

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

COI Public Input Meeting

721 Capitol Mall, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2021

2:02 P.M.

Reported by:

Peter Petty

APPEARANCES - Via Zoom

Commissioners Present:

Linda Akutagawa, Chair
Jane Anderson, Vice Chair
Isra Ahmad
Alicia Fernandez
Neal Fornaciari
J. Ray Kennedy
Antonio Le Mons
Patricia Sinay
Derric H. Taylor
Pedro Toledo
Trena Turner
Russell Yee

Staff Present:

Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant

Technical Contractors:

Public Comment Moderator
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director
Interpreters: (Hassan) (Varoujan) (Hamad Farhad)
(Reyes) (Saliyo Hasjamasan [sp])

Mappers:

Karin MacDonald
Willie

Also Present:

Public Comment:

1: Bob Gardner
2: John Monsen
3: Joyce P. Kaufman
4: Ocilla Zeleny
5: Sharon Hutchinson
6: Jessica
7: Arthur Calloway, II
8: Janet Carle
9: Sally Miller

INDEX

Call to Order and Roll Call:	page 4
Public Comments:	page 6
Adjournment:	page 75

P R O C E E D I N G S

1 Friday, August 20, 2021 2:02 o'clock p.m.

2 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: (via Zoom): All right. Good
3 afternoon, everyone. Welcome and thank you to everyone
4 who's tuning in to California Citizens Redistricting
5 Commission Communities of Interest Input Meeting. I am
6 Commissioner Linda Akutagawa and I will be co-chairing
7 today's meeting with my fellow commissioner Jane Anderson.
8 So today, we are offering one Language Line in Spanish so
9 Spanish speakers can listen into the meeting in their
10 native language.

11 Could I please have our interpreters provide our
12 call-in numbers? And can I have the Spanish interpreter
13 read the Spanish Language Line instructions?

14 SPANISH INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in
15 Spanish].

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you very much. Okay. So
18 now let's go to Robbie for a Roll call of the
19 Commissioners.

20 MR. SINGH: Thank you, Chair.

21 Commissioner Anderson?

22 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON (via Zoom): Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

24 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ (via Zoom): Present.

1 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?
2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI (via Zoom): Here.
3 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?
4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY (via Zoom): Here.
5 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?
6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS (via Zoom): Here.
7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?
8 Commissioner Sinay?
9 COMMISSIONER SINAY (via Zoom): Here.
10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?
11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR (via Zoom): Present.
12 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?
13 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO (via Zoom): Here.
14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?
15 COMMISSIONER TURNER (via Zoom): Here.
16 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vazquez?
17 Commissioner Yee?
18 COMMISSIONER YEE (via Zoom): Here.
19 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad?
20 COMMISSIONER AHMAD (via Zoom): Here.
21 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Akutagawa?
22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.
23 MR. SINGH: Roll call is compute -- complete,
24 Chair, sorry.
25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ravi. Okay. I will

1 start by sharing a little bit about the Commission. Every
2 ten years after the Federal Government publishes updated
3 census information, California must redraw the boundaries
4 of its congressional, state Senate, state Assembly, and
5 state Board of Equalization districts so that the districts
6 correctly reflect the state's population. In 2008,
7 California voters authorized the creation of the
8 independent commission when they passed the Voters FIRST
9 Act. It authorized the Commission to redraw or draw the
10 new district lines for state Senate, state Assembly and
11 state Board of Equalization districts.

12 In 2019, the congressional Voters FIRST Act added
13 the responsibility of drawing congressional districts to
14 the Commission. The 14-member commission is made up of
15 five Republicans, five Democrats, and four non-affiliated
16 with either of those two parties. The Commission must draw
17 the district lines in conformity with strict, non-partisan
18 rules designated or designed to create districts of
19 relatively equal population that will provide fair
20 representation for all Californians.

21 The census redistricting data was released the
22 week of August 9th. When the official California
23 Redistricting Database is available in late September, the
24 Commission will begin drawing maps using six line-drawing
25 criteria as outlined in the California Constitution. One

1 of these is minimizing the division of cities, counties,
2 neighborhoods and communities of interest to the extent
3 possible. We can obtain city and county information from
4 those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood and
5 communities of interest information from Californians
6 directly. That's why we have launched these Communities of
7 Interest input sessions to get that valuable information
8 from you directly, and we encourage all Californians to
9 participate in this process. If you would rather submit
10 your input over the internet, you can do so from our
11 website or by visiting drawmycacomunity.org; Skip the
12 line, Go online.

13 Now, I will call on all commissioners to
14 introduce themselves and to say hello. To see the
15 biographies of all 14 commissioners or for additional
16 information or to sign up for our email distribution,
17 please visit our website at wedrawthelinesca.org.

18 So let's begin with my co-chair Commissioner
19 Anderson.

20 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Thank you, Commissioner
21 Akutagawa.

22 My name's Jane Anderson and I'm going to be co-
23 chairing this meeting today. And I'm coming to you from
24 Berkley, California. My connection to the great area east
25 of the foothills and then east of the Sierras is I have

1 cousins who live in Amador County and I just want to do a
2 shout out to our friends in Alpine County who are still
3 recovering from fires and earthquakes and all of our
4 friends in Amador who are also being caught up by the winds
5 of this -- the fires around them as well. Fires are a big
6 issue in this whole area, so we understand that this might
7 not be the ideal time for you to call in, but for all of
8 those who are going to call in today, thank you, thank you.
9 And we look forward to hearing about your communities and
10 what makes them special.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Let's go to
12 Commissioner Isra Ahmad.

13 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair, and thank
14 you everyone for being here to our -- here in our Community
15 of Interest input meeting. I'm so excited to continue to
16 learn about the communities across California, so I'm
17 looking forward to a great meeting.

18 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much.
19 Let's go to Commissioner Alicia Fernandez?

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Good afternoon,
21 everyone. I'm Alicia Fernandez from Yolo County, your
22 neighbors to the -- let me think -- west. Right? I'm kind
23 of directionally challenged, but that's okay. Commissioner
24 Kennedy is nodding his head, so I think I got it right.
25 And I'm so looking forward to the continuing input and I

1 appreciate all of you that are calling in to provide
2 testimony. But again, it's -- this is not the only way to
3 provide testimony. So thank you so much and I look forward
4 to all of your communities.

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

7 Let's go to Commissioner Neil Fornaciari.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Good afternoon,
9 California. I'm Commissioner Neil Fornaciari. I'm coming
10 to you from Tracy, California in San Joaquin County.
11 Looking forward to hearing more about your Community of
12 Interest and what makes your area special. Thanks for
13 joining us.

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
15 much.

16 Let's go to Commissioner Ray Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Good
18 afternoon, California. I'm joining the meeting from my
19 home in Morongo Valley just north of the San Bernardino
20 Riverside County line on the way to Joshua Tree here in the
21 desert of San Bernardino County. Looking forward to
22 hearing what makes your community special to you. Thanks
23 again.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you.

25 Let's go to Commissioner Antonio Le Mons.

1 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Good afternoon,
2 Californians. Buenas Tardes. Looking forward to hearing
3 your Community of Interest input. It's been a very
4 exciting run over the last few weeks and I am looking
5 forward to it continuing. Thank you.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you.

7 Not sure if she's back, but let's go to
8 Commissioner Sara Sadhwani if she's available?

9 Okay. Maybe she is not back yet. Okay. Let's
10 go to Commissioner Patricia Sinay.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here. Gracias. Good
12 afternoon everyone in California. It's a pleasure to serve
13 you from San Diego.

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you.

15 And let's see. I don't see Commissioner Derric
16 Taylor, but I'll just say his name out loud just in case.
17 Oh, there he is. He is here.

18 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I am -- I'm here. Thank
19 you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

20 Good afternoon, California. I am Derric Taylor
21 joining you today from Alta Dena, California in Los Angeles
22 County. Look forward to all the input from our community
23 members. I echo the sentiment of the other commissioners
24 and look forward to continuing the work. Thank you.

25 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very

1 much.

2 Let's go to Commissioner Trena Turner.

3 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Beautiful. Thank you.

4 Thank you for choosing me. Picking me. Californians, I'm
5 Trena Turner. I'm an ordained elder in the City of
6 Stockton, and I come to you from San Joaquin County and I
7 never would try the whole directional bit. I have not a
8 clue. I'm in San Joaquin. Hopefully you know where I am.
9 I'm going to learn all about you today because you're going
10 to call in and tell us about your beautiful area and I will
11 be attentively listening. Thank you.

12 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
13 much.

14 Let's go to Commissioner Pedro Toledo.

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you, Chair. My name
16 is Pedro Toledo and I'm a commissioner from Petaluma,
17 California in wine country. I'm looking forward to hearing
18 your testimony. Appreciate it. Back to Chair.

19 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
20 much.

21 I also again want to -- I don't believe
22 Commissioner Angela Vazquez is with us, but I still want to
23 say her name out loud just in case. Okay.

24 All right then, I'm going to go ahead and move
25 on. Let's go to Commissioner Russell Yee.

1 COMMISSIONER YEE: Good afternoon, California.
2 And my name is Russell Yee, and I am here in my hometown of
3 Oakland. And all 14 of us represent the entire state, so
4 all 14 of us today are keenly interested in the
5 eastern/southeastern counties, central and southeastern
6 counties of California and look forward to hearing from you
7 today.

8 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
9 much.

10 And let me just briefly introduce myself. My
11 name is Commissioner Linda Akutagawa and I am from Orange
12 County, California, so I am a neighbor to the south,
13 although not the far south, in San Diego. I'm a little bit
14 north of there, but definitely south if you all live in the
15 eastern Sierras in the counties that we'll be covering.
16 Today, I just want to also add my welcomes to you all and
17 also want to echo what Commissioner Anderson said. We
18 appreciate any of you who are able to join in.

19 We are very much aware that in the northern parts
20 of the state you're facing quite a bit of difficulties with
21 the fires. Unfortunately, I think it's a reality for a lot
22 of people across all of California, so I think we -- we
23 definitely feel your pain and also are really just wishing
24 the best for you all. So we're looking forward to hearing
25 from you and thank you very much and please encourage, you

1 know, family, friends, colleagues, co-workers, anybody who
2 has an interest in, really, the future of California.
3 Encourage them to get involved either by going online or
4 participating on one of these calls, either today or in the
5 future when we have our state-wide meetings.

6 All right. So I do want to just note that we are
7 also active on social media, so please also encourage your
8 others, as well as yourself, to follow us on the California
9 Citizens Redistricting Commission via our social media
10 channels. You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter,
11 LinkedIn, and YouTube at wedrawthelinesCA. Okay?
12 wedrawthelinesCA. And you could, you know, follow us on
13 social media to get some more information about
14 redistricting as well as updates about what is happening
15 with the -- with the redistricting commission. Before we
16 continue, could I please have our interpreters provide our
17 Language Line numbers one more time? And can I --

18 Let's start with our Spanish interpreter. Please
19 read the Spanish Language Line instructions.

20 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Yes. [Instructions read in
21 Spanish]. Thank you.

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

23 Okay. So this meeting is primarily for
24 Communities of Interest testimony focused on Alpine,
25 Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, and Tuolumne

1 counties and their surrounding areas. However, anyone in
2 California can call in to provide input. General public
3 comment will take place at the end of the meeting.
4 Although the Commission has divided up California into 11
5 outreach zones, that, in no way, is relative to or
6 reflective of redistricting lines or boundaries. The
7 commission created the zones to assist commissioners and
8 staff in their outreach efforts only, not as an indication
9 of planned boundaries.

10 Today, we are joined by our line-drawing team,
11 Haystaq DNA and Q2 Data & Research LLC, who will be
12 displaying a map of the area that attendees or callers will
13 be describing. Please start with the areas you would like
14 to discuss and be as specific as possible about the
15 boundaries of where your community is located. It is our
16 goal to find the area on the map that you would like to
17 discuss prior to your testimony so we can all be looking at
18 it.

19 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a
20 large city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
21 locate your area, your timer will begin. Attendees will
22 not be able to share their screen. We are also joined by
23 Spanish interpreters and Katie, our comment moderator, will
24 be introducing attendees when it is their turn to speak.
25 When you join the meeting, please use the raise hand button

1 at the bottom of your Zoom screen to enter the queue. If
2 you have registered for a time slot, we encourage you to
3 call in during your appointment time slot. When it is your
4 turn to speak, Katie, our comment moderator, will be
5 identifying you by your assigned unique I.D. number. You
6 will be reconnected to the session with the ability to
7 enable your own video and/or audio.

8 Registration is not required to participate in
9 this public input meeting. The public has the option of
10 calling in during this meeting to get in the queue to
11 speak. If you do not have an appointment and wish to call
12 in to provide public input, the number is (877) 853-5247.
13 Again, the number to provide public input is (877) 853-
14 5247. You will need to enter Meeting I.D. Number
15 88961386844. Again the Meeting I.D. Number is 88961386844.

16 This call-in information and access code is also
17 listed on the livestream. You will need to dial this
18 number in order to give public input. Today, we will also
19 have Spanish interpreters available to interpret non-
20 English input at this call-in number. The comment
21 moderator will assign you a speaker order number before you
22 begin speaking and please make a note of this for future
23 reference. You will be able to use this number to identify
24 your COI testimony on our website at a future date.

25 The commission will be enforcing a three-minute

1 time limit for English speakers and a six-minute time limit
2 for those with an interpreter. There will be a warning at
3 30 seconds and 15 seconds time remaining.

4 At the beginning of your input, you will see a
5 map on the screen. Please remind the mapper what area you
6 would like to see on the screen and be as specific as
7 possible about the boundaries where your community is
8 located. If, at the conclusion of the meeting, there is
9 still a need to allow for members of the public in the
10 queue to speak, we will continue this COI input meeting at
11 a new date and time and we'll attempt to reschedule the
12 remaining members of the public to speak for the allotted
13 three minutes. Please monitor the website as we expect a
14 post-continuation of this agenda within 24 hours.

15 Okay. Community of Interest rules. While there
16 are no clear rules how to define Community of Interest,
17 we've identified ways for you to describe your community.
18 First, begin with your county or city. Second, mention the
19 street names and significant locations in your neighborhood
20 to help us identify the parameters of your community.
21 Three, what are your shared interests? Four, what brings
22 your community together? Five, what is important to your
23 community? Six, are there nearby areas you want to be in a
24 district with? Number seven, are there nearby areas that
25 you don't want to be in a district with, and tell us why or

1 why not.

2 And then lastly, number eight, has your community
3 come together to advocate for important services, better
4 schools, roads, or health centers, for example, in your
5 neighborhood. Also, we invite you to use the Community of
6 Interest tool to draw a map and describe your community by
7 visiting DrawMyCACommunity.org. This website is available
8 in 16 languages. Again, Skip the Line, Go Online. Submit
9 your COI Input today. And please encourage at least three
10 other people to do the same.

11 As a reminder, even though we are focusing on
12 specific counties for this COI Input Meeting, Californians
13 from anywhere in the state are welcome to provide input
14 today. We will now begin the public input sessions and
15 will start with people who are registered and then open the
16 lines, if there is time, before the next session for those
17 who have called in. If you are calling in without an
18 appointment, please do not hang up as you will lose your
19 place in line.

20 I'm going to go ahead and pass this over to
21 Katie, our comment moderator now.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.
23 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the raise
24 hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter the
25 queue. When it is your turn to speak, you will be

1 identified by your assigned unique I.D. number, which you
2 received yesterday. You will be reconnected to the session
3 with the ability to enable your own video and/or audio.
4 You will then be assigned a speaker order number before you
5 begin speaking. Please make a note of your speaker order
6 number for future reference.

7 The commission will be enforcing a three-minute
8 time limit. There will be a warning at 30 seconds and 15
9 seconds remaining. It is the Commission's goal to find the
10 area on the map you would like to discuss prior to your
11 testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood of a
12 large city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
13 locate your area, your three-minute testimony will begin.
14 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

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

20 And at this time, we will have 003 and then up
21 next will be 004.

22 003, I will be promoting you now. 003, your
23 speaker order number will be number 1. If you will please
24 make note of that for a future reference. You can now
25 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of

1 your screen. If you will please let the mapper know what
2 area you would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

3 MR. GARDNER: Thank you very much. My name is
4 Bob Gardner. I'm on the Mono County Board of Supervisors.
5 I'm speaking today as a private citizen within Mono County,
6 but I do believe our county board of supervisors and our
7 counsel of government, the eastern Sierra Council of
8 Government, have sent correspondence to the Commission with
9 many of these points I'm going to raise today.

10 I certainly appreciate the opportunity to provide
11 input on California's 2020 redistricting process. Our
12 first priority, my first priority, is that eastern Sierra
13 Counties, specifically Inyo and Mono counties should be
14 defined as a Community of Interest with shared state and
15 federal representation. Currently, Mono County is
16 represented by State Assembly District 5 and Inyo County is
17 represented by Assembly District 26. Both counties are
18 represented by California Senate District 8.

19 Historically, our constituents in both counties
20 have felt under represented at the state level largely due
21 to our geographic isolation on the east side of the Sierra
22 Nevada. No state representative maintains a local office
23 in either Inyo or Mono County. Eastern California
24 districts are currently connected to greater population
25 centers on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada and

1 central valley that do not share any of those
2 characteristics in common with the east side of the Sierra
3 Nevada. Access to the eastern Sierra from the west side of
4 the Sierra Nevada requires traversing the 14,000-foot
5 mountain range over high mountain passes, travel that's
6 lengthy and circuitous in summer months and significantly
7 extended when mountain passes close for winter months.

8 Indeed, these mountains present such a formidable
9 barrier between the Central Valley and eastern Sierra that
10 no roads cross the Sierra Nevada for a span of about 250
11 miles. When residents of Inyo and Mono counties need to
12 access urban amenities such as international airport or a
13 big box retailer, they tend to travel south to LA or north
14 to Reno as traveling west over the mountains is inefficient
15 and difficult. Thus, we feel that it makes little sense
16 and dilutes the voice of the residents of Inyo and Mono
17 counties to tether eastside residents to west side counties
18 that are so geographically divided from the eastern Sierra.

19 The eastern Sierra region has unique and unifying
20 regional issues that would benefit from united regional
21 state representation. Both counties are characterized by
22 significant percentages of federal owned and managed land
23 as well as water exportation and land management by the Los
24 Angeles Department of Water and Power. No other county in
25 the State of California is characterized greater than 50

1 percent of private land owned by a California municipality
2 outside their boundaries. Both counties have less than
3 five percent of their land area available for private
4 ownership or development, a shared community and economic
5 development constraint impacting shared regional housing
6 and retail development opportunities.

7 As a second priority, Inyo and Mono counties I
8 think would like to share regional representation with
9 other Sierra Nevada counties including --

10 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

11 MR. GARDNER: -- including Mariposa County,
12 Tuolumne County, Calaveras County, Amador County, Alpine
13 County and parts of El Dorado and Placer counties. We
14 would -- as well as Nevada County and Sierra County -- like
15 to form a Sierra Nevada district defined by shared issues
16 and geography --

17 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

18 MR. GARDNER: -- watersheds, histories, and
19 cultures. I respectfully request the redistricting
20 commission redraw these boundaries to include Inyo and Mono
21 counties within the same districts and to seriously look at
22 shared representation for all counties with the Sierra
23 Nevada and particular within the eastern watershed --

24 MR. MANOFF: Time.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we will have
3 004 and then up next will be 001.

4 004, I will be promoting you now. 004, your
5 speaker order number is number 2, if you will please make
6 note of that for future reference. You can now enable your
7 audio and video in the lower left corner of your screen.
8 If you will please let the mapper know what area you would
9 like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

10 MR. MONSEN: Thank you very much. I just wanted
11 to confirm you can hear me?

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

13 MR. MONSEN: Well, that's excellent. So we need
14 to go down to Los Angeles County and within Los Angeles
15 County, we need to look at the mighty San Gabriel Mountains
16 and the communities, foothill communities below them from
17 Pacoima across to Claremont. And I don't know if the map's
18 moving slower than you're seeing it, but it's not moving
19 for me.

20 MR. MANOFF: Just a moment, please while
21 (indiscernible) brings that area up for you.

22 MR. MONSEN: Oh, you've got it. Right. So move
23 it down a little and then you'll be looking at the foothill
24 cities that are disappearing there. In any case, if --
25 yeah, move it -- move the map south. Can you find the

1 Angeles National Forest? Thank you. Okay. That's going
2 to be, I suppose, good enough.

3 My name is John Monsen and I wanted to talk today
4 about the importance of the relationship of public lands to
5 the congressional districts they're placed in.
6 Specifically I wanted to talk about the congressional
7 districts where the foothill communities from Pacoima all
8 the way across east to Claremont are located in
9 congressional districts. I was born in Pasadena and I'm a
10 long-time resident of the foothill communities from Pacoima
11 to Claremont, which are just south of the Angeles National
12 Forest and generally north of the 210 freeway.

13 I worked on many issues involving these mountains
14 including urging the Obama Administration to create the San
15 Gabriel Mountains National Monument in 2014. In 2011, I
16 headed up a group called Citizens for the San Gabriel
17 Mountains, which made the case for that -- to that
18 commission that the foothill cities from Pacoima east to
19 Claremont formed a Community of Interest based on their
20 geographic, economic, and historical relationship to their
21 backyard mountain range, the San Gabriel mountains and on
22 the traits they have in common with each other in
23 relationship to the mountains.

24 The proximity of the San Gabriels is a major
25 source of their community identities. Pasadena, for

1 example, was a popular tourist site from the 1860s to 1920s
2 because they were close to the wilds of the San Gabriel
3 Mountains where people could escape urbanization and
4 experience wild nature. These days, these communities are
5 united by the threat of wildfire and many of them are in --
6 all of them, in fact, have high severity fire risk zones.
7 They share a common geographical orientation to the
8 mountains and they're residents are frequent visitors.

9 Because of the terrain, foothill cities face a
10 heightened risk of floods. Many of these foothill cities
11 have trail systems that lead directly from the cities into
12 the mountains. The range is a source of tourist dollars
13 for local businesses. And we were pleased that the
14 Commission in 2011 had a very favorable reaction to our
15 suggestions that they were a Community of Interest and
16 we're hoping that you will recognize them in the same way.

17 They -- these cities also share common concerns
18 about the management of the range by the federal --

19 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds remaining.

20 MR. MONSEN: -- federal government including
21 fuels and fire management, watershed and other issues. And
22 the only way they can have any clout in Congress is by
23 having the same member of Congress that represents the
24 mountains to their north, so they need to be in the same
25 districts.

1 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

2 MR. MONSEN: Please do not forget the importance
3 of our public lands to the people who live near them.
4 These people need to be in the same congressional districts
5 as the public lands adjacent to them.

6 Thank you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 Right now we will have 001. I will be promoting
9 you now. 001, your speaker order number is number 3. If
10 you would please make note of that for a future reference?
11 If you will please let the mapper know what area you would
12 like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

13 MS. KAUFMAN: Thank you. Inyo Counties, Mono,
14 Alpine, Amador, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Calaveras, and parts of
15 Placer, El Dorado and also Madera. Good afternoon. My
16 name is Joyce Kaufman. I live in June Lake in Mono County.
17 This central Sierra Nevada is a geographically distinct
18 area that comprises the communities that abut the crest of
19 the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range in the counties I've just
20 mentioned.

21 Although I know the Commission's preference is
22 not to divide counties, in some cases there are reasons to
23 do so. For example, the eastern part of Mariposa, which
24 includes the Devil's Postpile, which is accessed from
25 Mammoth in Mono County. The community of interest

1 described here is namely rural and frontier. Our community
2 is bonded by the type of person who chooses to live here.
3 We are people who live away from urban centers and many of
4 us consider ourselves stewards of the rugged wilderness we
5 inhabit.

6 The economy of the central Sierra depends upon
7 recreation such as skiing, camping, fishing, hiking,
8 backpacking, and small businesses that often support these
9 recreational activities. We face many challenges including
10 adequate funding of forest management to mitigate and
11 address forest wildfires, concern about water rights,
12 access to Broadband, access to air transportation, and
13 access to healthcare.

14 The people in this Community of Interest share
15 concerns about making the state and federal government
16 provide resources to our rural communities and therefore
17 request the creation of representative districts that will
18 allow us to speak with one collective voice rather than
19 splitting our Community of Interest into unrelated state,
20 State Assembly, Senate, and federal congressional
21 districts. At the present time, none of our federal or
22 state representatives have offices in our composed area and
23 none of them routinely visits this area.

24 Our current member of the assembly, Frank
25 Bigelow, is based in Madera in the southwest portion of the

1 county. While it might appear that Madera is contiguous to
2 Mono, we are separated by a mountain range which makes it
3 virtually impossible to traverse in the winter.

4 What is perhaps most telling is that on his
5 website --

6 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

7 MS. KAUFMAN: -- under my district as of this
8 writing, Mr. Bigelow did not have anything posted about the
9 Tamarack Fire despite the fact that members of his district
10 were affected by it. This really --

11 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

12 MS. KAUFMAN: -- speaks to the important point of
13 making sure that we have representatives who know us,
14 understand us, and can advocate for us. Thank you.

15 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Can we -- are you still there?
16 We just lost her.

17 MR. MANOFF: Just a moment, Chair.

18 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Can we -- can we bring her
19 back?

20 MR. MANOFF: Yes. Just a moment.

21 Speaker 001, the Chair had some additional
22 questions for you, please.

23 MS. KAUFMAN: Yes. Can you hear me?

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I can hear you. Thank
25 you. And thank you for your testimony. I do have a couple

1 clarification questions.

2 MS. KAUFMAN: Mm-hmm.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: You mentioned that -- you
4 mentioned several counties including parts of Madera, parts
5 of Placer, and parts of El Dorado. Could you give us a
6 little bit more detail in terms of what parts of Madera,
7 what parts -- how far into Madera, how -- what parts of
8 Placer and El Dorado are you thinking you would like to see
9 included in as part of your Community of Interest?

10 MS. KAUFMAN: Sure. For Madera, we're looking at
11 the eastern part that's bounded by the San Joaquin River.
12 And the reason for that -- and the reason for that is
13 because that really makes sure that the eastern part
14 includes Devil's Postpile and other park and natural and
15 forest areas that are, in effect, accessed through Mammoth,
16 which are Mono -- which is in Mono County. So what we're
17 trying to do is make it more contiguous.

18 As far as the areas in Placer and El Dorado, what
19 we're looking at is the parts on the eastern side that abut
20 the ridge or the crest of the Sierra Nevada which comes up
21 basically about a third of the way to the east. So it's
22 really about a third eastward to the Nevada border. Does
23 that help clarify?

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. That -- yes, I -- I do
25 believe so. I believe our map drawers got what they

1 needed. You saw them -- I don't know if you were able to
2 see where they were, you know, moving the cursor. Is that
3 about what you --?

4 MS. KAUFMAN: I did.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: -- were thinking? Okay.

6 MS. KAUFMAN: Actually, even a little further to
7 the east but that's roughly it. So it includes the Lake
8 Tahoe area and the areas along that shore. So, yeah,
9 that's about right.

10 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Perfect. Thank you so
11 much. We appreciate your testimony.

12 MS. KAUFMAN: Thank you for your time.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And, Chair, at this
14 time that is all of our people in the queue. Would you
15 like me to read the call instructions at this time?

16 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. That would be wonderful.

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

22 When prompted to enter the Meeting I.D. number
23 provided on the livestream feed, it is 88961386844 for this
24 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply
25 press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you will be

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

4 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
5 message that says the host would like you to talk and to
6 press star-six to speak. If you would like to give your
7 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are
8 not required to 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. Once you are waiting in the queue, be
12 alert for when it is your turn to speak and again, please
13 turn down the livestream volume.

14 And at this time, we do not have anyone in the
15 queue, Chair.

16 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you so much,
17 Katie.

18 Can I have the Spanish interpreter also give the
19 same translation of the call-in instructions so we can
20 insure that we have everybody able to or interested in
21 calling in if they all have the information.

22 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Hi, Chair. This is the
23 Spanish Interpreter. I can go ahead and give the call-in
24 instructions. Would these be the full call-in
25 instructions?

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Let's just go ahead and
2 give the full call-in instructions.

3 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Sounds good. [Instructions
4 read in Spanish]. Gracias. Thank you.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you.

6 Katie, I do see that we have someone. I do want
7 to encourage everybody, please call in. Again, remember
8 you can call in from anywhere across the state although we
9 do want to encourage those from our Outreach Zone G to
10 please call in and give us your input.

11 Katie, I'm going to turn this back over to you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right, Chair.

13 Caller with the last four 3981, if you would
14 please follow the prompts to unmute at this time by
15 pressing star-six?

16 Caller 3981, your speaker order number will be
17 number 4. If you'll please make note of that for future
18 reference, and if you'll please let the mapper know what
19 area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

20 MS. ZELENY: I'd like to discuss the area from
21 Inyo County up through Nevada County along the border with
22 Nevada.

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

24 MS. ZELENY: Okay. My name is Ocilla Zeleny.

25 That's O-c-i-l-l-a. Last name is Z-e-l-e-n-y. I live at

1 277 Hillside Drive in Mammoth Lakes, Mono County,
2 California.

3 This region depends on tourism. National parks
4 and national forests draw folks from around the world.
5 Skiing, hiking, camping, backpacking, fishing, music and
6 film festivals are some of the additional attractions that
7 support numerous small businesses. As a result, a
8 sustainable environment, affordable housing, reliable
9 Broadband, accessible healthcare and transportation are
10 key. Naturally, wildfires, mining operations, forest
11 management, threats to clean air and water are concerns.

12 To address all this, state and federal
13 representatives need to live in this area. They do not.
14 This is reflected in their lack of concern for this area
15 demonstrated in their newsletters and on their websites.

16 The crest and the east side of the Sierra Nevada
17 Mountain Range brings geographic commonality to the rural
18 areas located in the following counties: Inyo, Mono,
19 Madera east of the San Joaquin River, Mariposa, Tuolumne,
20 Alpine, Calaveras, Amador, and portions of El Dorado,
21 Placer, and Nevada including the Lake Tahoe Basin and
22 Truckee.

23 Folks who live here prefer less congested
24 wilderness areas to urban living. They enjoy sharing the
25 wonders of this area with visitors, encouraging them to

1 treat this land with care and respect. Please keep us
2 together and eliminate the outliers who do not have the
3 same common interests and concerns. For example, they have
4 nearby access to urban areas with access to hospitals,
5 medical specialties, airports, multiple Broadband providers
6 and the like. The Sierra Nevada Mountain Range provides a
7 clear demarcation. Going further south from Inyo County
8 would likely continue the challenge of having state and
9 federal representatives located a distance from the needs
10 and concerns of Zone G. Thank you very much.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That was all of our
13 callers at this time, Chair.

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Well, let's -- let's do
15 this. Reading off the instructions the last time seems to
16 have inspired somebody to call in. Hopefully that was a
17 result. Why don't we play the five-minute video that
18 may -- anyone who's watching maybe it might inspire them to
19 call in and we'll just be back in five minutes?

20 (Off the record at 2:49 p.m.)

21 (Back on the record at 2:54 p.m.)

22 MR. MANOFF: All right. That five-minute video
23 is playing on the livestream, Chair.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you so much
25 and hope everybody who is watching found the video

1 interesting.

2 Do you want to just remind folks that we would
3 love to hear your public input testimony? If you prefer to
4 do so online, that is fine, too, but if you are inspired to
5 give us your testimony based on what some of the other
6 callers have said, please -- please do call in. Otherwise,
7 for anyone else who's listening and you're from outside of
8 the region, I do want to also encourage you to consider
9 calling in as well, too, if you'd like to call in about
10 your particular community. In the meantime, we haven't
11 done this in a while. I'd like to perhaps maybe see if our
12 commissioners might have some new stories that they might
13 want to share with us around our Zone Z -- Zone G counties
14 of Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Mono, and
15 Inyo?

16 We've done memories. I don't know if any -- oh,
17 Commissioner Anderson, thank you. And I had to expand it
18 out. Otherwise, the way it's set up right now, I can't see
19 anything but four people at a time. So I'll try to scroll
20 through things.

21 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Yeah. Since we had some
22 callers from Mono County, I'd talk a little bit about my
23 adventures in Mono. I don't have a great deal of
24 adventures. I've been there probably two or three times.
25 Unfortunately, it's not -- not nearly enough. I can't say

1 enough about it. If you've never seen Mono Lake, it's
2 something you must see. It is literally like, of course,
3 being on the moon, and I believe they actually did some of
4 the preliminary -- certainly a lot of filming is done in
5 that entire area for ideas of, you know, you're on the
6 moon, that sort of thing. But there's some other,
7 actually, gorgeous areas through -- through Mono further
8 north. Unfortunately, far north, that's where that
9 earthquake, the six-nine earthquake -- six-nine earthquake
10 not that long ago did some damage to a lovely, interesting
11 -- I don't want to say it's a tourist shop, but it sort of
12 is. It's an art studio that they, unfortunately -- have
13 artists from all over the world and unfortunately it got
14 damaged in the earthquake and they're trying to rebuild.

15 But Mono also has a sneaky way up into the back
16 of Yosemite, which, if you've never driven that going from
17 the desert floor up and over into Yosemite, it's very, very
18 fun to do particularly in a very fast car. So I'll -- I'll
19 just leave it at that and then hopefully some other
20 commissioners have some fun things to say.

21 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thanks for sharing that,
22 Commissioner Anderson. I know that I, you know, even
23 though statutes of limitations may be up on speeding, I
24 think we don't want to admit too much publicly about some
25 of our -- our law breaking.

1 Right, Commissioner Taylor?

2 Okay. Let's see. Anyone else have any stories
3 that they might want to share about the region? I did get
4 another suggestion of a prompt, but I thought I'd ask about
5 any other stories you might want to share with us about the
6 region.

7 All right. So let me share this suggested
8 prompt. So does -- would anybody be willing to share their
9 favorite voting memories or their first voting experience?
10 Ah, Commissioner Anderson. All right.

11 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: I'll do one, because it
12 wasn't in California, and it was -- I won't tell you
13 exactly where it was. But it was a different state where
14 you'd actually go in and it was a like a big, grey machine.
15 And I mean big like a, you know, really almost eight feet
16 tall by about four-feet wide.

17 You'd pull a curtain. You'd hit this rod and
18 you'd pull -- the curtain would close behind you. And it
19 had all these bunch of little levers that you would push
20 and it was -- it's my very first time voting and my mother,
21 she and I were going to vote, and so we went in and you
22 push in these little levers to actually register your vote.
23 And then you kind of -- and then at the end there's a big,
24 almost like a lottery handle that you'd grab, you know, at
25 the side and pull it down. And it would go sh-sh-sh-sh-sh

1 (makes noise), and then they'd all reset. And -- and it
2 would also open the curtain behind you.

3 So we sort of walked out and it was a bit like
4 you'd been to the moon sort of -- there I go to the moon
5 again, but it was a very, very unusual experience. So it's
6 -- my first time voting, that's what I did.

7 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That is quite memorable. I --
8 it -- I'd have to say it kind of reminds me of something
9 you would see out of a movie maybe.

10 Commissioner Sinay, it looks like you have
11 something to share, and I think Commissioner Yee after that
12 has a memory to share too.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: The year I became a U.S.
14 citizen was my junior year in high school. And it was also
15 a presidential election year. And I remember I became a
16 U.S. citizen in May or June -- probably late May or early
17 June. The next morning I went straight to go get my
18 passport because I was traveling at the end of June, so I
19 filled out all that -- I registered to vote, right -- five
20 minutes after I became a U.S. citizen. And I got my
21 passport within 24 hours.

22 My mom was like, When did you apply for this?
23 You know, it was probably the fastest ever passport created
24 because I had gone to the federal office and the woman
25 liked me and put a speed on it and she had heard my story

1 that I had just became a U.S. citizen and she got really
2 excited for me. And I just remember just that feeling of I
3 get to vote as well. And, you know, it's the first time my
4 whole family voted, because my parents kept going back and
5 forth about becoming a U.S. citizen, but once I did my
6 paperwork, they're like, eh, you're -- you know, she's
7 doing it. We'll do it. So we all became citizens at the
8 same time.

9 I think the second most memorable time I voted
10 was probably when my name was on the ballot and that was
11 kind of a surreal experience in having my kids there and
12 they were learning how to read. So it's like can you find
13 Mommy's name, you know, and we kind of made it this
14 whole -- whole production. And then my daughter would go
15 from my ballot to my husband's ballot, which you're not
16 supposed to, but because we usually vote -- we counter each
17 other's votes. We cancel each other's votes out, she just
18 wanted to make sure he was voting correctly from mine. So
19 that was a pretty memorable voting experience.

20 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That's a great story. Thank
21 you, Commissioner Sinay.

22 Okay. Let's go to Commissioner Yee.

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I'll
24 actually respond to both prompts. The first by saying for
25 those in Mono County, you'd be hearted by how many cars

1 around here in Oakland, Alameda County, have a Save Mono
2 Lake bumper sticker. You know, it's actually pretty common
3 and even though it's quite far away, we care about your
4 part of the state as well.

5 As for voting, let's see. 1996, in mid-October
6 of 1996, my wife and I became parents through adoption and
7 our oldest child came into our lives as a newborn mid-
8 October. And then in November there were the elections, so
9 we went to our local polling place to vote and had our
10 newborn adopted child with us and so we get to the polling
11 place and we had the kind of League of Woman Voters, senior
12 citizens running the poll, polling place, and they took an
13 interest -- the two ladies there took an interest -- the
14 senior ladies took an interest in our newborn.

15 And they took an even greater interest in my wife
16 because they -- they were whispering to each other, Oh,
17 these modern women. Because there she was, they thought
18 post-partum, (laughing) all trim and fit and with her
19 newborn and just couldn't believe it. So the voting all
20 went well, but that's the thing I remember about that
21 election is the -- pulling a fast one on the ladies there
22 working the polling place.

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That's a great story,
24 Commissioner Yee.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: My most memorable voting

1 moment was when I didn't get to vote. It was my first U.N.
2 mission. I was in East Timor at the time of the elections
3 in 2000 starting the preparations for the elections in East
4 Timor in 2001. And because when I left I didn't know what
5 my mailing address would be or anything, I -- I had
6 Washington, D.C. send my ballots to the Election Division
7 at U.N. Headquarters in New York, figuring that they would
8 be able to put it in a pouch to me.

9 Well, they're like oh, we don't have to put it in
10 a pouch. We've got another staffer going out there and
11 because it was 2000 and the Millennium Summit and every
12 leader in the world was showing up at U.N. Headquarters,
13 security was so tight that they -- they pretty much closed
14 U.N. Headquarters to all but those heads of state. And the
15 staffer's contract was delayed, and so she wasn't able to
16 hand me my ballot until several weeks after the election.

17 Well, luckily, I thought, a U.S. warship paid a
18 port visit to Dili, East Timor, and I managed to get a
19 ticket for a tour of the ship. And so I was very happy to
20 get onboard the ship and find the first crew member and say
21 I need to speak with your voting assistance officer only to
22 be told that the voting assistance officer was onshore. So
23 I didn't get to vote.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Kennedy, I would
25 have to give you credit though for all the effort that you

1 tried to -- tried to vote. But that made -- it does make
2 for a --

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, since --

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Go ahead.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Since then, I've perfected
6 overseas voting. I've had occasion to do it on multiple
7 occasions. The Pentagon does have a relay service so that
8 you can -- I was able to send my ballot to the Federal
9 Voting Assistance Program at the Pentagon, which used their
10 relay service to transmit it appropriately to Riverside
11 County back when I lived in Riverside County. So I've
12 gotten better at this over the years.

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Well, I do have to say, you
14 know, one of the benefits from sharing all these stories
15 from everybody is that you learn some really interesting
16 things and I never knew that, so that's really interesting.
17 Thank you for sharing that.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, you know, every U.S.
19 military installation and every U.S. Navy ship is supposed
20 to have a voting assistance officer. So that -- that's why
21 I was so thrilled when I heard that the warship was going
22 to be in Dili harbor on Election Day. I was like, I've got
23 this nailed and then they were onshore.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Great. Does this inspire
25 anybody else to share a story?

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Well, I just want to say
2 thank you, Commissioner Kennedy, for saying that because
3 that's information that I didn't know and, you know, I did
4 live overseas too. Of course, I wasn't able to vote at
5 that time, but I'm thinking anyone who's listening here I'm
6 sure has learned a lot. You know, anyone who is traveling
7 different areas, that you can do that. That's a -- that's
8 really interesting. Thank you. I appreciate that.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. And I'll also say
10 this. If a commissioner would like to pose a prompt to
11 share some memory whether it's around the regions that
12 we're looking at this time around or if there's some other
13 question prompt you might want to have us discuss, feel
14 free to raise your hand.

15 Commissioner Fernandez, thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It's kind of a voting
17 memory. Not my voting memory, but my mom's. She -- my
18 parents were born in Mexico, so she eventually became a
19 citizen. And so after the first day she was sworn in, of
20 course we signed her up to make sure that she was
21 registered to vote. So this is how the voting went every
22 time there was a primary or a major election. She would be
23 like, hey, Lis (phonetic), which is me, her nickname for
24 me. What do you -- what does this mean? How are you
25 voting? So like I almost had two votes for everything

1 because she was like, Okay. Okay. That sounds like a good
2 idea. That sounds like a good position to be in. So --
3 and it kind of depended on if it was me or maybe some more
4 of my sisters and we might have had a debate, and that's
5 how she would decide how she would vote. So for us, it was
6 kind of -- it was kind of fun because we'd just be around
7 the table talking to her about it and I can't remember if
8 at this time, I don't believe, they had ballots in Spanish,
9 so, you know, she couldn't really read the information. So
10 I think for me that's a really, like a fond memory of, you
11 know, my mom still wanting to vote not really understanding
12 the issues, but, you know, getting -- getting us around the
13 table to kind of discuss what our positions were. So
14 that's -- for me that's kind of a fun memory.

15 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That's great. I love that.
16 And, you know, it helped her to really also understand what
17 were the issues as well, too, because she was discussing it
18 with you. So that's awesome.

19 Commissioner Sinay?

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Kennedy sparked
21 a memory but kind of similar but different. My parents are
22 from South America and for a long time a lot of South
23 America was under military dictatorship. And -- and then
24 after military dictatorship, basically you're all -- it's
25 compulsory [sic] to vote. You don't get a choice. And

1 so you have to show that you voted.

2 And so I remember the first election, Peruvian --
3 I think it was Peruvian, election after the dictatorship,
4 my mom just grabbing all the kids and having to go
5 somewhere in downtown LA. It was probably -- it wasn't the
6 Consulate, but it was somewhere. And there were all these
7 Peruvians. And I just remember thinking, gosh, there's
8 this many Peruvians in Los Angeles?

9 And, you know, just the excitement of voting, but
10 it was also very stressful because you have to vote or you
11 can't go -- it's in your documents so you can't go back
12 into your country if you haven't voted. And so it was a
13 full different feel. My parents have always had this
14 different feel than the feel of the excitement of voting
15 because it's a -- it's a right but it's also a privilege,
16 and -- and you are choosing to vote versus you have to do
17 it or there's going to be all these consequences if you
18 don't do it. And so I think having been exposed to what it
19 was like to live in a military dictatorships, because we
20 would go to visit in South America, when my family were in
21 those situations, as well as our democracy is one of the
22 reasons I'm very passionate about civic engagement and
23 engaging -- and making sure that all feel welcome into --
24 and finding their place to engage.

25 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you so much. That's

1 actually an interesting kind of perspective. I mean, you
2 know, would never have realized that that was -- it was
3 conducted in such a way that people did not really feel
4 that it was a right and a privilege or at least a -- a, you
5 know, a positive thing versus a less than positive
6 experience. And so that's good to know.

7 All right. I know that we will be going to our
8 break in about technically 17 minutes if I'm counting
9 correctly. I'd like to see if anybody has an additional
10 memory?

11 Thank you, Commissioner Anderson.

12 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Commissioner Fernandez's
13 comment about discussing, you know, how did you vote, that
14 sort of thing, brought up -- which I realize we sort of do
15 all the time, my husband and I sort of joined with a bunch
16 of different friends many years ago. You know, in
17 California you have all those propositions and, you know,
18 going through the propositions is always a -- you know,
19 what do you think, what do you think.

20 And so we actually had a group, which we did
21 several -- several voting times, and you'd -- you'd take
22 about two or three of them. You'd have divided it out, and
23 you'd have to come and present it and say, okay, now what
24 do you think? But you have -- you couldn't just -- you
25 could say what you wanted, but you had to say pros and cons

1 of them, which was really, really interesting and fun. And
2 then children sort of duh, duh, duh. But well, we do
3 something now, I realize, with my children because when
4 they -- my two oldest who are voters -- then they went off
5 to college, so you do that remotely. And they would look
6 up different sources for information. So it was really
7 interesting having that whole discussion, which -- and one
8 thing I think I did want to bring up, because we have that
9 voter pamphlet, you know.

10 And I have -- I said I have not always voted in
11 California. I mean for many, many years I have, but we're
12 one of the few states that does -- that do that. And it's
13 a marvelous, marvelous things because it really kind of
14 gives, you know, there are pros and cons of it, but it is a
15 source for information as opposed to, well, there nothing
16 out there. Just what commercials you happen to see on
17 television.

18 And, you know, I -- hearing Commissioner
19 Fernandez, I thought now we'll have to bring all that back
20 with, you know, the larger group or have more organized
21 meetings about each proposition, you know, voting time.
22 Because it was really fun. It was really -- talking about
23 getting people engaged in the whole voting process. So you
24 might have to take that on for the Commission after we're
25 done with the maps.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Well, thank you
2 very much, Commissioner Anderson, for sharing that too.
3 That is, I -- you know it's interesting because I -- I
4 guess in some ways each state does do their own thing and I
5 guess I always thought that if there is -- there is a
6 similar type of voter's pamphlet that we have as well too.

7 So good news, all. We do have a caller.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We do. Caller 0494,
9 if you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this
10 time. Caller 0494, your speaker order number will be
11 number 5. If you'll please make note of that for a future
12 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
13 area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

14 MS. HUTCHINSON: Hi. Yes. Am I allowed to talk
15 now?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. Floor is
17 yours.

18 MS. HUTCHINSON: Great. Thank you.

19 Yeah, good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is
20 Sharon Hutchinson. I live in Clovis, which is in Fresno
21 County, but I'm actually calling in today to give input on
22 Mariposa County. I just wanted to urge the Commissioners
23 that when drawing the lines to make sure to keep the valley
24 floor and the foothill and mountain community separate.
25 These two areas definitely don't belong together in

1 districts. They are different economies, demographics, and
2 -- and they definitely have different policy concerns.

3 My family and I are long-time property owners in
4 Maricopa County. We have owned a cabin in Wawona for
5 generations that we use primarily as income property and
6 family recreation. And there are many other families in
7 our Wawona neighborhood that have owned their properties
8 for a long time and used that property for the same -- for
9 the same means, which is, you know, income and family
10 recreation. And that is to say that Mariposa County and
11 other counties like Tuolumne and Calaveras, you know, all
12 the -- all the counties that are in that Zone G, you know,
13 heavily -- are heavily reliant on an economy based on
14 recreation and tourism. And that is just not the case for
15 the valley.

16 You know, down here our economy is reliant on
17 agriculture, health care, manufacturing, warehouse
18 distribution, and you know, the seasonal and year-round
19 residents in the mountains rely heavily on tourism. Right?
20 So rental properties, hotels, restaurants, you know, -- you
21 know the like. But the demographic in the central valley
22 and those mountain communities are also very different.
23 Right?

24 So like I just recently read some new census data
25 that shows that in the valley, the valley's urban area,

1 because we're growing more diverse. We have more Latino
2 folks here, a lot more younger folks taking over, and quite
3 frankly, folks here are really struggling with income
4 equality and that is not the case for my neighbors in
5 Wawona. We are -- I -- much more Caucasian and much more
6 upper to middle -- more upper income. Right? And that
7 lends to having different priorities on policy. Again the
8 valley is Ag based, so we're concerned about water,
9 drought, farm labor, immigration reform. And the
10 mountains, we're more concerned about disaster relief,
11 wildfires, property insurance because of those things, and
12 obviously, forest management and protecting the land.

13 So anyway, I -- I just feel like the valley and
14 mountains deserve their own representation and --

15 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

16 MS. HUTCHINSON: -- and I'll just wrap it up.
17 The valley deserves to be represented by someone that
18 understands our demographics, our need for dignified
19 immigration reform, our Ag-based economy, and the mountains
20 deserve to have someone that -- that is invested in
21 protecting --

22 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

23 MS. HUTCHINSON: -- tourism and the land. Okay.
24 That's it.

25 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
2 And that was all of our callers at this time,
3 Chair.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you so much. Why
5 don't we do this? Why don't we just go to our break early?
6 Perhaps Christian, is it okay if we play the 20-minute
7 video while we're -- while we're on break?

8 MR. MANOFF: Sure thing.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Let's do that. And hopefully
10 for anyone who's watching and has not seen the 20-minute
11 video, it is actually a very interesting and it's very
12 instructive. So at least there's -- there's something that
13 people can also hopefully walk away having learned
14 something new as a result of being part of this COI input
15 meeting.

16 So let's go ahead and let's go to break. We do
17 need to come back I believe at 3:45, which is when the next
18 public input session will begin. So we'll go ahead and we
19 will take a 25-minute break. And during that time, we'll
20 play the 20-minute video also.

21 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: I do see a caller.

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, you -- oh, wait. Is that
23 the same person that just called in?

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Oh, yes.

25 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think --

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Yes.

2 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes, it is.

3 Okay. All right. Let's go ahead and let's just
4 take our break. We'll be back at 3:45 at which time
5 Commissioner Anderson will be taking over as the Chair for
6 that second half.

7 (Off the record at 3:21 p.m.)

8 (Back on the record at 3:45 p.m.)

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Welcome back to the
10 California Census Redistricting Commission Community of
11 Interest input meeting. We also encourage you to visit the
12 Community of Interest tool to draw a map and describe your
13 community by visiting drawmyCAcommunity.org.

14 Now, for anyone who has joined us recently, we
15 are offering a Language Line for the Spanish speakers to
16 listen to the meeting in their native language and a
17 separate line for those who wish to provide public comment
18 or public input.

19 May I please have our interpreter provide our
20 Language Line numbers and the information to provide public
21 input?

22
23 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Hi. This is the
24 interpreter.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Thank you. Could you --

1 could you please read the cite -- the translation of full
2 call-in instructions?

3 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Yes, Madam Chair. Thank
4 you.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Thank you.

6 SPANISH INTERPRETER: I think -- you're welcome.
7 [Instructions read in Spanish]. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Thank you.

9 Now as a reminder, even though we're focusing on
10 the specific counties Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne,
11 Mariposa, Mono, and Inyo, anyone in California may call in
12 and anywhere in the state to provide public input. Now,
13 I'm going to pass this over to Katie, our comment moderator
14 to continue with any public input, and we'll start with
15 people who are registered and open the phone lines if
16 there's time before the next session.

17 And, Katie, could you please go ahead and read
18 the full call-in instructions as well?

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I was actually going
20 to ask you, Chair, if I could just go ahead and do those
21 because we don't have our -- our registered participants at
22 this time.

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: So we will do --
25 welcome to the public input session. In order to maximize

1 transparency and public participation in our process, the
2 Commissioners will be taking Community of Interest input by
3 phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided on
4 the livestream feed. It is (877) 853-5247.

5 When prompted to enter the Meeting I.D. number
6 provided on the livestream feed, it is 88961386844 for this
7 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply
8 press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you will be
9 placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please
10 press star-nine. This will raise your hand for the
11 moderator.

12 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
13 message that says the host would like you to talk and to
14 press star-six to speak. If you would like to give your
15 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are
16 not required to provide your name to give public comment.

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

22 And the Commission will be enforcing a three-
23 minute time limit. There will be a warning at 30 seconds
24 and 15 seconds remaining. It is the Commission's goal to
25 find the area on the map you would like to discuss prior to

1 your testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood
2 of a large city, please mention it by name. Once we are
3 able to locate your area, your three-minute testimony will
4 begin. Let's see -- at the end -- oh wait. I didn't mean
5 to read that part. I apologize.

6 At this time we do not have any callers in the
7 queue, Chair.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Thank you, Katie. We
9 might give it a couple minutes here. We do have a few
10 appointments for this time block and we will give them a
11 chance to call in. At this point, we might pause just for
12 a few minutes and pause -- we go to that five-minute video
13 allowing people a chance to log in, figure out what they're
14 doing, then call in.

15 Could you please tell me when everything is --
16 the instructions have finished on that live video?

17 MR. MANOFF: All right. We're at that five-
18 minute video on the livestream, Chair. And so we're on
19 break right now.

20 To the interpreters, thank you so much.

21 (Off the record at 3:51 p.m.)

22 (Back on the record at 4:19 p.m.)

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Welcome back to the
24 California Citizens Redistricting Commission Community of
25 Interest input meeting. At this time we are listening to

1 anyone who is calling in for their Community of Interest
2 and I will turn this over to our Katie, to our comment
3 moderator.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much,
5 Chair.

6 I would like to invite those that have called in
7 to please press star-nine on their telephone keypad to
8 raise their hand indicating they wish to comment. There we
9 go.

10 Caller 3739, if you will please follow the
11 prompts to unmute by pressing star-six? Caller 3739, you
12 are unmuted. Your speaker order number will be number 6.
13 If you will please make note of that for future reference,
14 and if you'll please let the mapper know what area you
15 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

16 JESSICA: Hello. My name is Jessica. I'm a
17 Fresno County resident and an elementary school teacher in
18 Fresno. I will be giving input today about eastern Fresno
19 County, eastern Madera County, and the relationship to
20 other foothill mountain areas of Mariposa, Calaveras, and
21 Tuolumne County. Like many valley residents, my family and
22 I have spent years traveling up to the foothills and Sierra
23 Nevada community. We've spent a lot of time hiking,
24 camping, boating, jet skiing, and enjoying the outdoors and
25 the beautiful National Parks and the lakes that are in the

1 northeast of the valley floor.

2 The foothill and mountain communities are very
3 different from the valley in terms of topography,
4 demographics, economy, and the issues we face. Looking at
5 a map, we can see where the valley ends and the foothill
6 mountains begin. The eastern portion of Fresno County and
7 the eastern portions of Madera County are both very similar
8 to each other and very similar to Mariposa, Calaveras,
9 Tuolumne, and the other mountain counties. They're
10 essentially one cohesive region. The communities around
11 Huntington Lake, Shaver Lake, and Pine Flats Lake in Fresno
12 County and the communities of Oakhurst, Coarsegold, and
13 Bass Lake in Madera County should be included in the
14 district with the mountain counties and National Parks.

15 It is okay to split Fresno and Madera Counties in
16 order to respect the differences between the valley floor
17 and the foothill mountain community. (Clears throat).
18 Excuse me. Our valley economy is heavily reliant on
19 agriculture and we always worry about water and air quality
20 as obvious today. Valley communities are heavily Latino
21 and although we have many small, rural towns, we also have
22 several large, urban centers that need focused
23 representation.

24 The foothill and mountain communities rely
25 heavily on recreation and tourism to drive their economy

1 and forest management is always a concern. The foothill
2 mountain area has small unincorporated communities that are
3 less diverse than the valley, and the residents are always
4 concerned with wildfires, excuse me. Again, there are
5 clear differences between the valley floor and the foothill
6 mountain communities.

7 In order to respect those differences and for the
8 residents to get their representation they deserve, the
9 Commission should look to split eastern Fresno and eastern
10 Madera County and join them with Mariposa, Tuolumne, and
11 Calaveras Counties. Thank you so much.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: One minute, caller, if I
13 -- could I ask a question please?

14 JESSICA: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Could you give us a
16 little bit more descrip -- geographic description of what
17 you mean by eastern Fresno and eastern Madero counties?
18 Like what area -- landmarks, cities?

19 JESSICA: I'm looking. Let me look at the map,
20 okay? Eastern Madera. I'm trying to pull up a map.
21 Sorry. I had my notes typed and I'm looking.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Okay. We also -- if you
23 can see the map that we are showing if that helps?

24 JESSICA: So I'm actually -- I'm calling -- I'm
25 referring to lake communities. That's what I'm referring

1 to when I say the eastern Madero County and eastern Madero.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Okay. So the lake
3 communities of -- of what? You mentioned -- you mentioned,
4 was it Shaver Lake?

5 JESSICA: Yes. Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Okay. And --

7 JESSICA: And Huntington. Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Sorry. Go ahead.

9 JESSICA: Yes. Shaver Lake and Huntington Lake
10 and Pine Flats in Fresno.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Pine Flats in Fresno.

12 And in Madero --

13 JESSICA: Yes.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: -- the like Yosemite
15 Lakes is it or is that too far -- too far west?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, she actually
17 hung up.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Oh, she did?

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Okay. All right. Well,
21 thank you very much.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: However, we do have
23 006 and 007 here.

24 006, we will be starting with you now.

25 And 007, you will be up next.

1 006, I will be promoting you now. 006, your
2 speaker order number will be number 7. If you'll please
3 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
4 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
5 screen. If you will please remind the mapper of what area
6 you would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

7 MR. CALLOWAY: My name is Arthur Calloway. The
8 area that I would like to discuss is the congressional --
9 25th Congressional District, which is the Antelope Valley,
10 Santa Clarita Valley, and Simi Valley currently.

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

12 MR. CALLOWAY: Yes. So I wanted to discuss
13 that -- the recommendation that I would have for our
14 congressional 25th District is to change the district to
15 exclude Simi Valley because Simi Valley district actually
16 drowns out the -- the demographics that are predominant in
17 the Antelope Valley. Antelope Valley cities are
18 predominantly minority cities, predominantly Lancaster,
19 Palmdale is Hispanic.

20 And the way that they cut the -- the district
21 into -- if you looked at the map for Lancaster, there's
22 even a portion of Lancaster that does not count that falls
23 into the 23rd. Everybody in the Antelope Valley has
24 more -- more in common with people in Santa Clarita because
25 of the Plant 42. There's a lot of people that work in

1 Santa Clarita that works in the Antelope Valley; a lot of
2 the people that live in the Antelope Valley that work down
3 in Santa Clarita.

4 I would say that -- (audio break) collects the
5 political leaning and the demographic leaning of the area.
6 If you have any knowledge of the Antelope Valley, it is --
7 there is currently a lot of things that shows the -- the
8 actual suppression and oppression of the minority community
9 to include a Department of Justice settlement that was done
10 towards -- that was -- that is against the Sheriffs for the
11 disparaging treatment that they did to Section 8 people, to
12 people of color of -- and the homeless now is the ACLU has
13 sued them for problems with the homeless. And it is just
14 very important for our representation to be able to reflect
15 who's in the actual community of Antelope Valley and Santa
16 Clarita.

17 One second. I want to make sure that I did --
18 and this also trickles into our schools as well. We are
19 predominantly minority schools and we need to have the
20 ability to have representation to make sure that we get the
21 funding that we need to make sure that those --

22 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

23 MR. CALLOWAY: -- that funding is actually
24 applied to the places that it needs to be applied to. And
25 then to wrap up, the -- basically the recommendation is to

1 put Simi Valley in with like-minded people probably to --

2 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

3 MR. CALLOWAY: -- the south and east of it. And
4 then to include all of Lancaster into the 25th
5 Congressional District. Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: One minute, caller,
7 please?

8 MR. CALLOWAY: Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Could you please clarify
10 -- you're very clear about saying not Simi Valley, but
11 could you please clarify what cities that you do want to
12 include in your Community of Interest?

13 MR. CALLOWAY: So if you see the green line and
14 how it dips into Lancaster and Quartz Hill?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Yes.

16 MR. CALLOWAY: That area, yes, below the red --
17 below Rosamund south, that -- that should be included. So
18 part of Lancaster, you can live in Lancaster and depending
19 on the street be in the 23rd District and then across the
20 street be the 25th because of that dip right there.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: So it's Lancaster and
22 what other cities did you want to --

23 MR. CALLOWAY: Quartz Hill, Lancaster should all
24 be included. That green line should just be flat up
25 against the bottom of the Rosamund.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Okay. So you're saying
2 including all the way to Santa -- everything that's shown
3 on the map now --

4 MR. CALLOWAY: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: -- with -- except --

6 MR. CALLOWAY: Yes, ma'am.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: -- including -- okay.

8 Thank you very much.

9 MR. CALLOWAY: Including the -- yeah. Including
10 that part of Lancaster and then excluding Simi Valley, and
11 I think that that will be a true representation of our
12 community.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Thank you very much.

14 MR. CALLOWAY: No problem.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

16 Right now we will have 007. 007, your speaker
17 order number will be number 8. If you'll please make note
18 of that for future reference, and if you'll please let the
19 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
20 is yours.

21 MS. CARLE: Okay. Can you hear me?

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

23 MS. CARLE: Okay, great. I don't see a picture.
24 I'm not quite sure how to get my video on, but maybe you're
25 not doing video, right?

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can see you.

2 MS. CARLE: Okay. Okay, great. I can't see
3 myself, so I'm glad you can see me. Anyway, I'm Janet
4 Carle. I'm from the eastern Sierra little community of Lee
5 Vining. I'm a retired state park ranger, and I think
6 you've probably had some other folks from our area talk
7 about the central Sierra Community of Interest today.

8 We are currently in the congressional district 8,
9 which goes all the way down to San Bernardino, and many of
10 us in the eastern Sierra would like to have other people --
11 a district that truly represents the interests -- this
12 would be something like Inyo, Mono, Alpine, Amador,
13 Tuolumne, Mariposa, Calaveras, the Lake Tahoe basin and a
14 very small part of Madero County that has Devil's Postpile
15 National Monument in it. And those are places that hear
16 many things like sustainable tourism is one of our goals.
17 We have -- it's a resort area so we have housing issues
18 with, you know, the local workers competing with second
19 homeowners, vacationers, Airbnbs for housing. There's
20 mining pressure, health of our forests and watershed, and
21 adequate staff to manage public lands.

22 So all the people in the central Sierra area are
23 working with these issues in the mountains, so we
24 definitely have a Community of Interest.

25 Right now our -- Frank Bigelow, our state

1 representative is on the west side separated by a mountain
2 range of the Sierra in Madera County and our congressional
3 representative is down in San Bernardino. And when Paul
4 Cook was our rep I -- I continually asked him for meetings
5 and even just phone calls and it was just really hard to
6 get a response for our issues that we're so different from
7 what he was front and center for him down -- down in the
8 desert.

9 We also have healthcare issues, Broadband. We
10 share Highway 395 as the main corridor. We are
11 experiencing wildfire as we speak. I'm looking out at a
12 smoky sky. We're all dealing with taking care of our
13 forests, worrying about our snowpack, and transportation
14 issues with weather-related. We're dealing with snow.
15 We're dealing with closed passes in winter.

16 So thank you, redistricting committee for
17 listening to us in the eastern Sierra and the central
18 Sierra to take an opportunity to design a district that
19 would really truly represent like-minded needs and people
20 dealing with similar issues. So we hope you will consider
21 a central Sierra district --

22 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

23 MS. CARLE: -- for us. That's all. Thank you.

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Thank you.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

1 That was all of our callers and appointments at
2 this time.

3 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Great. Well, thank you
4 very much, Katie. Could you go ahead and read the
5 instructions, the full instructions including for public
6 comment at this time?

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely.

8 In order to maximize transparency and public
9 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
10 taking Community of Interest input and general public
11 comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number
12 provided on the livestream feed. It is (877) 853-5247.

13 When prompted to enter the Meeting I.D. number
14 provided on the livestream feed, it is 88961386844 for this
15 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply
16 press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you will be
17 placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please
18 press star-nine. This will raise your hand for the
19 moderator.

20 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
21 message that says the host would like you to talk and to
22 press star-six to speak. If you would like to give your
23 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are
24 not required to 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. Once you are waiting in the queue, be
3 alert for when it is your turn to speak and again, please
4 turn down the livestream volume.

5 And for those who have just called in, if you
6 will please press star-nine to raise your hand indicating
7 you wish to comment. As for a caller with the last four
8 7679, if you called to comment at this time, please press
9 star-nine. This will raise your hand indicating you wish
10 to comment.

11 Perfect. Caller 7679, if you will please follow
12 the prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star-six?

13 MS. MILLER: Am I unmuted?

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi, Caller 7. Hi.
15 You are unmuted. Your speaker order number -- will you
16 please mute your computer?

17 MS. MILLER: Hello?

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi. Will you please
19 mute your livestream audio?

20 MS. MILLER: I'll try.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, okay.

22 MS. MILLER: Okay. I'm good.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: There you are. Your
24 speaker order number will be number 9. If you'll please
25 make note of that for future reference and if you'll please

1 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
2 the floor is yours.

3 MS. MILLER: Okay. Right now?

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now.

5 MS. MILLER: Okay. Are you ready for me?

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure are.

7 MS. MILLER: Okay. I don't see the -- well, I
8 guess I'm muted. My name is Sally Miller. I have lived in
9 Mono County for 37 years. I was a county planning
10 commissioner for 16 years where I participated in a
11 citizens-appointed committee to recommend districts for
12 Mono County supervisorial districts. I'm very marginally
13 familiar with your process, therefore, and I wanted to talk
14 today about recommending a congressional district. I
15 support the central Sierra assembly district people have
16 talked about. I'd like to also recommend a congressional
17 district that encompasses --

18 (Computer audio replays) I was a county planning
19 commissioner for 16 years where I participated in a
20 citizens-appointed committee --

21 Hello? I -- I think I unmuted myself by mistake.
22 Can you still hear me?

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

24 MS. MILLER: Okay. Sorry about that. I wanted
25 to recommend a congressional district that is based in the

1 Sierra and my reasons are as follows: There are a lot of
2 commonalities from north of Lake Tahoe, such as Nevada
3 County and Foster County all the way down to northern Inyo
4 County and over to the west side of the Sierra including
5 Yosemite and the Mother low country. We're rural.

6 I -- I won't get into politics other than to say
7 that all the citizens who live in these counties and
8 communities are independent. We share mountains and the
9 mountainous part of the Sierra Nevada. It's where we live.
10 It's common ground. We also are virtually dependent on
11 tourism for our economy.

12 I think with respect to health care, we have a
13 lot in common. For folks on the east side of the Sierra,
14 most of us travel and also in the Tahoe basin to the
15 Reno/Tahoe area for -- or I should say to the Reno area,
16 Reno/Carson area in Nevada for our health care that isn't
17 minor things, and we really need a more cohesive system
18 that's going to protect our rural communities.

19 And on the west side, I don't know exactly where
20 folks travel, but if I were to look at the boundaries and
21 the transportation corridors related to this district, it
22 would be U.S. 395 on the east, Highway 49 on west, and then
23 50, 80, and 88. And, of course, we are very deeply
24 connected to Yosemite in Mono County in the summers, but in
25 the winter --

1 MS. MILLER: Thirty seconds.

2 MS. MILLER: -- there is no access over to those
3 counties. That's all I'll say for now. The other thing
4 that I think we share is a deep concern about fire and
5 forest management. Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, you're on mute.
7 Were you trying to ask for -- oh, she already hung up.

8 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: I -- I was. Did -- I think
9 she hung up.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

11 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Yeah. I didn't realize I
12 was on mute. Okay. Well, thank you.

13 At this time we are -- it's 4:40. We might want
14 to -- in case someone might want to call in for public
15 comment, let's go to -- let's go to -- I'd say one of
16 our -- which videos did we do already?

17 MR. MANOFF: We've played them all, Chair.

18 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Oh, yeah. Well, let's go
19 to our -- we have a Spanish video. Let's, yeah, please put
20 the Spanish video on. Thank you.

21 (Off the record at 4:41 p.m.)

22 (Back on the record at 5:00 p.m.)

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Welcome back to the
24 California Citizens Redistricting Commission Community of
25 Input -- Interest input meeting. Now, for anyone who wants

1 to join us recently, we're offering a Language Line for
2 Spanish speakers, Spanish language speakers to listen to in
3 the meeting in their native language and a separate line
4 for those who wish to provide public comment or public
5 input.

6 Could I please have the Spanish interpreter go
7 ahead and read the call-in instructions?

8 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Yes. Is that the full
9 call-in instructions?

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Yes, including public
11 comment.

12 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Okay.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Thank you.

14 SPANISH INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in
15 Spanish]. Gracias. Thank you.

16 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Thank you.

17 So this session's specifically dedicated to
18 the -- those in Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne,
19 Mariposa, Mono, and Inyo counties, but all Californians can
20 call in. And at this time, we're taking Community of
21 Interest input. We're also taking public comment.

22 And could you, Katie, could you please read the
23 full instructions on the call in?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

25 In order to maximize transparency and public

1 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
2 taking Community of Interest input and public comment for
3 items not on the agenda. To call in, dial the telephone
4 number provided on the livestream feed. It is (877) 853-
5 5247.

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10 placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please
11 press star-nine. This will raise your hand for the
12 moderator.

13 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
14 message that says the host would like you to talk and to
15 press star-six to speak. If -- if you would like -- if you
16 would like to give your name, please state and spell it for
17 the record. You are not required to provide your name to
18 give public comment.

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

24 And we do not have anyone in the queue at this
25 time, Chair.

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: Thank you.

2 Just a reminder to visit our website at
3 wedrawthelinesCA.org. You can also sign up for our emails
4 to learn more about the Commission, our meetings, our
5 updates, and announcements. And please connect with us on
6 social media. We are on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter,
7 LinkedIn and YouTube. It's at wedrawthelinesCA. Again,
8 wedrawthelinesCA.

9 Now, this input meeting is not the only way to
10 provide public input. There are numerous ways to provide
11 public input to the Commission. The COI public input
12 meetings take place throughout the summer and are coming to
13 a conclusion. Visit wedrawthelinesCA.org for more
14 information.

15 The Community of Interest mapping tool, which is
16 -- you can get also through our website at
17 wedrawthelinesCA.org, or go directly to
18 drawmyCAcommunity.org. This online tool is available in
19 English, Spanish, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese,
20 Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic,
21 Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, Mare, Hmong, and Thai.
22 Tutorials are also available in those languages. You can
23 give input on our website at www.wedrawthelinesCA.org and
24 click on the Draw My Community icon.

25 By email at votersFIRSTact@crc.ca.gov. And

1 notice this one's a dot-gov. Email is dot gov. All the
2 other are websites and the -- our website and our community
3 tool is dot org. Or by mail to the California Citizens
4 Redistricting Commission, 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260,
5 Sacramento, California 95814.

6 And as a reminder, if you need an interpreter to
7 provide input on any day when there is no Language Line,
8 please submit your request at least five business days
9 prior to that meeting. You can submit your request via
10 email to Interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov on the COI media
11 appointment form or call the business office at (916) 323-
12 0323.

13 Now, in the coming weeks we actually -- in the
14 coming week we have four Community of Interest input
15 meetings. The first is tomorrow, Saturday, August 21st at
16 9:00 a.m. focusing on the counties of El Dorado, Nevada,
17 Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuma counties
18 and their surrounding areas. And we'll have a Spanish
19 listening line and a Spanish interpreter available.

20 The second meeting is on Monday, August 23rd at
21 3:00 p.m. focusing on Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake,
22 Napa, Sonoma, and Trinity counties and their surrounding
23 areas. It will also have a Spanish listening line and a
24 Spanish interpreter available.

25 On Tuesday, August 24th at 3:00 p.m., the meeting

1 will be focused on Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San
2 Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano counties and
3 their surrounding areas. This meeting will have Spanish,
4 Mandarin, Russian, and Cantonese listening lines and
5 interpreters available.

6 And on Wednesday, August 25th at 3:00 p.m., we'll
7 have a COI input meeting focusing on Fresno, Kern, Kings,
8 Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare counties
9 and their surrounding areas. This meeting will have a
10 Spanish listening line and a Spanish interpreter available.

11 Registration for each meeting closes two calendar
12 days before 5:00 p.m. The next commission business meeting
13 will be on August 31st at 9:30 in the morning. Now,
14 remember you're not required to make an appointment to
15 provide input at community -- at COI meetings, Community of
16 Interest meetings, however, it is recommended. You can
17 also call in the day of the meeting.

18 At this time our meetings are still being held
19 virtually so anyone in California can provide input.
20 Please go to our website at wedrawthelinesCA.org for
21 meeting information.

22 At this time I don't see anyone in the queue and
23 we have been here a while. I believe we've sort of
24 certainly been here hoping for other public comment or
25 anything like that.

1 Do we have any additional questions or comments
2 from our commissioners? I don't see anything. We did --
3 we lost -- so we had a caller here, but they probably went
4 to the online tool, so thank you very much, everyone. I
5 think I'm about to call this meeting adjourned, and I want
6 to thank our line drawers, our staff, all our video
7 helpers, and particularly Katie, our moderator, who always
8 does a fantastic job, and including our Spanish
9 interpreter, Margarita. Thank you very much for your
10 assistance today and this meeting is adjourned.

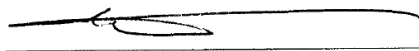
11 (Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.)
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REPORTER' S CERTIFICATE

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 certified electronic court reporter and 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 15th day of September, 2021.



PETER PETTY
CER**D-493
Notary Public

TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing matter was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber.

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 17 September 2021.



Deborah S. Anderson
Certified Transcriber
AAERT No. CET-998