

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

721 Capitol Mall, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

A.M.

Reported by:

Jacqueline Denlinger

APPEARANCES

2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission:Commissioners

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

Staff

Alvaro E. Hernandez, Executive Director
Marian Johnston, Legal Counsel
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

Technical Contractors

Public Comment Moderator
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director

Also PresentPublic Comment

Peter Cannon
Jacqueline Coto, NALEO Educational Fund

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1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.
2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
3 Kennedy.
4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.
5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le
6 Mons.
7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.
8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
9 Sadhwani.
10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.
11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
12 Sinay.
13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.
14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
15 Taylor.
16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.
17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
18 Toledo.
19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.
20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
21 Turner.
22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.
23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
24 Vasquez.
25 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Here.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Ahmad
4 is not here. Commissioner Akutagawa.

5 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
7 Andersen.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
10 Fernandez.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I am here. Thank you.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: You have a quorum.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Okay. We'll go
14 straight to public comment. Katy, can you please read the
15 instructions for general public comment?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, I will. Good
17 morning. In order to maximize transparency and public
18 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
19 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
20 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is
21 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter a meeting number
22 provided on the livestream feed, it is 93330293366 for this
23 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply
24 press the pound key.

25 Once you have dialed in you'll be placed in a

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

3 When it is your turn to speak, you'll hear a
4 message that says, "The host would like you to talk, and to
5 press star six to speak."

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

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

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

15 And, again, for those who call in, please
16 remember to press star nine to raise your hand indicating
17 you wish to comment. And we do have a couple callers. Go
18 ahead, the floor is yours.

19 MR. CANNON: Good morning. My name is Peter
20 Cannon. I have made prior public comment on the importance
21 of transparency in your process.

22 Reviewing the 2010 Commission's website, they had
23 a section devoted to publishing all public record acts
24 requests. While not required, I want to encourage you to
25 extend this important transparency policy of timely

1 publishing to all public record act requests and responses.

2 One of the fundamental tenants of Proposition 11
3 is that insiders do not have rights superior to those -- to
4 all others that would enable them to be more informed and
5 participate more fully than the rest of the public.

6 Submitting a PRA can be a difficult and daunting process,
7 but reading the information produced can be very
8 straightforward.

9 It is fundamentally unfair to regular people if
10 well-funded organizations can submit a request, get
11 information, use that information to their advantage while
12 it is not easily available to everyone else.

13 You can take away that unfair advantage. You,
14 the California Citizens Redistricting Commissioners, can
15 say we want to be transparent. We encourage the public to
16 ask for documents that will help us be more transparent and
17 we will ensure that everyone will be able to share in the
18 benefits created by full and equal access to all documents
19 that are provided to all participants. Thank you.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Cannon.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. And I
22 would like to remind any callers to press star nine to
23 raise their hand indicating they wish to comment.

24 And, Chair, they are not raising their hand at
25 this time.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. We're going to move on.
2 Katy, can you monitor it in case they do raise their hand.
3 We can go back.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. Thank
5 you.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: We'll move on to number three,
7 which is General Announcements, Commissioner Updates, Items
8 of Interest to the Commission. Do we have any
9 announcements or updates from the Commissioners? Okay.

10 Moving right along, we'll go on to the next one
11 which is the Chair Report. I don't necessarily have a
12 chair report, but I did want to provide a road map for all
13 of our viewers for the next two days.

14 Today at 10:00 o'clock we'll have the
15 demonstration of Airtable, which will be used for our data
16 management needs. And after the demonstration we will be
17 adjourning to closed session. We don't anticipate it
18 taking too long, so we plan to come back to open session
19 after lunch which will be approximately 1:30. If that time
20 changes, please go on our website and information will be
21 posted.

22 Once we return from lunch, we will resume our
23 regular business meeting. We will take public comment at
24 the beginning of the day and before we adjourn for the day,
25 and we will also take public comment prior to any vote on

1 an action item.

2 And then for tomorrow, Friday, May 14, we'll
3 start at 9:30 and continue with our agenda. At 1:30 we
4 have a labor panel, and again, we will take public comment
5 at the beginning of the day and before we adjourn, as well
6 as prior to vote on an action item.

7 So, with that we will move to Agenda Item Number
8 5, which is Executive Director's Report. Executive
9 Director Hernandez.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Good
11 morning, Commissioners. I wanted to let you know that our
12 Director of Outreach will be updating you on the progress
13 on the field lead staff and our outreach coordinator.

14 I also wanted to let you know that the data
15 manager job announcement is out and available. It is on
16 our website as well. So, if you know someone who qualifies
17 and has that experience that we've listed, please let them
18 know that we have this job announcement out there. We
19 really want to get a robust candidate pool as we have been
20 for some of the other positions that we posted. So, you
21 can also take a look at that and forward the link as
22 necessary.

23 Likewise, as was mentioned at the previous
24 meeting, our chief counsel will be joining us on the 18th,
25 so we're looking forward to bringing him on board. Marian

1 and I will be doing some of the onboarding, general
2 information for him to kind of get caught up to speed. He
3 will be joining the meeting that afternoon, 4:00 to 8:00.
4 I believe it's a Legal Affairs Committee and also the
5 Commission meeting. So, we're looking forward to meeting
6 with him and getting him on board.

7 We are in the midst of the planning for the
8 Public Input Meetings. There was a meeting yesterday. I'm
9 sure the Public Input Meeting team will be providing some
10 additional information, but from the organizing and
11 planning phase, we're looking at making sure that we have
12 all the necessary tools for the staff as well as for the
13 commissioners as we roll the Public Input Meetings out.
14 And the date that's scheduled for the first one is June
15 10th, and like I said, there will be more information
16 moving forward.

17 A couple things I just wanted to point out.
18 We're still waiting to hear any additional news on the June
19 15th California opening back up and what that means with
20 regards to the executive orders. So, that may have an
21 impact on our future Public Input Meetings, whether we go
22 back in person or, you know, a modified version and so
23 forth. Either way, we'll have COVID protocols that will
24 remain.

25 I understand that each county at this point is

1 very different, so as we are looking for those in persons
2 we will have to consider what protocols are in place for
3 those different counties. That's all I have for that.

4 As far as the budget, I wanted to inform you that
5 we have received approval on the May revised letter that we
6 submitted, so, DOF provided that response the other day,
7 so, we're very excited about that.

8 That's all I have for today. Any questions?

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Are there any questions for
10 Executive Director Hernandez?

11 Just one that you're probably looking into, but
12 if you can please work with the staff to see how long it
13 would take to pivot from a virtual environment to an in
14 person because I'm pretty sure if they say on June 15th we
15 can meet in person it's still not going to be -- we're not
16 going to be able to do that because we won't have
17 facilities or anything else in place, so, you know, if you
18 could get that information for us so that we know what the
19 live time may be that would be very helpful.

20 Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Would it be possible for
22 this meeting as one of our handouts to post what the May
23 revised budget -- what our budget looks like, what was
24 approved, please?

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Correct me if I'm wrong,

1 Executive Director Hernandez, although it's been approved
2 by -- the May revised has been approved, it won't
3 officially be approved until the budget is released in
4 June, correct?

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: That will be part
6 of the full budget, but the budget that we proposed is the
7 one that we posted on the website on March 29, April 1
8 meeting, so that's the budget that we submitted, so that
9 information is updated and is current.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right, and so that's correct,
11 but also having worked in the State for many, many years, a
12 lot can happen in three to four weeks from the time that we
13 receive approval of it versus if there's something else
14 that occurs, it could change. So, we received a nod and
15 approval, but it's not official. I'm hoping that this is
16 coming out correctly. It's not official until it actually
17 is approved by the Legislature and the Governor.

18 Any other questions? And we do have someone in
19 -- we do have a public comment, so I'm going to go to them
20 Before I go to the next agenda item. Katy.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, and I will open
22 that up. And for those in the queue also, star nine does
23 raise your hand. We do have a raised hand, but -- caller
24 6252. Caller 6252, please follow the prompt. I'm not sure
25 what to do. Caller 6252, please follow the digital prompt

1 you are hearing from Zoom to unmute yourself and make your
2 comment.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Katy, do you know what the
4 prompt is that they're giving them?

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: It is. It's star six.
6 There's another caller in the queue, so if they would both
7 do it they would both be open now. Star six would unmute
8 the caller 6252. I'm not sure. I guess we'll come back
9 around.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yes, we'll continue to
11 move on. If anyone is wishing to make a comment, we will
12 take comments before we -- oh, wait. No, still not right.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: No, that was -- no.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Again, we'll take
15 comments before we adjourn for the day.

16 So, what time is it? 9:46. We still have a bit
17 of time before our presentation, so we'll move on to the
18 Outreach Director's Report, number six. Outreach Director
19 Kaplan.

20 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Thank you. Good
21 morning, Commissioners. I just want to thank you all for
22 the great work you've been doing to present to
23 organizations across the state. To date we've completed 97
24 presentations, and there is 61 upcoming scheduled, and we
25 have about 10 more that we're processing to schedule.

1 As noted in the past, we're scheduling into the
2 summer now. As Alvaro noted, I am thrilled to share that
3 we have submitted the names to the Finance and
4 Administration Subcommittee for the two southern California
5 field lead positions, one that will cover Los Angeles and
6 Orange Counties, and the other San Diego, Imperial and San
7 Bernardino and Riverside Counties, a candidate for the
8 central California field lead and also for the outreach
9 coordinator position. The Finance and Administrative
10 Subcommittee will be discussing with the full Commission
11 during their subcommittee report.

12 And these candidates bring a tremendous wealth of
13 expertise, local experience working in the regions, and
14 really a passion and interest in the work, and I thoroughly
15 enjoyed, you know, interviewing and speaking with them.

16 I'm looking forward to working with the field
17 team and our communications team as we further transition
18 to activated Californians to utilize the COI tool and
19 support with planning and promotion of the Public Input
20 Meetings as Alvaro had noted.

21 I've also been working very closely with the
22 Language Access Subcommittee, Outreach and Engagement and
23 Grants Subcommittee and will defer to them with their
24 subcommittee reports. Thank you.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Do we have any

1 questions? Okay. We will move on to Agenda Item Number 7,
2 Chief Counsel Report.

3 MS. JOHNSTON: Just two items. One, a
4 Legislative update. AB399, I had put it up some time ago
5 about requiring state -- local agencies and state agencies
6 to provide translation during public meetings has now been
7 amended to remove state agencies. So, if it's enacted, it
8 would only apply to local governments.

9 And the teaser is a press report from Governor
10 Newsom speaking yesterday said that June 15th is not going
11 to be lifting all the COVID restrictions, that some mask
12 restrictions will remain and there will be other
13 limitations. So, something may happen June 15th, but it
14 probably won't be opening everything up.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Any questions for chief
16 counsel? Okay.

17 Kristian --

18 MS. JOHNSTON: Commissioner Kennedy.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Oh, Commissioner Kennedy.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Is there anything further
21 on the Ohio litigation?

22 MS. JOHNSTON: There was a hearing in the Court
23 of Appeal yesterday. I've not heard what happened in it.
24 As soon as I have any information, I'll pass it along.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Any other questions? Go ahead,
2 Kristian.

3 MR. MANOFF: All right. Stand by.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: There's another public comment.
5 That's what we're waiting for.

6 MR. MANOFF: Go ahead, caller.

7 MS. HUTCHISON: Hi. This is Helen Hutchison with
8 the League of Women Voters of California, and I apologize
9 for my keypad issues earlier on.

10 I want to say good morning to all of you and I'm
11 calling in with a couple of questions about handout 9A.
12 Given the public's interest in the deadline that you're
13 facing, I wonder if you could have a time certain for that
14 item, and even better, if you could schedule it for
15 tomorrow so that people have time to review and digest the
16 handout, because it was just posted yesterday.

17 And the second question is and I'm hoping that
18 when you do discuss that handout you can just talk about
19 and explain how you determined what legal risk is. Does a
20 blank mean that you determined there is no legal risk, and
21 can your analysis be made public about what that is?

22 Thank you again for your service and the thought
23 you're putting into these important decisions.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ms. Hutchison.
25 Commissioner Sadhwani.

1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. If Ms. Hutchison is
2 still there, if I could just respond. I'm not sure in
3 terms of the timeframe. I'll leave that to you, Chair.
4 But we're not determining legal risk necessarily. This
5 document was really prepared at the request of the
6 Commission at our last meeting to have available really to
7 lay out some possible options, and really have it be
8 available for our new chief counsel as well as the
9 litigation team that's coming in. So, that assessment has
10 not been made.

11 I'm also aware that from -- you know, Angela
12 (indiscernible) had sent in some comments the timeframe was
13 wrong in terms of the 2010 Commission, so, certainly
14 recognizing that perhaps are some edits that we can make to
15 that document.

16 As far as I'm concerned, I don't see any action
17 being taken on that document in this meeting.

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Is that it,
19 Kristian?

20 MR. MANOFF: That's it.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. I will just propose this
22 to Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo in terms of 9A, would
23 it be okay if we moved that to tomorrow? It would be the
24 first item that we discuss. Okay. So, just for our
25 viewers, we will discuss Agenda Item 9A tomorrow morning

1 shortly after we start our meeting, around 9:40-ish or so.

2 Okay. So, we'll move on to Agenda Item Number 8,
3 Communications Director Report. Director Ceja, do you
4 think that we'll be able to get through it in seven minutes
5 or should we hold off?

6 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. I'll do
7 better than that. I'll get you out in five minutes.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Wow. Okay, name that tune.

9 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. Thank you
10 so much. Wanted to bring to your attention that I've
11 reposted the updated PowerPoint and a script on our
12 website. And just a friendly reminder for not only the
13 commissioners, but the public in general. If you go to our
14 website under Outreach Materials you will always see the
15 most up-to-date presentation and script.

16 The only thing that I changed was the actual
17 number of congressional districts. Now that we've gotten
18 the reapportionment data I made the correction, 252 instead
19 of 253. So, I didn't repost it because it's a minor edit,
20 and it's not changing any of the content.

21 Wanted to also bring up the fact that
22 commissioners have brought to my attention we need a
23 mechanism to respond whenever there is incorrect print or
24 coverage of the Commission by the media.

25 So, talking to our executive director I came up

1 with a few ideas, one being that I email out a fact check
2 eblast to our media list whenever we need to correct
3 something, in addition to, of course, writing directly to
4 the media source that needs to make an adjustment.

5 And then the other thing was getting ahead of the
6 curve whenever some of the issues spin out of control.

7 So, what I wanted to do is start an internal TV
8 channel, if you may, called Redistricting Matters where I
9 will be interviewing commissioners and subject matter
10 experts on certain issues like Bagley-Keene. I know that's
11 been a very hot topic these few days. Timeline, the
12 process in general, and going really in depth into some of
13 these issues so that we have yourselves, the experts,
14 talking about some of these issues and introducing you to
15 the media and to other audiences, and really pushing out
16 our content instead of waiting for someone to pick up our
17 content. I think that's something that's very important.
18 It was very successful at the city. I started, like I
19 said, the Council District 1 YouTube station where I would
20 go out and interview members of the community and then take
21 on public policy issues.

22 So, I imagine doing that here, so, like I said,
23 we can get ahead of the curve and educate the masses on
24 some of our issues that require additional information.

25 Did want to also update you that we're looking at

1 putting together a plan for media buys and PSAs. We do
2 have a healthy budget for doing that so wanted to take two
3 or possibly three -- Marian let me know if this is okay for
4 Bagley-Keene -- volunteers to help us put together
5 messaging for PSAs. Two people? Okay.

6 So, if two commissioners are really, really
7 interested in doing that. I see Commissioner Sinay, Turner
8 and Kennedy and Yee. So, I don't know, Chair how you want
9 to do this, but I'll take two. We can do a lottery like we
10 did for the first eight members. So, I'll leave that up to
11 you, Chair, to decide what I -- I would love to have a
12 brainstorming session with at least two commissioners and
13 the staff on messaging so we can get some PSAs out, and, of
14 course, we'll pitch those to our media partners, especially
15 radio. I know that a few members on the Commission were
16 recruited on radio, so we want to reciprocate that.

17 We also have been in contact with -- talking
18 about that issue with the Auditor's Office about getting
19 their media buy list so that we can go back and do some
20 PSAs with those radio stations that did recruit you
21 successfully for those that were recruited by the radio.
22 So, make sure that we're touching those and concentrating
23 our efforts on those communities that are hard to reach and
24 depend on radio.

25 Lastly, I did post a documentary proposal on

1 line. There's an individual that's interested in following
2 the Commission's work. He plans on doing a 45-minute
3 documentary at the end of the process, but has asked for
4 permission by the Commission. He would like to interview
5 each commissioner individually and then follow along on our
6 website as we post our meetings. So, he will not be part
7 of like the Zoom, so it will not be invasive. But the
8 proposal is there and if you have any other questions,
9 please feel free to send them my way. We will continue in
10 conversations.

11 I'll have the Chair reach out so that we can meet
12 with him. But his ideas of what he wants to get out of
13 this, it's just following the process, letting people know
14 what the process is, and highlight the Project California
15 as leading the way with an independent Commission. So, I
16 think it's a very valuable tool that we can use for the
17 next Commission and just educating the masses in general
18 about our work and what we're doing, but we do want to
19 cross our T's and dot our I's, so we'll follow up with him.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Director Ceja. In
21 terms of the documentary, I think I missed it, but this
22 individual would be viewing our meetings the way everybody
23 else does in terms of through Zoom, correct?

24 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yes.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. And how soon does he

1 want a response?

2 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: He is open. The
3 bulk of his work, if you look at the proposal, would be the
4 actual line drawing sessions.

5 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay.

6 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Not so much from
7 now to then. So, we have time to decide.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, at this point we
9 don't even necessarily need to make a decision, but I would
10 encourage all commissioners to please review the proposal,
11 and hopefully within the next month we can revisit this
12 conversation.

13 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: While I think the
16 documentary film could be great, particularly as, you know,
17 talk of independent commissions is happening nationwide, I
18 would want some due diligence done on this individual in
19 particular, what kind of association they have, if they're
20 affiliated with one of the two political parties, because
21 that -- you know, the independent commission's
22 conversations that's interesting as flip flopped over time
23 in terms of the parties that are supporting it or not.

24 I think it could be a powerful tool, but I just
25 want to know more about who this person is, what their body

1 of work is, who's funding this work, also, and some of this
2 other kind of background information before I would ever
3 want to make a decision on it.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Yes, I believe in
5 the document he doesn't have the funding yet. It's
6 something that he's going to attempt to obtain, but yes, if
7 Director Ceja can do some vetting for us.

8 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yes.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: That would be great. Thank you
10 so much. And we're right at 10:00 o'clock. I know that
11 Director Ceja did mention the -- now I missed it -- what
12 was it -- oh, yes, sorry. And in terms of who showed
13 interest. It was Commissioners Yee, Turner, Sinay. Anyone
14 else? Kennedy, also. Are you interested or are you going
15 to make a comment, Commissioner Kennedy?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Both.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'll put your name down.

18 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Commissioner
19 Turner.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Pardon?

21 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Commissioner
22 Turner had her hand up, too.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, I did have Kennedy,
24 Turner, Sinay and Kennedy. Okay, so, Commissioner Kennedy,
25 you had a comment?

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I just had a question for
2 Director Ceja. Just wanted to get an update on how we're
3 doing as far as getting all of the content from the Shape
4 California's Future website and getting that up on our
5 website so that people have access to it again.

6 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you. So,
7 the pieces of information that have been uploaded to my
8 drive have been the applications for these 14
9 commissioners, your interview videos and a few other
10 documents. So, I plan to upload the interview videos and
11 your applications and attach them to the website. I just
12 haven't had time because the file is so large it takes
13 about -- I tried the other day. It takes about four hours
14 to upload each video. But I will get it done over the
15 weekend when the internet traffic is lower here at the
16 house.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you. I will set
18 up a subcommittee after our presentation when we come back
19 to open session.

20 Right now I am going to turn it over to
21 Commissioner Turner for the Airtable live demonstration.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Wonderful. Thank you,
23 Chair and good morning to all of my fellow commissioners.
24 And I'd like -- I'm so excited. From the Data Management
25 Subcommittee we have a guest today with us, Mr. Phil

1 Zigoris, who's from the U.S. Digital Response Team, and I
2 know many of us have been waiting on this product that
3 we're going to use the system that will be able to hold our
4 data. And we determined that we are going to use Airtable,
5 and we have Phil that's going to do a presentation for us
6 today, and also a demonstration that will be able to answer
7 a lot of our questions and I'm sure provide just an
8 increased level of confidence in how this process will
9 work.

10 I want to say that I'm really, really
11 disappointed that our commissioner, my fellow subcommittee
12 member, Commissioner Isra Ahmad is not with us today. But
13 I also would like to say to all of those that are
14 celebrating the end of Ramadan, Eid Mubarak to you and for
15 just everyone that's watching.

16 So, at this point, Phil, I'm going to turn it
17 over into your hands. We're going to see today an example
18 of COI data from various sources input. I think you'll be
19 -- we're so pleased, and appreciative and grateful for Phil
20 and his team and the amount of work that's gone into this
21 product, and now the rest of you will get a chance to see
22 the tool we've been working on.

23 So, Phil, we're in your hands.

24 MR. ZIGORIS: Great. Can everyone hear me?

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

1 MR. ZIGORIS: Great. Yeah. Thank you for the
2 introduction, Commissioner Turner.

3 Yeah, so I'm Phil. I'm from USDR. We're a pro
4 bono tech group that likes to help out where we can, and,
5 yeah, I'll walk through the Airtable.

6 I'm going to first do kind of a background, kind
7 of an overview of the system and sort of the larger
8 building blocks of the system before I jump into the demo.
9 I'll keep it pretty high level. Please feel free to ask
10 questions if you want me to jump in on some details or
11 something is not clear.

12 So, I'm going to go ahead and share my screen,
13 and I believe that will work. Give me one second. Great.
14 Can you all see the window?

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, we can. Thank you.

16 MR. ZIGORIS: Great. So, first, I just wanted to
17 kind of, just so we're all on the same page, you know,
18 summarize where all the inputs are coming into the
19 Commission are coming from.

20 So, we have two buckets of community inputs. The
21 first is coming through the DrawmyCaliforniaCommunity.org
22 website. This is a tool that's publicly accessible
23 describing -- a tool for describing COI both with text and
24 also drawing the associated map. It's built and then came
25 by the Statewide Database, so it is outside of our control,

1 but we have a dialogue with them which has been super
2 helpful.

3 The inputs here are nice because they're very
4 structured, they're very focused on describing the
5 community, getting geographic data that's really helpful
6 for both, you know, visualizing the inputs and also for our
7 line drawers to work off of.

8 And then the other bucket, I lumped a bunch
9 together, you know, including the public hearings. You
10 know, I know a lot of folks will be receiving input via
11 email, on the phone, whatever form might come in, and this
12 is a much more freeform and nondigital, often nondigital
13 format. It's a little more, you know, kind of structured
14 in the same way because sometimes it's not specifically
15 about -- it's more about the process than it is about, say,
16 a specific geography. And, so, this also necessitates some
17 kind of intake process. We're going to have to have, you
18 know, translate, transcribe, you know, a phone conversation
19 or a public comment digitizing, summarizing, so that we can
20 pull all of the data in the same place.

21 And I guess I should have started by saying our
22 goal here has really been to come up with a system that
23 lets us get all the data into one tool so that it's easily
24 accessible both by, you know, the commissioners and for all
25 your analytical needs. It's accessible for our line

1 drawers so they could work off that data and see all of the
2 data in one place alongside each other, regardless of where
3 it's coming from. And then, you know, also have a means to
4 give -- display the data to the public so that they can
5 verify that, you know, their commentary is being fairly
6 represented.

7 There are two major building blocks in terms of
8 like the technology reasoning. The first is Airtable, and
9 I think this is really primarily what you guys will be
10 interested in and working inside of. And, again, I'll go
11 into demo so I'll just really quickly touch on it.

12 Some people call it a spreadsheet on steroids.
13 Some people call it, you know, kind of a user-friendly
14 database. But it's a very user-friendly tool, a lot of
15 convenient add-on features. It looks like a spreadsheet
16 but it actually has a lot of really nice features that make
17 it good for storage well-structured data and to build
18 processes around and do analysis on. You know, it's all
19 the data stored in the Cloud. There's minimal maintenance.
20 I think it's really a good tool for this group, moving
21 forward especially as, you know, you start to open up to
22 public hearings and you may want to adjust, say, the
23 structure of the data or kind of the intake process. So,
24 we really like that flexibility and it has to be a reason
25 why we're using Airtable versus spitting up something on

1 our own.

2 And then the other service we'll be using is
3 Amazon S3. So, this is Cloud-based storage, highly
4 scalable, super reliable, really cheap for storing lots of
5 data. We'll use this to store a lot of the, you know, the
6 map data that's coming in. We ultimately may use it to
7 store some of the other artifacts and the submissions that
8 people are submitting, you know, large images, large PDFs,
9 things of that sort. So, this is good for storing, you
10 know, files and large kind of blocks of data.

11 Airtable is really good for actually having
12 comments, having a lot of the metadata about where the
13 comments are coming from, when they're submitted, things of
14 that sort.

15 So, this is a really high-level sketch of how
16 everything fits together. So, like I said, Draw My
17 Community, this website -- whoops -- this is maintained by
18 Statewide Database. There's a website. They're storing it
19 in their own storage. We will have a regular transfer of
20 data from their system into Amazon S3.

21 And, so, we've already tested some of this, but
22 it's not fully automated yet. We're sorting out some of
23 the technical details of that, but the data I'll be showing
24 you today is real data from -- that came in through that
25 website.

1 So, there's a separate process that after they
2 push all the data into S3, we have our own script that can
3 then take that data using Airtable API and push the
4 relevant information into Airtable so that has been
5 accessible to all of you.

6 Now, the other bucket of input I mentioned was,
7 you know, these more kind of freeform channels. And, so, I
8 put this smiley face to represent all of you because you're
9 all smiley people. And, so, this basically means that
10 there has to be some person in that path of information to
11 process it, to normalize it to put it into Airtable. I
12 think it's just a little too freeform for us to do anything
13 super automated there.

14 So, you know, whether that's a staffer or an
15 intern, whoever it is, will have an intake process. They
16 can summarize comments. They can translate, transcribe,
17 put them into Airtable, also upload any artifacts, PDF
18 images, so all that data can be in Airtable.

19 The one thing that we decided to do that this
20 extra line here about digitizing the geographic input. So,
21 we know that there's going to be a lot of comments and even
22 map data that will be submitted. We decided that what
23 we'll do is even though it's an extra step, we're going to
24 have this person go to the Statewide Database COI tool and
25 actually digitize the geographic input there. So they will

1 kind of draw the map there.

2 And what this means is that now all of our maps
3 are kind of standardized according to the representation
4 used by Statewide Database. And, so, that just means that
5 we can look at all of that data side by side and how
6 they're represented.

7 So, it's a little roundabout, but we figured that
8 would be better than trying to either replicate the work
9 that they did or kind of building a separate system. We
10 want to, you know, kind of work off of the great work
11 they've already done.

12 So, that's that. I'll jump into the demo in a
13 second. You know, as far as the demo goes, first, I'll
14 just give a kind of overview of Airtable so you can see
15 what kind of the conceptual model of it is. It should be
16 fairly straightforward if you've worked in a spreadsheet
17 before.

18 I'll talk about kind of the -- I'll show you some
19 of the data that's come over from the COI tool. I'll give
20 an example of the intake process for other forms of data,
21 and then I can show you how the data can then be displayed
22 publicly or even vetted in your website.

23 So, let me really quickly pause so I can take a
24 breath and see if there's any questions before I jump into
25 this.

1 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, Chair.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Phil, can you go back quickly
3 to the -- yeah. So, if I understood you correctly, if it's
4 mail, the telephone, or to verbal input, one would input
5 into the Statewide Data Base, right?

6 MR. ZIGORIS: Uh-huh.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: But then also would it go to
8 the Airtable, or would it just go to the Statewide Database
9 and then we would eventually get that information via the
10 Statewide Database, Amazon and then Airtable, because it
11 has like two arrows right now?

12 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah, it's a good question, and
13 when I go through the example I think it might make it a
14 little clearer how we can link those two because you're
15 right, that some of the data is going to be -- we're going
16 to be kind of sending some of the data through one path.
17 But the idea is that anytime you're making this kind of
18 other submission to the Draw My Community you're also
19 entering into Airtable some kind of -- some entry for that
20 that we can link together.

21 You know, from the examples of the inputs I've
22 seen, you know, there are going to be some things that are
23 coming in through these other channels that actually don't
24 have any map data. I'll have one example that I'll show
25 you from the (indiscernible) that -- you know, there is

1 really a step to go to draw the map, but we still want to
2 save that so that it's all in one place.

3 And the idea being that like if -- you know, when
4 there's a say a public hearing, that hopefully we can keep
5 some artifact of the original. We want to be able to like
6 always kind of walk back from the data in Airtable to
7 whatever like that original input is, whether it's a
8 recording of the public hearing, whether it's, you know,
9 like the file box that the letter is in, you know, whatever
10 that is. But we want that kind of audit trail to be set up
11 for us, so --

12 Cool. Any other questions before I go into demo?

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Looks like we're good,
14 Phil, ready to go.

15 MR. ZIGORIS: Let's do it. Okay. So, this is
16 Airtable, and what we're looking at here is what Airtable
17 calls a base. So, a base is a spreadsheet, it's a
18 database, however you want to note it, but it's a table, or
19 it's a collection of tables, I'm sorry.

20 So, the base is COI data up here, and within this
21 we have these different tabs that represent different
22 tables. Each table has columns that can be different types
23 of data. So, you can create a number of different types of
24 columns, you know, that are check boxes, dates, phone
25 numbers, emails, you know, you name it.

1 So, this is really nice because it keeps the data
2 clean. You can't put an address into a phone number. You
3 can't put a phone number into an email. And it also lets
4 you link records between different tables just like in a
5 database. So, you know, if I have submissions I can
6 actually, you know, link to the staff member and make sure
7 that there's like a clean sort of organization of the data
8 that way.

9 So, we have the base, which is the collection of
10 tables. We have the tables that are tables that contain
11 columns. Within each table you can, you know, hide
12 different fields. You can filter all of the records based
13 on some criteria. You can do grouping, sorting. You can
14 search, you know. If I'm looking here I can search for
15 everything that mentions agriculture. You know, I can
16 search for anyone who is talking about being a Raider fan,
17 which someone submitted some input on.

18 So, that's really nice. You can definitely like
19 organize the data and really dig into it however with a lot
20 of flexibility.

21 The other nice thing is that when you -- if you
22 want to you can also, you know, if you do a search and you
23 sort of have a view of the data that is somehow relevant to
24 your interests, let's say a commissioner wants to filter
25 down to their outreach zone area and you want to look at

1 everything kind of within that's sort of relevant to that.
2 You can do that search. You can create what they call a
3 view, and a view lets you save that search. So, you can
4 very quickly kind of jump to whatever, you know, that
5 relevant view of the data.

6 So, that's really handy and it makes working in
7 Airtable really much easier, especially when you start to
8 get a lot of data.

9 So, each of these records I'll just really
10 quickly show. You can open it up, you can see a lot of the
11 data that's been attached to it. You can see all the
12 fields. It also has a revision history, which is really
13 nice. So, if someone goes in in exchange you have a
14 history of that. You can actually have discussions about
15 the record, itself. So, let's say, you know, you see a
16 record and you're like, hey, it's not really clear.
17 There's something wrong with it. You can actually like
18 start a discussion with other people that are collaborators
19 on that Airtable base.

20 So, pretty powerful, really great for being able
21 to kind of collaborate on these kinds of data sets.

22 The other thing I'll mention and I'll jump into
23 more later is that in addition to these list views we can
24 also create forms. We can create calendar views. You can
25 make a lot of different, you know, represent the data in

1 other ways besides just the table. So, I'll give an
2 example of the form later.

3 And then the other feature I'll mention is that
4 you can share a view. So, I can -- here I've created, this
5 is a public view of all the COI data. I can create a
6 publicly available list. So, this is now a link that, you
7 know, would be available publicly and anyone can access if
8 they want to go and see their submission here.

9 And in addition to that, you can also embed it on
10 your site. So, I've talked to Fredy about getting an I-
11 frame that we can actually put into the website. And, so,
12 it's nice because as the data comes in, there is no like
13 manual step of having like send the spreadsheet that then
14 like gets entered somewhere else. It just updates
15 automatically.

16 Cool. So, that is the Airtable overview in
17 general. I'll just quickly jump into the actual data that
18 we have in here right now.

19 So, what you're seeing here is all the data that
20 the submissions that have come in through the COI tool, the
21 Statewide Database COI tool. So, we've migrated it all and
22 pushed it into Airtable. We've, you know, largely kept the
23 column names all the same, so there's common mutual kept
24 are basically -- if we go into here it basically maps to
25 the deals you see here.

1 And we have -- I've also uploaded a PDF of that
2 associated with each submission, so it's nice in here you
3 can very quickly just kind of jump in and say, you know,
4 okay, here is West County Sonoma, and you have the map and
5 quickly look at. You can see the comments. You can read
6 them there. I know the text is small, but --

7 And then we also here have a link to download the
8 shape file. This is mostly relevant to the line drawers,
9 but it actually contains all their map data that they can
10 import into their tools to work with more efficiently.

11 So, I have -- this is one I submitted. I've
12 hidden some fields because I know this is like a public
13 meeting and I wanted to keep some of the PII hidden, but so
14 I've hidden in this public view, you know, the name of the
15 submitter, email, phone number, their IP address, all
16 that's hidden.

17 What I'll mention here is that as we start to
18 work on this data more and like actively working on it and
19 analyzing it we may find that there's extra fields that we
20 want to add to each, you know, to say add some tags or some
21 extra information to each row. So, you know, we have the
22 flexibility to always add new columns and however you see
23 fit there.

24 So, one of the reasons, again, we like Airtable
25 is that you don't need a software engineer to make a change

1 like that. Anyone can go in and make that change. There
2 is a downside to that, too, in that anyone can go in and
3 make a change and potentially break something, but, you
4 know, we can control for that as well.

5 So that's the data from the COI tool, and I
6 think, you know, I don't know when we grabbed all this
7 part, looks like some time at the end of April, so we
8 already have 171 records.

9 So then the other table we have here is just
10 general submissions, and what this was meant to be is all
11 the information coming in, like I was saying, through the
12 other channels, whether it's a public hearing, email. And,
13 so, I put a couple of examples here, and I'll show you how
14 the form works as well, but, you know, you can see that
15 these are not real. These are fake ones. But I can -- you
16 know, you can basically just in Airtable have a new record
17 and enter new text. You know, you can select from the drop
18 down because we'll have all the staffers listed in the
19 table, you can add a staffer and put data as you see fit.

20 Let me show the intake form now. So, that's --
21 where did it go? Give me one sec.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: While he's doing that,
23 because we tried to identify acronyms, Phil talked about
24 redacting PII, which is just personal identifiable
25 information. And so we are ensuring that in each of the

1 documents when it be as a public view that that information
2 is removed from viewing. And one of the pieces is that we
3 know -- we learned from counsel that even the shape files
4 have to be made public. And I think coming from the COI
5 tool that also has some PII information on it, so for the
6 COI Tool Subcommittee, if we've not already looked at that
7 we may want to take a look and make sure that we have
8 ability to redact information from the shape files as well.

9 MR. ZIGORIS: So, I'm going to show you an
10 example of how we might like input something here.

11 So, here's an example of the letter we received
12 from the ACLU and the commissioners received from the ACLU.
13 The comments here is really more about timeline in general,
14 the fairness of the timeline. And, so, someone, you know
15 let's say I'm the person who received this. I want to
16 record it. I'm going to write, you know, the ACLU. And
17 then say, you know, just really quickly concerns about
18 fairness of timeline, see attached doc. for more detail.

19 Then if I want to attach this I can come in here
20 and I can drop a PDF in that is a letter. Here, you know,
21 we have a spot for just general tags, like let's say I
22 wanted to just mark this as general, you know, I might have
23 a tag that says like nongeographic or like, you know,
24 procedural comment or something like that. That might help
25 other people like filter that out later, say they're just

1 looking at mapping data.

2 And this question comes back to what we saw in
3 this here, this line of, okay, are we actually going to
4 make a separate submission in the Draw My Community site.
5 And, so, if you're going to do that, we can mark that here
6 and then if it's already entered, it's already in their
7 table, you can link it here or you can go and link it
8 later.

9 So, I'm just going to submit that. So, now
10 that's done, and if I come in here I see that, so, pretty
11 straightforward.

12 Here's something that's a little more
13 interesting. You know, it's some commentary from this
14 farming company. There was a handful of submissions that I
15 saw having examples of people talking about keeping kind of
16 Lake County, Napa County, Sonoma County altogether because
17 they represent sort of a wine growing region.

18 So, you know, I can do the same thing where I
19 come into this, you know, to this form. So, again, here
20 submitter, submission. So, keep Lake, Sonoma, Napa
21 together. We have that. I'm going to go ahead and load
22 that up to PDF. Here I might say, okay, this is -- has
23 geographic data. It represents agricultural concerns.
24 And in this case we're going to want to go ahead into the
25 other tool to make that submission. I haven't done that

1 yet, so, but I'll be glad to make this. And, so, coming
2 back to here, I need to go into the nonpublic view. So,
3 here I have attachments, and so, you know, if you want you
4 can actually click right in so you can see the letter
5 that's been attached, which is nice.

6 Actually I should mention some of these other
7 fields. So, one thing we've talked about is being able to
8 have some review process. So, this is a column that just
9 supports that. You know, that process for reviewing would
10 have to be defined outside of Airtable, but, you know,
11 there's a chance that we'll get some comments that are not
12 relevant or they might just be jokes or, you know, a string
13 of curse words, whatever that might be. So, we can go and
14 review. You can mark something as a removed. It doesn't
15 actually remove it from the table, but the nice thing is,
16 is that when you want to go and like search over the data
17 you can just kind of remove all of the junk submissions.
18 So, you know, there's an allowance for that. And then this
19 would -- all of this data here is the links to the COI
20 submission.

21 So, I'll show an example here because it's not
22 going to be the right COI submission, but basically I can
23 come in here and let's say I want to find like, you know, I
24 can find my whatever that might be and I'm just going to
25 pretend it's this one.

1 And, so, what this does is it now has a link to a
2 record in the other table that has all of this map data
3 associated with it and it pulls it in.

4 So, the idea is that eventually this table is
5 like a submission would represent, really, like everything
6 that's come in.

7 And then, finally, the staffer would come into
8 this tool, this is the Statewide Database tool, fill it out
9 as they saw fit and then they could submit it. And I'm not
10 going to go through all this here, but hopefully that's
11 clear.

12 And it will take -- the expectation is that on a
13 sort of daily basis we would be updating all of the COI
14 data. So, cool.

15 So, the last thing I'll show is a view of the
16 public data. So, I think I already showed it, but I'll
17 just come back to it because I know this was of particular
18 interest to folks.

19 So, this is the public view that we can make
20 available. You know, note that all the PII has been
21 removed. We today have a link to the shape files, but we
22 may choose to change that, depending on some of the PII
23 concerns.

24 And, yeah, anyone that's using this can come in.
25 They can search. They can be like, hey, I want to find my

1 like -- I want to find my entry, make sure it's there, make
2 sure it's all been recorded properly and everyone can be
3 confident that their voice is being heard.

4 So, that's pretty much it, I think. Any
5 questions that people have?

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, and, Chair, do you
7 want me to respond to the question?

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: That would be great, unless you
9 want me to help. Whatever you want.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Linda, I see Linda,
11 Commissioner Akutagawa, and then Commissioner Sinay and
12 Kennedy and Andersen.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Thank you
14 for walking us through this Airtable and you answered some
15 of my earlier questions along the way. I have two
16 remaining questions.

17 One of the questions that we've been having in
18 discussion about public input when we have public input
19 meetings is if someone were to have already submitted their
20 input via either the communities of interest tool, you know
21 the DrawMyCACommunity.org tool, or perhaps one of these
22 other channels that you mentioned, I noticed that there's
23 the COI I.D., and I know that when people submit through
24 the communities of interest tool they'll get the COI I.D.
25 assigned to them.

1 So, two questions. One is when we have the
2 public input meeting because everybody could choose to be
3 anonymous, if they retained that COI I.D., and maybe this
4 is maybe more a question for the line drawers I guess,
5 would that be useable to pull up their maps?

6 And, secondly, if somebody, you know, submits
7 something through another channel, will they be assigned
8 some kind of COI I.D. and then, therefore, then if they go
9 to a public input meeting they could say I emailed, I don't
10 know, yeah, I mailed it in and could you pull up my
11 testimony.

12 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah. The first question about
13 being able to look up based on COI I.D., you can do that
14 search. Even in the public view you could search by that
15 COI I.D. So, this COI I.D. is generated by Statewide
16 Database, so you can see it sort of incorporates the date,
17 things like that. So, that's the case.

18 Now, in this other table we're kind of just
19 generating these I.D.s. Sure, we can come up with a more
20 sophisticated way to generate like an anonymous identifier
21 that can then be used to reference them.

22 One thing I actually forgot to point out when I
23 was going through here was that we will have to have some
24 schemes so that when you are submitting through the COI
25 tool a, you know, something that's associated with an

1 existing submission in Airtable, we'll actually have some,
2 you know, code in here that can let people note the mapping
3 so that we can then later on find that and create the
4 association. Because we don't have any ability to make any
5 changes to the COI tool, we're sort of forced to kind of
6 work within the constraints of what you just heard today.

7 So, did I answer all -- I know there were a few
8 parts to the question. I just want to make sure I answered
9 all the parts.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, yeah, you did.
11 So, just on that last part, it sounds like you're just
12 giving a simple run through whatever numerical order. But
13 did I hear correctly that you also mentioned that you're
14 going to try to find some better way to come up with some
15 kind of anonymous identifiers so that then if somebody
16 wants to go back and check they know how to check for that
17 submission?

18 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah. I think -- yeah, and this is
19 something we can discuss with the commissioners, but like
20 as an engineer having these sequential I.D.s is like a
21 public identifier. It's easy for someone to just guess one
22 randomly. So, it's nice if you can kind of generate
23 something that's a little bit more obscure. The answer be
24 like, hey, I submitted like eight but I want to like change
25 it to something else. You know, not that we know that

1 people are going to try to do that, but it's nice to create
2 a little bit of obfuscation so that we don't have a risk of
3 that.

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: There are, also,
6 Commissioner Akutagawa, if someone is trying to find a
7 submission that they've done, the tag that's there will
8 help search as well, in addition to the number, for
9 whatever reason, they lost the identifier or it's no longer
10 available.

11 Commissioner -- let's see. I got rusty on
12 writing my order down after I said I would do the call on
13 different ones. But I do have Commissioner Kennedy,
14 Commissioner Andersen and Commissioner Sinay does not have
15 her hand up. So, Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner
16 Andersen and who else did I leave out. Okay, and then
17 Marcy.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner
19 Turner. A couple of questions.

20 Are the text field links unlimited or is there
21 some sort of limit on them?

22 MR. ZIGORIS: Actually, a good question that I
23 don't know the exact answer. I'm assuming there is some
24 limit, but I don't know what that limit is. So, I can find
25 that out, but I assume it's pretty large. I actually

1 haven't looked into that.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Second of all, you
3 mentioned that having an audit trail, which I think is a
4 fantastic idea on this, I'm thinking that for public input
5 sessions or anything really that ends up being video
6 recorded, you know, time stamping is going to be useful for
7 that audit trail. So, just to keep that in mind.

8 Being one of the older members, if not the oldest
9 member of this body, you know, I'm not big on relying on
10 the Cloud. I mean I know certain things happen through the
11 Cloud and for that I'm happy, but I also believe in local
12 backups. So, what's our plan for local backups?

13 MR. ZIGORIS: Sure. So, I think one nice thing
14 is that we can certainly have some redundancy with respect
15 to the Cloud in terms of having both Airtable and S3
16 storage data. And I'd say Amazon is super reliable, if the
17 concern is about the data, the Cloud evaporating, I have a
18 lot of confidence there. But that said, you can also --
19 let me see if I can find it. Here, you can download this
20 SCSV on every table. So we can -- it's easy to just do a
21 periodic backup via download of the data and make sure that
22 it's -- you know, there's actually like a file stored on
23 someone's computer.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, I mean, we're just
25 coming off of this ransomware attack on the Colonial

1 Pipeline from foreign actors, and we've discussed in our
2 meetings before that, you know, this process, as important
3 as it is, could itself be the target of a similar attack.
4 So, I just want to make sure that we're all, you know, on
5 the same wavelength as far as a business recovery plan in
6 place for, you know, making sure that we're able to
7 continue with our work no matter, and that needs to include
8 a local backup.

9 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah. I think we can even -- it
10 wouldn't be hard to add a separate process that
11 automatically would say, you know, using the API pull all
12 the data down, do a backup to S3 so it's in a separate
13 system, and then also even like create a file that gets
14 emailed somewhere, or something like that. I mean that is
15 not that difficult to automate. So, given that concern I
16 think we can put some even better protections in there.

17 Just in the general kind of area of security I
18 think, like I was mentioning, a lot of thought around how,
19 you know, what data and links are made publicly available,
20 how people can kind of search the data and sort of, you
21 know, guess. Sometimes if you want people to -- certain
22 data to be hidden, you need to make sure that they can't
23 like guess identifiers and things like that, which is kind
24 of all fairly standard best practices in the tech world.
25 So, I think there's a whole other set of security concerns

1 aside from just the data being lost. But I'd say Amazon is
2 definitely like prebattle hardened. A lot of big companies
3 are relying on them. They have good security measures in
4 place. And, so, the bigger risk is that someone goes in
5 and clicks the wrong button and then opens something up.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. And, finally, are
7 there analytical tools? I mean a lot of this manipulation
8 and reporting seems to be fairly manual in nature, and you
9 kind of have to know what you want the system to do, and
10 yeah, it's easy enough to get it to do it, but if there are
11 any automated analytical tools, or what has your thinking
12 been as far as developing any analytical tools that we
13 might need?

14 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah, so our focus so far has been
15 on just really like housing the data and making sure it's
16 accessible to all of the parties that are interested.

17 You know, Airtable is not I would say a great
18 tool for doing heavy data analysis. One thing we noted
19 earlier on when we were thinking about this is that, you
20 know, the data, itself, is not very numerical in nature, so
21 it doesn't lend itself to a lot of deep statistical
22 analysis, so we felt like a lot of that kind of -- the
23 analysis would be, okay, we want to count how many things,
24 you know, say -- how many comments came in in this
25 geography, or how many comments are about this particular

1 topic, which I think Airtable, you know, you can create
2 those reviews in Airtable.

3 There's also within Airtable you can create
4 automations for sending kind of fast forward updates, so
5 you can send a weekly digest of, you know, here are all the
6 submissions and various counts of how many things you've
7 received.

8 But I think if there's more sophisticated
9 analysis, especially when it comes to map data, I think the
10 expectation is that that would be happening in a different
11 tool, and I know the line drawers have a lot more
12 experience.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, and some of that what
14 we're looking to is between the data manager and the line
15 drawers that will be doing more of the analysis. The
16 Airtable, as Phil indicated, truly is housing and ensuring
17 the access, ensuring the consistency, ensuring that we're
18 not losing any piece of the data, but the analysis will
19 come from one of the other sources, and so we'll keep
20 talking about that, too.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Commissioner Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much. I
24 do also have several questions.

25 Leading off just on the idea of security and

1 this. The public -- we're making all of this available to
2 the public and they can search. Is there a way that also
3 then that they can't change it? You mentioned --

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: The public won't be able to
5 make changes. So, they will have a restricted view.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great.

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: They'll be able to look and
8 see what's there, but anything that they try to move won't
9 be allowed and they won't have access to make any permanent
10 changes whatsoever.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. And if we need to
12 add like a new tag, could you sort of walk us through that
13 process, i.e. do we have to go back to enter a tag on each
14 different file, or can we -- is there a way to
15 automatically search and just put it through? Could you
16 walk us through how one would do that?

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And, Phil, before you
18 answer that, and then I want you to answer. You definitely
19 will be the one answering that. But awhile -- I guess so
20 many weeks to months back we had requested from
21 commissioners suggestions about tags, and we received some,
22 which is great, but there's still now an opportunity. So,
23 we can look at the tags and if there's something that we
24 think is missing, we can add those tags now, which would be
25 wonderful, and then Phil is going to respond to your actual

1 question about it where once we're into the process and we
2 determine a new tag, what would that look like to go back
3 and add them in?

4 MR. ZIGORIS: I'll just go ahead and add a tag
5 here that, you know, ABC. So, this is like say we decided
6 we wanted to notate some things to that, so now when I go
7 and add tags I should -- let me just double check that -- I
8 didn't save it. Okay. So now if I go here I can certainly
9 on an individual record I should be able to add ABC. Now I
10 actually -- I'm kind of winging it here, but I'm pretty
11 sure that if I go ahead and add, if I check a bunch of
12 these I'm wondering if it lets me --

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So, do you have to look
14 at each one to go, yeah, that needs a tag, yes, that needs
15 a tag?

16 MR. ZIGORIS: I'm looking for a bulk update, and
17 so let me do one on that. I'm sure there's a way to do
18 that, but I will -- let me -- I don't know offhand how to
19 do that. If you said like, yeah, you wanted to select like
20 search down and find like a thousand records and then do a
21 wholesale application to the new tag --

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. You don't
23 necessarily know, oh man, we forgot -- we also need to know
24 these all need for legal reference, say. And, so, you know
25 that what words. Would you do a search on the words, grab

1 them that way and then mark them or get to a --

2 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah. In a search you'd find that
3 you update and then -- I'm wondering if there's like a way
4 to do batch update which I'm going to have to look and see.
5 I don't know how to do it offhand.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So, I took a note about
7 that and we can follow up and get back. But whatever I
8 understand your question to even be sure, we get that
9 before we go to your others, Commissioner Andersen, is it's
10 almost, for example, if we forgot for whatever reason to
11 put agricultural and we've gone down the path for quite a
12 while, and then all of a sudden we're like, ah, we need
13 that as a tag. Then we could add it as a tag but then also
14 do a search for agricultural, of all data that's been
15 entered, and then bulk upload that tag to those entries,
16 because that word would already be there.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Except you might have to
18 field or something like that because you wouldn't
19 necessarily put agriculture in, like particularly for
20 certain terms --

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay, great.
23 Okay, then I'll go on. The next question is when you have
24 on like the PDF view, for say like you've drawn a map and
25 you have the PDF view, it's very clear on the COI when it's

1 already been entered in the COI to what the PDF is. But
2 say I'm thinking of -- say someone has submitted a napkin
3 or someone has also submitted also a map but it's through
4 -- it's not through the COI tool, but it's through another
5 GIS system --

6 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Where would that be and
8 how would you show that?

9 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah. So I think for the GIS data
10 I think today it would -- I imagine you would upload that
11 to this attachments column here. And for potentially like
12 if there was a link -- if you have it stored say in S3 you
13 could store a link to that, but basically any -- we want
14 all the things that are coming in not through the COI tool
15 to be -- say these attachments we'll create a separate
16 column for references to, you know, if it's a physical
17 reference. And so that process -- like say for the napkin
18 case, like, you know you can take a photo of a napkin,
19 upload the photo here and then I don't know if you throw
20 away the napkin or what you do with it, but if you like
21 actually save the napkin you might actually put it in a box
22 somewhere and then you've got a call in that says like
23 here's the file box that it's in.

24 So, as that intake process gets flushed down, as
25 you encounter, you know, various forms of input you get in

1 whatever medium you get, we can update this to accommodate
2 that.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right.

4 MR. ZIGORIS: But that's different -- so I have
5 some PDFs uploaded here as attachments that's different
6 than this PDF that's coming in through the COI tool, which
7 is a very specific file that's generated by that.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

9 MR. ZIGORIS: And I'll mention, and maybe it's a
10 little too technical, but, you know, there are -- Airtable
11 does have limits in terms of like the size of the
12 attachments, and so there's a likelihood, depending on the
13 kinds of data that are coming in, that at some point we
14 will have some process that will actually take these
15 attachments and move them into S3 where we have just more
16 unlimited storage, and that way we're not hitting the
17 limits here that may force us to, you know, have to move up
18 in terms of licensing structure.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And then you just do a
20 reference to the other --

21 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah. So, as an example, I'll just
22 quickly mention like, you know, these shape files are all
23 -- they're not stored there. They're actually links to an
24 S3 file that you can then download. Because those files
25 are like, you know, between 500K, a megabyte each,

1 sometimes larger.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And then the last
3 question is and then the identifiers, they'll have an
4 identifier, say at the CRC where it's coming in, it could
5 also have an identifier in the COI and then you'd have a
6 joint connection with those on each.

7 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah, yeah. And that's what this
8 -- that step in the intake process like here where I have
9 this COI submission, so this is basically, it sort of shows
10 you, the record we're looking at here is actually a COI
11 submission and it kind of shows you by a line. It's like,
12 hey, this is linking to an entry, this other table. And,
13 so that forms the link there.

14 And if we go into -- we may not see it because
15 we're in the public view, but --

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, yeah.

17 MR. ZIGORIS: But it links both directions.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Marcy.

20 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Hi. Thank you so
21 much. I don't know if this is just something that's still
22 in the works or in future meetings, but just figuring out
23 to the language access component and tagging for the form
24 side for the submissions that don't come through the COI
25 tool, if there's a way to tag like needs translation, if

1 guys thought that through, and then also on the Airtable
2 side I don't know if it comes through with the COI data
3 that it's tagged, which language or just that the exporting
4 and then how it could then get reimported to match up with
5 the -- with the submission with the English translation.

6 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah, that's a very good question,
7 and I think when the data manager comes on I think they'll
8 have to -- I don't know enough about how the translation
9 process would work to be able to define that, but hopefully
10 the data manager, when they have a vision for that process,
11 I can certainly help implement it here.

12 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay.

13 MR. ZIGORIS: What I would just point to you as,
14 you know, an example is you can certainly add status here,
15 you know, needs translation, and then you can even create a
16 view that, you know, says -- just filters down to
17 everything that needs translation, and then whoever is
18 responsible for driving that process can actually have to
19 be their kind of task list essentially.

20 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay.

21 MR. ZIGORIS: And, you know, we can create
22 multiple columns. One might be for original language and
23 one might be for, you know, English.

24 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Thank you.

25 MR. ZIGORIS: I think my assumption is that

1 whoever is inputting the data into the form would be
2 entering it in English all the time. The original, they
3 might have a PDF or an email that's in another language
4 that can then be attached to it. But whichever person on
5 staff is inputting it would be inputting it in English.
6 But maybe that's not true, so --

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: They would be inputting in
8 English.

9 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah.

10 MR. ZIGORIS: Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Commissioner Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I guess on that point,
13 it, for me, does raise the question of then, and perhaps
14 this is something that staff is, you know, in this case I
15 don't know, Marcy, if it's you or it's going to be somebody
16 else. I think there's going to be a language access
17 coordinator that's going to be hired. It seems like
18 there's going to be the additional step of when we get
19 input from other means other than the COI tool, then that
20 language access coordinator, whoever the staff person is
21 going to be, is going to have to then immediately send that
22 out for translation, because if we're talking about
23 multiple languages, seeing what, Phil, you were showing,
24 you know, the summary of what the input is supposed to be,
25 I mean unless you could leave that language I mean they're

1 probably not going to be able to input anything in until we
2 get the English translation back and that person is going
3 to be able to do that.

4 I guess do we need to perhaps identify what that
5 process is. Is that now getting into like micromanaging,
6 is that going to be then, you know, something that -- and
7 I'm only asking that because before it goes to translation
8 does it get like an identifier, those kind of things, so
9 that there's a way to -- it's kind of like block chain,
10 right, you can always follow the track along the way, where
11 it got attached, where it went to and all that kind of
12 stuff. So, wanted to just at least --

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I think the identifier is
14 one of the first pieces, so there will be an identifier
15 just on the fact that a submission came in; is that
16 correct, Phil?

17 MR. ZIGORIS: Yes. Today, you know, there's --
18 an identifier is automatically generated. I can really
19 quickly kind of show you what this could look like.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And just for a time check,
21 we'll need to go to break in about three minutes.

22 MR. ZIGORIS: You could create something like
23 this. You could create something like, you know, then we
24 can add options like, you know, scan it. And then -- I
25 didn't save it again. Get the idea. And then when you're

1 actually filling out the form, you know, that -- one
2 process, and I'm not saying we need to decide this now, but
3 just so you kind of get a sense with the flexibility here,
4 what you can work with, you could say, okay, if you get
5 something, you're going to report it here. If you don't
6 even know how to translate it, you need to mark, needs
7 translation, put what the original language is and at least
8 we have like an entry form now, but then other processes
9 can be like pick that record up and then work off of that.

10 So, you can -- the nice thing -- I like Airtable
11 because you can build these processes within Airtable so
12 that people get alert. You can actually, what's nice here
13 is -- and I didn't really show this off, but the
14 automations could literally have a -- if a record comes in
15 that needs translation in a specific language it can
16 automatically send an email to the translators for that
17 language to say, hey, this needs translation, and then it's
18 like great. There's no sort of manual processing. There's
19 no one that needs to like not go on vacation because they
20 have to like go and look at it every day, things of that
21 sort.

22 Like I said, it's nice when you can let the
23 computers tell you what to do.

24 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Wonderful. Phil, are you
25 able to throw out the tags that are already loaded real

1 quick?

2 MR. ZIGORIS: Sure.

3 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And, so, if you all will
4 just take a quick look at them, and we won't do it here,
5 but if you would email Commissioner Ahmad and myself if
6 there are any additional tags that are needed. Of course,
7 ABC is not one of them, but we do have general, geographic,
8 agricultural, urban, rural, industrial, cultural are the
9 tags now. So as we're thinking through additional tags, if
10 we could submit them and then we'll bring them back for the
11 entire Commission to look at to ensure that there is
12 agreement that these would be helpful tags. Then we can
13 set them as our permanent tags going forward, or, you know,
14 until we discover something different, Commissioner
15 Andersen.

16 And so as a recommendation for consideration
17 we're looking at the database updated biweekly, being every
18 two weeks with new COI input received via be it input
19 meetings, the COI tool, email, et cetera, so that we'll
20 have current information, so it's not something that we're
21 thinking about every -- you know, ongoing, but every two
22 weeks to have the tool updated.

23 And, Phil, did you have anything else.
24 Commissioner Fernandez?

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Just a couple of things, and

1 I'll go fast because I know we're down to the wire for
2 break.

3 In terms of updating biweekly, as we get -- once
4 we get to the line drawing would that be a more frequent
5 update? It would seem like we may want to have that more
6 frequently updated.

7 MR. ZIGORIS: Yeah.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry.

9 MR. ZIGORIS: Go ahead, and I'll answer your
10 question.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then just based on
12 how you were -- it appears that the process would be to
13 enter it into the Statewide Database first and then into
14 the Airtable so that we have that COI number instead of
15 having to go back and forth.

16 And then my third comment to you, Phil, other
17 than this is a wonderful presentation is that I like when
18 you said "we" and then you said "you". You get to take
19 ownership. You're a we now, so thank you.

20 MR. ZIGORIS: Cool. Thanks, and I think in terms
21 of the updates, you know, hopefully we eventually will have
22 it as a daily update. I might even talk to the staff about
23 potentially doing real time updates. I have some hesitancy
24 there because of the complexity involved, but there might
25 be an opportunity.

1 I think the other point you asked about, kind of
2 the sequencing between the two tools I think is a really
3 good one, I think needs to be flushed out. When the data
4 manager comes in and we see the process working we can
5 understand how to better link the data between the two.
6 Right now it's a little free form. I think when we harden
7 that process a bit more we can make it a little bit
8 reliable.

9 So, I think that's an important one because, like
10 I said, the Statewide Database tool we don't have really
11 any ability to change that, so we're kind of figuring out
12 how to kind of wedge that into the process.

13 Just really quick. There was a question earlier
14 from Commissioner Kennedy about text limits. The limit is
15 100,000 characters, so --

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Pretty robust.

17 MR. ZIGORIS: Yes. And I have to follow up about
18 the batch update. I'll look into that.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Phil, with that, we'd like
20 to thank you so much for an amazing presentation, reminder
21 to all the commissioners, this was our introduction
22 presentation. So no doubt you will end the day with
23 additional questions that pop into your mind. We're not
24 finished with the discussion, but we are very proud of the
25 product to this point. Hopefully you have an increased

1 level of confidence and just can appreciate the process and
2 the product that USDR has delivered.

3 So, thank you again to Commissioner Kennedy that
4 actually pointed us in this direction. And Phil and to
5 your team, we say thank you for appearing before us today
6 and giving us such a wonderful presentation.

7 MR. ZIGORIS: Of course. It was my pleasure.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Chair, back to you.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Yes, thank you. Thank
10 you, Phil, thank you Commissioners Turner and Ahmad for
11 bringing this to us today.

12 So, we are going to adjourn, and when we return
13 we will return to closed session. So, let's go ahead and
14 take a break, though, first. So, if we could log into
15 closed session at 11:20, please. Thank you.

16 (Off the record 11:02 a.m.)

17 (On the record 2:02 p.m.)

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you and welcome back,
19 everyone. It is approximately 2:01 and I'm going to report
20 out that the Commission did not take any action during
21 closed session.

22 So with that, we're going to go back to where we
23 left off prior to going into closed session. We were still
24 on Agenda Item Number 8, and Communications Director Ceja
25 had asked if there were a couple of commissioners that

1 could work with him on PSA and messaging. He said
2 messaging brainstorm session for public service
3 announcements.

4 Commissioner Kennedy still has his hand up. So I
5 have in terms of being interested were Commissioners Yee,
6 Turner, Sinay and Kennedy. And, Commissioner Kennedy, did
7 you want to say something before?

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: My question to you is if
9 we already have a Materials Development Subcommittee, do we
10 need to create yet another subcommittee?

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: What do you think,
12 Communications Director Ceja? Do you want to be stuck with
13 Commissioner Kennedy and myself?

14 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. Why don't
15 we take the first step and then we'll share with the other
16 commissioners that shared interest?

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Oh, okay. Commissioner
18 Sinay, I saw your hand up.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, I was interested in
20 it. So, we also have an outreach -- you know, everything
21 keeps going to one over the other, but we do have an
22 outreach and engagement subcommittee as well, and this is,
23 you know, kind of the shifting. But either way.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, for now we'll keep
25 it with the materials, but that's a good point. If we come

1 up with something and it overlaps, then Communications
2 Director Ceja may reach out to other subcommittees for
3 information, or wording, or feedback. Okay. Everyone is
4 okay with that?

5 So, we're going to -- any other questions for
6 Director Ceja before we move on?

7 Let me write down before I forget the materials
8 subcommittee.

9 So, we're going to move on to the subcommittee
10 reports. Agenda Item 9A is Government Affairs. That we
11 have moved to tomorrow morning.

12 And Agenda Item 9B, Finance and Administration.
13 That is Commissioner Fornaciari and myself. And we're
14 going to move that to the end of the subcommittee updates.
15 We'll come back to that. We're waiting for some additional
16 information on that.

17 So, the next one up would be 9C, which is the
18 Gantt Chart, Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing to report at this
20 point.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Anything for the
22 subcommittee? Okay, we're going to move on. 9D is VRA
23 Compliance, Commissioner Sadhwani and Yee.

24 COMMISSIONER YEE: Nothing new to report.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Nothing new, although we

1 look forward to our new VRA counsel hopefully being brought
2 in very soon.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: That's great. That's great
4 news.

5 9E, Outreach and Engagement, Commissioner Sinay
6 and Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Nothing to report at this
8 time.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Agenda Item 9F is Language
10 Access, Commissioners Akutagawa and myself. And I don't
11 believe Commissioner Akutagawa is here.

12 We're actually going to defer the information
13 that we have and the recommendation to Agenda Item 11 when
14 we discuss the Public Input Design Committee. So, we'll
15 talk about that later.

16 9G is Materials Development. That's
17 Commissioners Kennedy and myself. Commissioner Kennedy.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Just that at this point I
19 have received from Director Ceja an updated draft for the
20 paper communities of interest tool form. So, I'm going to
21 be working on that over the next few days. I do have some
22 more changes to recommend on that.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. And I'll look
24 at that, too, as I'm like the second half of that
25 subcommittee.

1 Commissioner Sinay.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to say that
3 the libraries are really excited for that tool and are
4 thinking through ways to distribute it, especially in the
5 rural areas.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Excellent.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yeah, that's great. And 9H is
8 Website, Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We are working on a rather
10 substantial list of recommendations which aren't yet ready
11 to present, but we've got about a two dozen items. Some
12 are very minor, some are a little more substantive, but
13 we're working on that.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. You're good,
15 Commissioner Taylor? I got the thumbs up. Okay.

16 Commissioner Sinay.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: If we have -- if we see
18 something on the website should we send it to Fredy and
19 then he gets it to you all?

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: How would you like that?

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: That's fine with me. I
22 mean I'm also taking into account public input that we're
23 receiving from the public in developing these
24 recommendations.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. I think it would go to

1 Director Ceja if it's something minor that needs to be
2 fixed, but if it's something major in terms of, you know,
3 you want to switch things around or add something, then
4 that would probably be a different discussion.

5 Director Ceja, did you have a comment on that?

6 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah, exactly
7 that, what you mentioned. If it's content changes, if
8 there's a grammatical mistake or something like
9 Congressional district still says 53 instead of 52, I can
10 make that immediately, but if you have potential changes,
11 if you want a new column or a new pulldown, yeah, let's
12 bring it up with the committee.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Except staff needs to be
15 kind of our webbing around the commissioners because you
16 need to be careful how many commissioners you email to, and
17 that's why I was asking do we send it to staff, and staff
18 collects it and shares it with the committee.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, probably the best
20 course is to go ahead and forward it to Director Ceja and
21 then he can at that point determine if it's something for
22 the subcommittee or if it's something that he can fix.
23 Okay.

24 All right. 9I is Data Management. Commissioners
25 Ahmad and Commissioner Turner.

1 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Just wanted to
2 give an update, and we basically -- our main point today
3 was to do the presentation that's already taken place, but
4 from the session that we had earlier there was a question
5 that came up from I believe Commissioner Andersen in
6 regards to bulk uploads, and Phil was already able to check
7 that question of being able to do batch updates, and he
8 says that will be an easy add on that will be provided
9 through and upgrade to our Airtable.

10 And, so, right now I think we're still using the
11 free version, Alvaro, and with that next level that we knew
12 we were going to have to get anyway, we certainly will be
13 able to do the batch updates as was discussed earlier
14 today.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Commissioner Sinay.
16 Thumbs up by Commissioner Andersen. Great. Commissioner
17 Sinay.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: It was a great presentation.
19 I'm really excited.

20 You had asked us to give -- to look through the
21 tags and give any updates. Could you maybe email what tabs
22 are there and what the purpose of the tags are, because I
23 was like, wait, I'm not sure, just so that we can all be
24 clear.

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I will. The purpose

1 of the tags is just for searchability. So, if you're
2 looking for something that is having to do with
3 agriculture, I think we exemplified this earlier, waterways,
4 even looking for something for, you know, rural town. So,
5 it's that kind of generalized, so not really specific, but
6 enough that would allow us to be able to search through the
7 data and be able to print out ad hoc reports that will help
8 us find what's been submitted.

9 So, yes, I will send out to Alvaro the tags, and
10 then if you'd send that through to the commissioners we can
11 then see what your add-ons are.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. And again, I want to
14 echo, that was a wonderful presentation this morning, so
15 thank you so much for setting that up.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: You're welcome.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: 9J is Grants, and there's been
18 a request to discuss this tomorrow because they are still
19 gathering some more information, so we'll discuss that
20 tomorrow.

21 9K is Communities of Interest Tool.
22 Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So, I'm not seeing
24 Commissioner Akutagawa with us right now.

25 We received a report from Statewide Database last

1 week. We may receive another one tomorrow, but as of last
2 week there were 237 registered users, 188 in communities of
3 interest submissions in total, and none of the new
4 submissions were in non-English languages.

5 We received a query from one of the commissioners
6 about updating the video, and I received a response from
7 Statewide Database that they are updating the how to videos
8 and have recently sent the scripts out to be translated
9 into all of the languages in which the tool is provided.
10 So, that is well underway and we hope to have that up soon.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: That's great. And, again,
12 anyone that's listening, tell your friend, tell your
13 neighbor, tell everyone to please go into the communities
14 of interest tool and update your community of interest
15 information.

16 What was the term you had, Director Ceja? It was
17 skip the line and submit on line. I like that. I'm going
18 to make a shirt out of it, so, it will be good.

19 Any other questions for the COI tool?
20 Commissioner Sadhwani.

21 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: This isn't a question,
22 and we can certainly also -- Commissioner Andersen can also
23 certainly give this during the Line Drawers Subcommittee
24 update. But in those conversations one of the things that
25 we have discussed as a possibility, and I'd like to just

1 raise it here and get other folks' thoughts on it. Given
2 that we have now nearly 200 -- I didn't realize there was
3 that many - submissions. Was that it, 189?

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: One-eighty.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, 180.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Oh, 180.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Sorry, 188. It was 180.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay, almost 200. You
9 know, one of the ideas that we've had and I just wanted to
10 share with everybody is maybe we take a couple of hours in
11 one of our upcoming meetings to just really go through
12 those submissions and make sure that we are all aware of
13 the submissions that have come in and make sure that
14 they're given equal weight as everything else.

15 So, just wanted to float that idea. We can talk
16 about it more in that subcommittee report, but, you know, I
17 think I've heard many conversations about, you know, just a
18 concern that we don't yet have a process of how exactly
19 we're handling them, and so just wanted to raise it. And I
20 have -- I see Commissioner Turner's hand raised. So maybe
21 others are also thinking the same thing, you know, and
22 however we can best coordinate that.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yeah. That sounds like a great
24 idea. Commissioner Turner.

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I was going to

1 agree. I absolutely love that as an idea, and as we're
2 thinking through tags, if we're going through the 188
3 current submissions that we have, can kind of test what we
4 think are the current tags, not that they will be all
5 inclusive of everything that we'll get, but certainly it
6 will be a good start to see tags that may pop out right
7 away that we should have. And, so, I think we can do that
8 probably even before we submit our final tags for the
9 initial program.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. And I guess a quick
11 question, Commissioners Sadhwani and Andersen. How quickly
12 do you think that we would be able to have something like
13 that? Because I'm thinking on Tuesday we have a
14 placeholder meeting, so if they were able to do that, would
15 that be too soon?

16 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think this is
17 definitely something we should discuss as a Commission,
18 you know, in terms of -- I guess do we want to have
19 Airtable kind of set up and running and figure out like
20 what that integration is between the two before we do that
21 session? Maybe, maybe not. You know, I'm not sure.

22 Certainly we could take the time on Tuesday to
23 just look at them all. Do we want to have that sort of
24 married with the data management and kind of as we are
25 working out that data management process? I'm not sure.

1 So, you know, open to other thoughts on that for
2 sure.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yeah. And the only reason I
4 mentioned Tuesday instead of further down the road is if we
5 do have -- if we do want to add tags, we don't have as many
6 inputs at that point versus, you know, if we wait another
7 month, then somebody may have to go back and try to
8 backfill the tag information. So, that's the only comment
9 I had on that.

10 Commissioner Andersen, and then Commissioner
11 Turner, and then Commissioner Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I was just going to
13 say there's several things we're talking about the line
14 drawer I'd kind of like to do at the line drawing because
15 there's a couple of things, but I noticed Commissioner
16 Turner, because I was going to refer to the Airtable, and
17 Commissioner Turner might be trying to say something about
18 that, so I'd rather defer to her, if that's okay.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Commissioner Turner.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. What I wanted
21 to say about the Airtable is to remember the information we
22 just received. So even if we are later going through much
23 greater quantities of COI input and we determine there's a
24 new tag that needs to be added on, we now know that we're
25 able to create that tag and then go through and do a search

1 for. I mean, as was indicated earlier, if it's
2 agriculture, we can search for anything that's farming, you
3 know, rural, you know, whatever else would be associated
4 with agriculture and create a bulk upload that will put
5 those tags on, and it can be a one-on-one kind of process.

6 The other thing I wanted to say is that I would
7 love for us to start to look at the data now. The
8 information that we've seen in Airtable was -- he showed
9 some fictitious data when it was smaller little bits and
10 pieces just to ensure that we weren't showing any personal
11 identifiable information. But beyond that, it's real
12 information, live information that's there now that we'll
13 be able to go through and take a look at.

14 So, I think the sooner the better. I think it's
15 good even for people that are viewing to start seeing and
16 hearing us discuss and talk about what's there, no so much
17 as are we going to draw the lines around it, but just the
18 fact that the data is there, and I think it will bring ease
19 to all of us from just getting used to receiving different
20 types of input and comments.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you.
22 Commissioner Sinay.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Pass.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Any other questions or comments
25 regarding community of interest tool? Okay.

1 We're going to move on to 9L, Cybersecurity.
2 Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor.

3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Nothing new to report.
4 Neal, nothing new?

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, nothing new,
6 although the conversation today about, you know, now that
7 we know that we have Airtable and the Amazon services
8 Cloud, you know, and there was some questions that came up
9 about backups and that kind of thing. Maybe Derric and I
10 need to get together and talk about that and how we might,
11 you know, better understand what's happening there and what
12 might be a good approach to ensure the integrity of our
13 data.

14 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, I'll agree with that,
15 but that was new information to us as it was happening.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. Okay. Any questions
18 for the subcommittee?

19 Okay. Moving right -- oh, Director Executive
20 Hernandez. You know, you kind of blend into the
21 background. I was going to say that.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I know. I should
23 have my dark blue jacket or something with the bright green
24 shirt that I have.

25 I just wanted to kind of uplift this issue of the

1 cybersecurity beyond just this particular product as we are
2 looking at other products. It is a major consideration. I
3 want to make sure that we have conversations. So, I'll be
4 sharing with you some additional information on some
5 research I'm doing for queueing systems and other systems
6 that we're looking at. So, just wanted to let you know
7 that's coming your way.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you for the
9 reminder on that. Commissioner Andersen.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just tagging on to what
11 we learned this morning, could you -- the Cybersecurity
12 could also look into the backup, you know, that was
13 mentioned.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Of the Airtable?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Of the Airtable, yeah.
16 All the data, right.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yeah, true.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Commissioner
20 Andersen. Anyone else?

21 Okay. We're moving right along to 9M,
22 Incarcerated Populations, State and Local Facilities.
23 Commissioner Sinay and myself.

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No update at this time.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. We're moving on to N,

1 Incarcerated Populations, Federal Facilities.

2 Commissioners Kennedy and Turner.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Turner and I
4 have agreed on a draft of the letter to Senator Padilla, so
5 I just wanted to check. Is that -- should I forward that
6 to Director Hernandez and he will take care of getting
7 signatures on it? Is that where we are on this?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: It includes the signature on
9 it. Is that signed on behalf of both of you or is it the
10 Chair?

11 COMMISSIONER TURNER: It would either be both of
12 us, the Chair, or all commissioners. What's the desire I
13 guess of this Commission?

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: You know what, I think we have
15 a policy on that, and I'm thinking that Commissioner
16 Fornaciari is going to have to remind me what our policy
17 is.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We do have a policy on
19 that, and I -- if we had an old-time projector, I guess I'd
20 be running that, too.

21 Anyway, the Chair signs it.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, I guess the best
23 route would be to Executive Director Alvaro, then he could
24 forward it to me. Thank you.

25 Any other questions? Okay.

1 90 is Lessons Learned. That's Commissioners
2 Ahmad and Kennedy.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Our standard refrain.
4 Please keep the lessons learned coming. I have a section
5 in my notebook that grows pretty much every week, so, keep
6 them coming.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Item 9P is Outreach
8 Director Recruitment. That has been sunsetted since we
9 already have our outreach director equipment -- we already
10 have our outreach director, period.

11 Then Q, 9Q, is Chief Counsel Recruitment. I
12 believe we're going to sunset that as well. Commissioners
13 Andersen and Toledo did a wonderful job, and we're excited
14 to have our chief counsel start on Tuesday legally.

15 Okay. And 9R is IT Recruitment, Commissioners
16 Andersen and Fornaciari.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We don't have anything
18 new to update.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. And Outreach Director
20 Kaplan, are we ready to go back to Finance and
21 Administration? Are we good?

22 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Sorry, yes we are.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, we'll start.

24 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, Finance and Administration.

1 That's Commissioners Fernandez and Fornaciari.

2 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Are you waiting for
3 me?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No, no. We're going to
5 -- we'll -- yeah. So, the recruit -- the only thing we
6 have to report out is the recruitment or the identification
7 of our candidates, one for the outreach manager position
8 and --

9 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Outreach coordinator.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Outreach coordinator,
11 sorry, and then three for the field leads; is that correct?

12 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And, so, we thought it
14 would be more effective to have Marcy just -- Director
15 Kaplan describe the jobs and the candidates that they
16 selected for you, then to have Alicia and I try to do it,
17 so turn it over to Director Kaplan.

18 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay. Thank you so
19 much. And just again, want to emphasize how much I really
20 enjoyed this process and really excited to bring on an
21 amazing team of folks.

22 So, we'll start with the outreach coordinator
23 position. This position will assist the director of
24 outreach and outreach manager with scheduling and planning
25 the Commission's public outreach and engagement activities,

1 including virtual education meetings, as well as working on
2 scheduling planning of public input meetings virtually and
3 as we pivot potentially in person.

4 The position will also oversee the work of four
5 field leads, providing guidance and direction to our
6 outreach activities and overseeing and identifying gaps in
7 outreach across the state.

8 The candidate that we are recommending is
9 currently managing her own community relations firm in the
10 L.A. County region, working with nonprofits and businesses
11 to develop communication programs, outreach and strategic
12 planning for community projects related to equity and
13 social justice. She organizes and facilitates group
14 discussions to address community issues and identify
15 solutions for providing equitable services for the
16 underserved. And she really throughout her interview
17 really focused on different ways that she did work together
18 with groups to identify solutions, which I thought was a
19 great skill set that she has.

20 She has also worked as a mayoral aide and
21 regional programs coordinator for the City of Los Angeles's
22 Mayors Office as public safety reductions, use development
23 program. She was a regional coordinator with the homeless
24 count for the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, and
25 was also a council aid and then promoted to a field deputy

1 for the City of Los Angeles's City Council District, and
2 worked as a litigation clerk for Caldwell, Leslie and
3 Proctor in the past.

4 She's a graduate of UCLA with degrees in history
5 and Chicano and Chicano studies. And I'm very confident
6 that her past experience working with stakeholders, the
7 links, the managing team and contracts will allow her to
8 flourish in the outreach coordinator role.

9 She's an excellent facilitator, and from the
10 examples she provided in her interviews I have no doubt
11 that she will succeed in this role.

12 So, I don't know if you want me to go through all
13 of the candidates or one by one.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, just go ahead.
15 You're switching jobs, right?

16 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah. So that was for
17 that outreach coordinator role.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah.

19 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: And then -- so keep
20 going? Okay.

21 And, so, now I'm also going to talk about the
22 field staff leads. We are currently recommending
23 candidates for the two southern California positions, one
24 that will be covering Los Angeles County and Orange County
25 and the other to cover San Diego, Imperial, San Bernardino

1 and Riverside Counties, as well as the Central Valley lead.

2 And under the direct supervision of the outreach
3 coordinator, the field staff central California leads and
4 the two southern California leads provide support for the
5 Commission's public outreach and engagement activities for
6 their assigned regions.

7 As a part of their role they will be working to
8 promote and distribute Commission materials and resources
9 to educate and activate Californians to participate in the
10 redistricting process, including promoting the COI tool,
11 public input meetings, how to participate, and other
12 opportunities to provide input to the Commission.

13 They will be working and coordinating on going
14 with each other as a team and the outreach coordinator to
15 share best practices and strategies for educating and
16 activating Californians to participate in the process. And
17 they'll also be working to assist the outreach coordinator
18 in scheduling, formulating and promoting opportunities for
19 virtual education presentations in their assigned outreach
20 zone, as well as supporting, and scheduling, and
21 participating in virtual public input hearings, providing
22 logistical support. And as these meetings may pivot to in-
23 person, they will play a critical role in helping to
24 identify venues and support with planning logistics for in-
25 person meetings, as well as really providing support on how

1 to provide access to participation in the redistricting
2 process, whether that's through technology needs, language
3 access, et cetera.

4 So, I do want to highlight the candidates that
5 we've recommended and why they're a good fit for the
6 position.

7 The first candidate for the field lead Los
8 Angeles comes to us after working as a communications
9 coordinator for the Office of Mayor Garcetti in the City of
10 Los Angeles for the Census, 2020 campaign. There she
11 conducted outreach to L.A. city departments, external
12 stakeholders and community members. She delivered
13 presentations and assisted with outreach events, and also
14 created their digital campaign, including social media
15 toolkits as video scripts and coordinated with our
16 translation and remediation.

17 And, so, even though we have our amazing Comm's
18 team, this is even an extra skill, you know, that she's
19 bringing to this role, as well as extensive work and
20 experience working in the L.A. region, she's also worked
21 for the L.A. County Department of Consumer and Business
22 Affairs and City of Los Angeles Council Members Parks
23 Office, the City of Los Angeles Office as the City Clerk,
24 Elections Division, and also the Workforce Investment
25 board.

1 And I mean for all these candidates the
2 references were glowing. Just the amount of work that she
3 has done and really, you know, experience in a fast-paced
4 environment, and really working in the public sector in
5 understanding that impartiality in serving communities.
6 And, so, I think she would be a great fit for the position.

7 She's also a graduate from USC with a degree in
8 journalism and sociology.

9 For the second southern California field lead
10 that will be covering the San Diego, Imperial, Riverside
11 and San Bernardino Counties we are recommending a candidate
12 who comes after working as a partnership specialist with
13 the U.S. Census Bureau. There he established partnership
14 agreements with local governments, small and medium sized
15 businesses and nonprofit organizations to develop and
16 implement strategies to eliminate barriers to the census in
17 hard-to-count communities and locations. He planned and
18 ensured public engagement activities were carried out,
19 resolved problems that came up, and determined the need to
20 reassess their outreach strategies.

21 He conducted presentations to various groups and
22 was instrumental in training census staff and maintain a
23 positive environment.

24 He's also worked as a civic engagement organizer
25 and human rights organizer for Alliance San Diego, and a

1 civic engagement coordinator for health centers.

2 He's a graduate of San Francisco State with a
3 degree in Asian/American studies. He also has extensive
4 experience through his census work of working with
5 Asian/American communities throughout the San Diego region,
6 and that was another great asset for this position.

7 And the third candidate that we are recommending
8 is for the field lead for the Central Valley, and this
9 candidate comes to us working as district representative
10 with the California State Assembly. There he monitored and
11 updated the Assembly member and District Director on local
12 issues and was the liaison to state, district and local
13 agencies and constituents.

14 He built relationships and engaged the local
15 community foundation's elected officials from county, city
16 and state government and others to do outreach and
17 collaborate. He's also worked as a parent engagement
18 coordinator for every neighborhood partnership, student
19 media coordinator for the office of spiritual formation at
20 Fresno Pacific University, and a union representative
21 organizer for the United Farm Workers of America, as well
22 as a researcher and principal investigator for the Center
23 for Collaborative Research for equitable California. And
24 he's a graduate from Fresno Pacific University with degrees
25 in political science and Spanish.

1 He has extensive experience in the Central
2 Valley, as well as with indigenous populations. And just
3 one key thing that, you know, came up in our interviews is
4 really his passion and dedication to the community in
5 working with diverse stakeholders in the region ranging
6 from the Hmong community, to the Sikh community, as well as
7 I mentioned his, you know, experience working with
8 indigenous populations and really highlighting them, for
9 instance, (indiscernible) competency in doing outreach.

10 So, as I mentioned to begin with, we were really
11 blown away with all of these candidates. I'm so excited
12 that they have extensive experience in their regions which
13 will be key for communities to engage and reach out to
14 across the region, and that's our recommendation.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Marcy. That was
16 very thorough. I, too, I did go through the resumes and
17 applications and was also very impressed and very excited
18 that we see some really high-quality candidates that can
19 probably step in and start working right away. So that was
20 very nice to do that.

21 Do we have any questions? I'd like to make a
22 motion that we move forward with the hiring of the four
23 positions, the outreach coordinator as well as the three
24 lead field staff. There's two southern and one central.

25 MR. TAYLOR: I'll second that.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Seconded by Commissioner
2 Taylor.

3 Are there any questions before we go to public
4 comment? Okay.

5 And I'm giving you time, Executive Director
6 Hernandez. And remember it's p.m., not a.m. Sorry.

7 Is Katy back, or is it still -- Katy is here.
8 Katy, can we go to public comment, and the specific item is
9 Item --

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Yee has a
11 question.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry. Commissioner
13 Yee.

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Are all these positions going
15 to be remote?

16 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: They are physically located in
18 those areas?

19 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. And the outreach
20 coordinator is located in Los Angeles County, and also has
21 extensive experience in that region.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Any other questions? Katy, can
23 you open it up for public comment related specifically to
24 the hiring of the four outreach positions, three lead and
25 one outreach coordinator?

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, chair, and is it
2 9P?

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: 9F -- oh, no, I'm sorry, 9B as
4 in Bob.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: B as in Bob, okay.
6 All right. In order to maximize transparency and public
7 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
8 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
9 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is
10 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting number
11 provided on the livestream feed, it is 93330293366 for this
12 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply
13 press the pound key.

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

17 When it is your turn to speak, you'll hear a
18 message that says, "The host would like you to talk, and to
19 press star six to speak."

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

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

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

4 And the commissioners are taking public comment
5 relating to item 9B and the hiring of four positions in
6 relation to the outreach -- outreach coordinator. I wanted
7 to make sure that was correct.

8 We do not have anyone in the queue with their
9 hand raised at this time, and I would like to remind
10 anybody calling in that star nine will raise your hand
11 indicating you wish to comment. And we still do not have
12 hands raised.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We don't have a quorum
15 -- we have a quorum; we don't have --

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: We don't have enough?

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We don't have enough
18 folks to do this vote.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Oh.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So, we may need to wait
21 until tomorrow.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. It was a really good
23 motion. We're going to hold onto the people.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We're missing Isra and
25 Commissioner Le Mons.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Le Mons, right.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: And Linda. That's three.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And Pedro. Okay. We are going
4 to take this up tomorrow probably. But thank you for the
5 information, Marcy. We'll start with it tomorrow. Let me
6 highlight it so I don't forget to discuss in tomorrow.

7 Okay. So, we're going to move on to Agenda Item
8 Number 10, and thank, Commissioner Fornaciari for pointing
9 that out.

10 We're going to move on to Agenda Item 10, which
11 is Legal Affairs Committee update with Commissioners Yee,
12 Toledo and Sadhwani.

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: We don't have much to
14 update. We are preparing, I think, for a relatively short
15 meeting next week on the 18th. Largely we're just kind of
16 in a holding pattern until our chief counsel as well as our
17 new VRA counsel is on board. And I anticipate that once,
18 particularly for VRA counsel, is on board that we would be
19 developing a strategy of how we're going to, you know,
20 embark on the VRA work, including the RPV analysis,
21 assessment of data that we have thus far in terms of where
22 historically excluded populations that are covered by the
23 VRA would be. So, we'll be talking more about that next
24 week in our meeting.

25 I don't know if Commissioner Yee or Commissioner

1 Toledo, if he's here, have anything more to add. That's
2 it. That's as far as I can go. Commissioner Yee.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: I have nothing more, unless
4 there's any update on the litigation counsel contracts.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You know, Commissioner
6 Toledo has been working on that. I think he -- I'm not
7 sure if he's -- are you there, Pedro.

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Can you hear me?

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, perfect, yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Sorry about that. I've
11 been having audio issues.

12 In terms of the contracts, the contracts have
13 been moving forward. They've been forwarded onto the state
14 agency that is going to review them and hopefully approve
15 them for the VRA counsel.

16 We are still working on the litigation counsel
17 contract and getting information from the two firms as we
18 move forward. And we hopefully will be able to bring those
19 contracts to the committee meeting on the 18th for review,
20 and hopefully approval later this month at the full
21 Commission.

22 So, that's the timeline that we're on right now.

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thanks.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Any questions? Commissioner
25 Sinay.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: We kind of set the calendar
2 for the summer, and I just wanted to make sure, do we need
3 any extra dates or meetings for VRA, or does that fold into
4 our business meeting? How are doing that work?

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's a great question.
6 You know, certainly, that has been something we've just
7 kind of pondered about, and certainly I think it might be
8 appropriate for the full Commission to discuss, you know,
9 whether or not the VRA work you want that to live in the
10 Legal Affairs Committee and the VRA subcommittee in the
11 full Commission. I think a lot of it will also be done by
12 our attorneys, so, you know, I look to you all for
13 guidance, and I think that's worth a discussion of how we
14 want to advance this work. And, I mean, there's pros and
15 cons to both, of course. Certainly with holding it in the
16 Legal Affairs Committee, you know, everything then will
17 have to be agendized as appropriately in the subcommittee.

18 One of the things that we've come to learn is, of
19 course, with only three members on the Legal Affairs
20 Committee two commissioners could not have a conversation
21 with anyone, right, which is why Commissioner Toledo is
22 advancing the contracts on his own. And there's pros and
23 cons to that. So, you know, certainly open to whatever the
24 full Commission would want to see happen, since these are
25 simply advisory committees.

1 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank God.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: You kind of like threw me off a
3 little bit, Commissioner Toledo. Where's that voice coming
4 from?

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Sorry about that. What I
6 would add to that is that we have been -- we hope to have a
7 strategic planning session around VRA, and I think once we
8 have that session, it will be a full session with all of
9 us. But once we have that full session and we understand
10 the strategy that we're going to undertake for VRA, that
11 will determine -- that will hopefully determine how many
12 meetings we'll need and what type of staffing we'll need.
13 I mean, it will help us in any regard thinking about legal
14 staffing, thinking about our -- what our counsel is going
15 to be responsible for, what the committees will be, which
16 committees and who are best able to support our counsel and
17 our litigation firms in getting us the information that we
18 need to make decisions. And, so, I do think that that's a
19 priority. That's why we moved the VRA counsel first, to
20 try to get that resource in, and luckily, now that our
21 chief counsel is starting on the 18th, that could be
22 probably one of our top discussion items where the 18th is
23 really thinking about bringing in our VRA counsel as
24 quickly as possible to have that strategy session and have
25 a -- we'll probably even do a training session first and

1 then a strategy session after, one of the two. But
2 beginning the process of developing that session, which
3 will be both training and strategy for the Commission, and
4 like remodeled after the session that we had with the line
5 drawers that was so effective on the Saturday where we just
6 -- that was the only issue we tackled, and we go some
7 training, we went through some exercises and then -- and
8 also developed -- got enough information to think about it
9 strategically. And I think it helped us in terms of just
10 moving forward in our strategy.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. I have Commissioner
12 Fornaciari and then Commissioner Sinay.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I guess -- I remember
14 my question now. You were -- I watched one of your last
15 meetings and there was some discussion about maybe
16 expanding the committee a bit. Is that still something you
17 all would like to see happen, or ---

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. We haven't
19 discussed it. We don't meet outside of open sessions. We
20 haven't discussed it beyond that discussion.

21 You know, I think one of the issues is that if --
22 because there's only three people, two commissioners
23 constitute a quorum, so it's very difficult to have any
24 conversations outside of public session, so we don't. So,
25 things don't advance at all really, which I think one

1 possible solution to that could be adding additional
2 members to that committee. You know, I think a lot of it
3 kind of depends on -- we took on the Legal Affairs
4 Committee for a couple reasons, in large part as a
5 recommendation from the 2010 Commission. That was how they
6 operated.

7 I think as we pull in this new legal team, I
8 think there's a lot of wait and sees to see how things will
9 function, what their recommendations may be. I don't have
10 any strong preference one way or another.

11 I don't know. Commissioner Yee or Toledo, if you
12 have any thoughts on that.

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah, that's right, and, you
14 know, I think Legal Affairs Committee, I mean, once the VRA
15 counsel and litigation counsel are in place and up until,
16 you know, anybody sues us, you know, we may not have a lot
17 to do in the meantime until the maps are out and get
18 challenged. So, you know, there will be some strategizing
19 about how to position ourselves well, you know, along the
20 way. But it's not clear what more we'll be doing between
21 now and when the maps are done.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I guess you had said that
24 there was positives and negatives about doing the VRA work
25 with the Legal Subcommittee or the whole Commission. And

1 that caught me off guard. I just thought the whole
2 Commission would be involved in that work since it's such
3 an important part of the maps. So, maybe I'm not
4 understanding.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: No, I meant in terms of
6 the Legal Affairs Committee versus individual
7 subcommittees.

8 So, for example, right, like the negotiating of
9 contracts. You know, our subcommittees we try our best to
10 have two people of different partisan affiliations, right.
11 But because we're a three-member committee, and if we had
12 two people from that committee working on something, it
13 would constitute a quorum, then it's left in the hands of
14 one commissioner. I don't have a problem with that
15 personally, but, you know, I don't know if we all do. It's
16 just some of those things I think we should think about
17 moving forward.

18 At this point in time it's not clear to me what
19 the -- you know, how much the Legal Affairs Committee has
20 on its plate moving forward versus the individual
21 subcommittees. I think, you know, it formed out of the VRA
22 subcommittee for the purpose of hiring litigation counsel.
23 We are in the process of doing that, right. We've approved
24 the firms that we selected. So, I think it's a question of
25 what continues to be within the portfolio, if you will, of

1 that subcommittee.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Sorry, go ahead, Commissioner
3 Yee.

4 COMMISSIONER YEE: Commissioner Sinay, you're
5 asking about the VRA work, like who besides looking at maps
6 and start developing proposals and options and so forth,
7 working with the VRA counsel. I mean, of course that would
8 eventually come to full Commission for sure, any actual
9 decisions, you know, line drawing obviously.

10 The question is whether that homework, the
11 background work, is done with the VRA subcommittee working
12 with VRA counsel or whether -- and maybe the line drawers
13 and so forth, or whether that would be the Legal Affairs
14 Committee doing that, and that's something we haven't
15 decided.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo.

17 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: In terms of what I've seen,
18 how I see our work moving forward is advising and being
19 support for our chief counsel. I think the chief counsel
20 will want to have a corps group of individuals who work
21 with the litigation firm, who work with the VRA firm and be
22 able to deal with issues of, yes, we'll have to notice the
23 meetings and such. But they'd be able to work through some
24 of these issues in a way that we can delve into them a
25 little bit more deeply than the full Commission might be

1 able to at one of our meetings.

2 And, so, I do anticipate that there will be --
3 and maybe once he's on board, he can help us think through
4 these issues of how best he can support us in achieving our
5 legal goals around VRA and around litigation. But I do
6 anticipate he'll need to have some level of support from
7 us.

8 And when it comes to negotiating contracts and
9 such, things like that, the reason that the Commission is
10 doing that is because we don't have a chief counsel.
11 Normally we delegate that to staff. And, so, we're working
12 -- and, of course, I'm working very closely with staff, and
13 staff is actually doing most of the work. And, so, it's
14 just convening meetings and attending them.

15 But I think moving forward it will be helpful to
16 I think for the chief counsel and for our legal staff to be
17 able to have a committee that oversees their work and
18 supports that work.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. And I do want to --
20 that's kind of how I see the role. Commissioner Fornaciari
21 and myself, we are the Finance and Administration so we
22 kind of oversee the budget and the personnel, and that's
23 kind of how I saw the Legal Affairs Committee taking on
24 that different role on whether or not it's three versus
25 two, because if it's three you have to notice the meetings

1 14 days in advance, especially as we move forward and we
2 may not have 14 days in advance. So, that's something to
3 think about.

4 Any other questions or comments? But I do
5 believe it's a good idea to wait until we have the chief
6 counsel. They should have an idea of how they want to
7 handle it, how best -- you know, the chief counsel can work
8 with our Executive Director Hernandez and maybe come up
9 with a strategy.

10 Any other questions? Okay. Was that it for the
11 Legal Affairs? Okay, thank you.

12 Agenda Item 11 is probably going to take a little
13 bit of time, so I'm going to skip over it and go with
14 Agenda Item 12, Line Drawer Updates.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, because it isn't
16 going to be as long as 11.

17 So, just really quickly, jump in with the idea of
18 let's look at the COI tool information. The line drawers,
19 first of all, are coming up with tags that they know
20 they'll need, and we're working with them to forward on to
21 data management.

22 And they're also working on a pin map, which
23 we've seen just briefly today in our meeting, and that's
24 going to be brought forward to have a look at as it's
25 working right now. It's quite exciting and it will be easy

1 to put onto the website so we'll be able to see where the
2 COI's are, and it's actually going to have more detail in
3 it.

4 So, like say if someone actually wants to click
5 on, oh, I think that's me, you know, it's kind of like
6 almost like Google maps. It is actually on Google map.
7 So, they can actually see and they can get information on
8 it. So, that would be very lovely.

9 And then the idea is to let's have a look at the
10 COI data with the Airtable data and see, you know, what is
11 this so we can kind of understand, because the idea is to
12 look at what we'll be looking at roughly. We actually try
13 to use it for line drawer, but this is not line drawing.
14 This is just looking at the COI's that we have to go, oh,
15 so this is what we have here. And it's going to be sort of
16 rough, but as Commissioner Turner was saying, it will give
17 us a really good idea of things that we'll go, oh boy,
18 looking through this we need that key or this key. And,
19 so, it's just a -- and that's something that it's just
20 being tossed around right now.

21 But as we have a little bit more of a concrete
22 idea, the data management, as necessary, is working
23 directly with the line drawer, consult the consultant to
24 make sure they're talking the same language. And as such,
25 we're getting a bit more -- you know, what really would be

1 viable, what would be a good thing to work to bring to the
2 Commission. So, that's what's ongoing.

3 Sara, did I miss anything there?

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Well, yeah, just to kind
5 of clarify a little bit. So, we had talked with the line
6 drawers about the possibility, and really as recommendation
7 three different kinds of meetings over the next -- some of
8 which might happen relatively soon and some ongoing.

9 As mentioned before during the COI tool update,
10 having a time, whether that's next week on the 18th or at
11 another point in time, of actually just all of us sitting
12 down and reviewing these submissions that have come in.
13 So, that's one type.

14 A second one, and I believe this was mentioned
15 yesterday in the Input Design meeting, was a dry run of the
16 process for the input meeting, so that we had discussed a
17 little bit as well.

18 And then the third one, I think that Commissioner
19 Andersen is talking about is like a debrief session. So,
20 we anticipate, you know, July, August, September, we are
21 booked with input meetings, and we can anticipate that
22 those are going to be long days in which we're receiving a
23 whole lot of information.

24 And so, one of the ideas we've discussed is
25 building in some time, and it could be in the business

1 meetings that we've already calendared, but building in a
2 couple hours where commissioners can just debrief, right,
3 so that we can say, okay, hey we did this input meeting in
4 Zone B, I don't know, and here are some of the key
5 takeaways, right, because the key takeaways that I might
6 have had from sitting through eight hours of meetings might
7 be different from what, you know, Commissioner Yee had, or
8 Commissioner Fornaciari, or anybody else, right. And so,
9 having a little bit of time built in for us to discuss that
10 along the way.

11 So, maybe we do two per month, or one per month,
12 or whatever, we can figure that out. But just having some
13 time so that we can process this information, and also to
14 make sure that we're really receiving not just the
15 testimony that's given during the sessions, but also those
16 COI maps, also written testimony, whether that's coming in
17 and it's being input through Airtable, or the COI tool, or
18 emails that are coming in, that we have a little space in
19 our agenda throughout the summer to just take a breath and
20 process everything that we're receiving, so that when we
21 sit down to actually draw the maps, we're not trying to
22 process 50,000 submissions at that point in time.

23 The reason this kind of came forth was Karin had
24 shared with us she had found some old notes that she had --
25 you know, that they had used in 2010, and she remembered

1 that there had been a note taker from her team who took
2 instruction from the Commission of what were some of the
3 key pieces as they were coming up. And so, the idea with
4 rather than to wait until we're at the line drawing stage
5 to do that, to be doing that along the way.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I would just also say,
7 particularly because, again, I keep going back to
8 Commissioner Turner, but I think she's the first one to
9 mention this, obviously with the data, but to make sure
10 that the public who is submitting things, not just through
11 the COI tool, but also through our website can actually see
12 that, oh, it's there. And if we can actually, you know,
13 show them, hey, this is what we're getting, and not just,
14 as Commissioner Sadhwani was saying, not just the input
15 session, but all the things that have already come in. And
16 this is, you know, again, what's the -- you know, skip the
17 line, you know, input on line, to really emphasize that and
18 that we see it all and see us actually working through it
19 because it really gives a good idea to go through that
20 information as well. So, that's the idea behind this. I
21 think that's it, right.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Any questions on this?
23 Commissioner Fornaciari.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I really like
25 that idea of just periodically kind of reviewing where

1 we're at. I think it's a great suggestion.

2 And Karin also suggested, you know, the way we
3 schedule the input meetings is like ending mid-September,
4 and yesterday at the Input Design meeting Karin also
5 suggested maybe taking a couple of meeting days and just
6 kind of reviewing, again, reviewing all of the input that
7 we got through the COI tool, whatever input that we've got,
8 is just take some time in those two weeks before we
9 actually get the census data to review as a group all the
10 public input so that we've got it fresh in our mind as we
11 go into those line drawing meetings.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, and I might just
13 say, that's like -- the touching on it beforehand like when
14 it's kind of fresh and any of the material that we actually
15 haven't seen, that really gone over as we go, so then that
16 is really a review as opposed to, whoa, that's the first
17 time I've seen all this information.

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a reminder that it will
20 be a review plus we will have new information because
21 people can give input, yeah, throughout, so we are going to
22 have to, you know, keep our minds open throughout the whole
23 time because we might get some changes. Not changes, but
24 we'll get additional input, so let's not close our -- you
25 know, it's not done until it's done.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I just want to say, if,
3 in general, we're feeling like this is the good idea,
4 something that we want to do, I know, Chair Fernandez, you
5 were taking the lead in our calendaring for summer. I
6 don't know if you wanted to start thinking about like where
7 we could plug some of these in, or if you want us to do it,
8 or, you know, however. I don't want it to slip through the
9 cracks, so if we want to do it I think we should, you know,
10 start plugging that in some time.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And I did -- if we look at the
12 calendar, what I did plug in some dates in terms of in
13 case. So, as you were talking I was thinking, well, we can
14 use those four-hour blocks, like every few weeks. And I
15 can take a look later to see if maybe we can add a few
16 more, but yeah, definitely.

17 And purposely we did end all the input towards
18 the beginning of September knowing that, you know, the
19 census date would be delivered soon, giving us time to kind
20 of step back and determine how we're going to move forward.
21 I will take a look.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And I'll be happy to help
23 you on that one because it's definitely -- the line drawers
24 have certain considerations that they're thinking as well.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'll appreciate the

1 help. Any other questions? Executive Director Hernandez.
2 Maybe we should move the flag behind you or something.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, I'm watching
4 myself as I'm blending in, so kind of stand out a little
5 bit.

6 I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank
7 the line drawers. They've been very supportive. They've
8 been very involved and providing tremendous amount of input
9 on the process, how it was done previously, and looking at
10 possible solutions.

11 So, I wanted to take this opportunity to share
12 that with you all because I've worked with them not just
13 with the Line Drawer Subcommittee, but also with the Data
14 Management Subcommittee, and also yesterday in the Public
15 Input Design meeting, and their input has been tremendous
16 in helping us, you know, look at what we need to have in
17 place and how we're going to do it, so I just wanted to
18 throw that shot out to them. Thank you.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Any other comments,
20 discussions?

21 Okay, we're going to move on. Agenda Item Number
22 13. Commissioner Turner, do you have anything else for the
23 Data Management? We did have the wonderful demonstration
24 this morning, but did you have something else to add to
25 that?

1 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I do not. That completes
2 it. Thank you.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, now I'm going to ask
4 for Commissioner Fornaciari. So, we have Agenda Item 11,
5 and we're also going to -- Agenda Item 9F, which is
6 language Access, we're going to kind of talk about that.

7 Oh, my partner is back, fellow Commissioner
8 Akutagawa. But, Commissioner Ahmad won't be back until
9 tomorrow, so -- and it probably will be a lengthy
10 discussion, so I'm wondering, do we move it to tomorrow, or
11 do we take a break now and then start fresh, like an hour-
12 and-a-half? Because tomorrow, so just so everybody is
13 aware of what's on schedule for tomorrow, is 9A, which is
14 the Government Affairs Subcommittee, as well as the 9J,
15 which is Grants. And then we also have the Labor Panel
16 presentation which is number 14. So, those are the three
17 items we have. And I was thinking we could move this to
18 tomorrow, the Public Input Design Committee/Language
19 Access, so I'm looking to both Commissioners Akutagawa and
20 Fornaciari in terms of do we move forward or wait?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I mean, I'd like to
22 have Commissioner Ahmad here, if that's possible. I mean
23 if we have time and can do that.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I think so. And because we
25 won't -- we've already come up with a schedule so we won't

1 necessarily have Agenda Item 16 to discuss, other than
2 continue to submit items for -- if you want them to be on
3 the agenda in the future, so please do that.

4 Is there anything else? Is anyone opposed to
5 adjourning early today? Oh, Commissioner Sinay is opposed
6 to adjourning early today. Commissioner Sinay.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm just concerned that we
8 have a lot for tomorrow, and we have time today, and so, I
9 just want us to be realistic about how much we can get done
10 tomorrow. It is, you know -- I would always rather adjourn
11 early on a Friday than Thursday.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioners Fornaciari and
13 Akutagawa. I'm fine either way. I do --

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No, I mean we can go.
15 That's fine.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Everybody else okay with
17 going or do they have a preference? Okay. How about going
18 forward, discussing today. Can we do a thumbs up? Okay.

19 So, let's do that, but let's take a break so that
20 we don't have to break in about 20 minutes. So, let's take
21 a break now and come back at 3:25, please.

22 (Off the record at 3:09 p.m.)

23 (On the record at 3:25 p.m.)

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you and welcome back,
25 everyone. We will be going to Agenda Item 11, which is

1 Public Input Design Committee, and that's Commissioners
2 Ahmad and Fornaciari, and almost consecutively we will also
3 discuss the Language Access recommendations, which are
4 associated with the Public Input Meetings.

5 So, I am going to hand it off to Commissioner
6 Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. So, the
8 committee met last evening. All the committee members were
9 present. The Line Drawing team joined us. The Outreach
10 and Communications team were also there, as well as
11 Director Hernandez.

12 I think we had a really good meeting with lots of
13 good conversation and discussion about the design of the
14 June 10th meeting. So, we focused on our first -- the
15 design of our first public input meeting intentionally. We
16 have another Public Input Design committee meeting
17 scheduled in between the first and the second one, and the
18 idea was let's focus on this first one, get an agreement on
19 what we want that to look like, but we'll have an
20 opportunity to make some adjustments, you know, as we go
21 along.

22 So, again, the recommendations are for the June
23 10th meeting. As I said, lots of conversation throughout.
24 The Line Drawing team was there and I think provided a lot
25 of good input, and experience, and thoughts about how we

1 might want to run the meeting and look at the meeting and
2 how things might go, what to expect, that kind of thing.

3 So, the recommendations that we came up with for
4 this first meeting is we would give each presenter three
5 minutes, and so that's three minutes for them to speak, you
6 know. There's time to shift between presenters and that
7 kind of thing. That doesn't count against them.

8 But we also recommend that there's a hard stop at
9 three minutes so that we ensure that we keep on schedule
10 and that everybody is treated equally.

11 The second recommendation that we came up with
12 was, you know, that we would hold this meeting. It would
13 be six hours of meeting time. That's six hours of time for
14 public input, so it would be kind of equivalent to the
15 length of the meetings that we're having now.

16 But based on some of the conversation that we've
17 had today and some of the thoughts we had, we didn't get to
18 designing the exact agenda, and we have another Public
19 Input Design meeting, you know, in a week or so.

20 We'll bring forward an agenda, a recommended
21 agenda and design, but we'll include the kind of the
22 thoughts about, you know, the training and some background.
23 You know, maybe Commissioner Kennedy's recommendation of
24 playing the video before the meeting starts kind of thing.
25 We'll think about that and then what sort of introductory

1 materials we want to have before we want to start taking
2 input.

3 The next recommendation is -- the next question
4 we looked at was do we want a sign-up appointment platform.
5 And uniform support for that idea. So, the CRC staff is
6 going to go back and look at some ideas for an appointment
7 platform and then we'll bring that to the full Commission,
8 what that looks like, in a couple of weeks.

9 So, those are the three recommendations that we
10 have at this point. As I mentioned before, we're going to
11 work the details of the agenda and then we'd also talked
12 about some informational materials, having some information
13 materials to have -- you know, for folks to read ahead of
14 time about, you know, what public input looks like and what
15 -- you know, what to expect when they're providing their
16 public input.

17 And then -- so I'm just going to stop there at
18 this point and see if there's comments, conversation,
19 thoughts.

20 Commissioner Kennedy.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, and I want to
22 thank the subcommittee for all the careful thought that
23 they're putting into this.

24 I think the one thing that I would like to see is
25 more time for public input. You know, no one promised us a

1 easy time of this. I think we need to just make this as
2 accessible to people and maximize the amount of input we
3 get. So, I would like to see a little bit more time for
4 public input.

5 I think the three minutes should be good. I
6 learned when I was facilitating 26 groups around the table
7 in Mexico City years ago that once I got them used to a
8 two-minute time slot they could say a whole lot in two
9 minutes if they knew that that's the time that they had.
10 So, I think three minutes is good. I would suggest maybe
11 flashing a yellow card at two minutes or two-and-a-half
12 minutes and then, you know, so give them some fair warning
13 that it's time to wrap up. I don't think that 15 seconds
14 was really enough time to wrap up, so I would say at either
15 two or two-and-a-half minutes flash a yellow card at them
16 to give them a good chance to finish up by three minutes.

17 So, thanks.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, I'm sorry. So,
19 I'm not sure I quite followed all of that, because you said
20 you support more time, but three minutes is adequate did
21 you say?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Three minutes per person.
23 I'm saying more time in terms of numbers of hours.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, okay, okay. I got
25 you. Okay.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa.

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Maybe a clarification
3 question for Commissioner Kennedy.

4 Are you also suggesting the possibility of adding
5 additional days to be able to also realize the additional
6 time that may be needed, or are you just really suggesting
7 just how long a meeting?

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'd be happy with both.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So, we do talk about,
10 you know, time a lot and what to expect, you know. One of
11 the -- you know, we talked a lot about the fact that folks
12 have the opportunity to provide input other ways that they
13 didn't have last time, that they can go to the COI tool,
14 that, you know, there's other avenues for input. And, so,
15 you know, part of this first meeting is for us to kind of
16 take a pulse. We were thinking kind of take a pulse of
17 what -- you know, how this is all going to go, how many
18 sign-ins we're going to have, how many folks are going to
19 be, you know, be getting engaged.

20 And, you know, anybody else on the committee,
21 feel free to chime in and share your observations and what
22 I'm missing here.

23 So, I think I saw Sara and then Alicia. I'm
24 sorry, Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner Fernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sara is fine. I just had

1 some logistical questions, and I think this also speaks a
2 little bit to, you know, just so many implications if we
3 were to go beyond six hours.

4 I'm wondering, what does it look like when --
5 considering we're at least going to begin in a virtual
6 environment, what does it look like when someone calls in?
7 We're not going to see them; is that correct? How will
8 that work from like the videography standpoint? Maybe we
9 don't have it all figured out yet. But if part -- so, I
10 certainly think not seeing people when they're calling in
11 is going to be really tough, you know, sitting for so many
12 hours and never seeing people's faces. I'm really
13 concerned about that, but certainly will do it.

14 But if we go -- I'm assuming also that in all of
15 this we have to still abide by a 15-minute break every 90
16 minutes of -- you know, a full hour break from all of those
17 things. And I'm also assuming there's going to be a cost
18 associated with going over a certain amount of time from a
19 videography standpoint, but also from a line drawer
20 standpoint. If I remember correctly, and I'm sure,
21 Commissioner Andersen, you might have this at the ready,
22 but I'm pretty sure the contract was structured in such way
23 that it builds in for so many meetings and then once we go
24 above and beyond that, there's an additional fee.

25 So, I'm all for, you know, being as available as

1 possible, but I think there's also some financial
2 considerations, and I just want to have a sense of some of
3 those logistics, and you may not have though that far
4 ahead, and that's totally fine, too.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We'll go with Jane
6 because I think she's got a response to that.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That is something that
8 the subcommittee did talk, indeed, about, and that's --
9 where it says we talking about like six hours for input,
10 that actually makes it a seven-and-a-half hour meeting,
11 because it does consider -- you know, there's the 15-minute
12 breaks, there's an hour lunch, or dinner, or however it
13 happens to be. Maybe that can be a bit shorter. But it
14 was considering is, okay, maximum video time. And, also,
15 one thing that did come up. Now, first of all, June 10th
16 is a statewide meeting, and the first two are statewide,
17 then they'll start going by region. And, so, the idea is
18 this is really specifically for this particular one, and
19 then, depending on what we learn, then it will get modified
20 as you go on. And it is virtual.

21 But one thing that was talked about the line
22 drawers -- I shouldn't bring that up -- is at the same time
23 there will be that line, you know, getting people to sign
24 up so they have a timeframe, but then it's, you know, skip
25 the line, you know, do this on line. You know, you can do

1 the COI tool. So, the idea being to make sure people
2 realize this is not the only way to get input. This is not
3 at all. And it doesn't have -- it isn't weighed any more.
4 It isn't, you know, more valuable or anything like that.
5 No, it isn't. And it's sort of really more tailored for
6 people who don't have -- they're talking about stuff that
7 doesn't have a geography with it, or something like that.

8 Also, what the line drawers are probably going to
9 be doing is what they would do, and to be organized and
10 such they would just be showing the general geography,
11 like, say, it's about Elk Grove. And then they'd be
12 zooming in on -- you'd see Elk Grove. But that would be
13 it. There's no actual drawing at the time. That would all
14 be taking information in because we're not using the COI
15 tool because it is very -- it takes a great deal of time.
16 This is actually to get the information, whether it be a
17 geographical location or not within the full state. But
18 those are a couple of other things I wanted to make sure
19 people realized. That's stuff we need to talk about.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Just one thing, Sara,
21 Commissioner -- that's what happens when you chair the more
22 informal meeting the night before, so, Commissioner
23 Sadhwani, one thing we did talk about is and asked staff to
24 look into is, you know, can we come up with a mechanism so
25 we can see -- see the folks. I'm not sure we will be able

1 to do that, you know, on the first meeting, but as we go
2 along it's certainly a high priority goal for us, is to be
3 able to see the people giving public input.

4 Did you want to reply, because I have Alicia and
5 Linda. Did you want to go?

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I was just -- that's
7 super helpful. My last point, actually, was just around
8 the appointment system. I'm just thinking of six-hour
9 meetings. I think my sense was from 2010 people were
10 showing up and then waiting their turn, like literally
11 waiting in line, and now if we're more structured in our
12 approach and we -- like for June 10th we know that that
13 meeting is from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.

14 I know, you know, as a working parent like I
15 wouldn't sign up for a 1:00 o'clock time, but I might want
16 a 5:00 o'clock time. I don't know that we're going to be
17 able to give those times to people like in time slots, but
18 just something to think about, like, you know, maybe there
19 are blocks that people can sign up for if we know when
20 those breaks are going to be scheduled out at, then people
21 can sign up in those blocks or something like that, just so
22 that the people can plan a little bit better.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We've got Commissioner
24 Fernandez and then Commissioner Akutagawa.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes. I'm just going to respond

1 quickly to Commissioner Sadhwani.

2 We did talk about actually having the specific
3 times that you would -- so that you wouldn't know and there
4 would hopefully be a number associated with it because you
5 might feel faster than, you know, than we thought, or it
6 might go slower. We don't know. So, that's something that
7 we're hoping we'll be able to do so, you know, similar to
8 when you signed up for the vaccine. You did your time slot
9 and that's when you went.

10 And in terms of seeing the faces, I have been in
11 Zoom meetings where they -- it was a school board, and they
12 could actually bring in the speakers from like the guest
13 area in when it was their turn. So, hopefully, it's
14 something that, yes, I would like to be able to see them as
15 well.

16 And Commissioner Ahmad had forwarded a piece that
17 showed -- there was actually like a countdown slot that was
18 on the screen so that everybody would see what the time is,
19 so hopefully, you know, that's something that we'll be able
20 to do because, again, that makes it fair. Everybody can
21 see that it's a three minute instead of, oops, I forgot to
22 start the time or something.

23 So, I think that was it, and just a reminder, of
24 course, that it's all virtual so if the time block isn't
25 available for the zone you are looking for but it's

1 available next week, sign up for that one because it's all
2 virtual. You can sign up for whatever meeting, as long as
3 there's a time block available.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Akutagawa,
5 then Commissioner Vasquez.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. So, I wanted
7 to build on the idea of the appointments. So, a couple of
8 things that we also want to say is, we're -- we like the
9 appointments because, of course, you know, Commissioner
10 Sadhwani, like you were saying, it would be helpful to know
11 like what time frame you would be talking and you don't
12 have people holding the line up for hours on end.

13 I think what it also helps us to also understand
14 is -- and this may also get to -- what I'm hearing is
15 concern from you and also a different kind of concern from
16 Commissioner Kennedy about if we know we have X number of
17 spots available in any given timeframe on, you know,
18 whichever given day, the people who want to give testimony
19 will know, at least generally, what time frame they're
20 going to be speaking.

21 But then what it also helps us to understand is
22 if all of the appointments get full, we've got choices to
23 make. Do we need to add more meetings? Do we need to
24 extend the meetings?

25 We also did talk at length about what happens if

1 somebody who, you know, calls into a meeting where they
2 don't have an appointment, are we going to turn them away.
3 No, that is not our intent. We would take them, but what
4 we would probably instruct them is that at a certain time,
5 call back at a certain time, so that then what we could do
6 at that point we'll know where we might have some open
7 slots because people didn't show up for their appointment.
8 Kind of like the vaccine right now, right. If there's an
9 open slot we'll try to get people in and/or maybe towards
10 the end of the timeframe of the public input what we'll do
11 is we'll say, okay, for anybody who did not have an
12 appointment that would like to make a, you know, give
13 public input, you know, at that point we'll queue them up
14 and then we'll just -- I mean if they're there up until
15 whatever stated time, we will take them even if it goes
16 beyond the, you know, I guess scheduled time because -- at
17 a certain time we can say, okay, this is the scheduled
18 time. This is our cutoff. So, let's just say, for
19 example, it's 8:00 o'clock. So at 8:00 o'clock if
20 everybody knows that's going to be the last time, but if we
21 still have people in the queue to give input, then we'll
22 keep getting input from them because they're already in the
23 queue. And so we'll keep doing that so that we can
24 accommodate everybody.

25 But as Commissioner Fernandez said, we also want

1 to do -- we want to emphasize two other, I think, important
2 points. One is anyone in California can give public input
3 through any of the means by which we have available, which
4 is the communities of interest tool, they could send an
5 email, they could send snail mail letter with a postage
6 stamp, and I'm sure the U.S. Postal Service would
7 appreciate it. They can -- so, I said the email, but, you
8 know, I believe that people, according to the redistricting
9 basics they can also call us, too, so they can give input
10 in that way as well, too.

11 So, the important point about that is that it
12 will have equal weight, whether you give it in person or
13 whether you do it through the mail, you do it through the
14 communities of interest tool, even if you call or email,
15 all of that input would have equal weight. So, we wanted
16 to say that.

17 The second point that we really want to
18 emphasize, too, is that even though we will have -- we will
19 say certain dates will be for certain zones, because we're
20 making an assumption right now that we will remain virtual,
21 anybody from anywhere in the state can come and give
22 testimony on a date and at a time that's convenient for
23 them. They don't have to limit themselves to their zone.
24 So, if you're in Zone A, you can go and you could join a
25 Zone, you know, G call and give testimony at that time.

1 And, in fact, our line drawers said that in 2010 there were
2 people that actually followed them around to every single
3 public input meeting that was held. And sometimes people
4 from different areas of the state actually gave input in
5 another area of the state. So, I think that there's been a
6 precedent for it, and we want to make it as accessible for
7 everybody as possible. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Vasquez,
9 then Turner.

10 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yes, thank you. In
11 thinking about our virtual meetings and virtual testimony,
12 my question is coming from my profession as a professional
13 advocate in my day job, in that in-person hearings often,
14 you know -- if I were a professional advocate in this
15 process, I would, you know, do my -- I would submit my COI
16 tool map on line, and then I'd print it out and bring it to
17 a hearing, say my piece out loud, give some sort of
18 narrative, and then want to be able to like gesture toward
19 my visual and then leave that visual behind. Then I'd
20 probably go and make some calls as well.

21 So, just trying to think through in terms of
22 being able to provide -- I guess I may have -- I probably
23 misstated this. We're going to actually be able to see
24 folks during the virtual hearings, or whether we've decided
25 if that's even possible.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We're looking into
2 that. That's the goal.

3 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Got it. Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We want to be able to
5 see people, but, you know, our staff is looking into it.

6 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Right, because that would
7 be in an ideal world my preference. I would -- if folks
8 want to be able to sort of hold up to the screen, hey, I
9 drew my map. I don't feel like mailing it because I don't
10 have stamps, but like, here, I drew my map. I'm going to
11 tell you why I think this map is important and be able to
12 show some visual I think would be important for the
13 narrative piece. So, just thinking through that.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So, if I could just
15 comment on that before -- go ahead, Commissioner Turner.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Because what I wanted to
17 comment on that as well. So if, indeed, someone submits
18 their COI on line, because I think what's done, the exact
19 same thing, Commissioner Vasquez, it's typically what we
20 do. And I'm really trying to think through a way to shift
21 how people that operate in a typical kind of activist mode,
22 kind of grass roots effort, think about this process a
23 little bit different. Because if someone submits through
24 the COI tool and if they then also give narrative around
25 why they submitted to the COI tool, we've got it. There is

1 not another thing that they need to do that would give that
2 more importance. But we know what the norm is and what
3 we're used to is to take that and now also show up in front
4 of what would be viewed an elected body or show up in front
5 of, you know, whatever our target would be. In this case,
6 showing up in front to the Commission.

7 This will be a tough one because it's a personal
8 preference. It makes people feel like they've been seen
9 and heard, and it really is a redundancy. And, so, on one
10 hand telling individuals not to come could sound like we
11 don't want to hear from them, with quite the opposite, we
12 want to make sure we hear from you, and we've developed a
13 tool whereby if you submit your drawing, if you submit
14 verbiage, just the words, the testimony, it will be
15 captured. We will look at it.

16 And, now, and in addition to that, if you still
17 choose to use the COI tool and then come to the Commission
18 and say here's my map, remember that we will be able to
19 access that as well, so we could show it both as you talk
20 about.

21 And one of the things that came up, and hopefully
22 we'll be able to share that on our upgrades to COI, how to
23 present your public comment is that one of the suggestions
24 I think that Karin made was I'm going to be talking to you
25 about Fresno. I'm going to be talking about naming the

1 area up front. That will get even the line drawers ready,
2 but, you know, I think there will be ways to tie that in.
3 I just want to for all of our community partners, again,
4 say I know we train people to show up and give the public
5 comment and the testimony.

6 This is a tough one for me because I know the
7 value that's in that, and we are saying and I am believing
8 what we're saying, that the information input will still
9 get the coverage, the attention, and the focus just like it
10 would if you took the time to come.

11 So, I want to just say that, number one, and then
12 I think I just was going to say before was already
13 commented, even when we said our many times, be it from
14 1:00 to 8:00 p.m., we do that kind of set expectation for
15 the public, kind of like exactly what we think we'd like to
16 do, but as Marian has told us and reminded us over and
17 over, if you're in the queue, regardless if it's 8:00
18 o'clock that we've set or 9:00, we will be listening to the
19 public comment. And so if that takes us to 10:00, or
20 11:00, or whatever that time period is, we're going to be
21 all engaged, leaned in ready to hear what those comments
22 are.

23 So, the queuing system, the appointment system,
24 has been official for Californians that want to have an
25 idea of when they'll be able to give their public

1 testimony. But again, if that is not used and someone just
2 dials into a meeting, then they know that they perhaps will
3 wait longer past all of the appointments, but if they're in
4 the queue, we're going to hear them as well. It just may
5 not be a real comfortable time for people to wait long
6 term.

7 And, again, we are hoping to have captions that
8 run along the bottom line that says anytime, at any point
9 you are no longer able to hold, please do if you hang up
10 submit on line to this tool, or perhaps on our website we
11 can even refer people to where the paper options will be
12 located in the area, just in case they don't have access to
13 go onto the tool.

14 So, I think those were -- let me check my notes
15 real quick. I think that's the main piece is that we won't
16 turn people away. We will try and be real strict with the
17 I think the recommendation I love about the three minutes,
18 and being disciplined in the three minutes so that we can
19 kind of be -- so that we can gauge the appointments better.
20 If we don't monitor that, it could seem like we're starting
21 to cut people off. I love the yellow card, or whatever the
22 message would be at perhaps two minutes, so that at three
23 it's like end of your time. And if we don't cut people
24 right at that point, then we will throw off our appointment
25 schedule. So, appointments are good, but they come with

1 them some requirements to be disciplined in other areas.

2 And, so, I think that overall it will benefit for
3 those that just really do want to call in as opposed to
4 utilize the tool.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Vasquez.

6 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: I appreciate that
7 perspective so much, Commissioner Turner, and I think you
8 are -- we come at this work, I think, from similar
9 orientations. I will just mean that I am still struggling
10 with -- I think attention we're going to struggle with. I
11 don't think there's a clean way to solve for this.

12 You know, whether we approach this as input as a
13 vote, so one and done, or whether you see input as a
14 dialogue, in which case it's an iterative process and
15 there's some back and forth. There is some necessary
16 redundancy to emphasize points that you find particularly
17 important.

18 And, so, I think we're going to have to make
19 space for both to be true at the same time, right. We're
20 going to have to hold the singular inputs as valuable, and
21 like just because someone didn't show up to reiterate the
22 points made in their COI tool map that their input is
23 valued, and considered, and weighed, and at the same time I
24 think is why we're humans doing this, and this is why we
25 don't have algorithms drawing a map because I'm sure

1 someone smart enough out there could design an algorithm to
2 weigh all the data inputs equally at once and create a map
3 that we as -- humans are drawing maps because this is a
4 dialogue, and so I do just want to like this is an art and
5 I would like to leave some space for the art to take place,
6 which is in the conversation in community, and that looks
7 data-wide like redundancy, but to me that's part of the
8 artmaking of drawing maps.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you for that, and
10 just to touch on the kind of question you had or sort of
11 inferred in your earlier comments, and Commissioner Turner
12 mentioned it, too. How do you point the idea that the
13 appointment systems would be what is your area and that the
14 line drawers could be prepared to pull up a general map of
15 the area that you're talking about? But if you've already
16 submitted a map through the COI tool, if you mailed us a
17 map through another mapping process, you hand drew a map
18 and we submitted, we could be able to potentially pull that
19 up if somebody already submitted a map.

20 Any other -- Commissioner Andersen, do you want
21 to go?

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I do just briefly.
23 This is a huge issue because I was used to you know, man,
24 you've got to get there. We've got to hear you. You've
25 got to get there. You've got to get there. And that's why

1 part of the idea is let's actually see -- so people can
2 see. We're reviewing all this material. We're not just so
3 -- you're getting actual discussion time about your COI,
4 which you're not going to get at the input. We're just
5 taking that in. Thank you.

6 And we'll be talking about it with that
7 debriefing time frame, and that's going to happen on a
8 regular basis. So, I think that's a -- the idea is -- and
9 we really are looking at this. Yeah, I submitted it but
10 you didn't look at it. You're not only paying attention if
11 I'm there in front of you. And the problem is if we're
12 trying to access as a number of people that we're touching
13 at this time, which is a much huger number, if you
14 submitted a COI and you come, that's time that someone else
15 doesn't get to, and that's where, you know, maybe we make
16 all these slots and no one shows up. Okay. I don't think
17 that's a new case.

18 You know, there is that two sides to the coin.
19 It's like, oh yeah, but we don't want to just hear -- well,
20 we'd love to hear from everybody. But if we're hearing
21 from the same person over, and over, and over, and over
22 again, you keep on wondering, well, who didn't get the time
23 slot. And so that's where -- but we have to show to the
24 public that we are taking your input and we're looking at
25 it. See, this is how we're looking at it. So they

1 understand that because otherwise no one is going to pay
2 attention to the COI tool or do any of that stuff, because
3 right now everyone thinks, just like they did last time,
4 the only thing that counts is if you stand in front of us.
5 And we have to fight that, because otherwise why do we have
6 the extra 4-1/2 months. It's not quite like that, but
7 that's an extreme point of it.

8 And I understand it's just that we're really,
9 really trying to get everybody -- now I understand everyone
10 is going to come once the census data is out there, and
11 they want to talk about variations and that stuff. They're
12 going to come ahead of us. But for the COI input really
13 believe us when we tell you, that COI tool goes directly in
14 and we're really going to look at it.

15 So, with all the other ways, and this is for this
16 COI part and put your information in there now is what I'm
17 -- I know that's a hard -- I think both Commissioner Turner
18 and Commissioner Vasquez have really eloquently put, but
19 we're so used to this, and yeah, I hear you say that, but
20 it doesn't (indiscernible), and it's -- I mean on a
21 personal level, not actually intellectual. But, I mean,
22 you still kind of think yeah, but, and there will be a lot
23 of people who believe that and we have to fight that
24 somehow or another, getting as much input as we possibly
25 can. Not that that helps, but --

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks. Works better
2 if I unmute myself. Commissioner Fernandez.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I know that's a difficult thing
4 to do, and I do agree with Commissioner Andersen. Maybe
5 it's something that right at the start of every meeting,
6 you know, maybe we just give some statistics in terms of,
7 hey, we've got, you know, 5,000. We've received 5,000 and
8 so many have been through the COI tool versus so many
9 public, and we can actually show it in a map. I mean I
10 think the visual. I was kind of envisioning if I have a
11 stem, what's it called (audio skips), and so, you know,
12 every once in a while they treat us like, hey, good job,
13 100. I don't know. Maybe we just do a shout out for a few
14 that have submitted a COI tool and say, hey, thank you for
15 submitting that information.

16 So, I don't know. I'm just trying to be a little
17 creative so that there's assurances that, again, equal
18 weight. If you submit it through the COI tool, or in
19 writing, or if you do it in a public input meeting, it's
20 still one. Regardless of how many times you submit it,
21 it's still one, and it has equal weight whichever way.

22 So, yeah, I'm just trying to think of creative
23 ways of just, you know, giving people the assurance that we
24 do have the information and we are reviewing it, and I
25 think it's wonderful when we talk about debriefing because

1 we're going to debrief both, all of the information that we
2 have, regardless of the avenue that we received it.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sounds like that's
4 making redistricting sexy. Commissioner Vasquez.

5 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yeah, I just -- I really
6 want to push back against this idea that we can like -- we
7 can do this agnostic to the emotions and like personal
8 narratives that come with drawing the maps. We're asking
9 people to tell them where power lies in their community,
10 and I just -- I think there's a real issue of equity at
11 play here in the sense that like I understand we don't want
12 to privilege certain data over others, privilege certain
13 types of communication over others. And at the same time,
14 not but, but and at the same time I feel like we have --
15 one, I think there's more time than we think we have, so I
16 also want to push back on this idea that like if you submit
17 a map and you get in line to come in and talk about your
18 map to us at a hearing, you're like pushing out somebody
19 else who's just going to come and talk about their map, and
20 so, they might not get a chance to input. I think we are
21 clearly building a process where you didn't -- if you
22 didn't mind, we're not going to have hundreds of people who
23 won't be able to testify and, therefore then, they have
24 been shut out of this process.

25 I think that's less of a concern than telling

1 folks, if you submit your maps, you're done. You can pack
2 it up and go home. Because, again, I think that there's a
3 necessary dialogue. If I submit my maps today and you
4 don't talk about my district until August, after all kinds
5 of other decisions have been made, I might want to say, you
6 know, hey, I've already submitted a map, but like you
7 really need to think about A, B, and C now that you're in
8 my area. You know, we have a public conversation again
9 about that area. It's a dialogue between community and the
10 Commission.

11 And, so, again, I really -- I want us -- I want
12 us to think about getting comfortable with that kind of
13 redundancy because it's conversation. It's part of the
14 conversation, and it's not just one and done.

15 Again, then I sort of come back to this. We
16 should just like feed all this data into an algorithm and
17 let them spit out maps for us and we can go home if we're
18 not going to be in conversation.

19 I think that's also why when everyone was sort of
20 talking about, you know, in our interviews and in our
21 applications, like we want to get out there and hear from
22 community. We want to hear from people. We weren't like I
23 really want to get in there and look at a spreadsheet.
24 But, I mean, maybe. I don't know. I guess I can get into
25 a spreadsheet. But like we want to hear the stories, and

1 so I feel like the public testimony is where all of us --
2 it comes alive for us and it comes alive for community.

3 Again, there are just going to be people who just
4 want to submit a map, and that helps, again, with volume,
5 but in terms of nuance, I think the only way we really get
6 nuance from these communities is by hearing them talk in
7 person about their community.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. I have
9 Akutagawa, then Toledo.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner
11 Vasquez. I guess -- I'll be honest. I was struggling with
12 what you were saying at the very beginning. What you just
13 said right now at the very end I think I do agree with you.
14 I mean, I think, you know, being able to hear stories is
15 going to be great.

16 I'm hoping that we'll be able to receive those
17 same stories in written form, and that I just want to
18 acknowledge that not everybody is a verbal person, and so
19 with that, their storytelling may not be as effective doing
20 so in a public setting, speaking, you know, to all 14 of us
21 as they may be, you know, for various reasons maybe, you
22 know, nervous, or they just don't feel like they could tell
23 this story as effectively as if they were to write in their
24 written testimony to us eloquently and beautifully maybe
25 tell a story, you know, through words.

1 So, I don't also want to discount those who
2 would be like that who would want to write their story and
3 tell us their story and that we would take the time and the
4 moment to really read and consider their stories as well
5 and to really imagine what them saying that to us, even
6 though we're reading it.

7 And I think for that reason I'm a little
8 concerned about, you know, saying that it's going to be a
9 dialogue, because my understanding is that we have to give
10 equal weight to everybody, that we can't keep going back
11 and forth with people as we're hearing them provide their
12 input because we do need to in all fairness to everybody
13 weight every piece of input with -- with -- with equal kind
14 of weight, and that we have to take it all in, and then
15 actually be given time when we're going to say, okay, we're
16 going to take apart to assess and analyze all of this input
17 that we received from the people of California. We're
18 going to draw our draft maps based on that input we see to
19 that point, and then we'll go back out to the communities
20 to ask what do you think about these maps and please now
21 give us a different set of feedback.

22 I'm just concerned about implying that we're
23 going to be in conversations and we're going to be kind of
24 almost making up our minds about where lines are going to
25 be drawn and other things are going to happen along the

1 way. So, I want to be really careful about maybe saying
2 that that's what be able to come in person would do. So, I
3 guess -- so I just wanted to share that, that that was just
4 the perspective that I heard.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Toledo.

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. I think that's a
7 good conversation, and I know we all want meaningful
8 engagement and communication with the community, and we
9 made that a priority, and we all genuinely believe that, I
10 believe. And, great, people communicate differently and I
11 think all we can do is that enforce however people
12 communicate to us, whether it's through the COI tool,
13 verbally, at the hearings, their voice is going to matter
14 to us. We're going to take it into consideration, and we
15 will be using it.

16 I don't think we are able to restrict, and I
17 don't think we want to restrict people's ability to
18 communicate with us, right. I don't think that's what
19 anyone is saying here. We want people to communicate to us
20 and we know that people's thinking evolves over time. I
21 think as people start hearing other folks communicating to
22 us, they may realize that they're part of multiple other
23 COIs. They might realize that their email -- they might
24 change their mind about what their community actually looks
25 like.

1 And I think that's what Commissioner Vasquez is
2 getting at. Once you start hearing other people, and I
3 think this is part of the learning process of what a
4 community of interest is, I mean, most of us -- most
5 members of the community don't understand what a community
6 of interest is, right. It's a legal term that has kind of
7 come out that is being used in this local process. And,
8 so, and I think once they start seeing others, their voices
9 will come out and then hopefully -- and that's what we
10 want. We want people to be engaged and involved,
11 especially those who have historically not been so and
12 aren't as sophisticated through this process, and that may
13 mean that people are going to communicate multiple times,
14 many times differently and then give us different opinions,
15 and we need to be able to figure out how to weigh that, and
16 I think that's part of the process. We'll have to figure
17 out how to look at that testimony, how to analyze it and
18 give it the value that it needs to be given. Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.
20 Commissioner Fernandez, I didn't know if you had raised
21 your hand.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I did have it raised, but
23 Commissioner Toledo just said everything. He said it
24 better, though.

25 Yeah, I mean we can't restrict people from

1 coming, and I think that's fine. Whatever makes you most
2 comfortable. I just think that we need to reassure
3 everyone that regardless of how you submit it, it's going
4 to be taken into account. And the communities of interest
5 tool, our paper tool, they will all have -- they'll have
6 space to draw a map, and you can also -- there's space for
7 a narrative as well. So, yeah, open to as much input as we
8 can get.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Commissioner
10 Andersen.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Just one quick thing I
12 realized. You know, on the COI tool you can always add or
13 modify your own COI tool as well. You may not realize
14 that, but no, that is assuming that you have either created
15 an account of you've written down your number. But then
16 you can go back in, verify that that is, indeed, you and
17 modify that.

18 And then the second is we are talking about right
19 now the COI input part. We're not talking about drawing
20 maps or anything like that. We're talking about making
21 sure we're collecting all the building blocks. Where are
22 those communities of interest? You know, where are the
23 neighborhoods? Because, you know, we can easily get the --
24 we have the geography of the counties and cities, but we
25 need these other pieces, and that's what we're collecting

1 now.

2 And this is just to put them all on. We're not
3 -- you know, we're not drawing lines here. We're not.
4 There's no population in this. It's location, location.
5 So, thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you. Oh,
7 Commissioner Sadhwani.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you so much for
9 this discussion. I wanted to just ask one other piece. I
10 mean, in addition to -- and I don't know how we separate
11 this out or anything, but it's been on my mind so I want to
12 raise it.

13 My sense is there's plenty of people out there
14 who want to influence this process, not simply from
15 community perspectives, but also from political
16 perspectives. That is not our problem. We're not going to
17 take that as something that we use, but it will be -- you
18 know, it will be (audio cuts out)

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Did she freeze or is that me?

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: You froze.
21 Commissioner Sadhwani, we can't hear you.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Hello.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We hear you now.

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, you can. Okay, good.
25 Sorry about that. I seem to have an unstable connection

1 today.

2 Yeah. Just thinking if there are -- if there's
3 anything that we want or can even do to protect ourselves
4 from that in any way, shape or form by whether that's, you
5 know, can the same person come and provide testimony at
6 every single meeting. I don't know. How do we identify
7 that someone is there on behalf of a legislator, right? We
8 don't. We're not taking into consideration where
9 legislators live or the current boundaries of current
10 districts, but others might want us to.

11 And I'm just wondering if we've thought about
12 that at all or we'll just take what comes and figure it out
13 along the way.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I've definitely thought
16 about it, but I don't think we as a group have thought
17 about it, and in my thinking about it I've wondered what
18 type of -- I know Commissioner Taylor and I were looking at
19 input to bias training for all of us so that we could, you
20 know, be -- the challenge we have with that is that
21 trainers won't do it in public, and we can't do the
22 training not in public, because to be able to do input bias
23 training you need to be open and honest about your biases
24 and everything else, and they said that it's not fair to
25 any of us or, you know.

1 So, then it is like, okay, what other -- because
2 I think we need some type of listening training -- not
3 training, but make sure we're all on the same page. (audio
4 skips) because we listen all the time, right. But how do
5 we -- what do we need to listen for and how do we -- I
6 don't want to say vet presenters, but how do we be careful
7 that we don't have certain biases and how do we understand
8 what might be coming our way.

9 I have had that question asked about, you know,
10 how are you going to know if a presenter is biased, or a
11 presenter is a legislator. And I said, well, they could
12 present as one person. You know, this is multiple inputs,
13 and that's why we need a lot of people giving us their
14 input, so --

15 So, I'm not answering your question, but I do
16 think that that -- I was going to ask the Public Input
17 Design Committee to kind of put that on the agenda. These
18 first two are statewide. One will be in English and one
19 will be in Spanish. But as we go into regions and such,
20 you know, we're going to learn as we go. But this is
21 definitely something we need to think about.

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Toledo and
23 then Vasquez.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I don't think Commissioner
25 Sadhwani was implying that we limit people, right. We only

1 want everyone to give their feedback. It goes to how much
2 weight are we going to give individual feedback, whether
3 it's advocacy group, a member of an advocacy group that's
4 represented saying many people, and if they come over and
5 over again, how much weight do you give that person, right,
6 versus an individual member of a community versus other
7 individuals. And I don't think it's a science, but I think
8 it's an art, and that's where we're going to have to figure
9 out -- we're going to have to figure that out as a group
10 and individually and be able to hopefully calibrate at some
11 end of this. But -- and I'm not sure how to do that at
12 this point.

13 But I do think that if an issue of how much
14 weight we're giving the testimony that we're receiving and
15 the person giving that testimony, and how reliable it is
16 and how, you know, and how -- and whether it's been
17 influenced by sources that might be -- might not be so
18 credible maybe perhaps or who might biased is the better
19 word, right, not impartial, and so that's where I'm
20 thinking, but certainly I think -- and I'm not sure how the
21 previous Commission dealt with this issue, but I think that
22 might be interesting to look at. I'm sure the committee
23 has already looked at that and come to some -- has some
24 thoughts around that.

25 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yes, Commissioner Toledo's

1 talking about this, doing this as an art form, and I think
2 to further elaborate on my previous points, I think a data
3 point is -- the level of (indiscernible) that we can detect
4 when we are looking at the data, right. So, again, you
5 will know it's from me, you know, certain types of data are
6 from me and, like, my organizer folks, right, because we're
7 going to -- redundancy, right. We're going to make sure
8 you hear our message, right. That's the organizer's
9 perspective, that we're going to deliver the same message
10 in many different ways because you all commissioners are
11 different people with just as there are different ways of
12 communicating, there are different ways of hearing, right.
13 So, again, the person who is most compelled and interested
14 in the data and the spreadsheet, someone who is most
15 compelled by spoken words. Someone who wants to read every
16 single narrative because that's how they process
17 information and internalize it.

18 And then there's like this level up of like,
19 okay, we're getting a bunch of data in this particular
20 manner, or in this manner and this manner. Okay. We
21 understand sort of like this group is delivering
22 information in this way. And then again, we as the artists
23 have to be able to say we're actually not hearing anything
24 from these types of people and is that important. How
25 important is that? Do we have time to go in, see if we can

1 get more information, or, you know, are we passed that
2 point, and if so, do we have to figure out a way to like
3 channel, you know the people who have been silent in this
4 process.

5 Again, this is all -- I am necessarily trying to
6 complicate all of these like processes that we're putting
7 in place because I don't -- I don't want us to become over
8 reliant on them and think that we're putting in bits of
9 data and we're going to spit out a map, and we can say this
10 was community informed, and, you know, that's that. We're
11 going to have to -- it's going to be a messy process, and
12 we're going to have to have these tough conversations about
13 savvy players in this process and what that means when we
14 actually come down to drawing this line here versus this
15 line here, that there are savvy players in this process. I
16 don't necessarily we can say they're all nefarious actors,
17 or that they're all well intentioned, right. They're just
18 going to be savvy players on all sides, and we're going to
19 have to weigh that. We're just going to have to consider
20 that as well.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you
22 for that. Great conversation. We haven't quite gotten
23 there yet to have this conversation in the committee yet.
24 How about we go to Commissioner Yee, but then I think we
25 need to move onto the Language Access recommendations, if

1 that's okay. Commissioner Yee.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I just on this
3 conversation, so for the 2010 Commission I believe one of
4 their criticisms, heavy criticisms that came after the maps
5 were released was the fact that they had not taken into
6 account some organized input that had occurred behind the
7 scenes organizing, that was politically partisan and had
8 been hoodwinked was the term. And the Commission, as I
9 recall, pushed back and said oh, no, we knew full well what
10 was going on. You know we had to listen to everyone, but
11 we knew how to weigh things.

12 I'm wondering if anyone has heard anything more
13 about what actually happened, what wisdom they brought to
14 it and how that all shook out. I see Marian actually has a
15 response.

16 MS. JOHNSTON: What I recall was a string of
17 people all saying the same thing. They were all just lined
18 up and it was almost verbatim saying what the person before
19 them and the next person said, and the next person said,
20 and it became clear after a while that somebody was
21 orchestrating it. The Commission really didn't know what
22 to do about it. That didn't necessarily mean that the
23 information wasn't valid, but it does mean that somebody
24 had orchestrated it.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks. Yeah, this is

1 definitely a topic that -- oh, Commissioner Sadhwani.

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I think that's
3 kind of my point, right. I don't want to cut folks off or
4 limit their ability to provide testimony more than once.
5 They might change. I hear all of that.

6 I guess I can -- okay, we're going to have an
7 appointment system, and I'm just really pro-appointment
8 system, but you think about like concert tickets, and the
9 scalpers go in and buy them all up the minute that they're
10 released, right, and you could certainly see "organized
11 interests" who wanted to influence, you know, our thinking
12 in any particular zone, let's say, going in the moment it
13 opens because they've been watching our proceeding and they
14 know when it's going to go live, and boom, all the
15 appointments are gone and we're going to hear kind of
16 manufactured testimony. That's not to say that that
17 testimony isn't valid, and I think -- you know, to
18 Commissioner Vasquez's point, right, like we'll have to
19 really have our ears open to say okay, wait, we're not
20 hearing from certain groups here and why is that the case.

21 I think I just want to flag that as we go into
22 this process. If we're thinking about all of these
23 mechanisms, if there's anything we can do to kind of
24 mitigate that, you know, maybe someone with the same email
25 address can only get one appointment slot in one day,

1 right. Maybe they can get another one another day, but, on
2 that day they only get one. I don't know. I don't know if
3 that's the right solution or not, but I think, just
4 thinking through that a little bit would help ease my mind.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's a great, great
6 suggestion. I like the way you framed that. I'm sure
7 Marcy is scribbling notes furiously.

8 Okay. I think at this point we'll have the
9 Language Access Committee provide their thoughts.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you, everyone, and
11 let's see. Just a couple of things I just want to
12 highlight. There was a revised schedule posted I think
13 early this morning. There were just a couple of dates that
14 were incorrect. We picked up the wrong -- we updated the
15 outdated version. The correct version should be online.

16 But with that, so, Commissioner Akutagawa and I
17 and Marcy -- Director Kaplan we worked many hours trying to
18 come together as she tried to herd us into some sort of
19 recommendation mode. So, we did post the recommendations.
20 I'm hopeful that everyone has had a chance to review that,
21 and we'll just go through it quickly. We'll go through it
22 and if there's questions, of course, we're open to
23 questions as well.

24 And, so, these are the recommendations for
25 language access for the public input meetings from June to

1 September. And what we want to make sure that we emphasize
2 is that these recommendations are for virtual public input
3 meetings. If at some point we pivot, we may have to change
4 what our recommendations are. We haven't gone that far
5 yet.

6 And, so, as we look at table one of the document,
7 our first recommendation is, as Commissioner Fornaciari has
8 already discussed, is to use an appointment system.

9 And the second bullet point is that we're
10 recommending that the first two hours of appointments be
11 designated for individuals requiring interpretation
12 services, if needed. It doesn't have to be the first two
13 hours. We're trying to group the time of interpretation
14 services because that would match. We're trying to be
15 sufficient, use sufficient use of our funds with our
16 interpretation funding where if we contract it's for a one-
17 hour slot, or two-hour slot, or a three-hour slot, but it's
18 kind of like a consecutive timeframe.

19 And so that would be -- to get to table two there
20 are certain meetings that we've designated that we will
21 provide certain interpretations, be it Spanish, be it
22 Chinese, Japanese, Tagalog, and for those who recommend the
23 first two hours or a group of two hours for the six-hour
24 time slot.

25 And then for all the other public input meeting

1 that don't necessarily -- don't currently have
2 interpretation designated, we recommend holding the first
3 hour for interpretation requests because, again, we would
4 like if individuals want Spanish interpretation that they
5 look to see when Spanish interpretation is going to be
6 available and hopefully sign up for those time slots. But,
7 obviously, if it doesn't work in their schedule, just like
8 anyone else, they can submit requests for interpretation
9 services, which takes us to the next bullet where
10 appointment for interpretation services must be submitted
11 no later than 10 business days prior to the public input
12 meeting date, and that has to do with, one, we're using the
13 time slots, and then, two, also contract for those
14 interpretation services. And then what we would do is if
15 there is any remaining time slots designated for language
16 interpretation, 50 percent of them would be open to all
17 Californians five business days prior to the meeting date.
18 And that's because, obviously, we don't want to have any
19 empty slots. We're going to have as many people be able to
20 have an appointment versus having to wait in queue to
21 provide their input. And if none of the time slots that
22 are designated for language interpretation are filled, then
23 all the slots would be open to all Californians five
24 business days prior to the meeting date.

25 And the last one is something that is required

1 that appointment time slots requiring interpretation
2 services should be doubled to allow for consecutive
3 interpretation, and that is actually a requirement. So,
4 regardless of whether you say yes to all the
5 recommendations, we do have to provide twice the time for
6 interpretation services.

7 And I'll just keep -- should I keep going,
8 Commissioner Fornaciari, or do you want me to stop?

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Chair, the meeting was
10 scheduled to end at 4:30, and I think we just need to know
11 how long it might go, I guess.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. So, the next break
13 would be at 4:55, so I'm hopeful if we can get through the
14 recommendations and then we can do one of two things.
15 Depending on how many questions there are, we can maybe
16 continue to tomorrow, or we could continue to plug along.
17 So, we'll see how the commissioners feel at that point.

18 Commissioner Kennedy. Oh, sorry.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Director Hernandez, do
20 we need to cut this off or can we go longer? Is that okay
21 with the videographer? Are we going to lose our folks?

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: We're good to
23 continue.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: They're good to continue until

1 5:00 o'clock, I believe, right, Kristian?

2 MR. MANOFF: As far as I know. I'll double check
3 on that for you.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, am I going to
5 continue, am I going to take questions? Continue, okay,
6 I'm going to continue.

7 And the next --

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: It's up to you.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm going. I'm on a
10 roll, I'm a stone. Let me know when you want to step in,
11 Commissioner Akutagawa.

12 So, the next one is at any and every time public
13 can always use their own interpreters such as family
14 members. And that's any time. That would probably be my
15 mom. She would take me along or one of us, take us along,
16 because we are trusted. We're trusted interpreters, and if
17 we don't get it right, we get it when we get home. But,
18 again, just so that there is no confusion as to -- there's
19 no requirement that you use our interpreter. You can bring
20 your own interpreter.

21 Disability access, recommend ASL and close
22 captioning for public input meetings. That's a requirement
23 regardless. And as we always state on our website and on
24 our agendas, request for disability related modifications
25 or accommodations should be made at least five business

1 days prior to the meeting and should be submitted in
2 writing either by mail to our office address or by email at
3 the Voter's First Act at CRC.ca.gov.

4 Okay. Commissioner Akutagawa, should I keep
5 going or I think -- I can remember where you picked up.
6 Oh, Commissioner Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't remember. I
8 thought of this question last night, but I don't remember
9 if I asked it. I don't think I did. So, this is ASL going
10 out. What if someone who needs sign language
11 interpretation wants to provide public input, how are we
12 doing that?

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Kristian, can our current ASL,
14 can they provide that interpretation.

15 MR. MANOFF: I'm sorry, what's the question?

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, if somebody is going to be
17 signing their public input, so we need that to be
18 interpreted, right.

19 MR. MANOFF: Oh, like back into English.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, yes.

21 MR. MANOFF: I'll have to check with the team on
22 their process on that.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. That's a great question.
24 Thank you so much. I'm going to write that down.

25 MR. MANOFF: So, I just got a note that the

1 answer is, yes, as long as they can see the person that's
2 signing, of course.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Of course. Okay, wonderful.
4 Thank you so much. It's good to know. So, that's another
5 incentive to make sure that we can see the public as
6 they're giving their input, right.

7 And that's part of, as Commissioner Vasquez was
8 saying, part of telling your story is actually watching
9 them tell their story that's very powerful, so -- anyway,
10 that's not part of our recommendation.

11 And I'm going to hand it off now, I believe,
12 Commissioner Akutagawa.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Did you finish off at
14 the disability ones? I wasn't sure if I --

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, I just did the disability
16 ones, and now we're at the zone --

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I wasn't sure if
18 you were still at the top because I heard Commissioner
19 Fornaciari ask about that, but I didn't hear that part.

20 So, okay, then I'll just take over for the next
21 page where -- and we've been talking about this, that
22 anyone can participate in any public input meeting. So,
23 again, if you're in -- if you live in a specific zone but
24 you just happen to see that another zone has a public input
25 meeting scheduled on a date that is convenient for you and

1 you're able to get an appointment or you, you know, are
2 willing to call in on that day, you are absolutely, you
3 know, welcome to do so, and we would not limit that to
4 anybody, you know, who would want to call in.

5 And we do also want to say that from an
6 interpretation perspective one of the reasons why we're
7 also making this recommendation that anybody can
8 participate in any zone is in the effort of trying to use
9 our interpretation resources most efficiently, as
10 Commissioner Fernandez had said, we are asking everyone to
11 provide us with at least 10 days advanced notice. Part of
12 it is so that we can then see, you know, how many
13 appointments slots will be filled up. It will also enable
14 us to set up the interpreters on time. Also, as we have
15 also said, anyone who has an interpretation request, we
16 will do our best. Outside of the 12 languages we will do
17 our best to find an interpreter to find interpretation for
18 that person if they need that.

19 However, we do also want to say that since we are
20 going to be doing this statewide as well, too, we do want
21 to try, if we can with the 10 days advance notice try to
22 group people so that we can make efficient use of our
23 interpretation resources.

24 So, for example, we'd like to try to avoid
25 having, you know, a single language in Zone C and then we

1 get a similar request for a similar language for another
2 zone. Hopefully, you know, if people can let us know ahead
3 of time we would try to group the languages together so
4 that then -- because we're going to have to engage, or
5 hire, or contract the interpreter out for at least an hour
6 to three hours minimum time. If we can try to, you know,
7 funnel people into the same day, that's at least what we're
8 thinking. We also recognize that that may or may not
9 happen and maybe we're overcomplicating things, but as much
10 as we can we're also trying to be responsible users of our
11 resources as well, too. So, that's the hope and the intent
12 around it.

13 I do want to just say that in terms of how we
14 came about determining how many of the public input
15 meetings would be provided in certain languages, I want to
16 just point you to page number two. What we did start with
17 is that -- what we looked at for table two, a limited
18 English proficient population based on the American
19 Community Survey, and it's the B16001 data set, that is
20 from 2009 to 2013, which I believe is the most currently
21 available that we were able to get, and that is a document
22 or a data set on languages spoken at home by ability to
23 speak English for the population five years and over. So,
24 these are those who self-identify as being able to speak
25 English less than very well.

1 So, based on what saw were the total population
2 numbers, then we grouped them into the zones. What we
3 found is for each of the 12 non-English languages we
4 identified (audio skips) the three zones with the largest
5 population for that specific language, languages, for
6 example, that are recommended for L.A. County Public Input
7 Meetings are languages where the particular languages are
8 the largest concentration of limited English proficient
9 populations in that zone and/or there were no other zones
10 with large concentrations of that specific language.

11 So what does that mean in terms of the breakdown?
12 So, we had to make some cutoffs, so we looked at zones --
13 statewide zones where a particular language had more than a
14 million limited English proficient speakers of that
15 particular language. So, there was only one language,
16 Spanish, that had more than a million LEP speakers. And
17 so, what we determined is that because they have over a
18 million we would assign four meetings that would have
19 Spanish interpretation, including one of the two statewide
20 meetings.

21 I do also want to say the statewide meeting in
22 which we will be providing Spanish interpretation, we are
23 setting aside two hours, two hours of that meeting, not the
24 entire meeting, because it still is a statewide meeting and
25 we will be providing Spanish interpretation at least

1 minimally for two hours at three other -- on three other
2 dates around the country.

3 The next tier is statewide limited English
4 populations where they range from more than a hundred
5 thousand speakers to just under a million. And there were
6 these particular languages that fit within that criteria,
7 and those are Chinese, specifically Mandarin Chinese and
8 Cantonese Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Korean. So,
9 for those five languages what we determined is that there
10 will be two meetings per language where we will offer
11 interpretation.

12 And then the remaining 12 languages where they
13 had less than 100,000 limited English proficient
14 population, what we determined is that we would assign one
15 meeting where that particular language is most prevalent,
16 we would assign the meeting in that zone for that
17 particular language, and those languages are Armenian,
18 Farsi, Russian, Arabic, Punjabi, Japanese and Khmer. And
19 so if you scroll down to the next table, this is table two,
20 you will see in date order all of our scheduled public
21 input meetings and our recommendations for the meetings
22 that we will have specific languages in which we will
23 provide interpretation services.

24 So, our very first meeting, statewide meeting, is
25 on June 10th. What we determined is that the second one

1 being on June 19th we would also set aside two hours of
2 that meeting for Spanish interpretation.

3 Now, based on the appointment scheduling system,
4 what we're hoping is that it will help us to either know we
5 need less slots or maybe we need more slots based on the
6 number of people who hopefully indicate to us based on the
7 system that we use that that is an in-demand interpretation
8 need or maybe a little bit less, and it could be because
9 it's a day, and so, hopefully one of the other days is one
10 that Spanish speakers will be able to take advantage of.

11 I do want to also note, in case you're wonder,
12 so, for example, in Zone C you'll see that in Zone C we
13 have on June 28th we have a public input meeting scheduled
14 in which we are going to provide interpretation in Chinese
15 Mandarin and Tagalog. And then in Zone C, again, what
16 we're going to be doing is on July 17 we'll be providing
17 interpretation in Russian and Chinese Cantonese. And
18 you'll see similar breakdowns in some of the other regions
19 we have. In Zone J we added Chinese Mandarin, and we did
20 that so we can have an even -- oh, I'm sorry. In Zone J we
21 have Chinese Mandarin on August 12, and then in Zone H on
22 August 15th we have Chinese Cantonese. And in case anyone
23 is wondering, Zone H is L.A. County, Zone J is Orange
24 County, and they're within the same -- you know, close
25 enough southern California region that we felt that we

1 could spread Mandarin and Cantonese out in that way so that
2 they're two instances of Mandarin and two instances of
3 Cantonese.

4 And I will stop here and see if there's any
5 questions. Russell.

6 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you for that. That's
7 fabulous work. I love the detail of research you did to
8 come up with this.

9 When folks get input and are using translation,
10 will we give them more than three minutes?

11 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Thank you. Yes.
12 We are legally obligated, the law states that they get
13 double the time. So, if we're giving three minutes for
14 English speakers for anybody who needs interpretation, we
15 will be giving six minutes to allow for the interpretation.

16 Commissioner Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Fredy has reminded us on
18 many occasions that languages generally are not as compact
19 as English, and while the legal requirement may be that we
20 give them twice as much, I would suggest that we go beyond
21 that because of otherwise we would likely be limiting the
22 input to less than the input that was provided in the
23 original language. It may also take the interpreter, you
24 know, the interpreter may struggle with a word or two here
25 or there, so I would say let's go with seven or eight, if

1 we give three just to account for that. I think that we
2 can justify that.

3 You know, as far as justifying, I've advocated
4 since we first met back in July that I don't think Spanish
5 is getting the support that it needs from this Commission.
6 I think that, you know, out of 32 events having Spanish
7 translation available five of them seems a little thin.
8 I'm assuming that it could impact via all 32 if there were
9 requests.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. Correct, and that's --

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: As far as --

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: It's not limited to the dates
13 we have, but for planning purposes and also for our staff,
14 we -- in trying to be more efficient, we felt that this was
15 the best way to just approach it up front and provide an
16 avenue and opportunity in specific languages. But if it
17 doesn't fit somebody's schedule or there's more requests,
18 we can do more than that.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: And, you know, we've been
20 saying, at least recently, that we can provide -- and we've
21 been saying in the Redistricting Basics Presentation that
22 we'll be happy to at least do our best to ensure
23 interpretation is in place if someone gives us five days'
24 notice, and now all of a sudden we're saying 10 days'
25 notice. So, I don't really understand the rationale for

1 that, and I think that particularly for Spanish we should
2 be able to do much better than that.

3 On disability access I'm just imagining or
4 guessing that in the second part of that table you're
5 talking about requests for other disability-related
6 modification. You're not talking about requests for ASL
7 and closed captioned. ASL and closed is all of it. You're
8 not talking about --

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes, that's all.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- requests for any other
11 --

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I didn't fully understand
14 for the remaining slots, 50 percent, five business days.
15 Those two bullet points were a little odd, but --

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, on those bullet points --

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Back on those --

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, go ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Sorry. Back on the
20 Spanish, I mean if we look at, you know, who attended the
21 California Redistricting Basics Presentations, the ones
22 organized by the Commission, we had more than twice as many
23 people attending the Spanish language presentation than the
24 English language presentation if I remember correctly.
25 That's all. Thank you.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. I just wanted to
2 clarify, Commissioner Kennedy, on the slots in terms of
3 giving this -- we want to make sure that there aren't empty
4 slots if there are people that want to provide some of
5 those so that they can sign up for it. So, we don't want
6 to -- let's say like five days before we've got 10 slots
7 available. Do we keep those slots available in the hopes
8 that somebody is going to sign up for interpretation
9 services? What we're saying is we're going to give those
10 -- we're going to open up half of those if no one has
11 signed up and if there are still slots available. If no
12 one has signed up, like let's say it's Spanish and nobody
13 has signed up for those slots in Spanish by day five, then
14 we're going to give up the slots because then we're going
15 to say, okay, there isn't any participation at this meeting
16 and we're going to open up the slots because, again, we're
17 talking about six-minute slots versus three-minute slots.
18 And, so, we want to make sure that if we're not going to
19 need them we can open them up to someone else that will be
20 able to sign up for it.

21 And we're getting really close to our time. I'm
22 not sure how we want to do this. Commissioner Fornaciari,
23 do we want to try to continue to plug along, or do we want
24 to finish the discussion tomorrow, because we still need to
25 take public comment before we adjourn?

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll leave it to the
2 Chair.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. How is the rest of the
4 group doing? How are the rest of the commissioners? Do
5 you want to keep plugging? That means we'd have to take a
6 break and then come back, and we also have to check to make
7 sure that we're going to have our ASL and captioners.

8 MR. MANOFF: Chair, we do have a scheduling issue
9 with ASL. We have a hard stop at five at this point.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay.

11 MR. MANOFF: So, that doesn't mean that we can't
12 add that in post-production, though.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Well --

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Tomorrow.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, I'm thinking we're going
16 to finish tomorrow. Maybe that's the best course right
17 now.

18 So, Katy, are you still there? Can we go to
19 public comment?

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, chair.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And this is just public comment
22 general, and again there's a two-minute limit for public
23 comment.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, chair. In order
25 to maximize transparency and public participation in our

1 process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by
2 phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on
3 the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,
4 enter the meeting number provided on the livestream feed,
5 it is 93330293366. When prompted to enter a participant
6 I.D., simply press the pound key.

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

10 When it is your turn to speak, you'll hear a
11 message that says, "The host would like you to talk, and to
12 press star six to speak."

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

16 Please make sure to mute your computer or
17 livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion
18 during your call.

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

22 And at this time we do not have any raised hands
23 in the queue, and again, I remind those in the queue that
24 if you would like to make a comment, star nine will raise
25 your hand indicating that you wish to do so. And we do

1 have someone in the queue. Again, star nine will raise
2 your hand for the new person in the queue. Star nine will
3 raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. And their
4 hand is raised. Here we go. And go ahead. The floor is
5 yours.

6 MS. COTO: Hi, good evening or late afternoon,
7 Commissioners. This is Jacqueline Coto, state director of
8 civic engagement policy with NAELO Educational Fund. Thank
9 you so much for your robust conversation today and
10 yesterday and ongoing until tomorrow.

11 I'm actually calling in relation to the Language
12 Access Interpretations, the recommendations that are coming
13 up for the Public Input Hearing. Basically given that the
14 Spanish language population across the state, initially we
15 recommended that there be more Spanish language translation
16 and, in fact, we recommended that there be Spanish language
17 translations for every hearing. However, if that's not
18 going to be possible, there really needs to be far more
19 language interpretation available for more of the scheduled
20 COI hearings -- meetings that are coming up.

21 So, for the June 19th, one of the earliest
22 statewide input hearings that you've been addressing, that
23 would be one of those earliest meetings that will offer
24 Spanish interpretation. However, this date is really very
25 difficult for us and other partners to mobilize community

1 members and to really funnel them into this just one day
2 for two hours.

3 So, this schedule is really not adequate given
4 the large Latino population that is disperse geographically
5 across the entire state who are not proficient in English.

6 So, in looking at the other proposed dates, you
7 are missing zones with high concentrations of Spanish
8 speakers. In zones like Orange County, San Diego, Imperial
9 County and for Los Angeles, which is like a huge large
10 population there's only one meeting scheduled for this
11 region, for this zone.

12 And also with respect to the 10 days advance
13 notice for interpretation request, this really also creates
14 an extremely difficult barrier for organizing --

15 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

16 MS. COTO: -- our community because we are
17 providing -- we are basically providing technical
18 assistance and training closest to the schedule COI
19 hearings that are less than 10 days. So, we are strongly
20 recommending that you allow for five days instead.

21 MR. MANOFF: Two minutes.

22 MS. COTO: Thank you so much for considering our
23 concerns and recommendations.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you, Ms. Coto.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And again, star nine

1 would the raise the hand of the other caller that is in the
2 queue if you wish to comment at this time.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I believe that caller has been
4 in the queue through the entire time.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, they have. I
6 just wanted to make sure that -- I just wanted to be sure.
7 But, yes, they have not raised their hand and there is no
8 one else.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Thank you. So,
10 we're going to adjourn in a minute. I just wanted to go
11 back to the agenda items that are still open for tomorrow
12 for those of you that are listening. We still have,
13 obviously, this agenda item that we will continue tomorrow,
14 which is 9F, which is Language Access. It's combined with
15 number 11, which is Public Input Design Committee. We also
16 have a motion on 9B regarding the outreach positions that
17 we will discuss tomorrow. We also Agenda Item 9A, which is
18 the Government Affairs Census Subcommittee Report. And we
19 also the Labor Panel, item number 14, and that will be
20 tomorrow at 1:30.

21 So with that, we will adjourn and we will see
22 everyone tomorrow morning at 9:30, and I have Commissioner
23 Kennedy.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Just to add to that list,
25 within the hour I received an update of community of

1 interest tool statistics, so we'll be happy to deliver
2 those to the full Commission tomorrow.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. I will add that to the
4 list. Thank you so much? Any other questions?

5 COMMISSIONER YEE: Recessing, not adjourning.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. See everyone at 9:30
7 tomorrow morning.

8 (Recessed at 4:58 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of July, 2021.



Jacqueline Denlinger
AAERT CERT # 747

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of July, 2021.



Myra Severtson
Certified Transcriber
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