

From: Maricela Morales

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:55 PM

To: neal.fornaciari; ray.kennedy

Subject: Outreach Zone E Central Coast language access

Dear CCRC Commissioners Kennedy and Fornaciari,

I hope you are healthy and safe and am reaching out to you as the two Commissioners delegated to Outreach Zone E: Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz.

I'm a daughter of immigrants; a native born life-long resident of the Central Coast; the first Latina elected to my City Council (2002-2010); and a state appointed Alternate to the California Coastal Commission.

For 20 years, the Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE) has worked to engage low-income and immigrant adults and youth of color and to build diverse coalitions for social, economic and environmental justice. Since 2001, CAUSE has worked on Ventura and Santa Barbara County based community organizing and professional mapping for city, county and state redistricting efforts.

I reviewed the attached CCRC Language Access recommendations and want to alert you to the need for language access for Mixteco Indigenous people. In California, the Central Coast is home to indigenous immigrants from the states of Oaxaca and Guerrero, Mexico. Generally referred to as the Mixteco indigenous community, they are the fastest growing group of the farmworker labor force for California's multi-billion agricultural industry that feeds the state, nation and the world with fruits and vegetables. A quick read about the Central Coast's Mixteco community see here: <https://mixteco.org/mixtecs/>. Mixteco indigenous farmworker communities are concentrated in Monterey, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

The Mixteco Indigenous Community Organizing Project (MICOP) is a resource for translation and interpretation language access services (www.mixteco.org).

I am asking for your leadership to ensure that the CCRC's Central Coast outreach efforts plan for Mixteco language access.

Sincerely,

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pronouns: her/she/ella