividing line is 580. If that were the case,  
22 Supervisor Andersen would be in favor of keeping Dublin,  
23 Pleasanton, and Livermore together with communities to  
24 the east along 580, such as Mountain House and Tracy, and  
25 more if needed.

1           This proposal would be logical given the  
2 collaborative efforts these communities engage in when it  
3 comes to transportation and housing advocacy.  
4 Furthermore, they share the commute routes along 580, and  
5 are similarly of -- some are rural -- and suburban  
6 composition. They all share the same agricultural ties  
7 with cattle grazing, and they share water resources and  
8 water interests.

9           So keep the Tri-Valley together. But if you must  
10 divide it, the 580 corridor makes the most sense. Thank  
11 you for your time.

12           CHAIR YEE: Thank you.

13           COMMENT MODERATOR: We do have one more caller in  
14 the queue. I invite them to press star 9 on their  
15 telephone keypad, indicating they wish to comment.  
16 Pressing star 9 on your telephone keypad will raise your  
17 hand, indicating you wish to comment.

18           At this time, Chair, it looks like we don't have any  
19 raised hands.

20           CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you, Katy. Very good.

21           Just a reminder to visit our website at  
22 [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org); that's [wedrawthelinesca](http://wedrawthelinesca.org), all one  
23 word, C-A for California, [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org). There,  
24 you can sign up for our emails, and learn more about the  
25 Commission meetings, and get updates and announcements.

1           We're also on social media, Facebook, Instagram,  
2 Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube. Our handle is  
3 @wedrawthelinesca; that's @wedrawthelinesca.

4           We'll be holding these community of interest public  
5 input meetings throughout the summer, and you can see the  
6 schedule for those at [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org).

7           There's also our mapping tool at  
8 [drawmycacomunity.org](http://drawmycacomunity.org); that's drawmycacomunity, all one  
9 word, dot org. That tool is available in English,  
10 Spanish, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese,  
11 Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic,  
12 Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, Khmer, Hmong, and Thai.  
13 Tutorials are available in those languages for the  
14 mapping tool.

15           You can also email us at [votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov](mailto:votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov);  
16 that's [votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov](mailto:votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov).

17           Or send a snail mail at Citizens Redistricting  
18 Commission, 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260; that's 721  
19 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, California 95814.

20           We have interpretation available on request. The  
21 request must be submitted at least five business days  
22 ahead of time. You can submit your request via email at  
23 [interpreter.request](mailto:interpreter.request); that's  
24 [interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov](mailto:interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov).

25           I think we have a caller, Katy?

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: We do, Chair.

2 Caller 1669, if you will please follow the prompts  
3 to unmute by pressing star 9 -- wait, star 6 on you  
4 telephone keypad. Caller 1669, your Speaker Order Number  
5 will be Number 14. If you'll please make note of that  
6 for future reference.

7 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
8 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, thank you. It's just  
10 a -- a general comment. I'm particularly concerned with  
11 the -- with the -- the impartiality of the Commission,  
12 and I really respect the idea behind the Commission that  
13 it be bipartisan, and that there be equal numbers of --  
14 of the different parties.

15 But recently, I think, it's come to light that many,  
16 if not all of the staff, including Executive Director Mr.  
17 Hernandez, Chief Counsel Mr. Payne, Outreach Director,  
18 Community Director, Communications Manager; they're all  
19 registered Democrats.

20 I'm an Independent myself. I -- I believe that it's  
21 really important that the Commission be bipartisan, and  
22 so that gerrymandering and things of that nature don't  
23 come into the equation here. But I mean, when the  
24 central California Field Lead, southern California Field  
25 Lead, northern California Field Lead, all registered

1 Democrats. To my knowledge, not a single registered  
2 Republican among the Redistricting staff.

3 It does beg some questions as to how impartial the  
4 Committee can really be, when obviously the Commissioners  
5 are -- are, you know, their party affiliations are  
6 stated, and there are equal numbers of them. But the --  
7 the staff, I'm sure, play a huge role in the way in which  
8 the lines are drawn. And it just doesn't seem as though  
9 too much care, if any, has gone into making sure that the  
10 level of impartiality that is enforced on the Commission  
11 is equally as enforced upon the staff.

12 So it's just a general concern, and I -- and I don't  
13 expect that there would be much response by the  
14 Commission to this. But just a concern of mine, being  
15 that the impartiality of the Commission be maintained,  
16 both among the staff, as well as among the Commissioners.

17 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. We appreciate your comments  
18 and concerns.

19 COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our callers  
20 at this time, Chair.

21 CHAIR YEE: Very good. Thank you, Katy.

22 We have upcoming another community of interest  
23 public input meeting tomorrow, that's Friday, July 30th,  
24 at 4 p.m. That will be back down in Los Angeles County  
25 as our focus and its surrounding areas. Registration for

1 that meeting tomorrow has already closed, but callers are  
2 still welcome to call in.

3 Then, on Saturday the 31st, we have a community of  
4 interest public input meeting focused on Riverside and  
5 San Bernadino Counties and surrounding areas. The  
6 registration for that closes tonight at 5 p.m. We do  
7 encourage appointments and registration. However, it's  
8 not required.

9 The next community of interest input meeting after  
10 that will be on Wednesday, August 4th; Wednesday, August  
11 4th at 4 p.m. That'll focus on Fresno, Kern, Kings,  
12 Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare  
13 Counties and their surrounding areas. Then on that  
14 August 4th meeting we'll have both Spanish and Punjabi  
15 listening lines provided. They do not have to be  
16 requested, they will be provided automatically.

17 Registration for the August 4th meeting closes this  
18 Monday at 5 p.m. So that's the August 4th meeting  
19 focused on Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San  
20 Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare Counties and their  
21 surrounding areas with translation being provided --  
22 interpretation being provided in Spanish and Punjabi for  
23 listening, and available interpretation, as well for  
24 giving comments.

25 You're not required to make an appointment to



1 provide input at any of these meetings. However, we do  
2 recommend it. You can call in the day of the meeting.

3 We're still holding all of our meetings virtually.  
4 So anyone in California can provide input. And you can  
5 always go to our website [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org) for more  
6 meeting information.

7 Yeah, it looks like we don't have any callers.  
8 Perhaps we can go to the five-minute video?

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

10 CHAIR YEE: Welcome back. We continue with the  
11 communities of interest input meeting for the California  
12 Citizens Redistricting Commission, with an emphasis on  
13 the Bay Area.

14 Let's see, Katy, can we have the call-in  
15 instructions read please?

16 COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely, Chair.

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

22 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided  
23 on our livestream feed. It is 85126633433 for this  
24 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply  
25 press the pound key.

1           Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a  
2 queue. To indicate your wish to comment, please press  
3 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.  
4 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message  
5 that says, the host would like you to talk, and to press  
6 star 6 to speak.

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

10          Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
11 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
12 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for  
13 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn  
14 down the livestream volume.

15          At this time, Chair, we do not have any callers in  
16 the queue.

17          CHAIR YEE: Okay. Well, then it must be time for  
18 Commissioners' stories. So experiences in the Bay Area  
19 or things you'd like to visit or trivia or anything else  
20 you'd like to share. The Bay Area has never hosted the  
21 Olympics. Maybe that'll happen someday.

22          Commissioner Akutagawa.

23          COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. So I have to  
24 say that this just literally just dawned on me just  
25 during the break because I order peaches from a place

1 called Frog Hollow Farms in Contra Costa County. It just  
2 finally clicked that it's coming from a city called --  
3 they're in a place called Brentwood.

4 And we've just been hearing one caller almost after  
5 the other talking about Contra Costa County and  
6 Brentwood. And I realized, oh, okay, so here's -- this  
7 is where this particular farm is located.

8 And I order these -- basically, I order stone fruits  
9 from them because I never know whether or not I'm going  
10 to -- if I'm going to get good quality peaches. And I  
11 just really, really love those. So I would rather pay a  
12 little extra and make sure I'm going to get very tasty,  
13 sweet peaches and nectarines.

14 And so I've been ordering from them and -- yeah, it  
15 just finally dawned on me. Everything just clicked. So  
16 I thought I'd just share that little aha that I had. And  
17 if anybody is interested in buying peaches, I would  
18 recommend them in terms of buying stone fruits and other  
19 things like that, so.

20 And maybe one day I'll be able to visit them.

21 CHAIR YEE: Either that, or there is a lot of pick-  
22 your-own places. You know, you go out for a day and pick  
23 your own fruits.

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, yeah. I've done that  
25 also along -- over in Lodi as well, too.

1 CHAIR YEE: Uh-huh, uh-huh.

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I had a chance to go up  
3 there, up in the Merced area. So that was a lot of fun.  
4 And I know that -- I don't think -- I don't know if Lodi  
5 is in Contra Costa.

6 I think it's more San Joaquin, but I will note that  
7 there are some interesting -- what is it they call it? I  
8 think, ancestral vine wineries in that area. So that was  
9 an interesting discovery too.

10 CHAIR YEE: Let's see.

11 Katy, is that a caller that we have?

12 COMMENT MODERATOR: It is, Chair.

13 I would like to invite those that have called in to  
14 please press star 9 on your telephone keypad to raise  
15 your hand, indicating you wish to comment at this time.  
16 Again, if you'll please press star 9 to raise your hand,  
17 indicating you wish to comment.

18 That is for caller with the last four digits 1554.  
19 If you -- oh, there is your hand, all right. If you will  
20 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6 on  
21 your telephone keypad. Caller 1554, I have a couple of  
22 brief instructions for you. Your Speaker Order Number  
23 will be 15. If you'll please make note of that for  
24 future reference.

25 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area



1 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

2 MS. VERDER-ALIGA: Yes, hi. This is Rozzana Verder-  
3 Aliga from Vallejo. We're in Congressman Townsend's  
4 District 5, Congressional District.

5 Hello, did you hear me?

6 MR. MANOFF: Yes, thank you. Go ahead please.

7 MS. VERDER-ALIGA: Yes. You know, I am in support  
8 of Vallejo being part of the Congressional District of  
9 Congressman Mike Townsend. You know, we -- I believe  
10 very strongly that we should be -- is Vallejo should be  
11 with Napa, because we share a lot of, you know, common  
12 interests. We share, you know, Highway 37. We also have  
13 the Napa -- I mean, the Napa River goes into Mare Island  
14 Strait and into the Bay.

15 And our interests are very closely aligned as well  
16 as, you know, Congressman Townsend has been a stalwart  
17 spokesperson for our interests, you know, Mare Island and  
18 our waterfront. And veterans issues as well. We have  
19 the Mare Island Naval Cemetery in Vallejo, and he has  
20 been a very ardent supporter of the Mare Island Cemetery  
21 going back into -- with VA jurisdiction.

22 So that is, you know, my -- my request. I'm also an  
23 elected official in Vallejo. I'm the Vice Mayor of -- of  
24 Vallejo. And it has been an elected position for the  
25 last twenty-five years, and very in tune with the issues

1 that we share interests that we have in common with the  
2 Napa Area, and the Congressional District -- Fifth, Fifth  
3 Congressional District for Congressman Mike Townsend.

4 So that is my request, and my -- and my hope that we  
5 will stay with Congressman Townsend's District.

6 CHAIR YEE: Very good. Thank you.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: That was all of our callers at  
8 this time, Chair.

9 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Are there Commissioner stories  
10 connected to the Bay Area?

11 Commissioner Andersen.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I want to just say about  
13 what Commissioner Akutagawa said, you should try their  
14 jellies and jams. And speaking of that, is all the fruit  
15 areas, what a lot of people don't know is, there are  
16 several areas which you would not have any idea where  
17 some of the best stone fruits were, in San Mateo County  
18 and also in Alameda County.

19 And you know, they're -- let's just say, Fruitvale  
20 wasn't called Fruitvale for nothing. And in San Mateo,  
21 just south of, you know, the San Francisco Airport,  
22 several communities in there were nothing but stone fruit  
23 orchards.

24 CHAIR YEE: Fruitvale is in an area in Oakland; it's  
25 actually right near me.

1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: May I ask a clarification?

2 CHAIR YEE: Sure.

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Andersen, are  
4 you talking about Frog Hollow Farms --

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Frog Hollow Farms, yes.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: They have wonderful jellies  
8 and jams.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I actually make my own  
10 jellies and jams, so -- and preserves.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Ooh.

12 CHAIR YEE: Ooh.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: That's why I order from  
14 there too.

15 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Good, good.

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, so my favorite place  
19 to visit, which I know is going to seem really weird to  
20 everybody else -- maybe not to Commissioner Taylor -- but  
21 I love Alcatraz, and I love San Quentin State Prison.  
22 Just the historical on both of them. It just really  
23 intrigues me.

24 So I love all the movies that have ever -- I  
25 probably have seen every movie of Alcatraz that's ever

1 shown. And then, just San Quentin. Yes, it's a prison,  
2 but it has a beautiful view of the Bay, which many of you  
3 probably cannot go there.

4 But if you go into the dining hall -- I can't  
5 remember what year it was -- but they have just a  
6 beautiful mural by an incarcerated person that was there  
7 over the years. He drew it, and it's absolutely  
8 incredible and just inspiring in terms of just the gift  
9 that he had in painting.

10 But anyways, so that's -- I know it's probably not  
11 everybody's favorite, but I love Alcatraz and San  
12 Quentin. And I guess I have to give a little shoutout to  
13 the two in Solano, CMF and Correctional State Prison in  
14 Solano. But those other two are my favorite.

15 CHAIR YEE: You should write a guidebook,  
16 Commissioner Fernandez.

17 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Well, I have two exciting  
18 memories to share, and it's not the prison, Commissioner  
19 Fernandez. So like I said, and I've said before, I was  
20 born in San Francisco, and spent most of my life in  
21 Richmond. But two things.

22 So first of all, in San Francisco, I think one of  
23 the first experiences I had driving -- I got my license  
24 and I was driving -- and got a little bit turned around  
25 and ended up coming from Richmond and ended up going

1 towards the Bay Bridge. This was before they had the  
2 new, beautiful bridge now. And I was freaked out the  
3 whole time, like, oh, my God, I have to cross the bridge.  
4 I'm so afraid, and I'm crying and all weirded out.

5 And I kept looking for opportunities to get off, and  
6 didn't know where to get off. And I felt like I am going  
7 to be stuck, and I'm going to have to go across the  
8 bridge. The horror of it all as a brand new driver.

9 And here is the thing that I don't know if maybe  
10 people knew or would have occasion to know. So I was in  
11 the far right lane, and I got to the tollbooth. And I'm  
12 just, like, a mess by this point. I'm like, man, I'm so  
13 scared and, you know. I probably was all of like  
14 seventeen, eighteen years old. And I'm like, I'm so  
15 scared to go across the bridge.

16 And they're like, oh, it's okay. They radioed  
17 across -- and maybe some of you know this -- and those  
18 little -- I guess tubes that stick up. They said okay.  
19 They stopped all the traffic and told me to just go on  
20 across. And I was, like, I can't fit through those. And  
21 they, like, yeah, just run over them, just go across.  
22 And I was, like, what?

23 And so yeah, so they stopped the traffic. So I  
24 drove all the way across the cones. And at this point,  
25 it just became an adventure. It was just fun. I was,

1 like, oh, my God. It ended up being the best thing in my  
2 life. So I got a chance to turn around and come back.  
3 So that was pretty cool on the Bay Bridge.

4 And then fast forward in time. Wouldn't you know  
5 it. I was on the Bay Bridge for our big quake that we  
6 had, an earthquake, when the bridge collapsed. And so my  
7 husband and I were both on the Bay Bridge, coming from  
8 San Francisco back to our house in Richmond at the time.

9 And at about that 5 o'clock hour, as always does  
10 happen, traffic stopped; no big deal. We just kept moving  
11 and talking. It always happened. And then we saw a sea  
12 of people coming towards our direction, walking,  
13 marching, crying.

14 And they were saying, the bridge is falling. And  
15 that particular day we had both cars. We were behind  
16 each other on the bridge. And so we were out of the car.

17 But it was, like, what do you mean, like, is falling  
18 or did fall, or how should we, you know, how should we  
19 receive this information, because we didn't want to leave  
20 our cars, you know? It's kind of what our mind was on,  
21 the bridge.

22 And at whatever rate, we do know the history of what  
23 did occur then, as unfortunate as it was. But we stayed  
24 there until almost about 11, when Caltrans came and had  
25 enough cars that they were able to get off. And we just

1 turned around and had to navigate through cars to come  
2 back on. But kind of a scary time.

3 And now, we have the brand new bridge that I've  
4 ridden my bike across. And so, yep, lots of bridge  
5 stories for me, but lots of history in the Bay Area,  
6 period.

7 CHAIR YEE: That's an amazing story -- two stories.  
8 Actually, what we need is a pedestrian lane on the  
9 western side of the Bay Bridge. And that way we could  
10 actually run from San Francisco to Oakland, then back  
11 across the Richmond Bridge to San Quentin, and San  
12 Rafael, and all the way around the Golden Gate.

13 And it will all be bikeable, runnable path. Except  
14 for that one, two-mile stretch of the western half of the  
15 Bay Bridge. That's the only part that doesn't have  
16 pedestrian access.

17 Any other stories?

18 Commissioner Sinay.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Turner, that story  
20 was amazing. I bet your intel -- and some bridges, if  
21 you tell them that you're scared, they actually have  
22 drivers who will drive your car across for you. So I  
23 thought that's what you're going to tell. So yeah.

24 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Nope, they stopped it for me.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That's great.

1 I remember -- I was living in D.C., when the quake  
2 happened. And my roommate at the time was from the Bay  
3 Area, from Novato. And we were watching the game. And  
4 it was the most helpless situation, being so far away  
5 from her family, and watching this all evolve and not  
6 being able -- yeah, it's pre-cell phones and all that.  
7 And just trying to call and know what's happening, and  
8 you know, we were three hours ahead.

9 The reverse happened when the L.A. earthquake  
10 happened, which was the Northridge earthquake. I was  
11 still in D.C. And my mom called me at, like, yeah, way  
12 too early for a young woman. And she was, like, we're  
13 all okay. And I'm, like great. And I'm, like going  
14 along with it, but I had no clue what had happened. She  
15 got so mad at me for not knowing.

16 But I think we've talked about earthquakes, or we  
17 had an earthquake in one of our redistricting public  
18 input. So it is really part of our lives. And I always  
19 think it's funny that my mom absolutely fears them, and  
20 has only lived in places with big earthquakes. Lima,  
21 Peru, Mexico City, and California.

22 CHAIR YEE: Here we are.

23 Okay fiends, it's 5:30, time for our first break.

24 So we will be on break until 5:45. After that,

25 Commissioner Toledo, back from a media interview, will be

1 chairing the meeting.

2 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
4 Citizens Redistricting Commission communities of interest  
5 input meeting. We are encouraging you to visit the  
6 Communities of Interest Tool to draw a map and describe  
7 your community, by visiting [drawmycacommunity.org](http://drawmycacommunity.org).

8 With that, I will pass this over to Katy, our  
9 comment moderator, to continue with public input.

10 We will start with those individuals who have  
11 registered, and then open up the phone line for those --  
12 if there is time before the next session.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

14 I apologize.

15 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the  
16 Raise Your Hand button at the bottom of your screen to  
17 enter the queue. When it is your turn to speak, you will  
18 be identified by your assigned unique ID number, which  
19 you were emailed yesterday. You will be reconnected to  
20 the session with the ability to enable your own video  
21 and/or audio. You will then be assigned a Speaker Order  
22 Number before you begin speaking. Please make a note of  
23 your Speaker Order Number for future reference.

24 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time  
25 limit. There will be a warning at thirty seconds and



1 fifteen seconds remaining.

2 It is the Commission's goal to find the area on the  
3 map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony.

4 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large  
5 city, please mention it by name.

6 Once we are able to locate your area, your three-  
7 minute testimony will begin. Attendees will not be able  
8 to share their screen.

9 At the end of your public input or at the end of  
10 your time, you will be reconnected in a listen and view-  
11 only mode. At the beginning of your input, please remind  
12 the mapper what area you would like to see.

13 And Chair, at this time it looks like we do not have  
14 any attendees.

15 Would you like the phone instructions read as well?

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, that would be excellent. Thank  
17 you.

18 COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay.

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

24 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided  
25 on our livestream feed. It is 85126633433 for this



1 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply  
2 press the pound key.

3       Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a  
4 queue. To indicate your wish to comment, please press  
5 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.  
6 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message  
7 that says, the host would like you to talk, and to press  
8 star 6 to speak.

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

12       Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
13 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
14 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for  
15 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn  
16 down the livestream volume.

17       And at this time, Chair, we do not have any callers  
18 in the queue.

19       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

20       So we will share a little bit more and then, if we  
21 still don't have any callers, we'll go to a video.

22       So one of the things that I wanted to share was that  
23 we have heard about the Native American Health Center  
24 once before, and a couple of times, and as well the  
25 Fruitvale District.

1           And I do know that the Oakland City Council approved  
2 renaming 31st Avenue to Martin Waukazoo, who is the --  
3 he's been the Executive Director of the Native American  
4 Health Center for over 40 years, and has been a  
5 trailblazing leader in the Native American community up  
6 in -- well, in the Bay Area and across the state of  
7 California. So I just wanted to acknowledge a great  
8 community leader in Oakland and for the Native American  
9 Community.

10           With that, I'm wondering if there are any other  
11 Commissioners who want to share.

12           Commissioner Fernandez.

13           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm going to play the where  
14 were you with the San Francisco earthquake that  
15 Commissioner Turner started.

16           At that time, that was the Bay -- what is it? The  
17 Bay -- it was the World Series. And I was in Sacramento,  
18 but I was traveling back and forth to the Bay Area  
19 because I was an auditor. But I was also traveling back  
20 to Sacramento because I was trying to finish up my  
21 Master's.

22           And I remember having an exam that day. And of  
23 course, you know, the student fulltime, a fulltime  
24 employee, you're -- what is it? You're burning the  
25 candle on both ends. And it was very strong. And my

1 thing was, oh my gosh, I'm so nauseous.

2 I really need to get some sleep because I'm losing  
3 it, right?

4 And so I didn't think much more. I went to take my  
5 test, and then that's where I learned that there was this  
6 huge earthquake. And I've got to tell you, when I got  
7 home I could not stop looking at the news. And it just  
8 was so surreal to me, like, oh, my God, the magnitude of  
9 it. And then just all of the damage, and all of the  
10 people. And Commissioner Turner was in the middle of it.

11 I mean, it was -- it just didn't seem real to me.  
12 And I just -- my heart goes out to everyone that was  
13 impacted by that. So that was my, where was I, during  
14 that earthquake. I mean, I still look back and I just  
15 can't believe the magnitude of it all.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah, I'm trying to remember where I  
17 was for the earthquake. I think -- because I was  
18 still -- I think I was in bed at home. Yeah, that's  
19 where I was, now I remember it. The bed was shaking  
20 and -- so I was at home with the family. But that was a  
21 horrible, horrible incident in the Bay Area history.

22 Any other stories?

23 Commissioner Akutagawa.

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I actually want to ask a  
25 clarification question. Are you talking about the one,

1 it was, like, in the late '80s, I think it was 1989? Is  
2 that the one? I don't know. I feel like there are  
3 several big ones, so I'm just wanting to make sure which  
4 one are we talking about? So I guess I'll share a story  
5 about that one because I was.

6       Actually I was -- I think that year, I think I had  
7 just finished up college. And I had taken a trip with  
8 two of my friends. We decided we're going to try  
9 something different. And we went on a trip to Japan that  
10 year. And all I remember is watching the news in Japan.  
11 And first off, I was thinking, I thought maybe I'm just  
12 misunderstanding what is being said, because we're in  
13 Japan, and I'm looking at -- I'm like. And I thought  
14 maybe they were talking about, like a historical event.

15       And then I realized, no, they're talking about right  
16 now. And just watching everything with horror, just  
17 thinking, oh, my gosh, you know, just -- and especially  
18 what happened on the Bay Bridge. It was just really --  
19 it was unbelievable, especially watching it from  
20 somewhere outside the country and you know. So that's  
21 where I was.

22       CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Sinay. I think you had  
23 your hand up.

24       COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, to think, it is bizarre  
25 when you're outside the country watching. And I was -- a

1 different disaster, but when Katrina happened, I was in  
2 Buenos Aires, and it was just -- it's kind of surreal  
3 just to hear the news. And we tried, yeah, we kept going  
4 back and forth between listening to it on CNN, and  
5 listening to it on local cable.

6 I was going to switch gears, and I've always wanted  
7 to ask Alicia -- sorry, Commissioner Fernandez and  
8 Commissioner Taylor, if you've ever listened to Ear  
9 Hustle, the podcast created by incarcerated people inside  
10 of San Quentin? And one of them was -- he's out now.  
11 But it's just a really fascinating -- and they had to  
12 stop it for a while because of COVID.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So I know about it, but I  
14 have never listened to it.

15 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, I've listened to it.  
16 You know, as it relates, you know, different perspectives  
17 are always good to take. So you know, I'd like to think  
18 that I'm open to sound theory, and judgment wherever it  
19 comes from. So I've listened to it a few times.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I have a question for  
22 Commissioner Taylor.

23 Is that the Dodger Stadium in your picture there?

24 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: You know the answer, Neal.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That is a really, really

1 cool picture.

2 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, and it's funny, you  
3 know. Since playing little league, and you get me, and  
4 I'm sure it's regional but, you know, playing little  
5 league baseball, and you get -- in southern California,  
6 and you get items from the big league club that you're  
7 near, it just endears you to that team.

8 So you know, since a kid, I've had an appreciation  
9 of the Dodgers or love of the Dodgers. My family does  
10 too. My family has a lot of baseball in it.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I guess I'll share another  
13 story on that note with baseball.

14 So my husband is a hardcore Dodgers fan. And his  
15 cousin who live up in the east Bay are hardcore Giants  
16 fans. And so they -- we haven't been able to do this the  
17 last couple years, but they have a bet going that if and  
18 when one team or the other play, and I think they pick a  
19 game. I think it's usually, like, the first game where  
20 the Dodgers and the Giants play each other. Depending on  
21 who wins that game, then towards the end of the season,  
22 whoever is the losing cousin, depending on their team,  
23 has to wear the shirt of the team of the opposite.

24 So in one year my husband had to wear the Giants'  
25 colors shirt, and he just absolutely hated it. In fact,

1 he tried to put the shirt on at the very last minute  
2 because he just thought it was just sacrilege that he  
3 will be forced to wear a Giants shirt as a hardcore  
4 Giants (sic) fan. And so the rest of us, including  
5 myself got a really good chuckle out of it.

6       There was one year where his cousin also had to do  
7 the same. She had to wear a Dodgers shirt, and she hated  
8 every single minute of it.

9       CHAIR TOLEDO: So it looks like we may have a  
10 caller.

11       Katy, can you please ask if they'd like to give  
12 comment?

13       COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

14       For those that have called in, if you would please  
15 press star 9 to raise your hand, indicating you wish to  
16 comment. If you wish to comment, please press star 9 on  
17 your telephone keypad.

18       And we do have a raised hand. Caller 5457, if  
19 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing  
20 star 6 on your telephone keypad. Again, caller with the  
21 last four 5457, if you'll please press star 6 on your  
22 telephone keypad. This will unmute you. One more time,  
23 if you'll please press star 6 on your telephone keypad.

24       There we go. Caller 5457. Hi, I have a couple of  
25 brief instructions for you. Your Speaker Order Number

1 will be 16. If you'll please make note of that for  
2 future reference.

3 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
4 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

5 MS. CATOLICO ASHLEY: Thank you, all of you. I was  
6 listening to you talk about Dodger Stadium. It reminded  
7 me of my wonderful days growing up in southern  
8 California. I am now in northern California, and I'd  
9 like to speak to the redistricting of Vallejo and  
10 connected to the Napa Valley. And I understand there may  
11 be some -- some discussion about that.

12 I am Ruthe Catolico Ashley. I am now a resident of  
13 Vallejo, California. I'm a lawyer, actually a retired  
14 lawyer. I retired here in Vallejo to be near the  
15 grandchildren, as I'm sure many of you can understand.  
16 And I'm still very active in the legal community in the  
17 northern California area. Very active in lobbying, both  
18 in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C.

19 And I have found that it's really -- as moving from  
20 Sacramento to Vallejo -- it has been a great place to  
21 live. But most of our connections have been with the  
22 Napa Valley.

23 And since we live right across the border, in fact,  
24 part of our entrance into where we live, it's an area  
25 called the Hiddenbrooke, it's part of Napa Valley. And

1 where we actually live is in Solana County, and the other  
2 part is Napa County. So we do very much of our business  
3 in Napa County.

4 Our grandchildren go to Napa -- school in Napa.  
5 Lots of shopping done in Napa. A lot of legal issues and  
6 legal connections I have in Napa. I go to the courthouse  
7 quite often there, work with the Bar Association, not  
8 only in Solano County but Napa County, Contra Costa  
9 County, and Sacramento County.

10 So I would like to emphasize that we, as residents  
11 of Vallejo, and to speak of, I am also a Filipino-  
12 American, would very much like to stay connected to Napa  
13 County, if there is any way for you to do that when you  
14 are doing your redistricting for this decade.

15 Thank you very much. And I'm happy to answer any  
16 questions that you'd like.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Just for clarification.

18 You'd like Napa County and Vallejo to be part of the  
19 district with Napa County?

20 MS. CATOLICO ASHLEY: The same, yes, the same  
21 district. That's a --

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: So you would draw the line -- um-hum.  
23 Sorry, go ahead.

24 MS. CATOLICO ASHLEY: Yes, you're correct.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: I appreciate your feedback.

1 MS. CATOLICO ASHLEY: It is now in Mike  
2 Thompson's -- it is now in Mike Thompson's -- the  
3 Congress -- Congressional District, and we'd like to stay  
4 in that area, since we have so much connection with Napa  
5 County through -- and the City of Vallejo, even though we  
6 are in Solano County. But with the western end of Solano  
7 County, not the eastern end, which is close to Yolo  
8 County and close to other Congressional representatives.  
9 I think our closest representative is through Napa  
10 County, and that would be Mike Thompson.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for your feedback.

12 MS. CATOLICO ASHLEY: Thank you.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our callers  
14 at this time, Chair.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

16 Can you read the telephone instructions one more  
17 time?

18 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The abbreviated  
19 version?

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Read the long version.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: The long version? Okay.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Just in case folks are trying to  
23 figure out how to call in.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely.

25 In order to maximize transparency and public

1 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be  
2 taking community of interest input by phone. To call in,  
3 dial the telephone number provided on the livestream  
4 feed. It is 877-853-5247.

5 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided  
6 on our livestream feed. It is 85126633433 for this  
7 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply  
8 press the pound key.

9 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a  
10 queue. To indicate your wish to comment, please press  
11 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.  
12 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message  
13 that says, the host would like you to talk, and to press  
14 star 6 to speak.

15 If you would like to give your name, please state  
16 and spell it for the record. You are not required to  
17 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 we do not have any callers in the queue at this  
24 time, Chair.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: You're welcome.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: So just a reminder to visit our  
3 website at [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org). You can also sign up  
4 for our emails to learn more about the Commission  
5 meetings, updates, and get announcements. Please connect  
6 with us on social media. We're on Facebook, Instagram,  
7 Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and our handle is  
8 [wedrawthelinesca](https://www.instagram.com/wedrawthelinesca).

9 There are numerous ways to provide community public  
10 input to the Commission. A community of interest input  
11 can be provided during our meetings, which are taking  
12 place throughout the summer. And please visit  
13 [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org) for more information.

14 Communities of interest mapping -- the mapping tool  
15 is available at [drawmycommunity.org](http://drawmycommunity.org). The online tool  
16 is available in English, Spanish, simplified Chinese,  
17 traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean,  
18 Armenian, Farsi, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Punjabi,  
19 Khmer, Hmong, and Thai. And tutorials are also available  
20 in those languages on our website [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org),  
21 and please go to our website and click on the  
22 [drawmycommunity](http://drawmycommunity.org) icon.

23 You can also contact via email at  
24 [votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov](mailto:votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov). Or by mail as well, snail  
25 mail, at California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

1 Our address is 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento,  
2 California 95814.

3 With that, Katy, do we have any callers on the line?

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not, Chair, not at this  
5 time.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Are there any additional stories or  
7 should we go -- there we go.

8 Commissioner Fornaciari, then Commissioner Turner.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, Commissioner Taylor  
10 sparked a memory for me. Growing up in Alameda County in  
11 the '70s playing little league, the A's were the team,  
12 and I remember every season we'd get tickets and wear our  
13 uniforms, and go sit up in the third deck. And that  
14 third deck is just like walking straight up, it's just  
15 crazy going up there.

16 And it was before the Raiders came back. And so the  
17 whole end of the outfield of the coliseum was open. And  
18 we had a beautiful view of the East Bay Hills, it was  
19 just a great, great place to be a kid and go watch some  
20 baseball games.

21 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Yeah, and I was going to share.  
22 I thought about it, and I thought wait a minute, I grew  
23 up a number of years in the Bay Area.

24 And so I was sitting here, thinking about the  
25 different parks that we went to. And in Richmond, there

1 was Nicholl's Park that we thought that was just like the  
2 best thing ever to go to. And Knowland Park in Oakland,  
3 and Children's Fairyland. And there was the Wildcat  
4 Canyon that we did until, like I was a counselor for kids  
5 in summer camps for a number of years. And so we enjoyed  
6 those areas.

7 I was thinking about the Berkeley Rose Garden, and  
8 that so many of my relatives got married at the Rose  
9 Garden. I thought about some of the food establishments.  
10 So there was, like, Moo's Ice Cream that was a mainstay  
11 in Richmond, and Andy's Donuts, and Giovanni's in  
12 Berkeley.

13 And you know, just a lot of good times throughout  
14 the Bay Area. Point Oregon, Allen Point, Richmond. And  
15 the Plunge, the Richmond Plunge, so many of my family  
16 members learned how to swim at the Richmond Plunge.

17 And what was that? Hotel Mac out there. I don't  
18 even know if it's still there in Point Richmond or not.  
19 But I thought about the \$.10 burgers at Munchy's, and  
20 Brooks hamburgers, and stuff like that. The Roxy movie  
21 theater, and then the Hilltop Drive-In; Roxy's in  
22 Oakland, and the drive-in in Hilltop.

23 So I spent a lot of time between -- even going  
24 through all my school years, the younger years in  
25 Coronado, in Portola, El Cerrito. And Kennedy High was

1 my alma mater. And then the rival schools of Castlemont  
2 and Berkeley High; it's, like, Skyline. You know, so I  
3 don't know, all of those throughout the Bay Area, that  
4 part of the Bay Area anyway, just hold a lot of fond  
5 memories for me.

6 And the more you think about it, you start thinking  
7 about, like, different, like, oh yeah, Leopold's Records,  
8 you know. And I don't know, I think a lot of those  
9 establishments aren't around any longer.

10 But it was just -- what was that big mall in  
11 Oakland? Eastmont Mall. And Mac, what was it? There  
12 was another mall I'm trying to think about.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: MacArthur?

14 VICE CHAIR TURNER: What was that -- MacArthur, yeah  
15 there was a mall on MacArthur, right?

16 CHAIR YEE: MB, MacArthur Broadway, MB Center.

17 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Yes, yes, all of that, uh-huh.  
18 And before it was International, it was the 14th Street,  
19 I think it was, in Oakland. Because I lived in --

20 CHAIR YEE: Yes it was.

21 VICE CHAIR TURNER: -- because I lived in Oakland  
22 for a while right off of Foothill when we first got  
23 married back in '78. So we were on -- right off of --  
24 no, it was off of High Street and 27th Avenue, that's  
25 what it was. So yes, love the Bay Area, just very rich

1 in memories and experiences.

2 I'm going to tell one more harrowing experience that  
3 just shows you the folly of kids, because I also was a  
4 pep squad person for high school. Not quite the  
5 cheerleader, but me and a couple of my girlfriends were  
6 coming down to a rival school in El Cerrito. And as we  
7 were coming down we heard all this screeching noise, and  
8 we didn't see anything. We just ran because we heard the  
9 noise, and hid in some apartment parking lot.

10 And some officers came with their, you know, like  
11 they were in kind of a attack mode because they didn't  
12 know, they just caught the tail end of us. And so we  
13 scared them more than they scared us. And we got down to  
14 the hill and got a good scolding from the officers. We  
15 were like, but we didn't even know. We were just being  
16 young and foolish.

17 But you know, those kind of things, you don't even  
18 recognize how danger (sic) it was at the time. It was  
19 just fun times, you know. So I had a wonderful, just,  
20 kind of sheltered but wonderful life in the Bay Area from  
21 the '60s, '70s, '80s. And I was there through, I think  
22 '95. So again, lots of love for the Bay Area.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

24 Commissioner Andersen.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I was going to say, the

1 Plunge has been completely redone and opened up again,  
2 because it was closed for many years. And Hotel Mac is  
3 still there.

4 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And the whole Rosie the  
6 Riveter in that area has been totally redone. And --

7 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Wow.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, it's actually -- going  
9 back to that entire area is -- you know it's lovely.  
10 It's all really lovely.

11 And we played softball quite a bit at Skyline High,  
12 in there using their facilities. I had to sneak through  
13 one of the -- a hole in the fence. But yeah, there's a  
14 lot of different memories all through this area.

15 Even out in the Marin Headlands. We used to go out  
16 into all those forts that are now gorgeously restored,  
17 before any of those had been restored. And we'd, you  
18 know, pop around there.

19 And then, you go out now, and it is gorgeous, it's  
20 all roped off; it's everything, like wow. It was  
21 dilapidated, old, concrete bunkers when we used to go out  
22 there. You know, it's lots of fun memories over the  
23 years.

24 VICE CHAIR TURNER: And the beach at Alameda too,  
25 right? Wow.

1 CHAIR YEE: Crown Beach, yeah.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: On our first -- my first job was as a  
3 recreational leader, park and recreation leader for the  
4 City of Alameda. And so I got to (audio interference).

5 I was also a lifeguard. But no sooner -- I didn't  
6 do that too well. So I didn't do -- I wasn't so good at  
7 that. Right, I just didn't like being in the water as  
8 much.

9 But I got to be in -- Alameda has amazing parks,  
10 lots of them, all over the city and of course the beach.  
11 And so I got to be -- got to work in their day program.  
12 So all summer with kids five to, I believe it -- I think  
13 it was five to twelve.

14 So it was really interesting to spend a summer with,  
15 like -- because it was, like, summer camp. And so we got  
16 to play all kinds of games with them and give them food  
17 and that sort of thing. And it was all high school  
18 students doing it, so it was -- so it was quite  
19 interesting.

20 I don't think that's allowed anymore. I think now  
21 you have to have certified people taking care of  
22 children. But back then, I think we were allowed. I  
23 don't remember -- yeah, we were allowed and it was a lot  
24 of fun. And we'd take them to all kinds of places. We  
25 would go to Great America, I don't -- we met the

1 Native -- Great America and to Marine World and to other  
2 waterparks and all kinds of places.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, this is Katy. We do have  
4 a caller in the queue with their hand raised.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Good, they probably got tired of us  
6 telling stories.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh no. I love those stories.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay, let's hear from the caller.

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Alright.

10 Caller 6833, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
11 unmute by pressing star 6 on your telephone keypad. And  
12 caller 6833, you are unmuted. I have a couple of brief  
13 instructions. Your Speaker Order Number will be 17. If  
14 you'll please make note of that for future reference.

15 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area  
16 you would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

17 MS. MENDOZA: Hi. Good evening, everybody.  
18 Actually, I really like your stories because I was born  
19 and raised in Oakland, and so I love that. I can't  
20 remember who it was that mentioned, you know, it wasn't  
21 International Boulevard, it was East 14th and it will  
22 always be East 14th for us.

23 But I wanted to call and specifically talk about the  
24 area that I do live in now. My name is Marivel Mendoza,  
25 and I am the President and Co-Founder of Hijas del Campo,

1 and we are a almost-nonprofit organization. It started  
2 off as mutual aid for farmworkers, campesinos that do  
3 exist here in the far east county.

4 And from the work that we do, we actually have had  
5 to expand our service to San Joaquin County because we  
6 have plenty of farmworkers that do travel across county  
7 borders, you know, from San Joaquin over to Contra Costa.

8 And so it's important that we have somebody  
9 represent this area who understands, you know, the plight  
10 of the farmworker. And it also does involve farms that  
11 are, you know, in between here and there, Lodi, Stockton,  
12 Manteca, you know, Tracy, Byron, Knightsen, Brentwood,  
13 Oakley.

14 These are all areas that are heavily trafficked, you  
15 know, that have a heavy traffic, foot traffic of  
16 campesinos and of farm owners. And so I think it's  
17 important that we really take care of these farms and of  
18 the people who work the farms because that's how we have  
19 food on our tables. And so I think it's something  
20 important that we focus on.

21 And so I would really like to see somebody, you  
22 know, focused on this area as well as, you know, the  
23 Delta. The Delta runs within these areas that, you know,  
24 cross, you know, San Joaquin and Contra Costa. And it's  
25 important to keep those, you know, keep the Delta clean

1 and alive and taken care of and not exploited, as well as  
2 the people.

3 So again, my name is Marivel Mendoza, Hijas del  
4 Campo. And thank you.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Ms. Mendoza, before you go --

6 MS. MENDOZA: Yes?

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- can you clarify where you would  
8 draw the lines, and so what communities would you keep  
9 together? Because you mentioned the San Joaquin  
10 Valley --

11 MS. MENDOZA: Yes.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- but what portions or where --

13 MS. MENDOZA: Yes.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- where in the San Joaquin, and  
15 where on the Contra Costa side as well?

16 MS. MENDOZA: Absolutely.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: If I'm understanding correctly.

18 MS. MENDOZA: So I -- yeah, yeah. So we are seeing  
19 the farmlands. So if you look and start from far east  
20 county, far east of Contra Costa County, right -- you  
21 have farmlands that are Oakley, you have farmlands in  
22 Brentwood.

23 So I would like to see it start there. And then so  
24 you work your way up to the Delta. And I think it's --  
25 so you're going up towards Tracy, that area. You're

1 going towards Stockton.

2 So I -- you know, I -- if you're picturing it with  
3 me -- I don't have -- I don't have the map in front of  
4 me -- but do you kind of understand, like, where I'm  
5 heading with that?

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: So Oakley, Brentwood towards Stockton  
7 is what I'm hearing, and --

8 MS. MENDOZA: Yes.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- including Tracy.  
10 Is that correct?

11 MS. MENDOZA: Yes, because there's a -- yes, because  
12 it's heavy agricultural -- agriculture area.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: And the Delta cities, you mentioned  
14 the Delta cities.

15 What do you mean by that?

16 MS. MENDOZA: The cities that are, like, around the  
17 Delta. I'm trying to remember, oh God, what city is  
18 that, you drive -- going towards -- so you would drive  
19 through Discovery Bay, and if you're going towards  
20 Stockton through Discovery Bay, there's other smaller  
21 towns throughout that area that's very big agriculture  
22 farmland. So I would like to see that included.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you so much for your feedback.  
24 We appreciate it.

25 MS. MENDOZA: Yeah, I hope that -- I hope that

1 helps. I -- I realize I called and I -- I trust to  
2 speak, and I don't have the map in front of me. But I'm  
3 a mom on the go and -- yeah.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: No, no worries, this is --

5 MS. MENDOZA: Okay.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- very helpful. Thank you so much.

7 MS. MENDOZA: Thank you.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our callers  
9 this time, Chair.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

11 Any other Commissioner stories at this time? Going  
12 once, going twice.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: And (indiscernible), just to  
14 add on --

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-huh.

16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Just to add on a little bit.

17 So Commissioner Fornaciari, my little league team with my  
18 youngest went to the Dodgers, and I was sifting through  
19 his bag, and he had a -- (audio interference).

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-oh, I think we lost Commissioner  
21 Taylor.

22 VICE CHAIR TURNER: Oh no. He said he --

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: I was in suspense for him.

24 VICE CHAIR TURNER: I was going to say --

25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No, it's just -- he did the

1 same thing I did when I was his age. So he probably  
2 wandered around the park and picked up every Dodger  
3 batting glove that was left, and it became a part of his  
4 bag of stuff. So those do mark our youth.

5 VICE CHAIR TURNER: You said he had a, and you froze  
6 for a minute.

7 So we were trying to see what did he have a cookie,  
8 a pleat, a club?

9 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No, so when you go to -- when  
10 you go to -- a lot of times when, you go with your little  
11 league to Dodger games or to A's games, or to Giants  
12 games, they give you keepsakes. And so the keepsakes out  
13 here are Dodgers batting gloves. And so kids are kids.  
14 So they leave them all over the place.

15 So I remember when I was a kid, I would go and I  
16 would go around the park and pick up those gloves, and  
17 they became a part of my stuff. And it seems that my  
18 youngest did the same thing.

19 And I was going through his bag, and those found  
20 batting gloves became a part of his stuff. So it's just  
21 funny how we have the same themes throughout all of our  
22 strands, all the things that keep us in common, all the  
23 things that have us in common with other Californians.

24 Neal talked about those keepsakes, and being on that  
25 high rake when visiting the A's games. When I took the

1 kids I was, like -- I was telling my wife, there is no  
2 way we can stay on this third flight because we're going  
3 to fall straight down onto the sphere. But they're  
4 similar themes, and I think that's what unites us all.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: What -- how many gloves did he  
6 have?

7 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: He had six, and he had two  
8 pairs -- I'm going to give him credit what one was his.  
9 And then he had, like, two right-handers. I'm like, what  
10 are you going to do with those two righties, they're not  
11 even a pair? But he just had them, he just collected  
12 them, so. So by default, he has a love for the Dodgers.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Andersen.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay, I've got to tell  
15 some -- you can't be just telling Dodger stories. But  
16 actually the souvenirs triggered several memories.

17 One, my children -- the A's do a lot with schools in  
18 Oakland. And they've all have, you know, they do Oakland  
19 Readers. So you get a bag, and it has -- it says, you  
20 know, Oakland A's Readers, and it has a little bit of  
21 about reading and things like that.

22 And they get those little backpacks when they go to  
23 the game. You know, and school -- the school takes the  
24 group for a day. And you get hats. And so I have all  
25 these, you know, different smaller A's hats, which they

1 have done that to all the different schools in Oakland.

2 But then one of my favorite memories is -- I went to  
3 the Giants games back when they were playing in  
4 Candlestick. And I have -- if you were ever at a night  
5 game in Candlestick, and it went into extra innings, you  
6 got what's called the Croix de Candlestick; a little  
7 badge and it has a little snow on the SF symbol.

8 And it was one of the coldest times. It was, like  
9 you were next to Lake Michigan, it was so cold. But I  
10 definitely have a couple of those, so I'm proud to say.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes, going back to the Dodgers.  
13 I don't know how many of you remember, like, the Multiple  
14 Sclerosis Read-a-Thon. When we were in school you would  
15 read, and you would read a certain number of books you  
16 got -- where you got awards. And you had to collect  
17 money.

18 And I remember collecting money, but they never told  
19 me when to turn it in. So I turned it in to MS with a  
20 note, saying I'm sorry, you know, like, I didn't know  
21 when to turn this in. And so they sent me tickets, four  
22 tickets to a Dodgers game. And we're an immigrant  
23 family, and we were five. So my mom's like, I'll stay  
24 home. And my dad took the three kids.

25 And we were young, and I just remember Steve Garvey

1 playing first base. And I knew who he was for some  
2 reason; I'm, like go Steve, you know, I'm totally  
3 cheering. And my dad was, like the heck is going on?  
4 You know, he is a soccer player. He knows soccer and  
5 rugby.

6 But then I moved to San Diego -- you know, San Diego  
7 are big fans of Steve Garvey as well, because this is  
8 where he got traded later.

9 And I moved here when they had the best -- I know  
10 this year's team is good, and I haven't watched this  
11 year's team -- but the '98/'99 Padres were just awesome  
12 with Trevor Hoffman, and so many other of the players.  
13 And then, they sold them all the next year.

14 And so I've always had a hard time really being a  
15 fan, because I got hooked on the Padres and they sold  
16 everybody. And for me it's the players, not just the  
17 name.

18 VICE CHAIR TURNER: I have one more thing I'm going  
19 to share, and this is for Derric and all of the other  
20 sports players. So I started working at the telephone  
21 company really, really young. And so I'm not -- I am the  
22 least sports person you will ever meet or know anything  
23 about, regardless of what team.

24 But working for years for the telephone company,  
25 they used to award some kind of pretty nice prizes. And

1 so one particular time, my team won tickets to the -- oh  
2 my Lord, here we go -- the ski thing, I mean, the -- what  
3 they do on the ice -- hockey, hockey. I think it was  
4 hockey, the Ducks or something. Is is San Jose --  
5 whatever that team --

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: The Sharks?

7 VICE CHAIR TURNER: The Sharks, so we got tickets to  
8 the Sharks. And when we were there, the tickets were in  
9 a skybox, right? And I just thought this was the way  
10 people watch the game. So we went, it was great, we  
11 ordered food, the whole bit. I'm, like, oh yes, I love  
12 sports, I love this, right?

13 And the next tickets came up and it was some game in  
14 Oakland, and I think we were looking at, I don't know,  
15 baseball or something. But it was another one in the  
16 skybox. So this now is my experience. It's, like oh  
17 yes, food come when you want it, and it's fine, and we're  
18 talking.

19 And then my church said, we're going to a baseball  
20 game. And I'm, like, yes, I love those, let's go, you  
21 know. And we get to the game, and we're going the wrong  
22 way. And we get there, and they actually wanted us to  
23 sit on those bleachers down at the -- I'm, like, what the  
24 heck is this? I don't like sports, I don't.

25 And so everybody, they got the biggest kick out of

1 that. They're, like, are you kidding? I'm, like yeah, I  
2 came in the wrong end of sports games. I didn't know to  
3 have this experience.

4 And so I couldn't pay attention to the game.  
5 Everybody just laughed the whole thing. It ended up  
6 being -- we had a ball. I still don't know to tell you  
7 who won. I don't know, and I was just yelling when the  
8 rest of the people yelled.

9 But when the diehard sports fans, not volunteer,  
10 they tell me to stay home, you're going to distract --  
11 the strike, everything; you stay home, we don't want to  
12 explain the whole game to you. But I had a ball.

13 CHAIR YEE: So here's a third deck open Coliseum A's  
14 story. I actually just two years ago caught a foul ball  
15 there on the third deck, which is frigging unusual. It  
16 was, like -- we like --

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Wow, good show.

18 CHAIR YEE: Yeah. We like to sit right in the value  
19 deck, which is right behind the home plate, but way up  
20 there. So you know, not a lot of balls come that way.  
21 But one did that day, and I got to cross that off the  
22 bucket list.

23 But I remember going as a kid, and they had would  
24 have give-away days. And back then, they actually had  
25 bat days.

1           They actually gave away bats, can you believe that?  
2 And I was so happy because I got a Reggie Jackson bat.  
3 And he had a very nice signature, and I really treasured  
4 that.

5           It's so many good memories of going to games there.  
6 And you know, there were two million-ticket seasons there  
7 at the Coliseum. I know that all hubbub now is about  
8 getting a new stadium built near Jack London Square. And  
9 people consider that to be essential, or the team is  
10 saying that that's essential for them to stay.

11           But plenty good memories of the Coliseum, the World  
12 Series games, the All Star game when it came to town, and  
13 so forth. And just a lot of fun there in east Oakland.

14           CHAIR TOLEDO: Is the Coliseum -- you might know  
15 this, Commissioner Yee or Commissioner Andersen. Is the  
16 Coliseum Project for the new stadium moving forward in  
17 the Jack London Square area or?

18           CHAIR YEE: The City Council has made an offer to  
19 the A's. It wasn't everything the A's were asking for.  
20 So I think the A's are chewing over that offer and trying  
21 to make a decision, so. You know, at that point it's big  
22 business. You know, it's not baseball, so.

23           CHAIR TOLEDO: Awesome. Well, it definitely would  
24 bring more people to the downtown area, potentially.

25           Any other stories?

1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, I'm going to jump in  
2 with another baseball, and speaking of the stadium.

3           Don (sic) Stewart, who was one of the pitchers for  
4 the A's for quite a while, and lives in or around  
5 Oakland. He actually had a plan and was presenting that  
6 to redo essentially the Coliseum area. You know, if they  
7 end up selling it, tearing down the stadium, or even if  
8 they leave it there, it'd be a couple of very good, you  
9 know, housing and try to put money back into the area,  
10 because it's a great location, great location.

11           So it would be very interesting, but it was just  
12 that, you know, one of the former A's players was  
13 organizing that.

14           CHAIR YEE: Dave Stewart.

15           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Dave Stewart, I'm sorry,  
16 Dave Stewart.

17           CHAIR YEE: Here's trivia for you for the Coliseum.  
18 The playing field where the A's and the Raiders played --  
19 the A's played, is twenty-two feet below sea level,  
20 actually. And that's why the stadium doesn't stick up  
21 above ground as much as a lot of stadiums do. So the  
22 dugouts there are probably the lowest point in Oakland.  
23 They've actually had plumbing problems because of that,  
24 it's so far beneath seal level.

25           CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, I didn't realize that.

1           And if there are no other stories, Katy can you  
2 please read the instructions for calling in?

3           COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. Would you like the  
4 full instructions or abbreviated?

5           CHAIR TOLEDO: We'll do the abbreviated.

6           COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay.

7           The Commission will now take community of interest  
8 input by phone. To give comment, please call 877-853-  
9 5247. Enter the meeting ID number 85126633433 for this  
10 meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
11 enter the comment queue.

12           The full call-in instructions have been read  
13 previously in this session, and are provided in full on  
14 the livestream landing page.

15           And we do have a caller with a raised hand, Chair.

16           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Let's hear from the  
17 caller.

18           COMMENT MODERATOR: Awesome.

19           Caller with the last four 4708, if you will please  
20 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6 on your  
21 telephone keypad. Caller 4708, I have a couple of brief  
22 instructions. You are unmuted. Your Speaker Order  
23 Number is number 18.

24           If you'll please make note of that for future  
25 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what

1 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is  
2 yours.

3 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you very much. Can you hear me  
4 okay?

5 COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can, go ahead.

6 MS. WILLIAMS: Awesome, great. Okay. So my name is  
7 Susana Williams. I live in Antioch, up above the Contra  
8 Loma Reservoir. And my husband, my family, and I have  
9 lived out here for over twenty years.

10 And you know, we travel Highway 4, and now  
11 everything is, you know, going on east out to San Joaquin  
12 County. We primarily, you know, love living out here.  
13 We love being part of the Delta community. We definitely  
14 want to see the Delta community to remain, like, intact  
15 under one stewardship, a la Congressional District 9.

16 The limited agriculture that is in this area is all  
17 in east part of it, kind of rolls out to San Joaquin  
18 County. I think those interests should remain aligned.  
19 It's been working out pretty well so far.

20 Our Delta communities are unique. We have  
21 communities like Bethel Island, where it's kind of one  
22 way in and one way out.

23 There is a lot that goes along with maintaining a  
24 Delta, being a good steward over that. So I strongly am  
25 urging the powers that be with redistricting to keep

1 everything from Antioch east as part of CD-9.

2 And that's pretty much my comment. Thank you for  
3 having me today.

4 And any questions?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah, just really briefly.

6 Can you explain what you mean by Delta communities?

7 I think I understand, but I just want to verify --

8 MS. WILLIAMS: Sure.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- so I have an understanding which  
10 communities -- or specifically you would like to be  
11 included.

12 MS. WILLIAMS: Pretty much from Antioch east on, you  
13 know, you've got Antioch, Brentwood, Oakley, you know,  
14 down over to Bethel Island. It all kind of flows out  
15 there.

16 If you've ever driven out and take in the levee  
17 roads to Stockton, you know, you kind of start at Antioch  
18 and, you know, you can kind of meander your whole way  
19 going across the levee roads to Stockton. So that's kind  
20 of the whole community I'm thinking of.

21 Does that make sense?

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: That makes sense. Appreciate your  
23 comments.

24 MS. WILLIAMS: All right. Thank you very much.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Katy, do we have any other callers?

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not, Chair. That was all  
2 of our callers at this time.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: If there are no other Commissioner  
4 stories, then we're going to go to a twenty-minute video.  
5 Oh, we do have somebody -- we have Commissioner Sinay.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That's my -- that's the  
7 youngest of the three dogs, and he is on a trampoline,  
8 jumping around right now. And I thought I would just  
9 give you that visual as we're getting ready to go to a  
10 video.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we do have two people who have  
12 registered for this session who may be calling in later.  
13 So we're going to give them a little bit more time and go  
14 to a video. And then we'll come back in twenty minutes.

15 So Kristian, can you please set up the English  
16 language video?

17 Thank you, Kristian.

18 And welcome back to the California Citizens  
19 Redistricting Commission community of interest input  
20 meeting. This session is specifically dedicated to those  
21 that have not -- who do not have an appointment.

22 However, if you had an appointment and were unable to  
23 call in during your time block, we encourage you to call  
24 in now.

25 We will continue to take public input at this time,

1 and also invite public comment on any general issue. The  
2 phone line for public input and public comment will close  
3 later today at about 7:30. We will get to all the  
4 callers who were in the queue at the time, including  
5 those going beyond 7:30, if needed.

6 I will pass this over to Katy, our comment  
7 moderator, to facilitate any callers.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not have any callers at  
9 this time, Chair. Would you like instructions read?

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, please.

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: In order to maximize  
12 transparency and public participation in our process, the  
13 Commissioners will be taking community of interest input  
14 and general public comment for items not on the agenda at  
15 this time.

16 To call in, dial the telephone number provided on  
17 the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,  
18 enter the meeting ID number provided on our livestream  
19 feed. It is 85126633433 for this meeting. When prompted  
20 to enter a participant ID, simply press the pound key.

21 Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a  
22 queue. To indicate your wish to comment, please press  
23 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.  
24 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message  
25 that says, the host would like you to talk, and to press

1 star 6 to speak.

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

5 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
6 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
7 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for  
8 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn  
9 down the livestream volume.

10 And we do not have any callers in the queue at this  
11 time, Chair.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

13 As a reminder, a request for interpretation must be  
14 submitted at least five business days prior to the  
15 meeting. And you can request via email to  
16 [interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov](mailto:interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov), or you can also request  
17 by calling our office at 916-323-0323.

18 In terms of upcoming community of interest meetings  
19 and business meetings, we have a busy schedule, and it  
20 continues tomorrow, Friday, July 30th, at 4 p.m. We'll  
21 be having a community of interest public input meeting  
22 focused on Los Angeles County and its surrounding areas.  
23 Registration has already closed. But callers are welcome  
24 to call in.

25 On Saturday, July 31st, at 10 a.m., we have a



1 community of interest public input meeting focused on  
2 Riverside and the San Bernadino Counties, and their  
3 surrounding areas. Registration closes tonight at 5  
4 o'clock -- or actually has already closed at 5 o'clock.

5 And we have another community of interest input  
6 meeting this upcoming Wednesday, August 4th, at 4 p.m.,  
7 focused on Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San  
8 Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare Counties and their  
9 surrounding areas. The August 4th meeting will have both  
10 Spanish and Punjabi listening lines and available  
11 interpretation. Registration for the August 4th meeting  
12 closes this Monday at 5 p.m.

13 And we also have a business meeting that's upcoming  
14 Thursday, August the 5th, at 10 a.m.

15 You are not required to make an appointment to  
16 provide public input at the community of interest  
17 meetings; however, it is recommended. You can also call  
18 in the day of the meeting.

19 At this time, our meetings are still held virtually,  
20 so everyone in California can participate and provide  
21 public input. Please go to our website at  
22 [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org) for meeting information.

23 With that, Katy, do we have any callers on the line?

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: And we do not have any callers  
25 at this time, Chair.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

2 Any additional stories from the Commission?

3 Seeing none, I will --

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, Commissioner Sinay.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, Commissioner Sinay. And I think  
6 Mr. Yee too. So sorry, I'm missing a portion of my

7 screen. Commissioner Sinay, and then Commissioner Yee.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was just trying to think of  
9 memories down the Bay Area, more of South Bay. I used to  
10 be -- I used to work for the American Cancer Society for  
11 San Mateo County. So I got to know San Mateo County  
12 well.

13 But the first funny memory that came up was, I was  
14 thinking through -- the first time I ever saw a black-  
15 bottom pool was, some friends in Los Gatos had one.  
16 Exactly, that was my reaction, Commissioner Toledo.

17 I was, like, wow these folks are so busy at work  
18 that they haven't cleaned their pool in a long time. And  
19 it turns out that they're actually a thing, and it  
20 actually warms up the water more because it's dark. But  
21 it is more expensive.

22 And I guess they were new at the time, but I --  
23 luckily I didn't say anything out loud. They said  
24 something before I said something about their pool.  
25 Because they were like, do you want to go in? I'm like,

1 it's looking a little dirty. So anyway, I thought I  
2 would share my memory of the first time I saw a black-  
3 bottom pool.

4 CHAIR YEE: So my --

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for sharing.

6 CHAIR YEE: A couple of people have mentioned East  
7 14th Street in Oakland. So it's a major street. It goes  
8 all the way from Richmond through Oakland, down into San  
9 Leandro, Hayward, and even down into Fremont, and maybe  
10 all the way down into Milpitas, as Mission Boulevard.

11 So the portion in Oakland was renamed International  
12 Boulevard in 1996, I think it was. And for many years,  
13 the church that my wife and I were at, Sunday worship was  
14 at a storefront that we borrowed space from there on  
15 International Boulevard. And this is how I got into  
16 long-distance running.

17 So on a spring day in 2010, the Oakland Marathon was  
18 on and the church is located mile 16 of the original  
19 Oakland Marathon route; it's since changed. And runners  
20 were going by. And I was forty-nine at the time, and  
21 seeing these runners go by, and I thought to myself, they  
22 don't look like runners.

23 Like I knew what runners looked like, right? What  
24 do runners look like? I guess like the guys in the  
25 Olympics, right? They were all shapes and sizes, and

1 there they were, sixteen miles in, right? A long way to  
2 go, but quite a distance already.

3 And that's when it occurred to me, well, they're  
4 just regular people. If they can run -- if they can run  
5 and train for a marathon, why couldn't I?

6 And here I was forty-nine getting ready to turn  
7 fifty, and why not try to run a marathon before I turn  
8 fifty? And so that's when I got the bug, trained for the  
9 2011 Oakland Marathon, ran it, and have been running it  
10 ever since.

11 So as listeners, as viewers may see us as  
12 Commissioners and think, well, they're just regular  
13 people. Although my fellow Commissioners, you guys are  
14 incredibly accomplished, but I think it's a -- you know,  
15 I would love to come across as regular people.

16 Because we are the Citizens Redistricting  
17 Commission, and when people see us they should think to  
18 themselves, I could do that. Yes, you could. Apply  
19 2030. Anyone can apply.

20 And so I finally got around to doing the math. Even  
21 if you're thirteen now, if you're twenty-three in 2030,  
22 and you have five years as a voter with a one-party  
23 registration that hasn't changed, then you're qualified.

24 And you could be on this Commission for the 2030  
25 round, so. Just regular people trying to help -- trying

1 to help the state.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Yee. I  
3 thought you were going to say, oh, anyone can run a  
4 marathon.

5 CHAIR YEE: Well, there you know, you know, with  
6 work. Yeah, you know, it's just a lot of time and  
7 training really, that's what it comes down to.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: I'd have to start, like by walking a  
9 couple of blocks and then, you know, start really slow  
10 and then work myself up, and maybe, I don't know, by the  
11 time I turn forty-nine, maybe I can run a marathon.

12 CHAIR YEE: Most people who register for a marathon  
13 and start it, finish it, you know. It may take them five  
14 hours, but they'll finish it.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's inspiring.

16 Anyone else have a story?

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari, I think does.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, we haven't talked  
20 much about the South Bay. So I spent six months -- five  
21 months in the hospital in the South Bay after I got  
22 injured. And I made a lot of friends down there, so I  
23 spent a lot of time down in San Jose and Santa Clara.  
24 And that's actually where I met my wife, at the hospital  
25 that I was in after I got injured.

1           And I just, yeah, walked in the room, and there she  
2 was. And my heart just stopped, and that was that. We  
3 started dating. And she was living in Santa Clara. So  
4 we spent an awful lot of time -- I spent a lot of time  
5 driving from Livermore down to Santa Clara so we could  
6 spend time together.

7           And our favorite thing to do on a Friday evening  
8 after she was done with work, was go to an old-time  
9 restaurant called Mariani's. And they had a piano bar,  
10 and they would play, you know, old-time like Frank  
11 Sinatra and stuff like that.

12           And we would sit around and listen in the piano bar  
13 for a few hours in the evening and relax after work. And  
14 you know, we've gone by there a few times after we got  
15 married, but it's a little different than it used to be  
16 down there. But that was a lot of fun.

17           CHAIR TOLEDO: So she just happened to be in the  
18 hospital or --

19           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: She actually was an  
20 intern, and I was going to visit a friend of mine. And I  
21 walked in the office where they worked, and she was  
22 there, and I just saw her and I just -- yeah.

23           CHAIR TOLEDO: Great, that's an awesome story.

24           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, it was great. Yeah,  
25 you know.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Anyone else want to share a story?  
2 Commissioner Andersen, I'm sure you have many stories;  
3 you live in Berkeley.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do. You know, I'm just  
5 trying to think, well, what do I say? Actually,  
6 Commissioner Turner was -- triggered a couple of memories  
7 about places -- old places that were here and aren't  
8 anymore. And there was McCallum's ice cream store on  
9 Solano.

10 Good Earth was a restaurant right at Oxford and  
11 (indiscernible), I guess. It was there for years. Yeah,  
12 one of my cousins who lived here years ago, well before I  
13 ever got to Berkeley -- and he said, yeah, it's the one  
14 restaurant you have got to go to. And I did, but shortly  
15 after that, it did close. So it was a, but.

16 And then there was another, oh man, there was a  
17 bunch of different of these great ice cream places, all  
18 through -- right through Shattuck, which are all closed  
19 now. Oh and they even -- people -- oh, here's a biggie,  
20 is Shattuck Avenue, it had two figures of -- the north  
21 side was, it split at Center and would go -- the north  
22 side was a little bit further east and coming south was a  
23 little bit -- went west.

24 Well, they have now changed. The section on  
25 Shattuck, the west portion from University to Center is

1 now two-lane, which is a huge deal. It still doesn't  
2 work, but they're working on it.

3 Oh, and one thing in Berkeley, which many of you  
4 probably don't know. When they were putting BART in, and  
5 they tore up the whole -- in many areas, you know, they  
6 tore up the roads to put the tolls in. So people found  
7 all sorts of great alternative routes.

8 And in Berkeley, actually I think this is in Oakland  
9 as well, but I think in Oakland they made them -- they  
10 take them out. They put this concrete balustrades in  
11 different areas. You'll be driving, like, okay I'm going  
12 here, and oops, now I have to turn right. And I can't  
13 get out. And then you end up turning back. It's to  
14 prevent you from driving through the neighborhoods  
15 surrounding the Shattuck Avenue.

16 And people sued, and the City of Berkeley lost. And  
17 they said, okay, we lost. So you guys have to come and  
18 take them out. So they're still here, forty or thirty  
19 years later -- forty years later.

20 So in many areas of Berkeley you think, oh, I'll  
21 just drive there. No, you're turning right, you're  
22 turning back around. So it's kind of unusual.

23 Except, some areas they did take one of them out so  
24 it has enough for emergency vehicles to get through, just  
25 sort of wide enough. But you have to be high. I have

1 seen many cars driving over that and take out the engine  
2 and everything. You see them broken down right there in  
3 the road. Just a few interesting things about Berkeley.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

5 We do have a break scheduled at 7:15 for fifteen  
6 minutes, and we're going to give people an opportunity to  
7 call in during that break, so that they can get into the  
8 queue to give public comment.

9 In the meantime, while we wait for our 7:15 break,  
10 I'm just going to share a little bit about the last  
11 couple of weekends. I've been going up to Point Reyes  
12 Station in west Marin, which is such a beautiful drive  
13 from Petaluma out to the west Marin area, coast and such.

14 And I've been going out to the -- there is an area  
15 in west Marin where the Coast Guard had some housing, and  
16 they've been there for a very long time. That land has  
17 been transitioned to the County of Marin, and the  
18 community out there is -- they actually wanted to convert  
19 it into affordable housing.

20 You hear of communities who don't want affordable  
21 housing in their neighborhoods. Well this is a community  
22 that does want affordable housing in their area. And so  
23 I've been going out there to just partake in the public  
24 forums and to hear from community members and to, you  
25 know, and to be a community member myself. And so I just

1 find it interesting, and so -- because Marin County has a  
2 reputation of, you know, lots of -- it's a very wealthy  
3 area and also has many disparities.

4 And so oftentimes there's -- I think the latest  
5 study is one of the areas with the highest rates of  
6 segregation. So I thought it was quite interesting that  
7 this is a community that actually wants to build  
8 affordable housing and bring in essential workers, and  
9 bring in folks to their community, which is awesome.

10 It's also -- and with the agriculture being such a  
11 big piece of the economy, their dairy farms, organic  
12 dairy farms, and with the oyster areas, and cheese  
13 production. They really do depend on their workers, so  
14 they're -- so I just thought that was -- I think that's  
15 great that they're working towards creating affordable  
16 housing as a community, so. And I thought I would share.

17 With that, we are at 7:15, and we do need to take a  
18 break. And we'll be back at 7:30. And at that time, if  
19 we don't have any callers in the queue, we will be  
20 adjourning.

21 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
23 Citizens Redistricting Commission community of interest  
24 input session. This session is specifically dedicated to  
25 those that did not have an appointment. However, if you

1 had an appointment and were unable to call in earlier,  
2 please call in. We urge you to call in now. We are  
3 taking public input at this time, and also invite public  
4 comment.

5 Katy, do we have any callers on the line at this  
6 point?

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not have any callers in  
8 the queue at this time, Chair.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Would you please read the  
10 instructions on how to call in?

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: In order to maximize  
14 transparency and public participation in our process, the  
15 Commissioners will be taking community of interest input  
16 and public comment for items not on the agenda by phone.  
17 To call in, dial the telephone number provided on the  
18 livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247.

19 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided  
20 on our livestream feed. It is 85126633433 for this  
21 meeting. When prompted to enter the participant ID,  
22 simply press the pound key.

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



1 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message  
2 that says, the host would like you to talk, and to press  
3 star 6 to speak.

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

7 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
8 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
9 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for  
10 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn  
11 down the livestream volume.

12 And we do not have any callers at this time, Chair.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: You're welcome.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Just a reminder that we'll be hosting  
16 a public input session tomorrow Friday, July 30th, at 4  
17 p.m. focused on Los Angeles County and its surrounding  
18 areas. Registration has closed, but callers are welcome  
19 to call in.

20 On Saturday, July 31st, at 10 a.m., we will be  
21 hosting a community of interest input session focused on  
22 Riverside and San Bernadino Counties and their  
23 surrounding areas. And registration has closed for that  
24 as well. But of course, you can call in to that meeting  
25 during that session.

1 We have another community of interest public input  
2 session on Wednesday, August the 4th, at 4 p.m., focused  
3 on Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin,  
4 Stanislaus, and Tulare Counties and their surrounding  
5 areas. The August 4th meeting will have both Spanish and  
6 Punjabi listening lines, and available interpretation.  
7 Registration for the August 4th meeting closes on Monday  
8 at 5 p.m.

9 We also have a business meeting this upcoming  
10 Thursday, August 5th, at 10 a.m. And you are not  
11 required to make an appointment to provide input on the  
12 community of interest meetings. However, it is  
13 recommended. You can also call in the day of the  
14 meeting.

15 At this time, all of our meetings are still held  
16 virtually, so everyone and anyone in California can  
17 provide input. Please go to our website at  
18 [wedrawthelinesca.org](http://wedrawthelinesca.org) for meeting information.

19 Katy, with that, do we have any callers on the line?

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: We do not have any callers in  
21 the chair (sic) at this time, Chair.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: So with that we will be adjourning.  
23 Thank you for joining our community of interest input  
24 meeting today. We have the three upcoming meetings,  
25 which I just spoke about.

1           And callers are welcome to call into any of the  
2 meetings to give public input. You don't have to call in  
3 to your specific regional meeting.

4           So feel free to give a call at any one of those  
5 community of interest forums, as well as our business  
6 meetings. You can also visit the meetings page on our  
7 website to see a list of additional upcoming community of  
8 interest input meetings at [wedrawthelinesca.org\meetings](http://wedrawthelinesca.org/meetings).

9           With that, thank you all for your attendance, and we  
10 look to hear from you tomorrow.

11                       (Whereupon, the Public Input Meeting meeting  
12                       adjourned)

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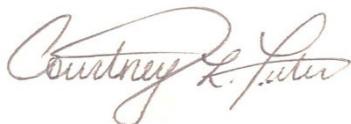
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## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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

September 8, 2022  
DATE