

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

721 Capitol Mall, 2nd ~~10th~~ Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021

5:00 P.M.

Reported by:
Peter Petty

APPEARANCES

2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission:Commissioners

Alicia Fernandez, Chair
Isra Ahmad, Vice Chair
Linda Akutagawa
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
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

Technical Contractors

Public Comment Moderator
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director

Also PresentPublic Comment

Renee Westa-Lusk

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1

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 Tuesday, May 4, 2021 5:16 p.m.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Welcome, everyone
4 to the May 4, 2021 full Commission meeting of the
5 California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

6 I am Alicia Fernandez. I'm the chair for this
7 meeting, and Commissioner Isra Ahmad is the Vice Chair.

8 If we can go to roll call. Ravi, are you taking
9 that for us?

10 MR. SINGH: Yes.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

12 MR. SINGH: You're welcome. Commissioner Ahmad.

13 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Here.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

15 (No audible reply)

16 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Here.

20 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

22 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

23 (No audible reply)

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: He's here.

25 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons. Yes, thank

1 you.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: He's here.

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: You didn't hear me?

5 MR. SINGH: No. Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

6 Commissioner Le Mons.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

8 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

12 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

16 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner.

17 (No audible reply)

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vasquez.

19 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Here.

20 MR. SINGH: Thank you. And Commissioner Yee.

21 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

22 MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ravi.

24 MR. SINGH: You're welcome.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Before we go to public comment,

1 I just want to let everyone know that we are going to have
2 -- it's a condensed meeting schedule tonight. So, the only
3 items we plan to discuss are Agenda Items 9N, as in Nancy,
4 which is the Public Input Meeting Design, Agenda Item 10,
5 which is the Legal Affairs Committee update, and Agenda
6 Item 13, which is the discussion of future meetings.

7 Is there any other agenda item that the
8 Commissioners need to discuss? Okay.

9 And then besides that, we are very happy to
10 announce the hiring of Anthony Pane as our chief counsel.
11 Mr. Pane is currently the assistant chief counsel with the
12 Department of Consumer Affairs.

13 We look forward to Mr. Pane starting with the
14 Commission on May 18. Looking forward to his start date.

15 And so with that, we are going to go to public
16 comment. Katy, can you please read the instructions. And
17 I just want to remind the public that public comment is
18 limited to two minutes per individual.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair. In
20 order to maximize transparency and public participation in
21 our process, the Commissioners will be taking public
22 comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number
23 provided on the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When
24 prompted to enter a meeting number provided on the
25 livestream feed, it is 97018421161 for this meeting. When

1 prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply press the
2 pound key.

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

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

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

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

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

18 And we are taking general public comment at this
19 time, and we do not have anyone in the queue.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: We'll just wait one more
21 minute, Katy, see if anybody --

22 And then while we're waiting, Commissioners Ahmad
23 and Fornaciari, is it okay we go straight to the Legal
24 Affair Committee update first and then we discuss the
25 Public Input Meeting Design?

1 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: That's fine.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions
4 are complete.

5 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Katy. We will go
6 ahead and move on, close these windows up. We will move on
7 to number 10, which is the Legal Affairs Committee update
8 with Commissioners Sadhwani, Toledo and me.

9 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you, Chair Fernandez.
10 The Legal Affairs Committee has been meeting, and we've
11 been reviewing the VRA counsel contracts. We have a draft
12 contract that was posted, and hopefully you had a chance to
13 look at in the handouts.

14 We met previous to this meeting to go over the
15 contract, and we are recommending approval of the contract
16 with minor, mostly typographical, changes to the contract
17 that we can make afterwards.

18 In terms of -- one thing to note is that the
19 agreement was created with a procurement lens in mind,
20 recognizing that there is still a lot uncertainty as to
21 what our litigation calendar might look like because we
22 don't know if there will be any pre-map litigation.

23 So, we've attempted to leave this contract, give
24 us a little bit of flexibility in case there is some
25 litigation prior to the maps being finalized.

1 If you remember, there is -- our budget is set up
2 so that it's pre-map legal work that includes mostly VRA
3 work and litigation prevent work. But then there is post-
4 map legal work, and there's about \$4,000,000 to defend our
5 maps, and then there's the 1.2 million to help us with any
6 legal considerations that we might have prior to the maps
7 being finalized.

8 And, so, we've structured this contract in a way
9 that it could potentially be used if, and hopefully if an
10 unlikely event that we have litigation prior to the maps
11 being finalized, and this would allow us to use this
12 contract -- the budget amount in this contract to defend
13 any type of litigation prior to the maps being drawn.

14 Otherwise we would need to request approval from
15 a government agency, and I can't remember which government
16 agency, request, I believe, from the Department of Finance
17 to be able to use the post-litigation funds prior to the
18 maps being drawn, which would take some time.

19 So, this gives us a little bit of flexibility to
20 keep our litigation work going and not have an
21 interruptions, and just trying to anticipate those things
22 that might arise over the next couple of months.

23 For the most part this is VRA -- this contract
24 really focuses on the VRA work and prevention of any VRA-
25 type claims.

1 With that, I'll open it up for questions. And I
2 did receive some typographical edits from the
3 commissioners, and we're going to be making those changes
4 to the contract.

5 And, also, if there's any feedback from my fellow
6 commissioners on the Legal Affairs Committee, please chime
7 in.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Are there any questions
9 regarding the contract language?

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: The other thing I would
11 point out prior to moving on is that we are also requesting
12 that two members of the -- or we also approve that two
13 members -- we approved recommending and moving forward with
14 two additional members of the team that were not in the
15 original application. There's two associates that are
16 being added to this scope of work, and we have reviewed
17 their background as well as their conflict of interest, and
18 we're comfortable with them being part of the litigation
19 team, and we're also recommending those two individuals,
20 and they're noted in the contracts. Their names are
21 Caroline Chiappetti and Julia Michel.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, and those were attachments
23 to last week's meeting as well. We had a letter from them.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Any questions from the
25 Commission? Commissioner Andersen.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I did have
2 one question. You were mentioning that you were talking
3 about doing work or approving work in a 10-hour segment. I
4 didn't see that getting translated anywhere into the
5 contract.

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That's a great question.
7 We did talk about that during the Commission meeting. We
8 decided against creating -- being so specific around a
9 timeframe for approval. So what will need to happen, and
10 it's in the billing guidelines, is that any -- before the
11 firm initiates any work, they'll need approval from our
12 chief counsel on the amount of time to be spent on work, on
13 who is going to be doing the work, and then, of course, any
14 additional projects to be undertaken.

15 So, we had discussed the potential of having a
16 provision that would require every 10 hours of work to be
17 approved, but we thought it might be onerous as we get --
18 as we enter the line drawing phase and where we might need
19 a little bit more flexibility.

20 We do anticipate that our chief counsel would
21 manage the vendor and would set up an agreement on what
22 level of increment he, in this case, is comfortable with
23 approving. So, while there's no specific requirement,
24 there's not a 10-hour, or 20-hour, or 15-hour, it's
25 anticipated that the chief counsel would set that and come

1 to an agreement with the firm on that, on the level of
2 hours to be approved.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I did see that you were,
4 indeed, saying that the chief counsel supervises and has to
5 approve. So, I just know that you were talking of that at
6 one point.

7 One other question, and it might be something
8 that's -- your outside counsel may be asked to provide
9 justification to the State's contract manager. What does
10 that mean?

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That really should be the
12 Commission's contract manager. So, anywhere where State is
13 referenced, it's really referencing us, and so that's --

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- one of those changes
16 that we'll be making, is replacing State, because
17 technically we are a State agency, and so replacing State
18 with the more specific Commission, so Commission's contract
19 manager. So any time you see the word "State," we'll be
20 replacing that with "Commission."

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Where appropriate, right.
23 There are some places where it makes sense to leave the
24 word "State" in.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay, you had a

1 question?

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. So, this person will
3 be reporting to the Chief Counsel predominantly, if I'm
4 understanding correctly.

5 But then, and this is just minor, but where it
6 says, "Progress report and schedule. Contractor shall
7 provide as determined by Commission or executive director."
8 Should that not be the chief counsel as well?

9 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: On page -- I'm sorry, on
10 page two?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, no, on Exhibit A, Bullet
12 2 -- I'm sorry, there's two bullets. Under general
13 provisions, progress report and schedules. It just seems
14 like we consistently need to, you know, be consistent on
15 who this person -- let me put it a different way. I think
16 the general counsel needs to be given the -- the clear
17 guidelines that they're in charge in this. And it seems to
18 go back and forth between Executive Director, General
19 Counsel and the Commission.

20 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So, the Chief Counsel is --
21 oversees and manages this contract, and that is the
22 intention. I think here in line two, "Contractor shall
23 provide progress reports on a needed basis as determined by
24 the commissioners, the executive director." So, in terms
25 of policy, how often, you know, our expectations that

1 generally would be the chief counsel's supervisor, and it
2 would be -- it actually comes from the Commission. We
3 determine when we want progress reports. We let the
4 executive director know and he works with the staff,
5 including the chief counsel, on that. But the chief
6 counsel would be the liaison that the law firm would be
7 working through.

8 We can -- I can clarify that a little bit more if
9 that would be better, but that's how we totally envision
10 it, right. So, the Commission makes the determination.
11 Our staff member watching this -- we have more than one
12 staff member, but then our executive director is
13 responsible for ensuring that that happens and working
14 through the chief counsel. We can go through and make sure
15 that that's clear.

16 And then as part of this, one of the things we
17 were talking about as the Legal Affairs Committee is having
18 an orientation for the chief counsel so that he has an
19 understanding of the contract and our expectations of him,
20 and being our liaison with the firm and helps us, also, in
21 setting up the litigation contract or the post-maps
22 contract so that we can sufficiently demarcate the two and
23 ensure that there's no double dipping. And I think will.
24 I think if we consider the pre-map litigation and legal
25 work and then post-map litigation and legal work, there's a

1 natural -- it becomes a timing situation, right. Up to a
2 certain point you'll be able to bill under this contract.
3 After that, you'll be billing under the litigation
4 contract, the post-map contract.

5 Any other questions or concerns, comments,
6 feedback?

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, sorry. I have one
9 more. The date, the June 30, 2022, in the first reference
10 of the date it's approximately June -- and then the second
11 time in scope of work, number three, it is through June
12 30th. I know we had an automatic extension built into the
13 line drawers, and I don't know if that made it in here.

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: We could change that to
15 approximately so that it reflects -- it's the same on the
16 top and the bottom because we actually don't know when the
17 end of the contract period will be or when we expend all
18 the money within this contract, so we can -- if it makes
19 sense we can probably -- we can definitely change that to
20 read through approximately June 30, 2022.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I can forward -- I
22 did not actually look up what we put in the line drawer's
23 contract, but if that would fit, I'll forward that to you.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And I think the other
25 provision -- yes, so that would be great if you could

1 forward that information.

2 So, if everyone is comfortable with just making
3 it approximately June 30, 2022, because right now our time
4 frame is a little bit uncertain, but we anticipate the pre-
5 litigation work should all be done by June 30, 2022, if not
6 well before that.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, I don't see any
8 other hands, so Commissioner Toledo, are you looking for
9 two action items, then? One is to approve moving forward
10 with the VRA contract with modifications, the minor
11 modifications, and then the second one is to accept the
12 addition of the two associates to the Strumwasser & Woocher
13 team.

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That is correct.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That was perfectly stated,
17 Chair.

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, so I will move. Those
19 are two separate motions. Executive Director Hernandez,
20 did you get those?

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Just one second.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And is it okay, Commissioner
23 Toledo, with those minor edits everyone just agrees to get
24 those to you tonight? Is that sufficient time?

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah, that will be

1 sufficient. I can work with Raul.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Is that enough time for
3 the commissioners, hopefully, and that way we can move
4 forward? Thank you.

5 And I want to thank the team, the committee,
6 Commissioners Toledo, Sadhwani and Yee for all the work
7 that you've done that has gone into this. Thank you so
8 much, but we're not done yet. Do I have a second? Is
9 there a second to the motions? Commissioner Andersen, are
10 you seconding? Okay, thank you.

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So, these are
12 going to be two separate motions; is that correct?

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay. That kind
15 of threw me off so give me one second here.

16 MR. MANOFF: Shall I invite public comment,
17 chair?

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I think that's a great idea,
19 Kristian. Thank you so much.

20 MR. MANOFF: My pleasure. In order to maximize
21 transparency and public participation in our process, the
22 Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To
23 call in, dial the telephone number provided on the
24 livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter
25 the meeting I.D. number provided on the livestream feed, it

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8 star six to speak."

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

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

15 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for
16 when it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down
17 the livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion
18 during your call.

19 The Commission is taking public comment on the
20 motions on the floor at this time. And we do not have any
21 callers in the queue, Chair.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Let's just
23 wait another minute.

24 MR. MANOFF: And the instructions are clear on
25 the screen, Chair.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Executive
2 Director Hernandez, are you ready for us?

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I am ready.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. And there's a p.m.
5 instead of a.m.?

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay, maybe I'm
7 not ready yet. Feels like a.m. for me. All right.

8 So, the first motion is the move to adopt the
9 most recent version of the VRA contract with modifications
10 to recommend to the -- let me take this out. Is that
11 correct?

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: With minor modifications.
13 How's that?

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: With minor
15 modifications.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Does that sound okay,
17 Commissioner Toledo?

18 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And a motion was
20 made by you, Chair Fernandez.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And seconded by
23 Commissioner Andersen.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: All right. So, we

1 will go through the vote here. We will start with
2 Commissioner Fornaciari.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
5 Kennedy.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you.
8 Commissioner Le Mons.

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you.
11 Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
14 Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
17 Taylor.

18 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. I don't know if I
19 should say yes or no. Yes.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: It's all about the
21 one's and zero's here. Commissioner Toledo.

22 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
24 Turner.

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
2 Vasquez.
3 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yes.
4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.
5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
6 Ahmad.
7 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.
8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
9 Akutagawa.
10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.
11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
12 Andersen.
13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.
14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
15 Fernandez.
16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.
17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.
18 P.m., got it.
19 The second motion is a move to approve two new
20 staff to the Strumwasser team; is that correct?
21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.
22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay, all right.
23 And that is p.m.
24 All right. We will begin the roll call, here.
25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

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

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
2 Ahmad.

3 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
5 Akutagawa.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
8 Andersen.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And Commissioner
11 Fernandez.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you. Thank you,
15 everyone. Is there anything else from the Legal Affairs
16 Committee?

17 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No, just thank you to Sara
18 and the rest of the Commission.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you again for
20 your hard work on this.

21 So, we will go to 9N, which is Public Input
22 Meeting Design, Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner
23 Fornaciari.

24 I wasn't sure how we wanted to do it, if we
25 wanted to present the schedule together, do we need to go

1 back to discuss some of the other items that were being
2 discussed in terms of generic meetings versus zone-specific
3 meetings, so I will hand it off to you now.

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I'm open
5 and flexible to how you think, Chair, we should approach
6 this, but just wanted to draw everyone's attention to the
7 document that is posted for today's meeting. We have made
8 some edits and updates to the schedule, and I am
9 appreciative of my colleagues who are not shy to share
10 their availability. It was good to have for the purposes
11 of -- this is where the line gets kind of blurry -- for the
12 purposes of planning for the full Commission meetings, as
13 at those meetings we potentially will be taking actions,
14 and that's where we would need a quorum. We would need,
15 you know, super majority, et cetera. So, that was helpful
16 to have.

17 We included folks' availability on this schedule.
18 When I say "we," I mean Commissioner Fernandez and I --
19 Chair Fernandez and I, so that we can take a look at how
20 difficult it would be to meet everyone's needs, and I don't
21 even think this is everyone's schedule on the calendar as
22 of yet. So, just throwing that out there for discussion.

23 I think what would be helpful is if we can
24 continue that conversation we had last week, prioritizing
25 the schedule and then addressing some of those topics that

1 we didn't come to a conclusion on last week. I recall we
2 were talking about, you know, whether we would have
3 generalized input meetings or zone-specific, the number of
4 zone meetings, et cetera. So, I would bounce the ball to
5 Commissioner Fornaciari to see if I'm missing anything.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, thank you. I
7 think you got it pretty well. I mean, you know, it seems
8 to me at this point, I mean a couple of things. We've got
9 to get meetings on the schedule. And trying to schedule
10 around people's schedule, as you can see based on the
11 column on the right, yes the right in that case, yeah, it's
12 just not going to be feasible. So, you know, I think we
13 all just have to do the best we can to make the meetings we
14 can because, you know, it's busy.

15 The other thing is we left the zone-specific
16 meetings in there. Based on the feedback we got at the end
17 of the public comments, and, you know, the public comments
18 were pretty uniform that they felt that zone-specific
19 meetings would give zones ownership, people in those zones
20 dates to look at. You know some of the callers acknowledge
21 and recognize there wouldn't be -- you know, that anyone
22 could call in and that was -- you know, there's nothing we
23 can do about that. Everyone is welcome to call into any
24 meeting. But at least it would give, you know, folks in a
25 given area some ownership of a date or dates, multiple

1 dates that they could prepare to provide input to the
2 Commission.

3 So, just my additional thoughts.

4 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: And, Chair Fernandez, I don't
5 know if you want to also -- tied into that schedule is that
6 conversation of the full CRC meetings. I appreciate your
7 work on that. I don't know which additional meetings I'm
8 chairing and what days to block off on my calendar yet, and
9 I'm sure Commissioner Yee also has that on his radar. So,
10 it would be helpful to have that conversation in
11 conjunction.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. So, thank you all who
13 did forward their information to us. Just so that everyone
14 is aware in terms of how many meetings or how many of the
15 public input, I'm just going to call out how many per zone.

16 So, it's two for A, two for B, four for C, two
17 for D, two for E, three F, two for G, four for H, three I,
18 three J, and three K. So, that's a total of 30, and it
19 doesn't include the statewide or the group meetings.

20 Also on this schedule -- and what I tried to do
21 is when I was kind of moving zone meetings around I tried
22 to do it so that you wouldn't like, for example, Zone H,
23 you wouldn't have back-to-back meetings. I tried to spread
24 it out so that at least there might be one in the somewhat
25 beginning, one in the middle, you know try to spread it out

1 a little bit more.

2 Also tried to be cognizant of the commissioners
3 that are the leads for those zones. There was just one
4 conflict, so I apologize, Commissioner Akutagawa, it was
5 hard to work out your schedule on one of them, but I think
6 we're going to be able to make it. I think it will work
7 out fine.

8 And then also in this schedule we have our
9 business meetings. That's what we're having today. And,
10 so, what I was anticipating, and imagining, and hoping as
11 we move forward and transition into the public input
12 meetings, we'll go down from two-day business meetings to
13 one-day business meetings because at that point we probably
14 won't have panels anymore, we hopefully will have our
15 training done, and if there is training that we need, we
16 might schedule -- we could schedule a separate day for
17 that. But because, as you can tell, the schedule is three
18 to four days a week, and if we try to schedule a business
19 meeting also, that would be like five days in one week, and
20 that just seemed to be too much. And, plus, I honestly do
21 feel that we can get our business meetings down to one day.

22 And, so, what Commissioner Ahmad was referring to
23 is right now our schedule for being Chair and Vice Chair,
24 you know, basically two sets of meetings. But since we're
25 going to be going down to basically one-day meetings, my

1 recommendation would be that you would share for two full
2 meetings, I guess the two days that are full meetings.
3 Even though they're not back-to-back they'll probably be
4 like two weeks apart.

5 And then if you look at the schedule, as to move
6 into the end of -- if you go into September, I started back
7 up with two full meetings because at that point we might
8 need to regroup. That will be the time when the census
9 data, hopefully, will be coming in. We might need some
10 more training. So, maybe just -- if it's on the schedule,
11 we don't need it, you know, we can always cancel.

12 But again, so this is just a schedule from June
13 through September, of course. It's fluid, it can change,
14 it will change, depending on when we receive the census
15 data and when we decide what our timelines are, and, you
16 know, when we have to move backwards from when our maps are
17 due. But for now, at least it gives us a road map and it
18 gives our staff something to plan and to work towards.

19 As Commissioner Ahmad mentioned last time, they
20 need about six weeks lead time, and, of course, this does
21 not take into consideration, or it does. It can either
22 way. Right now we're assuming virtual. At some point we
23 may be able to do in person or a hybrid, but for now it's
24 virtual.

25 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: And just to add to that, Chair

1 Fernandez, for context the reason why we took a
2 collaborative approach on this schedule item, as you know,
3 we have Public Input Design meetings and we also have
4 business meetings. We didn't want them to overlap or
5 conflict, or make a day that's going to be 12, 13 hours, so
6 we intentionally decided to throw everything onto one
7 calendar so we can actually look at it.

8 So, when Commissioner Fernandez -- Chair
9 Fernandez talks about moving around zone meetings, there
10 might have been conflicts that would have prevented us from
11 taking action because commissioners were able to, you know,
12 share their availability, depending on which day.

13 So, things changed from version two to version
14 three, but this is our attempt at this moment to put
15 everything on the same calendar.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. And then at some point
17 we do pivot to in person, the schedule can change again.
18 We might want to be more efficient. Maybe we'll have back-
19 to-back where zones are close together. We can just go
20 from one meeting to the next, like one is on Monday, one is
21 on Tuesday. So, for now we wanted to make sure we got
22 something on the schedule so that we can at least move
23 forward.

24 And, again, as you can tell, it's difficult to
25 try to find days where all of us are available, and that's

1 okay. With Public Input meeting it's my understanding that
2 we don't have to have a majority, and again, the nice thing
3 is that everything will be videotaped, so if you happen to
4 miss a meeting, or if you miss part of a meeting, you can
5 always go back to get that information, which would be very
6 helpful for all of us.

7 So, with that, is there anything else,
8 Commissioner Ahmad or Commissioner Fornaciari? So, we're
9 kind of combining both agenda items. We're being efficient
10 tonight. We just felt it was easier to present one
11 schedule, and then whatever is approved, I'm going to have
12 a big ask for Ravi. If you can send out our meeting
13 notices so that we all get it calendared. You did such a
14 wonderful job with that the last time, Ravi, so that would
15 be great.

16 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Chair Fernandez, just to add
17 to that. The calendar right now says time TBD for the days
18 of the input meetings because we had not landed on how long
19 we want to be taking public input. Our previous Input
20 Design meeting, Commissioner Fornaciari and I had put
21 together some recommendations based off of public comment
22 and the discussions that we had, so I don't know if we want
23 to get that deep into that topic in this conversation, or
24 if we want to leave that up to staff. There was definitely
25 a desire to increase the number of minutes each individual

1 has to share their public input. I believe three minutes
2 was being tossed around, but definitely want to make sure
3 that we come to a consensus or shared understanding on that
4 before moving forward.

5 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And so maybe with this,
6 Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner Fornaciari, is that
7 something that we want to take back to the Public Input
8 Design and then bring to the next meeting, so that maybe as
9 the committee we can agree on maybe some of the specifics.
10 But at least now if we can get the dates calendared, does
11 that sound that might be a better use of our time right
12 now? Okay.

13 It's very hot over here, 90 degrees. I'm just
14 letting you all know.

15 Any questions. I'm sure there's plenty of
16 comments regarding the schedule. We're hoping there aren't
17 any major glaring oopses. Of course, we're human, so
18 there's a lot of oopses in my life.

19 Okay. I don't see any -- oh, Commissioner
20 Akutagawa.

21 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And I know I made it
22 difficult for you. I do have an oops I just sent to you I
23 forgot. I forgot to put my vacation. I'm going to -- I'm
24 going to be away for a wedding, so, I just need to send you
25 those dates. Big oops on that. Sorry.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: That's okay. That's perfect.
2 And as things occur, what I'm hoping to do, Commissioner
3 Ahmad and Fornaciari and I, we can just continue to update
4 the schedule and continue to note people's -- other
5 commissioner's conflicts. And that way, as we move
6 forward, as we move past September and on we'll have that
7 information readily available for everyone.

8 Any -- Commissioner Andersen.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I have just one check
10 because I'm so -- going through all of the dates. In the
11 June 8, and 9, and 10, last time they were both 9:30 to
12 4:30, and now it looks like they're both 1:00 to 8:00. Was
13 that intentional? June, Wednesday the 9th and Thursday the
14 10th.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes. I intentionally made it a
16 later meeting because --

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Both of them?

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: -- Commissioner Turner and
19 Commissioner Akutagawa, they were available later in the
20 day, so I tried to accommodate that.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, if you look on the schedule
23 and it says, it's their initials.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, if it says someone before

1 2:00, they're not available before 2:00 o'clock.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I see.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I just tried to make it as
4 accommodating to try to get as many commissioners
5 available.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. I don't see any other
8 questions. Commissioner Kennedy.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Do you want specific
10 feedback on shifting this meeting or that meeting, or
11 that's for later?

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: In terms of for your zone
13 specific?

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: If your -- let me think. If
16 we're okay with the dates that we set we can always switch
17 the zones. Is that what you're asking?

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: No? Okay, so I don't know what
20 you're asking, so go ahead and ask it.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. So, rather than
22 having the last of the zone input meetings on the Saturday
23 of Labor Day weekend, I'm thinking either the Thursday just
24 before that, the second of September, or Saturday, the 14th
25 of August.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Zone I, Commissioner Kennedy,
2 that's yours, correct?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yours and Le Mons, okay. And
5 so you suggested either the second --

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct, Thursday,
7 September 2nd --

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Or?

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Or Saturday, August 14th.

10 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. And just so that you
11 also have another one on July 29th.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, maybe if we do it September
14 2nd, that gives you, you know, a little bit longer in
15 between.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Right.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Does that sound -- okay. All
18 right. So let's go ahead and move --

19 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Chair Fernandez.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

21 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: I think the intention behind
22 that was if we had to shift to in person, I and J would be
23 next to each other, so it would be more like us, a group
24 just hopping from Zone I to Zone J.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So, if we change it to the

1 second, it's just the order of I and J that changes.
2 They're still adjacent.

3 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Right. Totally understand
4 that. But C is before, so not just recommending a change
5 to that, just bringing it to your attention that it would
6 be going from C to I. I love traveling, so I'm ready for
7 it, but just wanted to make sure folks are aware of that.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yes, I see where you're
9 going with that.

10 Let's go ahead and make the change now. Wait.
11 Commissioner Fornaciari, you had a question.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I greatly appreciate
13 all the hard work you've done on this, and I mean it's --
14 thank you.

15 I think -- I mean just for me, and I think we got
16 this feedback last time, the Friday, Saturday, both, of
17 Labor Day weekend are going to be tough, you know, so maybe
18 if there's a way we can stay away from that Friday and that
19 Saturday, we might get better participation. But thank
20 you.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: How about -- we could
22 potentially move Zone C to the 30th, August 30th, and then
23 move Zone J and I, move them to that Wednesday, Thursday.
24 So, it would be four days in a row, but we would have that
25 Friday open. Does that make sense?

1 So, if we move what we have on September 1st to
2 August 30th and then shifted what we have on September 3rd
3 and 4th to September 1st and 2nd. And then that way we
4 have that Friday open.

5 I'll send it out again after we decide on this.

6 Okay. Any other questions? Commissioner Toledo.

7 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Are you asking for -- are
8 you looking for a motion or for approval?

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, that's what we're looking
10 for.

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I kind of --

12 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: My perspective on this, if I
13 may, if we were to motion on this any change on that
14 document would also require an additional motion, and I can
15 only speak for myself. I'm not well versed enough into all
16 that it takes to plan these meetings, and I don't know all
17 the details that Alvaro and team will need to embark on to
18 make these happen. So, in the case that one date changes,
19 I wouldn't want to hold him back from putting together a
20 meeting for another date that might, you know, work for the
21 Commission for the purposes of planning. That's my only
22 hesitancy on that.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Marian, can we -- oh, yes,
24 Marian, thank you.

25 MS. JOHNSTON: My suggestion would be to say that

1 a Chair could change it subject to later approval by the
2 Commission, so that you give the Chair the flexibility to
3 make whatever changes are needed with confirmation later by
4 the Commission.

5 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Marian, could we also -- I'm
6 trying to think in the past when we scheduled our meetings.
7 Did we actually do a motion or did we just like agree,
8 okay, this is good, let's move forward?

9 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: I don't think we had a motion.

10 MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Did we have a motion or not?

12 MS. JOHNSTON: No, you did not.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Just an agreement. So it might
14 be better if we just have an agreement. Is that what we're
15 hoping for right now amongst all of us?

16 And, Marcy, I did -- Director of Outreach -- I
17 have to get used to that -- Director of Outreach Kaplan.

18 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just wanted to flag
19 September 7th as Rosh Hashana. I know it's not a Public
20 Input meeting, but I'm not sure accommodating to other
21 holidays. It's the Public Input Design, so depending on
22 participation, but just flagging that.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So, September 7th, that's a
24 full CRC, only if we need it.

25 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Oh, it was a full CRC,

1 okay. Yeah.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: But it's only if we need it, so
3 similar to tonight, only if we need it, like for action
4 items or to move forward on something, but that is very
5 good information to have. I appreciate that.

6 Any other -- Commissioner Akutagawa.

7 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just wanted to just
8 flag and whether or not what we decide it could move. I
9 want to just flag that Saturday, June 19, I believe is
10 Juneteenth, which I believe is an increasingly important
11 day for particularly for the African-American Black
12 community. So, do you want to just flag that in? Whether
13 we decide to keep it, but I thought it would be important
14 to acknowledge that date.

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. I will note
16 that on the calendar.

17 And I think I saw -- I saw somebody else's hand.
18 Who had their hand raised? Okay.

19 So, can we just have an agreement that we are
20 moving forward with this schedule, and the Public Input
21 Design Committee will come back, hopefully, at our next
22 meeting, to come forward with more specifics in terms of
23 maybe public comment time, the hours of each meeting. So,
24 is everybody okay with that? Commissioner Sinay.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm definitely okay with

1 that. I just have a question. Are we asking those who are
2 missing meetings to commit to actually listening to them
3 after the fact? I'm just trying to figure out what our
4 collective commitment to the Commission's work this summer
5 is.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I do not believe we can make
7 anyone listen to the meetings. It's up to each
8 commissioner. I would hope -- I mean me, personally, if I
9 do miss a meeting, I will go back, but it's up to each
10 commissioner to decide. That's my belief.

11 Commissioner Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just want to clarify.
13 So, are we moving those September dates for sure, and would
14 you repeat them?

15 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, on August 30th, and
16 I will send a revised one. On September 30th we will have
17 the Zone C.

18 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: September 30th or August
19 30th?

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: August 30th, sorry. August
21 30th, my bad. September 1st we will have Zone J, and
22 September 2nd will be Zone I, and so we'll have that
23 Friday, Saturday, Sunday will be open.

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So are there any other

1 questions? Can we do a quick little thumbs up and we're
2 good. We're going to move forward with this schedule.
3 Okay. Great.

4 And I believe that's all we have. Before we go
5 to public comment, is there anything else that we need to
6 discuss tonight? Okay. Kristian or Katy, can we go to
7 public comment?

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing. In order
9 to maximize transparency and public participation in our
10 process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment by
11 phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on
12 the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,
13 enter the meeting number provided on the livestream feed,
14 it is 97018421161 for this meeting. When prompted to enter
15 a participant I.D., simply press the pound key.

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

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

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

25 Please make sure to mute your computer or

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

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

6 And we do not have anyone in the queue at this
7 time.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you, Katy. We'll
9 just wait for it to catch up, please.

10 I don't want to forget to say Happy Cinco de Mayo
11 tomorrow. It's one of those that I rarely ever celebrate,
12 which is kind of interesting, right. I should be
13 celebrating it all the time.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And I do want to
15 remind those that call in to press star nine to raise their
16 hand indicating they wish to comment.

17 Thank you, and we do have a caller, and I will
18 open the line.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead, the floor is
21 yours.

22 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Good evening, Commissioners.
23 This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I have a question. It's mainly
24 logistics for the COI Input Meetings. Will you be
25 designating which part of, say, a region where you're

1 having three or maybe four COI meetings, like which part of
2 that region, like some regions have way more than one
3 county in them. So, are you going to give us advanced
4 notice as to which sections of the zone that you're going
5 to be hearing from on a designated COI meeting day?

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ms. Westa-Lusk. At
7 this point we've identified it as the entire zone. We will
8 work that out potentially at our Public Input Design
9 Meetings. Thank you.

10 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that is all our
12 callers at this time.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Well, if there isn't
14 anything else, I think we will adjourn. I want to thank
15 everyone for being here today. Very efficient. Thank you
16 all for your being here and your support, and we will see
17 you next week at our full meeting. Thank you so much.

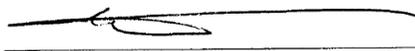
18 (Meeting adjourned 6:11 p.m.)
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of July, 2021.



PETER PETTY
CER**D-493
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