

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC LIVE LINE DRAWING

Southern California

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2021

8:57 a.m.

Reported by:

Jacqueline Delinger



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Trena Turner, Vice-Chair  
Derric Taylor, Commissioner  
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner  
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner  
Jane Andersen, Commissioner  
Alicia Fernandez, Commissioner  
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner  
J. Kennedy, Commissioner  
Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner  
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner  
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner  
Angela Vázquez, Commissioner  
Russell Yee, Commissioner

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Monday, November 15, 2021 8:57 a.m.

CHAIR TOLEDO: Good morning, California. My name is Pedro Toledo. And I will be chairing today's California Citizens Redistricting Commission Business Meeting.

I'm excited to be of service to you. I hope you had a wonderful Veterans Day Weekend. And I would like to thank every veteran who committed their life for the protection and defense of our Nation and the State of California. We appreciate your sacrifice, and thank you for your service.

I also hope our commissioners and staff had a restful weekend.

Alvaro, please take roll call.

MR. SINGH: Good morning, Chair. This is Rav. I'll be taking the roll today.

CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. Thank you, Ravi.

MR. SINGH: You're welcome.

Commissioner Turner?

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vázquez?

COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Yee?

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad?



1 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa?

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

5 Commissioner Fernández?

6 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Presente.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

9 MR. SINGH: Commissioners Kennedy?

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

11 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Le Mons?

12 Commissioner Sadhwani?

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

15 Commissioner Taylor?

16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

17 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Toledo?

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Here. Thank you.

19 MR. SINGH: You're welcome. You have a quorum,

20 Chair.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Andersen is

22 here.

23 MR. SINGH: Yes. I did get you, Commissioner

24 Andersen. Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

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

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: I appreciate that, Ravi. You know,  
3 before we begin I want to thank all Californians who have  
4 taken the time to engage with us over the last few  
5 months. I also want to thank members of the media, and  
6 community-based organizations all over the state who are  
7 educating Californians about our district maps and the  
8 redistricting process.

9 And I'd like to invite every person in California to  
10 make your voice heard. Please contact us. Your voice  
11 matters. Last week we released draft maps for the State  
12 Senate, State Assembly, Board of Equalization, and U.S.  
13 House of Representatives, the maps are posted on our  
14 website.

15 We released the draft maps last week to ensure that  
16 Californians would have as much time as possible before  
17 the holidays to provide feedback. And we will be hosting  
18 public input sessions November 17th to November 23rd to  
19 get feedback on those maps.

20 The commission is committed to drawing fair maps in  
21 a transparent manner, and with meaningful public input.  
22 As we all know, California is a large, complex and  
23 diverse state, and population growth over the last ten  
24 years has been uneven. Our draft maps are in compliance  
25 with Constitutional Equal Population requirements, which

1 is our first requirement.

2 Section two, Voting Rights Act Compliance is our  
3 second requirements, because a significant portion of  
4 California is subject to Section 2 VRA considerations and  
5 requirements, these VRA districts are the foundation of  
6 our maps, and it is thus not surprising that we spent  
7 most of our time and energy last week on those areas.

8 Those districts will continue to be an important  
9 focus, and we want to encourage Californians from those  
10 districts, and advocates for VRA-protected groups, to  
11 take the time to provide us with feedbacks on those  
12 districts.

13 Our third criteria -- is that districts must be  
14 drawn continuously. And after that, our fourth criteria  
15 is that we must minimize the division of cities,  
16 counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to  
17 the extent possible without violating the three  
18 requirements previously mentioned.

19 Consequently there will be instances where  
20 communities of interest will need to be divided to be in  
21 compliance with one or more of these three requirements I  
22 previously mentioned. Lastly, our final two criteria are  
23 geographic compactness and nesting when practicable.

24 When providing feedback to the commission please  
25 keep in mind that we are hearing your feedback, weighing

1 it, and where possibly, applying it. At this stage in  
2 the redistricting process even small refinements might  
3 have implications for the architecture of our maps. And  
4 that the implications may ripple across California.

5 In terms of today's agenda we will be starting with  
6 director's reports, and turning to committee and  
7 subcommittee updates, and during the line drawings of  
8 committee reports, we will be debriefing our last week's  
9 live line drawing process.

10 After that, during the public input subcommittee  
11 report, we will have a discussion on how to continue to  
12 ensure that the public has meaningful opportunities to  
13 provide input on our maps through this next stage of the  
14 redistricting process.

15 At 3 p.m., I intend to go to close session, under  
16 the security and pending litigation exceptions. We will  
17 be coming back into open session at 4 p.m. to take  
18 general public comments.

19 With that, let's go to the executive director  
20 reports.

21 Mr. Hernandez, are you ready with your update?

22 MR. HERNANDEZ: I am ready, Chair.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent.

24 MR. HERNANDEZ: Good morning, Commissioners. So I  
25 wanted to bring up and raise a question and a concern to



1 all of you, hopefully you've had a take -- you've had a  
2 chance to hear some of the feedback that we've had over  
3 the last couple of days. We just recently received a  
4 letter from a group of folks that wanted to have you  
5 consider changing the amount of time that we have for the  
6 upcoming public input on the draft maps meeting, five  
7 minutes to less than five minutes.

8       So if you recall when we did the presentation the  
9 COI public input meetings we had three minutes. I do  
10 think that there is an abundance of folks that want to  
11 participate and want to talk to the commission, that we  
12 should reconsider the five minutes, and reduce that, say,  
13 to three minutes, or even less than three minutes.

14       I think last week we did two minutes and things went  
15 really smooth, and we were able to get through a lot of  
16 people. But I wanted to present that to you as a  
17 consideration because that was previously voted on to do  
18 the five minutes as part of the overall plan.

19       But now that we know where we are, the amount of  
20 participation that people are asking for, I think we  
21 should definitely reconsider reducing that to less than  
22 the five minutes, for sure. So I would like to make a  
23 recommendation for you to consider that.

24       Marcy is going to be talking a little bit later  
25 about the run of show, as far as those input meetings are

1 concerned, what we're going to be doing. I also share  
2 some information on the number of people that have signed  
3 up. And also we're ready to pivot if you decide to go  
4 with less time. So with that, I wanted to put that out  
5 there for you to consider. Any questions?

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Alvaro. I think we can  
7 take that recommendation when we start -- when we have  
8 the Line Drawing Subcommittee discussion. So at that  
9 time, since we're going to -- since we'll need to take  
10 public comment at that time on that issue, and we can  
11 consider it in the context of all of the public input.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay. Very well, thank you.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

14 MR. HERNANDEZ: I also wanted to share with you that  
15 we had submitted a request to the legislature in the  
16 Department of Finance to release funds for the  
17 operations, basically, of the commission's work up to the  
18 completion of the maps, which will be December 27th.

19 So that request has been submitted. We are waiting  
20 to hear back from the Department of Finance, awarding us  
21 the -- or releasing those funds to us so that we can  
22 continue our operations up until the 27th.

23 We will also be requesting funding, post-map  
24 funding, and also litigation funding to be available to  
25 the commission. We'll be submitting that letter to them

1 later this month, to request that those funds be  
2 available after the 27th, so that we can streamline the  
3 process and make sure there are no hiccups from -- the  
4 transition from the pre-maps to the post-maps.

5 I just wanted to give you an update. We're working  
6 on the budget information, the expenditures, and the  
7 support to provide you more detailed information. The  
8 next meeting we'll be meeting with the subcommittee this  
9 week to discuss that. As you know we have a new budget  
10 officer, who's going through and putting the information  
11 together for us. We'll take a look at that.

12 So I wanted to make sure that you're aware of that.  
13 I also wanted to let you know that the paper COIs, we  
14 have started to receive them back from a number of  
15 different organizations that we sent them to. The  
16 prisons, this is mostly the ones that have gone to the  
17 incarcerated folks, we've received a lot of them back,  
18 returned; not necessarily processed. We have  
19 approximately a hundred that have been completed and  
20 returned, so I just wanted to give you an update on that.

21 That will complete my report. I know it's rather  
22 short for the operations. The last thing I wanted to  
23 mention is that we have had a number of staff supporting  
24 the commission's meeting, and taking notes during the  
25 visualizations for the most part. We did that also last

1 week when we were doing the actual live line drawing. So  
2 I wanted just to bring it to your attention that we have,  
3 pretty much, all hands on deck and it is a lot of time  
4 that is involved in taking some of these notes.

5 I talked with Chair Toledo, that the type of notes  
6 that we'll be taking are going to be -- moving forward at  
7 the high level, because we are going to be doing live  
8 line drawing in the future, but that type of note-taking  
9 will be a little bit different than what we've been used  
10 to. It's going to be more of a high-level type of  
11 line -- note-taking. So that you're aware that it's not  
12 going to be to the level of detail, we are working on the  
13 transcripts in having those available.

14 We will also have the video available should you  
15 want to go back. And I just wanted to make that -- make  
16 you aware of that because it is so time-consuming. The  
17 staff has been very available.

18 And with that note taking piece, especially this  
19 week that we're going to have the input meetings, we  
20 wanted to know from you if you needed staff to do any  
21 type of analysis on any of the notes. We wanted to kind  
22 of get ahead of it, rather than be called upon during the  
23 meeting, to provide you analysis or information from, you  
24 know, various different groups of who said what.

25 So if there is something specific that you'd like

1 for us to do, as far as the analysis, we'd be more than  
2 happy to do so. And if you could give us a little bit of  
3 what you're looking for that would be great as well, so  
4 that we can have staff ready, and able to provide you  
5 that information. That was it. Thank you.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And on the note-taking  
7 piece, the most important aspect of the note taking work  
8 that we need, one is to ensure that we understand why  
9 we're making the decisions, and to have enough  
10 information to be able to explain that in the future. We  
11 can always go back to our transcripts and to videos, but  
12 we need to understand why.

13 Is it for population purposes? Is it for deviation?  
14 Is it VRA reasons, or some other type of reason that we  
15 are making decisions? And so that's -- you know, so  
16 keeping it high level, while having enough detail to  
17 understand the why, and for us to be able to explain our  
18 decisions as in our final report.

19 And turning now to (indiscernible) asks.

20 MR. HERNANDEZ: (Indiscernible, simultaneous speech)

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: I believe Fredy has a question.

22 Director Ceja, I mean.

23 MR. CEJA: Thank you, Chair.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And with that let's go to  
25 the communications report. Fredy, you're next up.

1 MR. CEJA: Thank you so much, Chair. I think I hit  
2 the hand raise by mistake.

3 Yeah, yeah, I'm still coming off the high from last  
4 week. So I missed everyone and seeing everyone in  
5 person.

6 Jumping into the communications report, I want to  
7 provide a few updates. We're entering into the last  
8 month of our radio and billboard advertising. We have  
9 finalized the document, a one pager called Roadmap to  
10 Final Maps, and I posted that under handouts for today,  
11 to give the public an idea of what it's like for the next  
12 few weeks, and Commissioner -- Chair Turner approved that  
13 during her rotation.

14 We did send out the November 2021 Newsletter, and we  
15 had some great news to announce with the release of our  
16 draft maps. We're continuing to streamline the input  
17 that we received from the public with our data team. We  
18 are caught up with regards to input, but we have not  
19 inputted today, so I'm sure our team has a backlog from  
20 the weekend, so we'll get to that today.

21 We currently are at 16,000 inputs on our data page,  
22 which was a huge increase from the past week. We were  
23 excited to 10,000, and a few days later we hit 16,000.  
24 So it just shows the engagement from the public, as they  
25 log on to our web page and provide feedback on our draft

1 maps, and hopefully it continues into this week.

2 Our ethnic media vendor is placing advertisements in  
3 ethnic newspapers, and preparing to hold roundtables in  
4 hard-to-reach communities, focus on the draft maps that  
5 you've now released. So we have something tangible to  
6 show the public, and gather their feedback.

7 Our social media vendor will also target  
8 advertisements on Facebook and Google, with some specific  
9 draft maps, again, to solicit public input in response to  
10 the draft maps that we put out.

11 I do have CDs that were sent to me by Ravi, and they  
12 have transcripts for the following meetings: That's  
13 August 9th of this year, August 12th, August 19th, August  
14 24th, August 30th, September 10th, and September 29th;  
15 we're going to upload those immediately, and post them  
16 onto the website. We are just going to need some time,  
17 as these files are fairly large. So we'll do that this  
18 week as well.

19 As far as interviews for the past week since the  
20 last commission meeting, we had of course a busy day, the  
21 day of the draft maps, and then the day immediately  
22 following.

23 We spoke to Northern California Record to, AP, KCBS  
24 Radio in the Bay Area, KLOQ Radio Lobo, KRC Media, KGO-  
25 TV, Chapman University, Fresno Radio, KCRA3 in

1 Sacramento, The San Diego Union Tribune, KPCC and LAist,  
2 KRON4, AP again, The Desert Sun, Sac Bee, NBC4 Los  
3 Angeles, and NBC San Diego. And some of those requests  
4 are still in my inbox, so we'll continue with those.

5 Thank you to those commissioners that made  
6 themselves available for these requests. I'll continue  
7 to issue them out as I receive them.

8 As far as media mentions, over the last month I  
9 pulled the report from Atwater, we actually had 414  
10 stories mentioning the commission itself. And we had  
11 1,175 stories on redistricting in California alone.

12 Our website, our contacts in the database are up to  
13 19,731, views for our website over the last month were  
14 762,212, that's a new record so people are following us,  
15 and logging on to our website. And on the homepage  
16 alone, we had approximately 300,000 clicks, so people are  
17 browsing through our website looking for information,  
18 which is great.

19 The e-blast that we did over the past week, we did  
20 the 11/7/21 visualizations announcement, that had an open  
21 rate of 27 percent. Our draft maps press release  
22 announcement had 30 percent open rate. So people are  
23 naturally interested in what we had to say. And then the  
24 newsletter for November had a 26 percent open rate.  
25 Anything above 20 percent is great, that's what's





1 expected, so all the good numbers there.

2 Our social media numbers, for Facebook we're at  
3 1,389, Instagram 385 followers, Twitter 2,489, LinkedIn  
4 was at 323, and YouTube was at 95 subscribers.

5 And that is my report for this week.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And thank you for your  
7 service and your great work. And we have a couple of  
8 questions for the commissioners.

9 Commissioner Fernandez, first, and Kennedy second.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you, Chair. Sorry,  
11 this one is for Executive Director Hernandez. I didn't  
12 get my hand up, quickly enough.

13 The meetings that we're going to have in December  
14 13th through the 19th, or something like that. I had a  
15 question a while ago, and I think a few other  
16 Commissioners, if we could have a later starting time  
17 than 9:30, because quite a few of us have, not just this  
18 Commission, but other responsibilities as well, in terms  
19 of work, and it would be nice to be able to take care of  
20 that prior to our meeting, if necessary.

21 I noticed that you changed it from 9:30 to 10:00,  
22 but I was kind of hoping if it could be a bit later. And  
23 I'm not sure if any of my other fellow Commissioners also  
24 have feedback on that. So I was hoping for maybe even  
25 11, but if that's too late for everyone, I can make work.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernández.  
3 Commissioner Kennedy, then Akutagawa.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Director  
5 Ceja, I've got two concerns, or one that has several  
6 aspects of it. One, my sense from some of the public  
7 input that we're receiving is that there is some degree  
8 of misinformation out there. And I don't know who is  
9 spreading it, but it is definitely concerning.

10 I mean, with the number of people who seem to  
11 believe that they are literally going to have to start  
12 paying taxes in a different county if their district  
13 includes part of that county. Things like this, you  
14 know, they are really serious for members of the public.  
15 And I don't know -- I mean, there are enough of these  
16 that I don't think it's just -- you know, individual, I  
17 think it's coming from sources somewhere.

18 So I don't know if there's a way to ferret out where  
19 some of this misinformation is coming from, but I think  
20 we do need to be aware of it.

21 Second of all, we have to be careful and be very  
22 precise in our messaging. I have received items from --  
23 I believe from our own social media toolkit in Spanish,  
24 that are saying: Don't let legislators draw your new  
25 lines. What is that about? There's no -- there's no

1 question of legislators drawing new lines.

2       So you know, not only do we need to be aware of  
3 misinformation that's out there, we certainly don't want  
4 to be the source of any of it. Thank you.

5       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Mr. Kennedy -- or  
6 Commissioner Kennedy.

7       Commissioner Akutagawa?

8       COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I will -- first off  
9 I just want to support what Commissioner Fernández  
10 requested. 11 a.m. would be ideal, at least that would  
11 enable, you know, all of us I believe to get some things  
12 done since most businesses start or open at 9 a.m., even  
13 if it's virtual, or even if it's in person, it will --  
14 since we have a long stretch of time I think that would  
15 be helpful to -- that would I've us the time to get at  
16 least one thing done in the morning. Maybe even possibly  
17 two, depending on, you know, distance, and meeting  
18 schedules and other things like that. So I just wanted  
19 to say that.

20       Two, also, I'll just briefly comment on what  
21 Commissioner Kennedy said. I've seen the same things  
22 that he has said, I do wonder though if some of it is a  
23 combination of individuals who misunderstand what  
24 districting means, and then you know, in conversation  
25 with others is also spreading which then, you know,

1 continues to spread more. It could be other things too,  
2 but I will just share that.

3 In a conversation with an individual I just asked  
4 that question, what does that mean, and that person is --  
5 not due to misinformation, but just their understanding  
6 of what they think redistricting mean. And so there may  
7 be an element more of civic education that may be needed,  
8 less so misinformation.

9 I don't want to say that there isn't, but I think it  
10 could be a combination of both that may be kind of  
11 converging here. So thought I'd just also share that.  
12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.  
14 In terms of the public input of specifics, I mean, the  
15 schedules, the times, the amount for public input. We'll  
16 come back to that in the afternoon when we do our public  
17 input discussion. And hopefully, as necessary, we'll  
18 take action on any changes that way we need to make.

19 In terms of media, the media relations, I would  
20 remind the commissioners when we're doing interviews to  
21 really -- to be careful when you're speaking on behalf of  
22 the commission, and when you're speaking as an individual  
23 Commissioner.

24 And if it's your opinion it's coming from you as a  
25 commissioner, of course you have First Amendment Rights

1 to do so. And when you're representing the commission on  
2 general redistricting issues that's on -- that of course,  
3 is in -- when you're speaking on behalf of the commission  
4 on those items. And so there's two -- those aspects of  
5 it.

6 Commissioner -- let's go to Fredy. Let's see if he  
7 has any feedback on any of this. And then we'll go to  
8 Commissioner Akutagawa, if she still has her hand raised.

9 MR. CEJA: All right. Thank you so much.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: So let's go to you Fredy.

11 MR. CEJA: Yes, thank you so much.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Director Ceja, I mean.

13 MR. CEJA: So Commissioner Kennedy, it would be  
14 great if we could get together and start a myths and  
15 fact, maybe fact sheet to correct some of those issues  
16 that you've seen out there.

17 But yeah, naturally too, I mean, as people are  
18 dialing into the commission for the first time, we're  
19 going to have to go back to the basics of reeducating  
20 what redistricting is, what the process is, where we are.

21 It's a continuous cycle, but yeah, I have seen an  
22 increase of individuals also directing their comments to  
23 specific Commissioners, and that's going to happen as we  
24 move through this process. But yes, definitely want to  
25 remind everyone to continue sticking to the points that

1 we have.

2 Am I frozen?

3 And I'm going to continue to provide those basic  
4 talking points as we move along, because some of the hot  
5 issues will emerge, and hopefully we'll have responses  
6 for those on a weekly basis.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. We have hand raised by  
8 Commissioner Le Mons.

9 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. Just in the spirit of  
10 what Commissioner Kennedy was raising, I absolutely,  
11 wholeheartedly respect First Amendment Rights. I think  
12 as commissioners, particularly in this particular stretch  
13 of the process, I would encourage us to keep our comments  
14 specific to our role as commissioner when we're asked  
15 about commission business, because the possibility of  
16 things getting confused and misconstrued is greater when  
17 we don't.

18 So if we just personally make that decision, that  
19 despite the fact that I have the First Amendment Right to  
20 have an opinion, that I'm speaking and representing the  
21 commission, and so I don't want to further confuse the  
22 messaging, or give people something to misconstrue as we  
23 move into this final stretch of the work. Thanks.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons. Any  
25 other thoughts around this to close the loop?

1 Any suggestions, Director Ceja?

2 MR. CEJA: So perhaps we can put together updated  
3 talking points on a weekly basis as issues start arising.  
4 I know some of the issues will change more frequently  
5 now, so it will require talking points on a weekly basis,  
6 so we can do that. And then like I said, putting  
7 together myths and facts handout that we can use, and  
8 send that to individuals, and keep posting on social  
9 media.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And your talking points  
11 are always very on point, and specific to the work that  
12 we're doing, and the message we want to get out to the  
13 public. Especially around how to engage with our  
14 processes, how to submit information to the committee,  
15 and where we are in the redistricting process.

16 So thank you for all the work that you're doing.  
17 And I think a fact sheet would be great, and updated  
18 regular talking points would also be helpful.

19 With that, let's go to our outreach director,  
20 Director Kaplan.

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Chair?

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Chair?

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm sorry, Commissioner Turner. I  
25 didn't see your hands raised.

1           COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh. That's okay. I just  
2 wanted to kind of ask for your opinion or so. So I  
3 appreciate the talking points, they're always very  
4 helpful, but in light of what Commissioner Kennedy and  
5 Commissioner Le Mons is sharing, I know some of the  
6 requests that are coming out now, are coming out  
7 specifically asking in regards to our experience in a  
8 particular area, or our experience based on our own. So  
9 they've asked I think a lot of the general questions that  
10 can be responded to with the talking points.

11           And so is the thought process that we're not taking  
12 interviews based on our own personal, where we live,  
13 background experiences, because I find the requests now  
14 are coming with that type of lens with it. And so how  
15 are we thinking of addressing these requests?

16           MR. CEJA: Yeah, that --

17           CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah, that's a great question.

18           Director Ceja?

19           MR. CEJA: Yeah, so if I can respond -- yeah, thank  
20 you so much. Yes, a lot of the media requests now are:  
21 hey, how did you come up with the draft map for my area,  
22 right? Or what implications does this have for these  
23 communities? They're lumping together districts that  
24 exist now.

25           We can provide pivot points for all those. Not



1 shying from the question, but also looking to those zone  
2 leaders that have more context to how we reached those  
3 decisions. I know certainly during the deliberations for  
4 draft maps, certain commissioners took the lead on  
5 certain areas, and they sort of engaged the other  
6 commissioners around how to get to a certain point, or  
7 how to create a certain district.

8       So I'll be tapping into the knowledge that we have  
9 on this commission for those individuals that have more  
10 knowledge about a certain geographic area that we can  
11 translate into talking points to let the folks know how  
12 we reached our consensus.

13       And then going back to the basic criteria, right?  
14 We're looking first and foremost at population, second at  
15 VRA recommendations, and then making sure that we're  
16 keeping cities, counties, and communities of interest  
17 together to the best of our ability.

18       COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. Let me just add a follow  
19 up to that, Fredy, that will be helpful. And adding to  
20 your response, it's specific things: living in the  
21 Central Valley, living in San Joaquin County, a lot of  
22 this is, living there, what is your experience living  
23 there? Whether you think it's still an agricultural  
24 area.

25       MR. CEJA: Yeah.

1           COMMISSIONER TURNER: Is it? So you see, so it's  
2 not so much about the criteria and we agreed, it's again,  
3 and I just want to be really clear, so that I'm in  
4 alignment with what we have determined as a Commission.  
5 Are we not asking and responding, that's what I mean by  
6 personal kind of questions?

7           MR. CEJA: I would say that there's always an  
8 opportunity to add your own personal flair to a response,  
9 so long as you're still delivering the main message,  
10 which is, we're following a set of criteria, based on my  
11 expertise and my knowledge of the area, because I live  
12 here. You can always add that, that context to it as  
13 well.

14          CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's go to Commissioners Andersen,  
15 and Akutagawa, Le Mons. And then hopefully we can -- we  
16 can get to some level of consensus around this.

17           Commissioner Andersen?

18          COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. I just  
19 saw the myths and facts, which I think is a marvelous  
20 idea. But could you send that around to us as a draft  
21 before it goes out, so we can add additional things which  
22 we found out about, and/or just, you know, tweak a few  
23 things to make sure it sort of fits for everybody,  
24 please?

25          MR. CEJA: Yep.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Akutagawa?

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Also, I wanted to  
3 also add in perhaps a request about being more clear  
4 about what the VRA means. I feel like it took us a  
5 little while to fully understand it, I think they're --  
6 it would be helpful for the public to also understand at  
7 least some high level, you know, just perhaps FAQs about  
8 it so that they -- you know we say that, because it's the  
9 number two, and we talk about it a lot, but I don't know  
10 if everybody fully understands what that means, and so it  
11 may be helpful to have those FAQs included about the VRA.  
12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.  
14 Commissioner Le Mons?

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. I just wanted to  
16 express a little bit of a concern that I have as it  
17 relates to interpretation. I'm glad Commissioner Turner  
18 raised those very specific questions.

19 If I recall, the zone leaders were established to  
20 ensure that we were promoting outreach to get input from  
21 the public. And I think that long the way that has  
22 gotten misinterpreted a little bit, is that if you're a  
23 zone leader area, you are somehow now the expert of that  
24 area, and so anything that comes out of your mouth  
25 related to that area is fact.

1           And so that's not what our purpose was, and that's  
2 not what we were trying to represent, as far as what I  
3 understood. What's most important is the COI testimony,  
4 so our goal was to hear from as many Californians as  
5 possible, for them to inform us about their communities.

6           And while we do have communities, I mean, we lived  
7 in communities that we have an awareness of, my singular  
8 awareness of a community, just because I'm a  
9 commissioner, doesn't mean that that is the reality of  
10 the community, that's just my experience of the  
11 community.

12           And I think what happens is, our opinion is elevated  
13 because of our role. So I think that's why it becomes  
14 very, very important that we be very mindful of how --  
15 what we're communicating is being received. It's not so  
16 much what we're saying. We know our intentions. But  
17 it's about the possible misunderstanding by the  
18 recipient. That's what concerns me.

19           So I think if we can err on the side of not making  
20 this about our personal experience, not about where --  
21 what we understand about the community, while that's  
22 valid, that doesn't trump the COI testimony, which to me  
23 is the most important. And that's why we put all of that  
24 effort into outreach, and we made a concerted effort, as  
25 a Commission, to make sure that we did outreach far and

1 wide, so that we could have the kind of intel necessary  
2 to draw the best maps based on the community.

3       So I think if we just use that lens as we talk about  
4 it, even when we're giving our direct feedback into  
5 live -- live line drawing, et cetera, we're not framing  
6 it: Oh, I know this, and I know that. I know a caller  
7 said, well, Commissioner Le Mons lives in that  
8 neighborhood. Well, yeah, I do, with a whole lot of  
9 other people, but my neighbor might feel very differently  
10 about it than I do.

11       So I just wanted to kind of put that out there. And  
12 I think we can manage what we communicate out of our own  
13 mouths.

14       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons. And  
15 I think it's really imp for us to drive our message, and  
16 I think other talking points that Director Ceja creates,  
17 helps to focus us -- focus us and push our message  
18 across. What's really important for us to drive the  
19 message with members of the media, to focus them on  
20 what's important to us, and to the redistricting process,  
21 and not to get sidetracked by some of the reporters who  
22 may be doing it, without good intention.

23       So with that, let's go to Commissioner Kennedy.

24       COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I just  
25 want to reiterate a point that I made a couple months

1 back, which is that, you know, as much work as we did  
2 getting the California redistricting basics presentation  
3 out around the state to as many people as we did, we  
4 still have to recognize that there are many people who  
5 never came in contact with that presentation, and the  
6 information that's in there.

7       So I would encourage us to continue to push that,  
8 not just have it available, but to proactively push it  
9 out. You know, even to the point, it occurred to me the  
10 other day we've had complaints about our hold music. Why  
11 do we have hold music? Let's use the hold time to get  
12 across the basic facts about redistricting from our  
13 redistricting basics, presentation, or fact sheets, or  
14 something else.

15       Let's just continue to push, push, push to get the  
16 facts out there. You know and I've said also, if we  
17 don't fill the voids in people's minds, they start making  
18 up their interpretation of it without reference to the  
19 facts because we haven't done a good enough job of  
20 getting the facts out there.

21       So I just want to encourage us to continue to be  
22 very proactive and push all of this information, not just  
23 new information, as much as we can. Thank you.

24       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Turner?

25       COMMISSIONER TURNER: I just wanted to quickly add

1 in, and hopefully Fredy captured it. I thought the  
2 wording that Commissioner Le Mons gave, or lifted up, was  
3 really good wording for kind of leading to some of the  
4 pivots, because the questions are specifically. And my  
5 challenge, I think sticking point was, I do live in the  
6 area, but I certainly recognize I don't represent  
7 everyone's opinion.

8       So I just like the wording to be able to say, yes, I  
9 certainly can talk about me, however, I recognize I'm  
10 only me. I certainly don't speak on behalf of.

11       And so he, I think, laid it out really good, and I  
12 think that will be helpful, because we will continue at  
13 this point to be asked specifics. Not so much about the  
14 commission, we know how to find those resources. But  
15 people are curious about the people that's making the  
16 decisions, and we are representing the almost 40 million,  
17 and yes, we live here, but we're only one of a large  
18 number of people that are in our areas.

19       So anyway I just wanted to add that, and maybe we  
20 can use some of that consistent wording. Thank you.

21       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So do Commissioners feel  
22 like that's sufficient guidance at this point? Or do we  
23 need additional guidance on communications, media  
24 communications? Let's just show -- yes, no, maybe.  
25 Okay, it looks like everyone is comfortable with where

1 we're at.

2 With that, let's transition to Director Kaplan with  
3 our -- or actually our outreach report.

4 MS. KAPLAN: Hi. Good morning, Commissioners. So  
5 I'm just going to walk you through a little bit the  
6 written report that's posted, and then I'll go into some  
7 more notes. So I had posted an outreach report, and the  
8 first few pages include upcoming and past presentations,  
9 that staff have been providing across the state.

10 And so just to follow up on some of the discussion  
11 that you all were just having. We do still continue to  
12 push the redistricting basics video that was created,  
13 along with other ways for the public to participate in  
14 the process, and so we're continuing to conduct these  
15 presentations and -- and just updating a few slides  
16 today, and based on the release of the draft maps, and  
17 ways to provide input as well.

18 Going further along in the document, and there's an  
19 overview, as Fredy mentioned, we have increased our  
20 public input dramatically over the last months. And so  
21 there's a breakdown at the bottom of page 4 of the source  
22 type of the input that we've received, whether it's  
23 coming from email, letter, the contact us form, the  
24 drawing tools, live meetings, visualization feedback  
25 form, and the district map feedback form, which we have



1 just updated.

2       And then I've provided a breakdown of the goal and  
3 activation rate by county as of October -- I'm sorry,  
4 that should be November 13, 2021. And so this is to  
5 continue as of I've done in previous commission meetings.  
6 And this is highlighting the commission's strategic  
7 outreach goal at an activation rate of one per one  
8 thousand, or 0.1 percent of an area.

9       And this is based on the input that we've received  
10 that mentions respective counties and again, just want to  
11 continue to highlight that there's numerous inputs to  
12 submit -- that are submitted that mention multiple  
13 counties, so this is capturing when counties are  
14 mentioned more than once as well.

15       Also, just going back to some of the input that  
16 we've received in the different sources where it comes  
17 from, and there's been some additional non-English verbal  
18 testimony that's been provided at several meetings in  
19 October and November. And so from the ones from October  
20 29th, 30th, and November 2nd, we had English subtitles  
21 included on those clips.

22       And those are now posted on the past meeting pages,  
23 for those meetings, and we've also included the written  
24 transcription in the non-English language as well as the  
25 English language into the database. And we do have

1 another batch of non-English written in part, and with  
2 our language vendor that we should have this week to post  
3 as well.

4 And just going further through the document, there's  
5 also a breakdown. So it's sorted by county in  
6 alphabetical order, and then sorted the actual goal  
7 actively -- the percentage goal activated per county, as  
8 have been requested in the past, and then there is a  
9 breakdown by zone as well.

10 And then I wanted to just provide some overview of  
11 the draft map input meetings, and some additional updates  
12 that staff have provided. We did update the  
13 visualization form to, it's now a draft map feedback  
14 form, but we are using the same link, because it's  
15 already in circulation. So there's, we just have to  
16 tweak the questions a little bit, and that went live as  
17 the draft maps were approved.

18 I wanted to highlight the draft map input meetings  
19 that are happening this week and the following as the  
20 commission approved earlier, or last month, November  
21 17th, 18th, and 19th, will be from 3 to 8 p.m. starting  
22 with November 17th, focusing on Congressional District  
23 feedback, November 18th on Assembly District feedback,  
24 November 19th on Senate District feedback, and then  
25 November 20th, from 10 to 3, starting with quality

1 equalization feedback, and then opening to any district  
2 feedback.

3 And then two additional meetings on November 22nd  
4 and 23rd from 9:30 to 2:30, focused on any district  
5 feedback. We opened up the apartments for the in-part  
6 meetings after the commission approved draft maps, and an  
7 email blast went out with the announcement, and that's  
8 when the appointments were opened for the public.

9 And the majority of the appointments had filled up  
10 by 12 -- between 12 and 1 p.m. on November 11th, and on  
11 November 12th staff had identified where there were  
12 duplicate sign ups within one day.

13 And additional appointments opened up given the  
14 commission had approved the limit of one speaker -- one  
15 speaker per day. The appointments are based on a five-  
16 minute time limit per speaker that was also approved at  
17 the previous commission meeting when this was discussed.

18 We did create a flyer that was translated into  
19 thirteen languages for the draft map input meetings, but  
20 it also includes other ways to provide input to the  
21 commission, including the feedback form, and other ways  
22 to participate that are on our website.

23 My understanding there will be a mapper present  
24 during the meetings to display the area the public is  
25 going to be speaking about during the meetings as well.

1 I also wanted to highlight that we have secured  
2 translation with our language vendor, and a Spanish  
3 language line, and interpreters will be on for all days  
4 as the commission approved all other language access  
5 requests. Or requests for disability accommodations can  
6 be submitted via email to the commission by calling our  
7 office, are also included in the appointment request  
8 form.

9 For language requests, we have not received any  
10 beyond Spanish. And I wanted to also highlight that  
11 we're working with a vendor, to solicit a vendor to  
12 provide audio descriptions of the draft maps, per request  
13 that we received to provide additional access to those  
14 who have limited sight. And we'll be working with the  
15 COMs team, when those are posted, to be able to blast  
16 those out as well. I think the goal was by the end of  
17 this week.

18 And just wanted to give you some overview on  
19 additional staff logistics, and prepping for all these  
20 meetings, Sulma and her team really helped over the last,  
21 just getting everything together in order for us to be  
22 able to launch new appointments when the draft maps are  
23 released, and all the additional steps on the backend.

24 So just really highlighting that we'll be finalizing  
25 a run of show for the week, and a general script for the

1 chair and vice chair, staff are going to be on to support  
2 with note taking, and coordination with the video team on  
3 appointments.

4 I want to highlight that we've been working with our  
5 data teams so when there is public comment in live  
6 meetings, it is going into our database, so that there is  
7 this move to transition, and we have the record of those  
8 inputs as well. And the database staff are also  
9 supporting with coordination to set up the language  
10 lines, and coordinate witness interpreters as needed.

11 And then just highlighting the process in terms of  
12 logistics for participants, there will be anyone who has  
13 registered for appointments will receive their Zoom login  
14 link the day before the meeting, and also a reminder the  
15 day of the meeting. And sometimes, just to highlight,  
16 these end up in a spam folder, so letting the public know  
17 if they don't see those immediately to also check their  
18 spam folder.

19 And that was it for my report. Just wanted to try  
20 and give a little bit more overview of how staff has been  
21 prepping for those meetings.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Director Kaplan. And  
23 we'll come back to some of these items during the Public  
24 Input Committee as we work through some of the time  
25 constraints, and the schedule, and other logistics.

1           With that, let's turn it over to director -- or  
2 Chief Counsel Pane.

3           MR. PANE: Good morning, Chair. Thank you,  
4 Commission. I just wanted to give you a brief highlight  
5 during the Legal Affairs Committee, Subcommittee Report,  
6 I'll be looking to seek approval for the Strumwasser &  
7 Woocher litigation contract.

8           As you know, we've been having further negotiations,  
9 and added additional protections for the commission since  
10 the last time you voted on it. And Strumwasser & Woocher  
11 which has been very helpful; and we have their signature  
12 for this contract. So I'll be seeking your final  
13 approval to get that in place. And that is posted as  
14 well.

15           Other than that, I just wanted to give you a brief  
16 update. We are finalizing negotiations with Gibson &  
17 Dunn (sic) on the litigation contract for them, we expect  
18 to -- we hope to finalize those in the coming weeks, to  
19 get that one before you for approval as well.

20           With that, I can answer any questions. Thank you.

21           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Chief Counsel Pane. And  
22 Chief -- or rather, Commissioner Yee.

23           COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted  
24 to mention, on the Strumwasser & Woocher contract, the  
25 signatory for Strumwasser & Woocher is Dale Larson. I

1 believe his name is signed but not printed. So I just  
2 wanted to mention that on camera. Thank you.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Yee. Any  
4 other questions for Chief Counsel Pane?

5 Fabulous, so with that we'll go to subcommittee and  
6 committee reports, and starting off with government  
7 affairs and census.

8 MR. MANOFF: Chair? Chair? We do need to take  
9 public comment for that agenda item, for the director's  
10 report.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh. Thank you.

12 MR. MANOFF: Thank you.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Certainly. Let's take public  
14 comment, Katy.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair. In  
16 order to maximize transparency and public participation  
17 in our process, the commissioners will be taking public  
18 comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number  
19 provided on the live-stream feed. It is 877-853-5247.

20 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided  
21 on the live-stream feed. It is 82982211105 for this  
22 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply  
23 press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you will  
24 be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment,  
25 please press star nine. This will raise your hand for

1 the moderator.

2 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a  
3 message that says: The host would like you to talk, and  
4 to press star six to speak. If you would like to give  
5 your name, please state and spell it for the record. You  
6 are not required to provide your name to give public  
7 comment.

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

14 The commissioner is taking public comment on agenda  
15 item number 2, director's report, at this time. If you  
16 would like to make comment on agenda item number 2, if  
17 you'll please press star nine to raise your hand.

18 At this time, Chair, we do not have any raised  
19 hands.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Can we wait a couple minutes?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We do have one raised  
22 hand, and we will take that. Caller 4149, if you will  
23 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star six,  
24 The floor is yours.

25 MR. COSNEY: Thank you, Commissioners. My name is



1 Kevin Cosney (ph.) calling from the Black Census and  
2 Redistricting Hub. Again, I want to thank you for your  
3 service, and all of you worked to make this a fair and  
4 public process.

5 We do want to encourage the commission to send  
6 additional time, thought, and consideration on public  
7 comment participation process to ensure there are not  
8 unintentional inequities in the system. I was concerned  
9 about a few things, namely, that they're producing a  
10 process that favors political insiders, wealthier, and  
11 more privilege individuals.

12 For example, the appointment link for the draft map  
13 input meeting, opened right after draft maps which are  
14 released late at night. And really, only people who are  
15 political insiders that have the luxury to watch the  
16 commission all night, and wait for that very moment for  
17 things to be released would have known that the  
18 appointment link was open.

19 The appointment link did open before full PDF of  
20 draft maps were released, and didn't give ordinary  
21 members of the public time to analyze the map to decide  
22 if they even wanted to weigh in. And then the newsletter  
23 that came our Friday, November 12th, promoting the  
24 appointment system, again, but it came out at a time  
25 where there were no more appointments left, which again,

1 gave the public a false impression that they can weigh in  
2 via oral comments, when the option was no longer  
3 available.

4       There's lots of issues with clarity regarding sign  
5 up process, this happened during the map's admission  
6 process, and again, now in the feedback process. Again  
7 during map presentation process there was confusion over  
8 whether (indiscernible) would be given multiple  
9 processes. And as a result, we at the Hub we're given  
10 less time than other groups with smaller proposals,  
11 during the draft map feedback appointment process this  
12 time, and second were unclear and didn't fully --

13       MR. MANOFF: 30 seconds.

14       MR. COSNEY: -- lay out the commission's policies  
15 and procedures. And as a result many community residents  
16 have been denied opportunities to give their feedback.  
17 Again, we know that you all want to hear as many people  
18 as possible, but again, we have concerns --

19       MR. MANOFF: 15 seconds.

20       MR. COSNEY: -- about written feedback process, and  
21 again, by not having enough slots open, was certainly  
22 denying folks from being able to speak. So again, we  
23 would love to hear more opportunities to give oral public  
24 comment, less than --

25       PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right

1 now we will have caller with the last four 2829, if you  
2 will please the prompt to unmute by pressing star six.  
3 The floor is yours.

4 MS. WESTALUSK: Yes. This is Renee Westalusk (ph.),  
5 and I'm calling to find out, because there was a mention  
6 of decreasing the speaking time for the appointment  
7 slots. Does that mean you're going to open up more  
8 appointment slots?

9 My second point, the appointments that were made  
10 available were filled up in less than 24 hours after you  
11 opened them up, and many groups didn't get to reserve a  
12 slot. And then what about the people who are forced to  
13 call in to give their public comment because they were  
14 unable to get an appointment slot? They won't be allowed  
15 to present a map to you visually.

16 I understand the appointment people get to present  
17 maps that you'll be able to see, but the people that are  
18 forced to call in, because they couldn't get an  
19 appointment slot, won't be given that opportunity. I'd  
20 like you to comment on those things. Thank you.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
22 right now we have caller 4201. If you'll, please follow  
23 the prompts to unmute by pressing star six. The floor is  
24 yours.

25 MR. WALDMAN: Yeah, hi. Stuart Waldman from the San

1 Fernando Valley Redistricting Coalition. I have to agree  
2 with the previous callers. I was unaware of appointment  
3 links. And I've spent hundreds of hours watching  
4 everything, and didn't know it existed until now, and  
5 unfortunately seem to have missed out, as many other  
6 people did.

7 I don't think it was advertised well, I did not see  
8 it on social media, I didn't hear it, of course I was  
9 doing other things while I'm listening to the commission,  
10 but definitely something needs to be done to open up to  
11 give people an opportunity to voice their opinion.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And thank you so much.  
13 And that is all of the raised hands at this time, Chair.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So in response to some of  
15 the issues that were raised right now through some of  
16 these calls, and letters we've received over the weekend  
17 from Common Cause, League of Women Voters, and others,  
18 we'll be talking about the public input process later  
19 today. And looking at ways to increase participation and  
20 engagement through our public input process over the next  
21 couple of weeks, and think through some of these issues.

22 So we will be talking about these issues, and  
23 addressing later in the meeting today, during the Public  
24 Input Subcommittee discussion. So hopefully you can  
25 follow us through that process later this afternoon.

1 With that, let's go to subcommittee and committee  
2 reports. And we'll start with government affairs; that's  
3 Commissioner Sadhwani and myself.

4 And we don't have any update at this time.

5 So we'll move on to Finance and Administration,  
6 Commissioners Fernández and Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I do not believe we have  
8 anything at this point. Director Hernandez noted the  
9 funds request for the Department of Finance, and then  
10 we'll also have a budget meeting this week.

11 Was there anything else, Commissioner Fornaciari?

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Next up is the Gantt Chart Committee,  
14 that's Kennedy -- Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing to report, Chair.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. We'll move on to Outreach  
17 and Engagement, Sinay and Fornaciari.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't think we have  
19 anything to submit -- to report. We've met with Marcy,  
20 she mentioned -- or Director Kaplan, sorry, she mentioned  
21 that the feedback form was updated. And I guess one  
22 thing I want to point out is we specifically asked folks  
23 to -- you know, to be specific with recommended changes,  
24 right? Instead of just saying, I don't like this. Tell  
25 us what -- you know, how you would like to see us change

1 the map. So hopefully, hopefully we'll get more of that.  
2 So that will be helpful.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: All right. Let's move on to  
4 Materials Development. That's Commissioners Fernández  
5 and Kennedy.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: The update that we have  
7 right now, is Mr. Kennedy and I, we are working on the  
8 report that will go with our final -- that will be  
9 included with our maps, and we've been working with  
10 Strumwasser and also our staff. So we're working on that  
11 and hoping to get some sort of draft to the full  
12 commission for their review.

13 Is there anything else, Commissioner Kennedy?

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, yeah, I would say that  
15 our goal is to get a draft to the full commission by next  
16 Monday, as I recall from our meetings with staff and  
17 attorneys last week. Thank you.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great, we'll look forward to the  
19 draft. Next up is the Website Committee, Commissioners  
20 Kennedy and Taylor?

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing to report, Chair.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Next will be the Data  
23 Management Committee, and that's Ahmad and Turner.

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Nothing new to report; just  
25 enjoying the updates that have been coming in to our

1 website, as with everyone else.

2 Commissioner Turner?

3 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. That's all.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate it. I'll move on to the  
5 Communities of Interest Tool Committee. And that's  
6 Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. We don't have anything  
8 to report, other than to please keep submitting it  
9 through the COI tool, or directly through our website,  
10 too, any of your inputs. Thank you.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. Incarcerated Populations,  
12 this is in regards to the Federal facilities.  
13 Commissioners Kennedy, and Turner.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing to report at this  
15 point, Chair.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. I will move on to Lessons  
17 Learned; Commissioners Ahmad and Kennedy?

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair, at this point, with  
19 the discussion of the post-release of maps -- post-  
20 submission of maps budget process, we want to make sure  
21 that there is budget in place for a robust lessons  
22 learned exercise at some point next year.

23 My estimate at this point is that we would be  
24 engaging commissioners and staff for approximately one  
25 week. It doesn't have to be one week solid, but I think

1 that's a reasonable estimate of the time, that we would  
2 need to engage with everyone. And there's one time for  
3 report writing, and editing, and so forth.

4 So I just want to make sure that those who are  
5 involved in developing the budget are aware of this, and  
6 Commissioner Ahmad and I will be happy to provide  
7 additional details as needed by those who are developing  
8 the budget. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. And just to add to that.  
10 Commissioner Kennedy and I, and although we were planning  
11 to meet today, but we didn't know we were going to have a  
12 meeting today. So we're going to find another time  
13 for -- perhaps some time later this week to talk through  
14 these items moving forward.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. With that, let's move on  
16 to the Cybersecurity Committee; Commissioners Fornaciari  
17 and Taylor.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Chair, can I just respond  
19 to?

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh. Sorry, about that.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That's okay.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fernández?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. I just want to  
24 respond to Commissioner Kennedy and Commissioner Ahmad.  
25 Yes we, Finance and Administration, we've already --



1 we're going to be meeting in early January to discuss  
2 budgeting proposal that we'll probably submit during  
3 the -- February to see what our budget needs are going to  
4 be, or going after the maps and submit a proposal at that  
5 point.

6 That we'll definitely be obtaining information from  
7 everyone to see what we think that's going to look like  
8 in terms of post maps, and all of our needs. Thank you.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernández.

10 Let's move on to cybersecurity; Commissioners  
11 Fornaciari and Taylor.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Nothing to report in open  
13 session at this point.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. We will move on to Legal  
15 Affair. We do have an item that Chief Counsel is  
16 bringing to us, and we will be taking a vote on that  
17 item, taking public comments, and then taking a break  
18 coming back, after break to have a discussion on -- a  
19 debrief in -- during the Line Drawings Subcommittee.

20 So I just wanted to set the stage so we all know  
21 what's happening in the next couple -- over the next  
22 couple of minutes. And during that debrief I am going to  
23 be asking every commissioner to ask -- just giving a  
24 heads up so you can think about it through your break.

25 Think about what works, and what could be improved

1 during the line drawing process. So just something to  
2 think through, and if you can create a list -- I'll be  
3 calling on each one of you to give what works and what  
4 can be improved.

5 With that, let's turn it over to Chief Counsel Pane  
6 for his update and action item.

7 MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair. As I mentioned in the  
8 chief counsel report, Commissioners Toledo, Yee, and  
9 myself had tried to further close out the pending -- the  
10 litigation contracts. And we were able to successfully  
11 do that with Strumwasser, and we're putting the final  
12 touches to the Gibson & Dunn one.

13 So I wanted to put the final approval before you,  
14 well, for final approval with Strumwasser's signature, to  
15 approve the litigation contract. I'd welcome the motion  
16 if we could --

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: A copy of that contract is on the  
18 website. Do you want to go over some of changes?

19 MR. PANE: We can, yeah. So just as a --

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Just making sure that everyone is on  
21 the same page.

22 MR. PANE: Sure, yeah. So just from a high level,  
23 one of the finalization pieces we made was a term ending  
24 December 31st of 2022, that is to make sure that if we  
25 need to renegotiate rates that we just don't all of a

1 sudden turn into a different rate, starting in the  
2 following year.

3       So if need be, we would certainly negotiate a new  
4 contract, to go past that date. There is also additional  
5 protections in here for budget contingency clauses, so if  
6 for some reason legislature doesn't appropriate the funds  
7 that we know they will do, there's sort of a contingency  
8 plan built in where the commission will seek to put --  
9 will seek to get the funds the best way it can.

10       And hopefully to smooth over any sort of -- and  
11 wouldn't want to interrupt any sort of legal services  
12 that might occur. In addition to that, there's an added  
13 clause that talks about Commission's rights, which refers  
14 specifically to documents, and that they retain -- that  
15 they're retained by the CRC. So there's no ambiguity  
16 about who has those records. They will be the  
17 commission's records.

18       There's additional protections or additional  
19 references to Business and Professions Code, and there is  
20 also additional changes for invoicing and payment. And  
21 again, that was mainly just to, again, protect the  
22 commission when we're talking about records for payments.

23       And as you can imagine, with litigation it gets very  
24 time intensive. And also record keeping is a premium,  
25 especially when we're dealing with a lot of discovery,

1 and I'll just say costs associated with litigation. So  
2 we wanted to make sure there were additional specificity  
3 for that.

4 I think those are sort of the higher level  
5 additional protections. And just so the commission is  
6 aware, what we did is we made sure that these provisions,  
7 these add-in provisions since you all approved the  
8 previous version. We made sure that they were also in  
9 the Gibson & Dunn contracts, so that we're dealing with  
10 the contracts the same way, and have the same provisions.

11 And so these provisions that we've added into the  
12 Strumwasser contract, have also been added into the  
13 Gibson & Dunn (sic) Contract. Strumwasser has been first  
14 to sign and finalize it, and we're seeking to do that now  
15 with Gibson & Dunn (sic) as well.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. Do we have any questions?  
17 If there are no questions, do we have a motion?

18 Commissioner Yee?

19 COMMISSIONER YEE: I move that we approve the  
20 Strumwasser & Wocher contract for litigation counsel.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Do we have a second?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Patricia, I'll second.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay. With  
24 that, any discussion?

25 I'll just add that one of the reasons we're bringing

1 these on separately as opposed to together is that we  
2 want to make sure that they go through the state process  
3 and we have litigation contract approval in place  
4 early -- early next year, at this point, hopefully  
5 sooner. So the sooner we get it through the process the  
6 better, just so that we don't have to deal with the --  
7 deal with these issues as we're going through line  
8 drawing.

9 And with that, if there's no additional comment or  
10 questions from the floor, let's take public comments.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thanks, Chair. The  
12 commission will now take public comment, the motion on  
13 the floor to approve the legal contract. To give  
14 comment, please call 877-853-5247, and enter the meeting  
15 ID number 82982211105 for this meeting. Once you have  
16 dialed in, please press star nine to enter the comment  
17 queue. The full call-in instructions have been read  
18 previously in this meeting, and are provided in full on  
19 the live-stream landing page.

20 And for those of you that have called in, and are  
21 listening in the queue if you wish to give comment on the  
22 agenda item -- I'm sorry on the motion on the floor,  
23 please press star nine, this will raise your hand  
24 indicating you have something to say on this particular  
25 thing.

1           At this time, Chair, we do not have any raised hands  
2 in the queue, and we will let you know when the  
3 instructions are complete.

4           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Katy.

5           Alvaro, do you have the motion ready for a vote?

6           MR. HERNANDEZ: I have it ready to go, Chair.

7           CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent.

8           PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Instructions are complete  
9 Chair, and we still do not have any hands.

10          CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Let's go to vote. Okay.

11          FEMALE SPEAKER: Can I just make a recommendation to  
12 spell out, not just put SW, please spell out the name of  
13 the firm. Thank you.

14          MR. HERNANDEZ: Will do.

15          CHAIR TOLEDO: And how about litigation counsel  
16 contract?

17          FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes.

18          CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. I'm going to need help witness  
19 this, Strumwasser; is that correct?

20          MR. PANE: And you'll want the "&" sign, and Woocher  
21 is W-O-O-C-H-E-R.

22          CHAIR TOLEDO: There's no -- first a -- S-T-R-U-M?

23          MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

24          MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay. Is that, I mean everyone's  
25 needs there everyone's needs there, litigation contract,

1 so we can begin the vote?

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: It looks like Commissioner Yee is  
3 okay with it, Commissioner Sinay, as well. All right  
4 let's go to vote.

5 MR. HERNANDEZ: Very well. Commissioner Turner?

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vazquez?

8 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

9 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.

10 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Ahmad?

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

13 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

15 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernández?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

19 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

21 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Abstain.

23 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

24 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

25 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

1 Commissioner Sinay.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

4 And Commissioner Toledo?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

7 FEMALE SPEAKER: Alvaro, sorry?

8 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

9 FEMALE SPEAKER: For Derric the number didn't show  
10 up.

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. So with that, let's go to a  
13 fifteen-minute break, we'll come back at 11 o'clock, and  
14 start the line drawing debrief process, so we'll be  
15 coming to the Line Drawing Committee after the break.

16 Thank you. And we'll see you at 11 o'clock.

17 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 10:44 a.m.  
18 until 11:00 a.m.)

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
20 Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are now at the  
21 Line Drawing Subcommittee reports, and we will be doing a  
22 debrief on last week's line drawing process.

23 With that, I wanted to start by having all of the  
24 commissioners go around and give one, two, or as many  
25 examples of what went well.



1 Starting with Commissioner Turner, since she was  
2 Chair during the process, and I'll give you a couple of  
3 seconds.

4 So we'll start with what went well, and then we'll  
5 do a turnaround and talk about what could be improved.  
6 I'll turn it over to Commissioner Turner, so she can  
7 begin.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes. So  
9 the session last week, I think what went well was the  
10 support that we had through some of the technology that  
11 was developed, so the visualization tool that was  
12 available, having access to support, I think from the  
13 line drawers were very accessible, they were ready to  
14 help us with visualizations.

15 I think all of the commissioners were very  
16 supportive in trying to understand the direction that we  
17 were going, and recognizing the pressure that we were  
18 under from a time constraint. So I think things like  
19 that. I do have some -- when we get to it, some  
20 suggestions about what I think might make it helpful  
21 going forward.

22 It was a time unlike any other, so I think all of us  
23 are drawing lines for the first time, so I think we were  
24 kind of figuring it out as we went. So for me, I think  
25 most of it was a blur trying to hold all of the pieces in

1 place while receiving a lot of data coming at you, a lot  
2 of comments, words, feedback, proposals, requests, trying  
3 to listen.

4 So all of that was interesting, I think I could  
5 probably have better feedback when I was able to kind of  
6 observe it more, as opposed to feeling like I was in a  
7 kind of orchestration standpoint. But I think it went --  
8 I think for the most part I think I was really pleased  
9 with recognizing we started from scratch knowing that the  
10 tools that were available. I think that was something  
11 that was beneficial for us. And I'll stop there for now.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.

13 Commissioner Yee?

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. Just, it was really  
15 satisfying, to probably get to this part of the process,  
16 where we get to actually draw lines together, something  
17 we've been waiting for for so long. I really appreciated  
18 the line drawing team, their technical skill, their  
19 adaptability, their presence, their preparation for each  
20 day, behind the scenes, you know, they were there, where  
21 we needed. And I appreciated that.

22 Appreciated the input we got from the public.  
23 Appreciated really just the spirit of our commission and  
24 everybody really, from what I can tell, it's just wanting  
25 the fairest map possible. And I think that was reflected

1 in our final unanimous vote, so I just appreciated, you  
2 know, we could do this together.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: All right. Let's go to Commissioner  
4 Fornaciari. And then we'll be going to Sinay, so you  
5 will have a heads-up.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. It's random. I  
7 thought it -- I thought it was going to come on to me a  
8 little bit later. Let's see, what went well? I agree  
9 with everything that's been said, appreciated having the  
10 staff there to look up our COI input that we've had, and  
11 kind of summarized it for us real time. I think that was  
12 helpful. I think we'll continue to need that kind of  
13 support.

14 I was making a second note here. I didn't get  
15 finished with it. I think we did a good job looking for  
16 opportunities to identify -- you know, to make solid VRA  
17 districts, and actually identify the opportunity to, I  
18 think creating two more VRA districts than we had  
19 initially started with. I think that was a big win all  
20 the way around. And I'll stop there.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

22 Commissioner Sinay, if you're able? Otherwise we  
23 can come back to you later. I know Commissioner Sinay is  
24 on the road, so we'll -- so I'll come back to her.

25 Commissioner Fernández? I'm just going down my

1 screen; so Fernandez, then Le Mons, then Andersen.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you. You know  
3 it's funny, because you always -- you can always think of  
4 things that are negative versus positive. So I think  
5 what I really appreciated, Chair Turner, was she kept us  
6 on task and then she also thought about the maps after  
7 the first day, and allowed us, and to go back to make  
8 changes so that we feel better about what we were going  
9 to release. So thank you so much for that. I really  
10 appreciated that.

11 And I think what went well, was when we met our  
12 deadline. And also for me it was just the reality of  
13 doing the actual line -- live line drawings, and how long  
14 it takes, and for me it'll just -- I just wanted to be  
15 better prepared for when we do it again.

16 So thank you all, also for of my fellow  
17 commissioners for going through this journey, some of the  
18 journeys were little bit more painful than others, but  
19 for me, for the patience. So thank you.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay, Commissioner Fernández.  
21 Commissioner Le Mons?

22 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Ah. Sorry about that. I'm  
23 having a little bit of problem getting off of -- let me  
24 get off and let m show my face here, for appreciation.

25 So I guess what I wanted to say is, I felt like the

1 line drawing teams did an incredible job under intense  
2 pressure, and I think their ability to pivot as we ask  
3 for new things, to build the plane as we were flying it  
4 in some ways.

5 I know they come with an incredible amount of  
6 experience, but not with this particular group of 14.  
7 And so I think to be able to navigate this process with  
8 us real time, let cooler heads prevail in some situations  
9 where it happens necessary. And I think the  
10 professionalism of all the line drawers that I got to  
11 experience was top-notch.

12 So I think that hopefully your teams feel good about  
13 the process as well, and are reinvigorated, and ready to  
14 go, and do this last lap, and pull it across the line  
15 with us. So for that I want to say how grateful I am, on  
16 behalf of my fellow Commissioners, in working with you  
17 all in this process.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Yeah. The word  
20 that first came to mind with me is "flexibility". I  
21 really appreciate the flexibility with each commissioner  
22 and the line drawers. And as I'm sort of echoing a few  
23 things that other commissioners have said about the line  
24 drawers.

25 What really was great is when the line drawers

1 explained it more, about when we asked questions, we  
2 said: Well can you -- why were we doing that. And the  
3 line drawers were able to go back and tell us: I had  
4 direction from here, and then we pivoted to this, and  
5 then repivoted to that; which was really helpful I  
6 thought, and explaining the information behind, and where  
7 it was, and also how things trickled through the whole  
8 process.

9 I thought the line drawers really helped us step  
10 back and look at the whole picture, which I believe is  
11 really, really important. And I appreciate the  
12 flexibility of the commissioners, and level of patience,  
13 when some of the -- you could tell some were trying to  
14 get somewhere but we couldn't quite tell where.

15 And then I believe it was Commissioner Fornaciari  
16 said, look, we really have to emphasize what are you  
17 trying to do, and where are you trying to go. And then  
18 we all started doing it that way, and that really,  
19 really, improved, and then we sort of started working  
20 almost like in little sets of teams to work through a  
21 portion, which I thought was very, very -- very  
22 beneficial.

23 The labeling on the visualizations really helped,  
24 you know, putting different deviations, putting terrain  
25 back and forth. These are all things that were -- that I

1 thought were very beneficial.

2 And I also agree with Commissioner Turner, or Chair  
3 Turner, turned back and say, let's look at those items  
4 again, which I thought was really, really helpful,  
5 because as we know, when get one area, destroys a  
6 different area, and let's just get back to it. And I  
7 believe what we ended up with was much, much better than  
8 what we were leading to end up with on the first day.

9 And I think that was why it was unanimous, you know,  
10 we really had addressed a lot of the issues,  
11 understanding that we were getting more input, but this  
12 was a good draft map. These were good draft maps. And I  
13 believe it's all those, the flexibility, the pivoting,  
14 telling each other the goals, these were items that  
15 really moved things forward.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.  
17 Commissioner Kennedy?

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Two  
19 things, one, you know, the transparency, that's what  
20 we're here for, that's what we're about, and I think, you  
21 know, that was clear throughout the process.

22 All right, second, second and you know, this is  
23 something that I mentioned in an interview the other day,  
24 with The Desert Sun in Palm Springs is, yeah, I think one  
25 of the biggest advantages that we have enjoyed over the

1 2010 Commission, is that we have had ample time to get to  
2 know each other, and our styles, and build very solid  
3 working relationships.

4 I can't imagine having had to do what we did last  
5 week, on the timeline that the 2010 Commission had to do  
6 it -- without, you know, the ample time would we've had  
7 to build these relationships. I think that really is a  
8 factor contributing to the success. Thank you.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Ahmad?

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. My last name  
11 is with an A, so I'm not usually later down in the line,  
12 so a lot of what I was thinking has already been said.  
13 But I'll just highlight some of the key points that I  
14 took away from last week's live line drawing session.

15 What worked well was that transparency piece, right?  
16 This is what Californians voted for. They wanted to  
17 watch the live line drawing process play out. Sometimes  
18 it was really messy, we made mistakes, we went back and  
19 forth, but that was the beauty of this whole process,  
20 being able to watch it play out. Something that I think  
21 we can do better on which we already started to make  
22 improvements on during last week's session, was sort of  
23 explaining what our thought process is.

24 Similar to what Commissioner Andersen was stating,  
25 really trying to draw out what -- where we're starting,



1 and where we're trying to go with a proposed change, just  
2 so everyone can be aware of what impacts that proposed  
3 change may have on other regions so.

4 So trying to make that known upfront before we ask  
5 the line drawers to actually change a line, I think would  
6 be very helpful, just from a technology standpoint, so  
7 we're not asking the program to move a little bit faster  
8 than it can, and as fast we want to move. So those are  
9 my thoughts for now.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

11 And Commissioner Sinay, we come back to you; if you  
12 could just focus on what worked. I think you're on mute,  
13 Commissioner Sinay.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry, I thought you would come  
15 back to me later.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: No, no, no.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I didn't realize you were  
18 talking now.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm coming back to you now.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. I'm sorry about that. I  
21 thought what worked well was just our -- the camaraderie,  
22 and just kind of help each other, and ask questions, and  
23 correct each other. Again, there was no -- everything  
24 was transparent and no one was trying to do anything --  
25 you know, sometimes we were in our own brain, and so I

1 thought it was helpful when someone would say, hey, what  
2 are you thinking of doing? Or reminding us, or helping  
3 us -- helping us out.

4 You know, when you're on the spotlight it's kind  
5 of -- it's a puzzle and you might not be seeing that  
6 piece that someone else can see because they're not on  
7 it. And so I thought that was really helpful. I  
8 absolutely appreciated Commissioner Turner bringing us  
9 back to the Assembly.

10 I thought that really helped to kind of restart us  
11 in the right direction. And I really appreciated -- to  
12 me that was one of the best parts of the whole thing.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

14 Commissioner Akutagawa?

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm going to try to  
16 remember what Commissioner Turner kept saying to us, be  
17 additive. Although that was a hard because I think it  
18 was also wanting to affirm or uplift things. I do want  
19 to say in terms of -- I'll start with the staff. I want  
20 to -- I think what worked well was having the staff that  
21 we did have. I know it's been said by others, but what's  
22 not being said is that maybe it's the unglamorous parts  
23 of what they did.

24 One of which I do want to take notice that they kept  
25 us fed, that was really thoughtful. I thought that was

1 very much appreciated. I want also just stay in terms of  
2 the line drawers, I was always surprised and  
3 appreciative. And I think this worked, about how poised  
4 they remained in light of multiple changes, and at some  
5 point I was just waiting for them to just start screaming  
6 and pulling their hair out in terms of you know all of  
7 what we were trying to do, but they stayed poised.

8         And I think that that help us also stay poised.  
9 And I think and I think that that also then led to all of  
10 us being able to stay focused, collaborate with each  
11 other. I think it's been said, you know, to help each  
12 other out. But also hear each other out as well too.

13         You know I think it could have been worse. I  
14 absolutely agree -- you know time may have been one  
15 thing, but I also think, you know, interestingly we also  
16 had our challenges given the Zoom, but I think Zoom might  
17 have also helped too, that we were forced to have to get  
18 to know each other a little bit more because in the lead-  
19 up to this, you know, we did come in knowing each other a  
20 little bit differently than if we had just done things  
21 in-person.

22         And so for that, I think the transparency I think  
23 was -- I also want to echo as well too, you know, some  
24 people talk about how painful it was to watch, but that  
25 is what -- what the intent was, right? It's to see us

1 actually doing the work, see us talking to each other.  
2 You know someone may have likened it to watching paint  
3 dry, but if you thought that was like that for you, think  
4 about how I felt for us as well too.

5       So I think those were just some of those things that  
6 I think worked well in our favor this time around. Thank  
7 you.

8       CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate it, Commissioner  
9 Akutagawa.

10       Commissioner Vazquez, then Commissioner Sadhwani.

11       COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I'm definitely struggling to  
12 be additive, so will just say that Commissioner Turner  
13 gave a master class in facilitation, overall; both  
14 keeping room for folks to let their ideas breathe, and  
15 play out, and also reminding us of our ultimate task, and  
16 keeping us -- keeping us focused on the big picture,  
17 especially as we go deeper and deeper into the weeds,  
18 which is by necessity.

19       So I thought she did an incredible job. And so I  
20 would like to see sort of that type of facilitation at  
21 sort the next phase. Again, allowing ideas to percolate,  
22 and folks to build off of each other, and for us to go  
23 deep in a region, and trusting that our facilitator will  
24 sort of ask us to pause and zoom out as appropriate, to  
25 make sure that things are staying on track. Thank you.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Sadhwani?

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Am I the last? I think  
3 everything's been said. Yes, I agree with everything  
4 that's been said. Line drawing team, amazing, and you  
5 still have your hair, you didn't pull it out. So that's  
6 incredible. So well done, to you.

7 In general, it seemed like the synergy also between  
8 the VRA team and the line drawing team, especially those  
9 days that David Becker was there, and in the room, it  
10 seemed really good. That seemed like a positive. Though  
11 I will allow you to tell us if it was good or not.

12 In general, I think we had had a lot of  
13 conversations in the run-up to live line drawing about  
14 decision points. And I think that was one of the ongoing  
15 issues from my perspective when we were doing the  
16 visualizations, is one commissioner might give direction  
17 on a visualization, others might disagree with it, or  
18 give conflicting direction on visualizations, and I think  
19 the impact that it had on our map were sometimes -- we  
20 don't know, right. Where exactly are things going here,  
21 and why? And which direction is being followed, and  
22 which isn't?

23 I think in live line drawing that corrects itself  
24 because we acted collectively, and I think just to speak  
25 to all of the pieces Commissioner Kennedy and many others

1 already lifted, we were working together, and we have the  
2 relationship in order to do so.

3 Finally, Chair Turner, I was skeptical of going back  
4 to the Assembly, but I am very glad that we did. I think  
5 we have a better draft for it. I still think we have  
6 lots to do, but I really do want to appreciate you taking  
7 that leadership there. The facilitation was awesome, and  
8 right on, and everyone had an opportunity to be heard,  
9 and to explore different areas. So thank you for that.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And for me, and after I  
11 go I'm going to turn it back to Commissioner Turner,  
12 because I know she had to step out for a couple minutes.

13 I thought Commissioner Turner did an amazing job of  
14 being collaborative. I think what -- what some folks on  
15 watching the live streaming may not have seen it, but she  
16 was checking in with all of us, s very collaborative,  
17 making sure that it was -- that it was a consensus, that  
18 we achieved consensus. That it wasn't, you know, one  
19 commissioner get -- I mean, certainly we were all giving  
20 directions, but that we achieved consensus as we moved  
21 on. And that's a difficult job, so just extraordinary  
22 leadership from our Chair, helped us get through the  
23 three days.

24 At some point it seemed, seemed like we might not,  
25 that we'd need additional time. But we managed to do it

1 in the time frame that we set out to do, which was  
2 excellent.

3 And with that, we'll turn it over to -- I'll turn it  
4 over to Commissioner Turner to share some of the  
5 improvements that you'd like to see moving forward,  
6 especially from the standpoint of chair.

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Since you have been in that position,  
9 and can maybe give feedback on how we can make that role  
10 a little bit more -- give that role some guidance; or  
11 whatever you think is necessary. Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Thank you, Chair.  
13 Thank you. And thank you to all my fellow Commissioners,  
14 you all are kind, indeed. I was, for sure, trying to  
15 serve in my best, that I could all of you. So I'm glad  
16 that it was -- provided some service for you, and for all  
17 of us.

18 I think going into the next section, the next part  
19 of our line drawing, particularly, will be -- the fact  
20 that we're going to have this opportunity just to have a  
21 discussion on the 29th. I think that that will prove to  
22 be so valuable for all of us to be able to determine  
23 we're receiving all of the input. How are we, I guess,  
24 internalizing? How we bring an analysis to what we're  
25 hearing, and how we move collectively. I think that will

1 be really important before we begin line drawing again,  
2 particularly drawing our final maps.

3 I think another part that would be, and I got a  
4 chance to mention it to Karin ahead of our time. And  
5 she, again, her team is so phenomenal and flexible, and  
6 just trying to do whatever they can do to help us. But  
7 having the line drawers call up the actual map types as  
8 we're receiving input, or as we're having discussion.  
9 Because for me, even trying track between the different  
10 maps, between Assembly, and Congressional, or Senate, as  
11 we are getting live testimony or public comment coming  
12 in.

13 Did we do that already, or not? I think we  
14 already -- so you know, trying to hold it all in my mind.  
15 So having up whatever is most current, as people are  
16 giving us their testimony about what they'd like to see,  
17 will allow us to see, yes, we've actually already done  
18 that.

19 Or you see how, you know, off we are, as opposed to  
20 what they were requesting. And regardless of whether or  
21 not we are able to do what's being requested, we can at  
22 least see it real time on the map, to know if we've  
23 already made that change or not, I think would be really  
24 good.

25 And as an area is being discussed, just using the



1 little hand tool, circling the area, that kind of helps  
2 us focus on the geography of what's being talked about, I  
3 think would really serve well. Another point, just  
4 through the discussions, it's easy to get caught up as  
5 you're listening to passionate testimony, and wanting  
6 to -- for me, I like to provide what people need, what  
7 they told me in their own expertise.

8       And so it's easy to get caught up down a path, and  
9 having to balance, we're here for sure to represent, you  
10 know, the whole of California, the almost 40 million  
11 people. And so really, just in showing their voices  
12 aren't muted, that we're not drawing the lines that keep  
13 people from being represented.

14       And so I think, going into this next phase, it will  
15 be important for us to look, not just at the lens of  
16 who's the loudest voice, who's the most that's calling  
17 in, you know, how many times, or who's dissatisfied.  
18 It's back to basics of what is our intent, how do we  
19 ensure everyone is represented, and have opportunity and  
20 equal opportunity to be able to elect candidates of their  
21 choice.

22       And so you know, what we drew I felt good about,  
23 it's not perfect, we certainly have to make a lot of  
24 other adjustments to it, but the process in all of us, I  
25 think, wanting the same thing. I'm grateful that I don't

1 feel the contention. We have fourteen different ways of  
2 thinking, processing, fourteen different experiences, but  
3 I really do believe that this particular commission is  
4 all trying to work together.

5 If I start down a path and I hear someone with a  
6 diverging thought, it's not an attack, it's a different  
7 way of thinking, something that I may have left out or  
8 forgotten to think about, and so I lean in and try to pay  
9 attention and focus on that.

10 Because if we can't represent the fourteen of us,  
11 and really listen for changes, I don't know how we think  
12 we're going to represent 40 million people. So I just  
13 we're a good example of what we're trying to do for the  
14 whole of California. And I think we have fourteen great  
15 individuals that's trying to do the same thing.

16 So I'll just end there, and say that I'm looking  
17 forward to this next process. I don't know how it's  
18 going to shake out.

19 Oh. And I also wanted to say for all of our behind-  
20 the-scenes data people, that we only had our hope and  
21 aspiration of pulling together a tool, Commissioner  
22 Ahmad, about what may work, right. And so now we have  
23 more public comment, more technology, and things than we  
24 know what to do with. And the flexibility of us stating  
25 we need something, and then them creating it, and making

1 it available.

2 I think it'll be important too that we slow down,  
3 and just look at some of the tools that are there, the  
4 visualization tool. A lot in California, we also  
5 received feedback that said, oh, it would be great if we  
6 had this visualization report. We did have it, but maybe  
7 we didn't talk about it enough.

8 So anyway, a lot of run-on sentences there, but I'm  
9 excited about the process. And I just think if we slow  
10 down to recognize what we have in each other first, then  
11 in our data, and tools, and all of the community of  
12 interest testimony that's come from all of California,  
13 how we're receiving that information, how we are  
14 providing analysis to it. How we're bouncing it off of  
15 each other. I read it, but what did that mean for me, it  
16 might mean something different from you, and so how do we  
17 make that mesh together as we prepare to draw these final  
18 lines.

19 I think we'll have a product that we'll all feel --  
20 we'll all understand and feel good about the process, and  
21 it'll end up being, you know, what it is. But I think at  
22 least we'll feel good about it and know why we created  
23 it. Thank you.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: So I just had another question for  
25 you, specific just -- less global but more specific,

1 things like, but Chair, you were so busy, I mean, in  
2 handling all of the logistics, and business side, the  
3 legal side, every -- questions coming from all  
4 directions.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Is there anything that staff or the  
7 commissioners could have done to help you. I'm thinking  
8 of things like, you know, your lunch and dinner requests,  
9 and things like that.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: I was thinking something like -- I  
11 was thinking something like "depends" you know, because  
12 you don't get a restroom break. When I think it was  
13 recognized, I think people were more than willing to  
14 support with that, because there just isn't time. You  
15 know, staff is doing their best to be able to support us,  
16 and help us, and how wonderful is that.

17 But in the middle of trying to listen and address,  
18 and you know, we're grateful for counsel, and for staff,  
19 and the line drawers, and then you get a thing up about  
20 lunch, and it's like oh, crap, forget lunch. I'll just  
21 walk to McDonald's one day, and it's like, I don't have  
22 time to think about it, or figure it out, and get it  
23 turned in.

24 But I think things like that would be helpful for  
25 the next staff just to -- the next chair, excuse me -

1 because you -- and you know, I think I mentioned early  
2 on, to me it's important for people to have breaks and  
3 lunches just to be able to breathe, and to take a mental  
4 break, and the process, up to this point, has not really  
5 allowed for that, while our breaks are fifteen minutes  
6 for the most part.

7       Maybe a little bit longer. Typically they're just  
8 all responses that need to be given during that time, so  
9 others can do their work, so that they'll know how to  
10 move and proceed. And so certainly you can't just say,  
11 oh, well, I'm taking a break, no, I don't care. No, we  
12 do care. And I want others to have what they need.

13       But from a Chair's perspective it leaves no time at  
14 all for any break, or another quick call, or a check in  
15 with a family member. You know, thankfully my kids are  
16 grown, and old, they don't need anything from me. But I  
17 can't imagine having a family that, you know, you still  
18 are engaged, or whatever, and needed at that level,  
19 because you don't have an opportunity to interact.

20       And so that's just is an awareness, and so it made  
21 me more aware. You know, I hadn't checked in with other  
22 chairs before to see: How can I serve you? What do you  
23 need? Can I get something for you? It certainly will,  
24 I'll make that my business to make sure I'm supporting  
25 others as well.

1           So I think people are doing what we can. I think  
2 that from Chair's perspective just know that it is fast-  
3 moving. I also enjoyed it. I wasn't angry at any of it.  
4 I love the interactions and being able to, you know, act  
5 like I'm an orchestrator -- you know, I'm the conductor  
6 of an orchestra, you know. And so yes, no, in ten  
7 minutes we're going to do this.

8           All that's exciting; you know, I'd be not telling  
9 the truth to tell you I didn't enjoy every bit of it. I  
10 did.

11          CHAIR TOLEDO: And you did a great job. Thank you.  
12 We'll go to -- or I'm going to do it backwards. So  
13 opposite direction, we'll start with Commissioner  
14 Sadhwani this time.

15          COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And this is what, things to  
16 improve?

17          CHAIR TOLEDO: Improvements, opportunities for  
18 improvement.

19          COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, you put me on the spot,  
20 because it was just a little -- well, I think there's a  
21 lot of places, right. I mean, and I'm thinking off the  
22 top of my head here, and I apologize. I think that as we  
23 move forward, we need to have a more clear path, and I  
24 understand that we changed course halfway through.

25          When we get back to line drawing I think really need

1 to have a more clear and concise, and well communicated  
2 path forward, of what regions we're addressing, what maps  
3 we're addressing, when we're addressing them, when public  
4 comment will be, and do our best to stick to that.

5       And I think, you know, things happen. So sometimes  
6 we have to be flexible, and be ready to pivot, but we  
7 have two weeks to really prep ourselves for what's to  
8 come, so I think we really need to lay the groundwork for  
9 a solid plan for December, that we can collectively  
10 connect to, and communicate to the public and to execute  
11 that plan to the best of our abilities.

12       I also think that we need -- there are a lot of  
13 technological components to, and behind-the-scenes  
14 staffing requirements, to getting a public comment,  
15 posting drafts, posting drafts that are clear. Being  
16 able to do all of those things, and I think it's -- I  
17 don't know if it's that, I don't think it's that the  
18 public has an unrealistic expectation, but it's just  
19 simply not something that we could meet as quickly as  
20 people were hoping that it would be done, and still meet  
21 our timelines.

22       But I do think as we move forward, we need to have a  
23 better plan in place for how to communicate changes that  
24 we're making to the map, in what format, when things will  
25 be available. I think we dropped the ball on that

1 portion of our communication strategy, and I don't --  
2 Fredy, that's not aimed at you, I think there's so much  
3 coordination that needs to happen behind the scenes, how  
4 can do it better as we move forward. So those are some  
5 initial thoughts.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's great. Thank you. And just  
7 so everybody is aware, I asked Chief Counsel Pane to take  
8 notes. And so he's been capturing all of our comments,  
9 and he'll be pulling out themes both for what worked, and  
10 what didn't, so that we can use that -- so we can both  
11 things to work through the public input process later  
12 this afternoon.

13 So with that, we'll go to Commissioner, it looks  
14 like Vazquez next. Commissioner Akutagawa will be after  
15 that, just so that you have some awareness of who's  
16 coming in the line.

17 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Thank you. I think in terms  
18 of upgrades, building up on what Commissioner Sadhwani  
19 mentioned about having a plan in place. I think if we  
20 have a plan in place and communicate it both to the  
21 public and across the commission, and to staff, I think  
22 that will actually, hopefully, meet one of the requests  
23 from our outreach staff after sort of having a better  
24 understanding of when areas or regions will be discussed.  
25 So that they can be sort of pre-reviewing, particularly



1 new public comment as it comes in, and be ready to  
2 provide us with some analysis.

3       So for me that's what sort of stood out as like a  
4 thing, that I wish could have been more robust, so we had  
5 it and I very much appreciate all of the on-the-fly  
6 analysis that folks were doing. But I think to the  
7 extent that we can -- we can give them more lead time, so  
8 that our analysis is of higher quality, and may be a  
9 little bit deeper. I think that would be -- that would  
10 be really, really helpful.

11       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Vazquez.

12       Commissioner Akutagawa; and then Commissioner Ahmad.

13       COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. I was trying to  
14 write down my notes as quickly as I could as I was also  
15 hearing others speak to. One, I think I will also uplift  
16 what's been said about clarity of process. I think we  
17 switched gears midway through. It felt like at  
18 sometimes, you know, we were focusing on other areas at  
19 the expense of others because of the switch, and I think  
20 it became a little confusing, and at times frustrating.

21       You know, when are we going to spend time on one  
22 area versus another. I think we just need more clarity  
23 on that so that it does feel like -- and I think this was  
24 also outlined in the letter that was sent to us by the  
25 League of Women Voters and Common Cause about the amount

1 time that is spent on complex regions and spending time  
2 on other less populated regions.

3 It's not that one is -- one is more important than  
4 the other, but the complexity does require additional  
5 time, that I think we have to be prepared for, and I  
6 think we should be also building into the process.

7 I think on that note then, I think we spoke about  
8 this, I am a little unclear at this time, what the timing  
9 or the process is going to be on this but you know, the  
10 analysis of all of the inputs that we're receiving. I  
11 think Commissioner Turner had talked about it, at some  
12 point. We haven't had a chance for all of us a  
13 commission, to just take a pause and discuss: What are  
14 we hearing?

15 And I know it's been brought up and referred to in  
16 this conversation. I think that that would be really  
17 helpful, because I think we're hearing, definitely we've  
18 alluded to it, the conflicting testimonies. But you  
19 know, what's conflicting for me may not be conflicting  
20 for someone else. What I may read and see, and  
21 interpret, may be different than what others interpret,  
22 and read, and see, as well too.

23 And I think -- I think we do need to just spend some  
24 time, you know, just really -- before we go into the next  
25 line drawing, really think about and really look through

1 what all of these inputs are saying, and what are we  
2 reading, and in a sense, debating it amongst all of us  
3 first, so that then we're not trying to do it while we're  
4 live line drawing, because I think that happen.

5 And then I think that will enable us to better  
6 prioritize where we're going to make certain kind of  
7 choices, where some -- where a county or city might get  
8 split, where we may have to say, you know, this COI is  
9 going to take precedent perhaps over another COI.

10 I mean, it's not that again, one is more important  
11 than the other, but I think these are the hard decisions  
12 that we're making, and it felt a little haphazard in this  
13 last round. And I think that would help bring the  
14 clarity that Commissioner Sadhwani was also talking  
15 about, and that other commenters have also talked about  
16 as well too.]

17 I also just want to say, I appreciated having VRA  
18 counsel there, particularly Mr. Becker. No knock on the  
19 Strumwasser team, but there was a noted difference when  
20 Mr. Becker was available, and when he was not available.  
21 And I know it's super-late for him, but it would be very  
22 helpful for him to be there the entirety of our line  
23 drawing. And make plans to be there, you know, for that  
24 time, because I think the VRA districts are really  
25 important, and I think his knowledge was helpful to have

1 and to hear his guidance on that. So thank you.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

3 Commissioner Ahmad?

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. And I think  
5 I mentioned earlier what I think could be improved. I  
6 thought we were doing both at the same time. But just to  
7 remind folks, I think Commissioner Akutagawa also touched  
8 on it as well. In terms of the commission having a  
9 conversation with each other before we actually engage in  
10 changes on the drafts would be very helpful.

11 Just so that we can work through any  
12 misunderstandings or clarifications ahead of asking the  
13 software to pick up, you know, ten million people, and  
14 then having to go back and redo that, might change  
15 things. And hopefully maybe make it more efficient.  
16 Otherwise, keep it up, everyone.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

18 Commissioner Kennedy; then Commissioner Sinay.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. A couple  
20 of things, first of all, you know, I don't know whether  
21 being at a new location had any impact on this. It seems  
22 to me that having a fiber optic connection to a much more  
23 powerful computer to be able to do some of this  
24 processing faster, certainly would have helped.

25 You know, doing things on laptop is great when

1 that's necessary, but I think it would be excellent if a  
2 way could be found so that the processing could be done  
3 on something more powerful, resulting in less downtime.

4 To the extent that there is downtime, I think we  
5 could have used some of that downtime, particularly when  
6 we were waiting for the Board of Equalization districts  
7 to process for public comment.

8 I mean, I really want to see us use every moment  
9 that we have available to us when we're not line drawing  
10 to be taking public input. And I think we could have,  
11 perhaps, used some of those intervals to better effect in  
12 order to take public comment.

13 You know, I think we went into this perhaps without  
14 a finalized playbook, and without a clear shared  
15 understanding of what was going to happen, when, and how.  
16 And I would encourage us to make sure that all of that is  
17 in place before we get into the next round. You know,  
18 what order things are going to happen, and you know, the  
19 Chair recognizing people, you know, we had some slipups  
20 as far as that goes.

21 I would have found it very helpful to have at least  
22 two active screens as it were, one showing the detailed  
23 level that we're working on, but one showing at all  
24 times, kind of the statewide big picture, because I found  
25 it very difficult to see what we were doing in the

1 context of the bigger picture, and I think that would've  
2 been helpful if we could figure out the technical aspects  
3 of that. And finally, we certainly improved as we went  
4 along, and so I think it would've been useful had -- and  
5 we did some practicing a month or two ago, but I still  
6 have this thought that if we had done some more extensive  
7 practice with ACS data, reminding everyone that this is  
8 not official census data; this is just an opportunity for  
9 us to get more practice so that when we do have the  
10 census data, we can go through this faster. Might have  
11 been helpful. Thank you.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.  
13 Commissioner Andersen, then Commissioner Le Mons.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, sorry about that. I  
15 didn't realize I was next. Yeah. I'm not going to be  
16 additive. There's been a lot said which was really good.  
17 We talked about process, things like that. The one thing  
18 I do want to go into is what Commissioner Kennedy just  
19 kind of hit on -- the big picture. And I found all too  
20 often we were working in great earnest and together in  
21 things in little areas, not realizing what it was doing  
22 to large swaths of the state. And I think Commissioner  
23 Kennedy said, having that large map with deviations would  
24 really help. So when you're working on a smaller area,  
25 you can look at the other and go, right. And that same

1 thing if we -- we didn't actually sort of step back and  
2 look at what are our constraints and where are they?  
3 Kind of across the state, realizing there are areas where  
4 that's a line; here's sort of a line, in a couple  
5 different areas. And I believe that sort of overall,  
6 which -- the line drawers were trying to give us that  
7 information and trying to help us go there, and we didn't  
8 quite didn't let them do that a little bit. That was my  
9 interpretation. I thought the line drawers were really  
10 trying to give us information and help us to facilitate  
11 things, and we weren't quite as good as we should have  
12 been at listening to them, I felt. That could have been  
13 a very small, minor point.

14 I did love -- this is a technical thing -- the PNG,  
15 when you could -- the big state picture, and you could  
16 look at it, and you could really get into detail, so you  
17 could see what was going on. I thought that was very  
18 easy to see. I know a lot of us had been going to the  
19 visualizations on our -- the website, but if those had  
20 the deviations on it, that would also be extremely  
21 helpful. Just the overall deviation, I thought that  
22 would be very helpful.

23 And now, on the fiberoptic connection, I really  
24 didn't -- I thought things went very quickly. It was  
25 just the BOE, which was slow. I did also like the -- I'm

1 a little concerned about some analysis. I really liked  
2 the staffing giving us what the communities of  
3 interest -- what they're hearing. But I'm always a  
4 little concerned when someone starts doing analysis. Is  
5 that the way we would do the analysis if we were reading  
6 the same input? So I just want to uplift that. I'm  
7 going to stop there because I -- well, actually, I do  
8 want to say one really good thing -- is we are working  
9 together, and we are working through things. And I know  
10 a lot of the input we're getting and people saying, well  
11 do this, do that -- they're expecting us to argue and  
12 fight. And often, that's the easy way. And if we're  
13 looking at things a little more creatively, there are  
14 more solutions out there that we can come to together  
15 without having, oh, it has to be this way or that way. I  
16 find people that tend to say that aren't being creative.  
17 And I really appreciate this entire group looking at an  
18 area and relooking at an area and going, you know, we  
19 could try something different that might really work for  
20 everybody here. And I really want us to keep that in  
21 mind, because as Commissioner Turner said, this is a  
22 group that's really trying to get to the same purpose,  
23 and as long as we keep that in mind, I think we aren't  
24 going to have these, you know, oh, it has to be this way  
25 or it has to be that way. There'll be areas, certainly,





1 where that was true, but not everywhere, and I just want  
2 us to keep that in mind as we work through this. Thank  
3 you.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great point, Commissioner Andersen.  
5 We'll go to Commissioner Le Mons. How about we go to  
6 Commissioner Fernandez, and we'll come back to  
7 Commissioner Le Mons.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Let me get my little  
9 Post-it note here. I think, like for me, personally,  
10 it's very difficult to be -- to have a precise plan when  
11 we receive the visualizations, like the day before. And  
12 you're traveling, and you don't have all the information  
13 with you. And so with us issuing the draft maps, for me,  
14 personally, that's going to be very helpful, because I  
15 feel that we can all take a look at the draft plans and  
16 already come to the next meeting with a plan, an idea of  
17 what we want to see, how we want to see it done. Because  
18 it's difficult to just review the maps the night before  
19 and then try to come up with a plan in terms of the  
20 changes that you want to see made.

21 And there was -- we were making a change one time  
22 and someone said, I'm not going to give them up, said,  
23 the easy fix is to do this and that. And at the end of  
24 the day, I think we just need to remind ourselves that  
25 we're not looking for easy fixes. We're trying to find

1 the right fixes. And as Commissioner Andersen just said,  
2 if we're creative, we can try to find the best fix,  
3 instead of the easy fix. So I'm just challenging myself  
4 as well as my fellow commissioners on that. I'm trying  
5 to think if there's something else. And for me,  
6 personally, it would also be helpful if we -- Karin, I  
7 don't if it's possible, is when we're reviewing the maps  
8 if we can actually put the VRA districts, if we can have  
9 them in a different color. That way, I know if we're  
10 moving into there, we're like, oh, can't move into that  
11 area because that is a VRA district. That would just be  
12 super helpful for me and hopefully for everyone else.

13 And again, just for me, I'm hopeful for these two  
14 weeks that I can really take a look at the maps and  
15 hopefully come with a plan instead of, it's my turn and I  
16 just say, oh, I just don't like this area. That's not  
17 helpful. So if we can be more specific as to what we  
18 don't like about it as well as state the reasons for it.  
19 And also to be mindful of all of the communities of  
20 interest for that area. And then whatever areas you're  
21 moving into in terms of trying to find extra population,  
22 please research that community of interest as well,  
23 because we don't want to break up one while we're trying  
24 to fix a different one -- a different area. And I think  
25 that was -- oh, and just one thing that I did notice is

1 that we had just made a change on one area and about  
2 three commissioners later we were trying to change that  
3 area again. So let's just try to be cognizant of what  
4 we're doing bigger picture. So I think the whole  
5 planning process will be helpful to all of us. But thank  
6 you. Thank you for this opportunity.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.  
8 And we'll go to Commissioner Fornaciari, then Yee.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think we skipped  
10 Commissioner Sinay somewhere along the way.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, sorry, sorry. I think. Yes,  
12 Sinay. Commissioner Sinay.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: You want to go now, or --

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Then we'll come back to Commissioner  
15 Fornaciari and Commissioner --

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Want me to go?  
17 I'll go. Okay. So a few things. First thing, most  
18 important to me personally, is I'm going to reiterate  
19 what Commissioner Sadhwani said: we need a very clear  
20 path forward on how we're going to get to the end to --  
21 so we all know -- what are we going to be working on and  
22 how are we going to progress along the way? For us, for  
23 the public, for the line drawing team, for us so we can  
24 make sure that we're understanding -- revisiting the COI  
25 testimony in that area and in the feedback, and have a

1 plan to step through the state in a way that makes sense,  
2 that we're not going to create pockets in different  
3 places. And frankly, being the project manager-type  
4 person I am, I've already given that a great deal of  
5 thought, and I have a proposed plan I wrote up. So I can  
6 share that with the Chair or with the Commission. So I  
7 think that's really important to enable us to get to the  
8 end.

9       A couple of other things: we were a little rushed,  
10 and we kind of sort of randomly split up some cities,  
11 just started picking census blocks. And I think that we  
12 need to deliberately go back and look at those splits as  
13 we go along -- I mean, deliberately look at the city  
14 splits that we're going to settle on and make sure they  
15 make sense in some way, and hopefully, we're getting  
16 feedback from those cities that we're going to have to  
17 split to help guide us in making sense of that.

18       A couple things have already been said. One of the  
19 things I want to bring up though, is the recency effect.  
20 We're getting real-time feedback, and it's real easy to  
21 grab that, incorporate it, but I think all of us just  
22 need to be cognizant of the recency effect. And when  
23 we're going to -- when we take input, current input, and  
24 that current input is, in some ways, is going to be  
25 specific about some lines that we've drawn, but I think

1 we all should just go back to the COIs and try to balance  
2 that before we give direction. And I think that, I  
3 guess, the 29th we're going to get together and review  
4 the input we heard. So I think that's a really great  
5 idea, and that will help a lot. So I'm going to stop  
6 there. Thanks.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thanks. And we look forward to  
8 seeing the document you created in the next session,  
9 which is the public input session. And so that'll be a  
10 starting point for us to think through some of these  
11 questions.

12 Next, let's go to Commissioner Sinay, then Yee, and  
13 then Le Mons.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. The first day did not  
15 feel good to me. And I didn't know why it didn't feel  
16 good. And part of it was it was new. To me it was very  
17 stressful when it was -- you're trying to think through  
18 what to do -- yeah, how to move things -- how it's going  
19 to effect. It's a lot of responsibility. And we weren't  
20 given sometimes the space we needed to think it through.  
21 And I didn't appreciate having a, here's an easier way to  
22 get it done, and I didn't appreciate that it wasn't  
23 coming from my fellow commissioners. So I think if  
24 there's recommendations or ways to move forward, it  
25 should be coming from the commissioners and not from the

1 contractors. You know, unless we ask for it, there may  
2 be times to say, I'm stuck or whatever and we ask for it.  
3 But the first day we didn't ask for it, and it was being  
4 proposed and it wasn't easy.

5 I would hope that there's a way that we can go back  
6 after we make changes. And I would also like to have the  
7 better map. I know that what the line drawers are using  
8 is good for what they're doing, but it wasn't good for  
9 what we were doing and I'll tell you why. We split my  
10 city in half -- we split my city. We split Encinitas.  
11 And I heard lots about it. They've been email -- they've  
12 submitted us comments and stuff, but I didn't notice we  
13 split it, and I kept reading, Encinitas was split. And I  
14 was like, no, it wasn't. And then when I looked at our  
15 tool, yes, we did split it. And so we do need a better  
16 way to -- something that's similar to our map. Our  
17 mapping tool on our website is a lot better to see the  
18 fine lines, and we need some -- we need that opportunity  
19 to go back and look at what happened and not rush us.  
20 Okay, we're done with this zone, let's go to the next  
21 one. We need to actually -- after we work in a region,  
22 take a deep breath and say, okay, let's go back and look  
23 at everything we did, and does it make sense? What  
24 doesn't make sense?

25 The other thing that was difficult, was that some

1 people are using Twitter to get input from the public.  
2 And I know it's -- I think we've created tools that are  
3 equal to everybody, and everybody can submit public input  
4 in real-time. And we should probably maybe think about  
5 getting off Twitter while we are meeting, and use it  
6 during breaks maybe or others, but not while we're  
7 doing -- and all social media -- while we're doing line  
8 drawing. Because that made it difficult at times as  
9 well.

10       And I really didn't appreciate that some people  
11 would step up and work on his own while other people were  
12 stepping back and looking at the communities of interest,  
13 and coming back respectfully, and saying, okay, we've  
14 gotten this piece, how do we look at this? Or just when  
15 there is conflicting, allowing people to have a  
16 conversation that is conflicting and not letting the  
17 loudest voice who's yelling, almost, that one -- be the  
18 one that's taking priority. And I think that's the main  
19 thing.

20       I really -- oh, I'm really concerned as we're moving  
21 forward that we need to better be able to call out what's  
22 political and what's not. It's gotten political, and  
23 it's going to only get worse and we need to be -- in the  
24 past we've said, it's veiled or whatever, but I think  
25 sometimes we're going to need to be able to say it

1 comfortably out loud or remind each other, hey, this is  
2 coming from -- this may not be coming from a place -- you  
3 can tell when you're reading statements where they're  
4 coming from and stuff. I'm really impressed with some of  
5 the public input we've been getting recently. They're  
6 really thought out in a of details and I appreciate that.  
7 But I think what Neal -- I'm sorry, what Commissioner  
8 Fornaciari said is true, we're going to need to be able  
9 to be more aware of what we're reading and be more  
10 careful how we're bringing it forward as we're moving  
11 forward. Thank you.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.  
13 Commissioner Yee?

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. Really  
15 appreciating all the comments so far. One big thing to  
16 add, in my mind, is I'm wondering if there's a way for  
17 commissioners to have time available with line drawers to  
18 compare proposed changes. The way we were doing it most  
19 of the time, working on proposed changes in live session  
20 and watching the population changes as we made changes  
21 and seeing if they worked out or not. I mean, if we had  
22 all the time in the world, that's fine, but we don't, so  
23 to be able to sit down with a line drawer and work out a  
24 proposed change to balance out the populations  
25 beforehand, and then have all that ready before bringing



1 it to the full commission it seems to me would save a lot  
2 of time.

3       Also, there's a lot of little changes we probably  
4 all have in mind that if we have to do them one-by-one in  
5 live session without preparing them beforehand, it would  
6 just take, I think, more time than we have. So to be  
7 able to work on those little changes, a few blocks here,  
8 a few blocks there for some districts beforehand and be  
9 able to bring them forward as a package seems much more  
10 realistic to me. I checked with our counsel and this is  
11 actually explicitly allowed for our regulations. Any one  
12 or two commissioners can meet with a line drawer because  
13 they are staff, and that does not violate our input  
14 restrictions. So that's a suggestion. I know this would  
15 be adding to the line drawing team's responsibilities  
16 which may require additional clauses, additions to the  
17 contract, and more capability. I don't even know if it's  
18 possible, but it seems to me that, it would just make  
19 this process a lot smoother. It would take some  
20 coordination.

21       I think Commissioner Ahmad's idea of coordinating  
22 what changes each of us need to make maybe to get line  
23 drawing time -- line drawer time, we would each need to  
24 request in public session and name where the changes are  
25 that we want to make and kind of the scope of those

1 changes. And then other commissioners that may be  
2 interested in the same area would be alerted to that and  
3 know that that would need some coordination. Maybe that  
4 would be one way to go, and maybe Commissioner Fornaciari  
5 part of your proposal might be able to include something  
6 like this. So that's my thought that would really help  
7 the process.

8 I appreciated Commissioner Sinay's comment just now  
9 about staff taking initiative to propose possibilities  
10 before the commission had -- I understand the concern  
11 there. Absolutely, we need to be very -- jealously guard  
12 our responsibility and privilege as a commission to be  
13 responsible for changes. I did have -- I have to say for  
14 myself, I actually found that helpful. As a newcomer to  
15 this process, as we all are, to have possibilities put  
16 before me. Of course, it's absolutely up to us to make a  
17 choice about any of those possibilities, but I actually  
18 found it helpful when staff used some of their expertise  
19 to help us through a stuck spot, and I thought staff was  
20 appropriate each time about only -- asking for  
21 permission, and certainly not making any changes until  
22 and unless we actually asked them to be made. There's a  
23 balance there, I understand that. But I just want to  
24 say, I myself found that helpful.

25 One other thing to add, that's already been said,

1 how to deal with a huge quantity of COIs. I mean, I  
2 think staff is doing everything it can. It's given us  
3 magnificent tools -- the Airtable, the visualizations.  
4 We have staff available for real-time research. We have  
5 staff providing summaries of COIs from time to time, but  
6 still, it still seems overwhelming. So I don't know if  
7 there's an answer, but Commissioner Fornaciari's point  
8 about not just listening -- not just thinking about the  
9 latest COI, is relevant, too, I think. Still struggling  
10 with that.

11       Could I just add one more positive thing? A late-  
12 breaking. I wanted to add to all the accolades for  
13 Commissioner Turner's magnificent leadership. And I was  
14 sitting right next to her during these sessions last  
15 week, and we've all worked with leaders or been leaders  
16 ourselves, and the balance between taking care of people  
17 and staying task-oriented is one of the hardest  
18 challenges with leadership. Right? It's easy to do one  
19 or the other, it's so hard to do both. She did both  
20 magnificently, and I just sat there in such admiration  
21 and appreciation for her, especially the evening where we  
22 got through the Congressional map. Up to then, I wasn't  
23 sure this was going to happen. But when she pushed us  
24 through that I was like, we could actually do this. And  
25 it gave me a lot of hope, and inspired me, which is

1 something leaders do -- the best gift that leaders can  
2 give to their groups, that inspiration, and she gave that  
3 to me, certainly. But thank you, Commissioner Turner.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And what I'll add is, I  
5 think after having worked with so many of -- well with  
6 all of you for the past year-and-a-half or so, many of us  
7 are perfectionists. Right? And we want to get  
8 everything right. We want it to be perfect. And we just  
9 have to remember that perfection is the enemy of  
10 progress, especially when you have limited time and  
11 resource. And when we are under significant pressures,  
12 twelve-hour days, thirteen-hour days, sometimes longer,  
13 takes its toll, and so we just need to be able to  
14 prioritize and project-manage this very important task so  
15 that we are able to get to the important aspects of the  
16 work. Everything's important, but the key critical  
17 pieces that'll make our map process flow and to identify  
18 those and work through those -- oftentimes they're called  
19 bottlenecks, but identify those potential bottlenecks  
20 that we're going to encounter.

21 And of course, to give appropriate time to all  
22 districts across California. So it's very easy to focus  
23 on some areas and to not give enough time to others,  
24 especially the more complex and the more -- the more  
25 complex ones because they oftentimes require the most

1 time. So just making sure that we balance all of these  
2 things. And I'm sure that that's a goal of all of ours.  
3 With that, I'll turn it over to Commissioner Kennedy, who  
4 has his hand raised.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Related to  
6 my point about getting in some live practice earlier, I  
7 think to resolve the issue that Commissioner Yee pointed  
8 out so that we can individually walk into a meeting with  
9 plans more fully formed, QGIS is there. I haven't made  
10 it all the way through the installation process or the  
11 installation and uploading of the -- or downloading of  
12 the shape files so that I can play with them, but it  
13 seems to me that that's really what would help us, is  
14 ensuring that each of us has the QGIS software on our  
15 work computer and are able to work with our existing  
16 shape files so we can click; we can see what the  
17 population is; we can see what needs to be moved. We can  
18 actually work on moving it to see if it works, so that  
19 we're not taking up that time in a live line drawing  
20 session. Thank you.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.  
22 That's a great observation. Commissioner Le Mons, are  
23 you -- I'm just wondering if you had any -- if you're  
24 available at this point to give your feedback? And if  
25 not, we'll go to Commissioner Sinay, because I know he's

1 juggling a couple things.

2       COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Just a couple  
3 things. Building on what Commissioner Kennedy said, I  
4 remember we had this conversation way back when, and it  
5 would be fun to see that conversation again and watch it  
6 now that we've got -- we've been forward. But one of the  
7 things that we kept reminding ourselves in that  
8 conversation way back when, was that the reason we have a  
9 redistricting commission was to make those tough -- learn  
10 those things and make those tough decisions in public and  
11 with each other. And we had really said, it's going to  
12 take time, and it's going to be messy, and it's going to  
13 be frustrating, but the purpose of this is for us to be  
14 able to do it in person and that's why we opted not to  
15 have some of that software put onto our laptops, even  
16 though our laptops have the capacity to do that.

17       At that point, we had said, yes, it's about us doing  
18 it together and being public and that -- so I just think  
19 it's -- I could go either way. My concern is, if we did  
20 all have that, we would spend more time playing with the  
21 shape files and stuff than reading the communities of  
22 interest input we're receiving. There's so much of it  
23 and it's hard to keep up with that, that I think that  
24 that's where -- that's one of our strengths, and that was  
25 where my comment was going to come to was that, yes, we

1 split my small city, and I actually think it's funny.  
2 But it also proves that we've been listening to the  
3 community and building upon what the community has said.  
4 And when I've been interviewed here in San Diego, that's  
5 one of the things I've been very -- thanking people for  
6 giving input, because for so long it was tough to make  
7 decisions because we didn't have the communities of  
8 interest. I could've brought my own public -- my own  
9 thoughts into it, but I was really -- I worked really  
10 hard to bring in -- read the communities of input for all  
11 the State of California, and I appreciate everybody else  
12 doing the same and pulling out those pieces we may miss.

13 And so for some -- for me, it's a perfect example of  
14 how we're not using the old lines and we're not being --  
15 we don't have our own agendas or all whatever. The fact  
16 that I -- that we split my city, to me, is a perfect  
17 example of how we're looking at the bigger picture and  
18 looking -- taking care of everybody and not looking at  
19 our own agendas. I just wanted to share that, that I  
20 find it -- it's frustrating, it's funny, and I think it's  
21 a perfect example that you're all welcome to share with  
22 others when you want to tell about how we are looking at  
23 the big -- looking at -- you know what I'm saying.  
24 Sorry.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Akutagawa?

1           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Of course, he has to make  
2 his presence known now. I just wanted to -- sorry. Let  
3 me go to -- let's go to Commissioner Kennedy. Let me  
4 just try to get him --

5           CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy. And  
6 then we'll come back to Commissioner Akutagawa.

7           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. And thank  
8 you Commissioner Sinay. I don't see that using -- excuse  
9 me -- using QGIS outside of a meeting to explore  
10 feasibility of something goes against the fundamental  
11 purpose, because when you bring it back into the meeting,  
12 you still have to present it and go through it step-by-  
13 step and describe the reasons, and why this is better  
14 than that and so forth. I think it is a matter of -- we  
15 have extremely little time in our meetings to do an  
16 incredibly complicated task, and looking for something  
17 like that, I think, would contribute without getting us  
18 off track. Thank you.

19           CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So we'll go to Commissioner  
20 Akutagawa. Then I'm going to go to Director Hernandez  
21 and then Karin -- Ms. Mac Donald for feedback from the  
22 line drawers. All right. So let's -- where are we?

23           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you, Chair.

24           CHAIR TOLEDO: Akutagawa.

25           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. So I just wanted to



1 make a comment on the line drawer idea. I think this is  
2 one of those ideas that on the one hand, I really like  
3 because I think there's an efficiency, and it also helps  
4 us to test out the different what-ifs so that when we  
5 come in it helps to move the process along. On the other  
6 hand, though, I do have a concern about that because of  
7 the COI inputs that we're receiving -- I think part of  
8 the -- I'm going to call it the transparency, is for the  
9 public to see us testing out these what-ifs. Okay. We  
10 got this testimony, let's try this, and then for  
11 everybody to see that it's not going to work. Either  
12 it's too many people or the ripple effects will dismantle  
13 a VRA district.

14       There's just so many different kinds of variables  
15 that we're looking at, but if everybody could see it,  
16 then it makes it so that it's not this, like, hidden kind  
17 of thing that we've done and we didn't take anybody's  
18 input into account. I think that's what I'm struggling  
19 with in terms of weighing it. When I heard Commissioner  
20 Yee talk about it, I thought, oh, yeah, that's a good  
21 idea, but at the same time I'm also concerned about this  
22 other side.

23       On the COI input, I would like to make a request or  
24 suggestion -- and I don't know if this is possible just  
25 given how much it is, but it would be interesting to know

1 when we get -- the staff helps to just summarize the COI  
2 input. It is just that it's a summary, but I don't have  
3 an idea as to, like, is this like -- we get a lot? Is  
4 this just one person? Is there a theme? Maybe that  
5 would be helpful, just to know, like, what's the general  
6 themes? Maybe not the amounts of testimony, but what's  
7 the general themes that are emerging? And I think that  
8 that's what they've tried to do. But I don't know, maybe  
9 it's not been as clear to me about it, but what would be  
10 helpful is that, like, in this region, these are the  
11 themes that we're seeing. There's people who don't want  
12 to cross county lines, and then there's people who are, I  
13 don't want to be with these communities. And then  
14 there's other people, I want to be with these  
15 communities. Things like that would be helpful.

16 And lastly, I just want to -- I'll just take a  
17 moment like Commissioner Yee said, also, too, I also want  
18 to acknowledge -- I saw one comment at least that thought  
19 that we should have utilized the additional time between  
20 when we accepted the draft maps to today was the  
21 deadline, and that we should have utilized the additional  
22 time to keep working on the draft maps. And I just want  
23 to remind everybody that we made this decision so that  
24 everybody -- not just us -- but everybody, including  
25 those who are the advocates and those who are interested

1 in redistricting can enjoy their Thanksgiving with their  
2 families, many of us for the first time in over a year,  
3 to be able to come together and have that just nice  
4 Thanksgiving together. We wanted to do it so that the  
5 public comment period would close right before  
6 Thanksgiving. So then the day after we would all be  
7 free, including the staff, and all the individuals who  
8 are interested in this would have a chance to have a  
9 guilt-free time to be able to enjoy their Thanksgiving  
10 before we jump right back into it beginning on Friday.  
11 At least in terms of us as we review the COI testimony.  
12 So I just wanted to also acknowledge that. That's one of  
13 the reasons why, and I just wanted to appreciate that.  
14 We did think about that, too. Thank you.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.  
16 So let's go to Executive Director Hernandez, and then  
17 we'll go to Karin. And then we'll go to the hands that  
18 are raised.

19 You're on mute.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

21 So first I want to acknowledge our staff. They have  
22 done an amazing job just to keep things on track, taking  
23 notes, the lunch situation. We're asking a tremendous  
24 amount of work from them and they are meeting the  
25 challenge. So I wanted to acknowledge that first and

1 foremost with our staff. Marcy and her team has done a  
2 tremendous job. Our data managers have done a tremendous  
3 job of having the input ready to go for you to take a  
4 look at. The visualizations up and ready. The map up  
5 the same day as it was posted. And also Fredy's team  
6 getting the communication out. So I just can't say  
7 enough about the team.

8 I will say that there were some challenges during  
9 the week last week, and really it's just the timing.  
10 There's a lot of stuff going on, and we want to make sure  
11 that we get things out timely, and sometimes there just  
12 isn't enough time. And going late into the evenings was  
13 challenging, yet we were able to get a lot of the things  
14 done.

15 I do agree with much of what was said already by the  
16 commissioners in that we need to have a plan. We are  
17 hearing quite a bit from the public and different  
18 organizations that -- what's the plan? How come we can't  
19 do this? Or when are you going to do this? When are you  
20 going to talk about this region or that region? So that  
21 has been something that we have heard and we're trying to  
22 address it as much as possible with the run of show. As  
23 things change, the Chair does definitely share the  
24 information as real-time as possible when there are  
25 changes. We've had to pivot -- as a Commission, you've

1 had to pivot, and so I think we've done as good a job as  
2 we can, but we can always improve a little bit better. I  
3 like what was said already that we're perfectionists in  
4 many ways, and so we're trying to make it even better  
5 than what it is. And those are some of the challenges  
6 that we're encountering. So that's kind of my  
7 perspective.

8 I do appreciate working with our vendors. The  
9 communication there is always top-notch, whether it's our  
10 videographer folks, line drawers, our ASL, legal team --  
11 everyone has been very responsive as things change and we  
12 pivot to the longer meetings or changes in our days  
13 scheduled. So I also want to acknowledge them for doing  
14 a tremendous job keeping us together. I also want to  
15 acknowledge the court reporter. I don't want to forget  
16 you guys, so thank you, and the captioners. That's all  
17 for me. Thank you.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Director Hernandez.

19 Ms. Mac Donald?

20 MS. MAC DONALD: Hello, Commissioners. Thank you so  
21 much, Chair Toledo. Thank you for this opportunity, and  
22 thanks for having me back. Yeah, I wanted to also thank  
23 Chair Turner one more time. I know everybody has already  
24 talked about what a great process this was. And from our  
25 perspective it's been -- it made things a lot easier to

1 have this really great communication with the Chair and  
2 it allowed us to pivot and really kind of change this  
3 cruise ship at some point and then go back to the  
4 Assembly districts, for example, when we had already  
5 started processing them, and so forth. So we really  
6 appreciated that.

7 I wanted to thank all of you who realize that we  
8 sometimes need a break also. And again, also, Chair  
9 Turner, thank you for saying that a couple of times; that  
10 please, the line drawers do need a break once in a while  
11 and we really appreciated that, because we all want to  
12 talk to you during the break, absolutely, but sometimes  
13 we do need to go and eat something. And the challenge in  
14 the meeting space last week was that we could not eat in  
15 the meeting space. So that made it -- created that  
16 necessity to actually leave the meeting space, leave our  
17 computers and go someplace. So thank you for your  
18 kindness.

19 All of you who came by and gave us the thumbs up  
20 once in a while, that really makes a big difference when  
21 you're in so much stress for us. Of course, we are  
22 trying to deliver the best possible service to you.  
23 We're trying to be with you all the way, and when you're  
24 pivoting, we want to be there so you can do it, and it's  
25 just helpful to get the thumbs up from you once in a

1 while and get these kind words. And it helps us work  
2 really long hours.

3 Thank you also for understanding that when you leave  
4 we're still there, because we have to do backups and  
5 oftentimes have to just work on like file integrity  
6 things and whatnot, run reports, make sure everything's  
7 been assigned. And that can take sometimes up to two or  
8 more hours. Like Executive Director Hernandez just said,  
9 the long hours definitely were challenging because of  
10 that. And I don't want to forget saying thank you so  
11 much, Executive Director Hernandez for your help for the  
12 just collegiality for your staff. I think we could  
13 not -- all of us -- we could not ask for a better team,  
14 honestly. And that to us made a big difference also.  
15 Just to be in this really incredibly supportive  
16 environment makes it a lot easier for us to do the work  
17 that we do.

18 For us sometimes it's difficult -- some of you have  
19 brought this up -- sometimes for us it's difficult to  
20 figure out when we should say something and when not,  
21 because some of you will say, okay, make a suggestion,  
22 and then some of you will say, don't make a suggestion,  
23 we want to make the suggestions. So I feel like that  
24 became a little clearer as we were starting to work with  
25 each other and, as much as you can help us with that, and

1 just let us know when you want us to say something and  
2 when not.

3 Obviously, the line drawers -- they have been  
4 working with these maps nonstop. They have redrawn some  
5 of these areas so many times. They have tried things  
6 that you may want to do and sometimes they already know  
7 that what you're about to give direction on or what you  
8 want to see actually can't be done. So they could give  
9 some feedback, but they don't have to. And we also, of  
10 course, don't know where you're going afterwards, but if  
11 you want to hear more, please just ask for it. We're  
12 here for you. And if you don't want to hear more, that's  
13 fine with us also. So again, we're here to support you.

14 And I wrote down notes on all the feedback that you  
15 just gave and I think just sitting with that and figuring  
16 out what we can and cannot implement -- of course,  
17 Commissioner Fernandez, some of these things, for  
18 example, like coloring in some of these VRA districts,  
19 that is absolutely possible, obviously. But again, none  
20 of this is straightforward ever because we're really  
21 looking at areas and not necessarily just the districts.  
22 Right? So maybe the coloring needs to be a little  
23 differently, so I want to make sure that we bring that up  
24 with our VRA counsel. And yeah, just generally, we'll go  
25 through all of the feedback that you just provided and



1 then work on that and work with you on how we can improve  
2 moving forward. So thank you.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Ms. Mac Donald. And we  
4 will be taking lunch at 12:30 today, just so everyone's  
5 aware. So that's five minutes from now. We'll listen  
6 to -- hopefully be able to get through the two comments  
7 that we have left. And then when we come back from  
8 lunch, we'll be going into public input discussion and  
9 looking at the document that the public input committee  
10 has put together. Leverage the product management  
11 expertise of Commissioner Fornaciari and the rest of the  
12 team -- the commission -- to develop a roadmap, even if  
13 it's a high-level roadmap, to help us, I think, through  
14 some of these important issue.

15 So we'll start with Commissioner Andersen, then go  
16 to Commissioner Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair.

18 And thank you for that summary, Karin. I really  
19 appreciate that.

20 The one thing I want to say is, back to the idea of  
21 having a couple of commissioners work with the line  
22 drawers to go through some ideas ahead of time; I do not  
23 like that idea. I love the idea that we're working on  
24 ideas using QGIS, getting the help from the statewide  
25 databases, outreach centers -- that might not be the

1 proper term -- to work through those, but I think it's  
2 sort of unfair to ask the line drawers to work on  
3 specific things, and then the whole commission might say,  
4 I don't want to do that at all. It's sort of -- it's not  
5 a prejudicial thing, but it would be -- it would have an  
6 outside influence that is not happening in the public's  
7 view.

8 I do, however, love the idea of having the  
9 commissioners work through some areas. I know, myself,  
10 I'm thinking, well, if we added more -- if we get  
11 population over here, then that could work this out. I  
12 would love to work through that, but I think that's --  
13 and there are two tools. You can also do that just the  
14 My District as well, which is very similar to how you did  
15 the COI, as well as the QGIS. So I just want to bring  
16 that forward. While I love the idea of working through  
17 ideas on our own, I do not like that idea of working with  
18 the line drawers with it not being public.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.  
20 Commissioner Kennedy?

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I just  
22 want to take the opportunity -- I understand what  
23 Commissioner Akutagawa was saying, and it's something  
24 that we have said -- that we wanted people -- we wanted  
25 the public to have two clear weeks of the public comment

1 period before the holidays. It doesn't close any  
2 opportunity for public comment. We'll be taking public  
3 comment on Thanksgiving Day, the day after, Saturday,  
4 Sunday. Anytime anybody wants to provide public comment,  
5 please shoot it our way through any of the channels that  
6 we've been talking about for a long time. But we wanted  
7 to have the official two-week period during which we  
8 could not display additional maps end before  
9 Thanksgiving. But we certainly want public comment to  
10 continue as long as people have comment. Thank you.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa,  
12 and then we'll be breaking for lunch.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I just wanted to say,  
14 thank you, Commissioner Kennedy for that additional  
15 clarification. You are so right.

16 Commissioner Toledo, I just want to acknowledge that  
17 there is a caller who would -- who I guess is waiting to  
18 make a public comment on, I assume, this agenda item, and  
19 given that we've been asked to be more upfront about when  
20 we expect timing for this, it might be helpful to note  
21 when you think. I mean, everything is always an estimate  
22 right now, but when you estimate you'll be able to  
23 complete this subcommittee agenda item and then receive  
24 public comment on subcommittee reports. Not general.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's a good question. And so I was

1 planning to give an opportunity for the public to weigh  
2 in after we completed all of our committee updates. So  
3 that'll be after the Public Input Design Subcommittee,  
4 which will be around -- I'm hoping around 2:30, maybe a  
5 little bit earlier if we can get through our public input  
6 update and debrief by then. So around 2:30, and we would  
7 take public comment on all of the committee reports and  
8 debriefs that we're doing. These are all part of our  
9 subcommittee updates. So we'll be taking comment --  
10 public comment on our subcommittee updates around 2:30.

11 With that, let's break for lunch, and see you all  
12 back at 1:15.

13 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 12:30 p.m.  
14 until 1:15 p.m.)

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
16 Citizen's Redistricting Commission, our business meeting,  
17 and we're focusing on public input design. We're going  
18 to receive an update from the Public Input Design  
19 Subcommittee and have discussion around their public  
20 input process.

21 So with that, we'll turn it over to Commissioner  
22 Fornaciari and Commissioner Ahmad.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. I'll go ahead, if  
24 that's okay? Okay. Thanks, Commissioner Ahmad.

25 So with regard to the -- our public input meetings

1 that we have coming up -- so I guess, they've been  
2 already fully booked, almost immediately. We had two  
3 days -- so that was the 17th through the -- yeah, the  
4 17th through the 20th. So those booked up quickly, so  
5 the outreach staff opened up the 22nd and 23rd. I guess  
6 those are booked up now, too.

7 Are they fully booked up, Marcy? Okay.

8 So we're getting kind of -- you've heard the  
9 feedback. We got a letter for the call-in feedback that  
10 we've gotten. It's difficult for some folks to get on  
11 board an appointment, not knowing when we opened up the  
12 sign-ups. And so there's been a suggestion that we maybe  
13 shorten the duration of input and therefore add more  
14 appointments. So when we initially proposed this, we had  
15 proposed five minutes for input for folks. The letter we  
16 got suggested we shorten that to three. We may have  
17 gotten other feedback suggesting three. There's another  
18 suggestion on the table, maybe two minutes, for the  
19 appointments. And then -- so that's one thing we need to  
20 talk about and figure out what we want to do. Since we  
21 voted to make it five minutes, if we're going to change  
22 it, we need to have a vote.

23 And then, the other thing is talk about when we want  
24 to take public comment -- open it up to public comment.  
25 One option that's been discussed for at least the 17th

1 through the 20th -- the meetings on the 17th, 18th and  
2 19th are from 3 to 8, then on the 20th -- the 20th is a  
3 Saturday, is from 10 to 3. So one option discussed was  
4 hold public comment until the 20th and then we can go  
5 longer with public comment. Or we could have public  
6 comment every day. We just have to figure out how we're  
7 going to manage that time-wise.

8       And then on the -- the ones on the 22nd and 23rd are  
9 currently scheduled 9:30 to 2:30. I just have a question  
10 for Commissioner Fernandez. Were you thinking to change  
11 these meetings, too, to later, or no? You were just  
12 thinking the line drawing meetings? Okay. Okay. So  
13 that's a lot to think about. I just am curious as to  
14 what my colleagues think.

15       CHAIR TOLEDO: And we have a couple colleagues that  
16 want to chime in. So we'll start with Commissioner  
17 Akutagawa, then Fernandez, then Kennedy.

18       COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: It's so weird having to  
19 unmute myself. I've been trained not to. I'm like,  
20 where's the button. I'll just weigh in on a few things.  
21 One is, I guess a question for clarification, and I  
22 apologize if I missed this -- one of the callers this  
23 morning said that those with appointments would be able  
24 to share maps. My understanding was that that was not  
25 true. Okay. So --

1           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, no. That's -- yeah.  
2 I'm sorry. Thank you for that. Yeah, I want to make a  
3 clarification on that. Yeah, we decided when we designed  
4 this that the callers would not share, that we would do  
5 our best to have the line drawers have the map -- the  
6 area that they're planning on talking about up for them  
7 to speak to, but not have them share their screens.

8           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you. And  
9 that's helpful, because then that was going to determine  
10 the amount of time. I would be comfortable with either  
11 three or two minutes. In terms of adding time, I mean,  
12 we could either extend the time so that then instead of  
13 five hours per day, we could go to even six or seven  
14 hours, although that is quite long. The other option is,  
15 given what seems like the interest in a lot of people to  
16 give input, we may also have to consider -- and I would  
17 be comfortable, although maybe Sunday we either take a  
18 break or we just use a shorter amount of time on Sunday  
19 to allow public comment to take place.

20           I think that also -- I also want to just suggest in  
21 terms of the appointment times -- I did hear what people  
22 were saying. Perhaps to make it more equitable, we do  
23 make the announcement first and then we give a time on  
24 the announcement when the appointment period will open up  
25 so then that way it'll give time for everybody to

1 scramble and then get themselves ready to make an  
2 appointment. Otherwise, if it's open and then we say,  
3 it's open, people already filled it up. So that may also  
4 alleviate individuals not feeling like they had a fair  
5 chance to get it.

6 The other suggestion that I would also make on this  
7 is, open it up on a daily basis. Like, today we'll open  
8 it up maybe for Sunday. Tomorrow, we'll open it up for  
9 Monday. So then that way then you can gauge how much  
10 response you're getting, and you could control the flow a  
11 little bit better so that everything doesn't fill up all  
12 at once, and it does give a day to reset everybody. And  
13 they all have, hopefully, a more equitable chance of  
14 getting their inputs in. And let's remind everybody  
15 that, via the email, or any of the forums also work, too.  
16 Thank you.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.  
18 I'm going to go to Counsel Pane to see if he has any  
19 guidance on this process as well.

20 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair. I just  
21 wanted to clarify some points. So to Commissioner  
22 Akutagawa's point -- because we are within the fourteen-  
23 day window for what would be public input testimony, we  
24 aren't able to adjust the current begin and end time for  
25 agendas that are already posted. So I just wanted to



1 make that clarification. And we couldn't add a new day  
2 currently if we're within the fourteen-day window. So I  
3 just wanted to clarify that point. We do have some  
4 flexibility as the commission is deciding whether or not  
5 it's five minutes or two minutes or three minutes.  
6 Certainly, the commission needs to take public comment  
7 for each agenda item that is currently posted. The  
8 agenda item for general public comment, I believe, is  
9 number three. And I think Commissioner Fornaciari is  
10 saying, with all the appointments, we would get to agenda  
11 item number three probably on the 20th. That's certainly  
12 an acceptable solution. Another option is you could  
13 provide additional public comment within the confines of  
14 what is the beginning and end time of each agenda  
15 schedule.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner -- or --  
17 excuse me, Chief Counsel Pane.

18 Let's go to Commissioner Fernandez, and then  
19 Kennedy.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. I -- I'm  
21 in favor of a shorter comment period of public input from  
22 two or three minutes is fine.

23 And in terms of public comments, I would prefer to  
24 have it daily to try to accommodate those that maybe just  
25 can't -- are not able to do it on Saturday. So I'd

1 prefer to do that, so it -- because -- oh, and then,  
2 what, Commissioner Akutagawa talked about posting the  
3 time of once we open it. I would agree with that, but I  
4 would also like the notification to be sent out, like, in  
5 our distribution list to everyone before you actually  
6 start taking appointments, so those that aren't listening  
7 to our meetings and know the exact time, they get equal  
8 notice.

9       So I think that's it because we can't extend -- I  
10 mean, I guess we can extend our time to go later, we just  
11 can't start our meetings earlier, is what I'm hearing  
12 from our Chief Counsel. Thank you.

13       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.  
14 Commissioner Kennedy, then Commissioner Andersen.

15       COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. And yes, I  
16 do want to confirm with Chief Counsel Pane that  
17 Commissioner Fernandez's point is correct. That upon  
18 conclusion of business means that instead of ending at 8  
19 p.m., for example, we could end at 9:30 p.m. Instead of  
20 ending on Saturday at 3 p.m., we could go to 5 or 6 p.m.

21       Second of all, looking at a agenda for the meeting  
22 scheduled for the 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, that occurs to  
23 me could we announce a continuation of that agenda on to  
24 Sunday afternoon if we wanted to pick up some additional  
25 time there before we get to Monday and Tuesday. When we

1 get to Tuesday, could we, perhaps, post a continuation to  
2 give us some time on Wednesday morning. I'm just looking  
3 at all of the options and want to make sure we are  
4 exploring all of our options to maximize the public's  
5 opportunity provide the input into the process.

6 On the question of how many minutes, I'm okay with  
7 decreasing it to three. I don't think I would be  
8 supportive at this point of decreasing it below three  
9 minutes. Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

11 Director Pane, would you like to respond?

12 MR. PANE: Sure, thank you, Chair.

13 So to Commissioner Kennedy's point, the first or  
14 upon conclusion of business is included because the  
15 commission may well end prior to and conclude their  
16 business prior to the agenda's end time, or if they are  
17 running behind, of course, they could -- it permits them  
18 to go later beyond the end time. What we wouldn't be  
19 able to do is post a new end time based on changes the  
20 commission would like to make, because there is a Bagley-  
21 Keene requirement of posting fourteen days in advance.

22 To Commissioner's Kennedy's point of a continuation.  
23 Of course the point of a continuation is not necessarily  
24 an end-run around the Bagley-Keene requirements. So we  
25 wouldn't to try to say, oh, well, we'll just do a

1 continuation. The point of a continuation, really, is if  
2 we have no reason to expect that we are going to run long  
3 but just for whatever reason it ends up happening, that  
4 we end up going slower or we end up needing more time,  
5 and there's no way -- and we're up against a hard stop  
6 and we have to continue the -- what has not been  
7 concluded, we can post a continuation. But that's to be  
8 sort of used, I would say, sparingly as opposed to a  
9 planning document, which if we need to post additional  
10 days, we could certainly do that.

11 So adjournment or a conclusion continuation or a  
12 postponement, is being referred to, is when we run out of  
13 time and we're not able to continue it, and we can  
14 certainly do that, the law allows for that, but the  
15 continuation isn't an available tool to be used far in  
16 advance to just say, well, we're going to add another day  
17 but we'll be within the Bagley-Keene requirement time  
18 period, and this is the way to post additional meetings.  
19 That would be the appropriate use of a continuation. So  
20 thank you.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for the clarification.

22 Commissioner Andersen, then Commissioner Akutagawa.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for that, Chief --  
24 I was going to call you director -- Chief Counsel Pane.  
25 I also agree with the three minutes time limit, and that

1 is what we had in the employee input sessions, so I  
2 believe it makes sense. I also don't like going to two  
3 minutes; I think people need to be heard.

4       And the -- I believe Commissioner Fernandez said  
5 this, for public comment, I do believe we should be  
6 taking it every day because, particularly, the 17th we're  
7 doing Congressional, the 18th we're doing Assembly, the  
8 19th we're doing Senate, and people who are following one  
9 particular map and not the others should be able to give  
10 public comment on that day. An idea which I -- which we  
11 went to, which I thought actually worked rather well, is  
12 we did open a public comment and then continued working.  
13 But this is a little different because it's public input  
14 and public comment. So -- oh no, you already answered  
15 that one. Thank you very much.

16       CHAIR TOLEDO: So I do want to -- we will have hard  
17 stops on November 17th, 18th at 10 p.m. So that's the  
18 latest we could go if we did choose to do that. But it  
19 would allow us to get through the people who are in the  
20 queue and scheduled for the time.

21       Well, let's see, who's next? Was it Commissioner  
22 Akutagawa? You're passing, okay.

23       All right. So it sounds like there's consensus on  
24 three minutes; is that correct? Just thumbs? Okay. So  
25 three minutes instead of the five minutes. And of

1 course, we'll take a vote on all of this, but any other  
2 items that we need to take a vote on, Commissioner  
3 Fornaciari?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So with -- it seems to me  
5 the only thing we actually need to vote on, and Chief  
6 Counsel Pane, correct me if I'm wrong, is changing the  
7 time. The rest of it is, you know, more direction to the  
8 Chair for how the Chair is going to run the meeting. And  
9 it sounds like the direction to the Chair would be public  
10 comment every day. And then the other question I have is  
11 about -- so I guess we have to open --

12 so Marcy -- Director Kaplan, so we -- you know, two  
13 days from now, I guess, is the first meeting. So we need  
14 to get the -- the appointments reopened based on this --  
15 you know, whatever we vote on, but it sounds like three  
16 minutes is going to be the time, maybe, but -- so can you  
17 and Director Ceja be prepared to blast out on all of our  
18 media channel, social network, everything, a hard time  
19 that we are going to open the -- open the sign-ups again  
20 and then -- and then manage it that way? Would that  
21 work?

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Director Kaplan?

23 MS. KAPLAN: Yes. We can do that, but I do -- I  
24 know there was some discussion on, like, how we open them  
25 ongoing over the week, and I would recommend that we do

1 it all at once, given that there's -- we're opening a lot  
2 more appointments and there's -- the meeting's coming up  
3 on the 17th, 18th, 19th. But if you have a  
4 recommendation on how much lead time, we have staff that  
5 are prepared to update to be able to reopen appointments.  
6 So if you want to give us a sense of how much time you  
7 want to give the public in advance, then we can time that  
8 out, so we can send out a blast and then another once  
9 they're actually open again.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: And director Kaplan, I did have a  
11 question for you about -- some of the community groups  
12 have been saying that there's been -- there's some  
13 ambiguity on our website and in some of the -- some of  
14 the fliers and such around the -- you know, ways people  
15 can participate, how to participate, that sort of thing.  
16 Can you just -- I mean, I'd like to reduce any ambiguity  
17 that there is and create very clear guidelines that are  
18 across all of our communication channels, what other  
19 social media, fliers, you know, on our website, et  
20 cetera. So -- and I'm not -- and especially as it  
21 relates back to, you know, the newsletter and press  
22 releases and such. So do you have any suggestions on how  
23 to do that?

24 And it might be helpful to have somebody who's not  
25 used to looking at our website take a look and see it

1 from an outsider's perspective, because I think we get so  
2 familiar with where things are -- we know where things  
3 are, and it's pretty clear to us, but if somebody is not  
4 used to our process and our systems may not see it the  
5 same way, and it might seem ambiguous.

6 MS. KAPLAN; Yeah, I mean, I can work with Freda  
7 again on this. I do want to highlight that we did  
8 extensively leading up to this work on updates to the  
9 participate page, the actual sign-up page where all the  
10 links for the appointment pages were listed, to include  
11 the numerous ways to participate, as well as on the  
12 actual appointment form, including information on the --  
13 how to sign up and other ways to participate. If you  
14 don't get an appointment, I think we can -- now that the  
15 commission is coming more to a consensus and opening  
16 public comment at the end of each day, providing  
17 additional information on those pages, that should you  
18 not be able to secure an appointment, that there's now an  
19 opportunity for public comment at the end of each day and  
20 providing the call-in information for that when we have  
21 that available as well. But I think we can --

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think we're doing -- I think  
23 the staff is doing a great job. It's just --

24 MS. KAPLAN: Yeah.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: You know, sometimes the public is not



1 as -- you know, this may be the first time they're coming  
2 to our --

3 MS. KAPLAN: Yeah.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- website and looking at it and it  
5 may not be -- so we just to -- have to try to make it as  
6 user friendly as possible and think about it from that  
7 perspective. And I know you are --

8 MS. KAPLAN; Yes. And I think --

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- (indiscernible).

10 MS. KAPLAN; -- also just to highlight the part of  
11 the original discussion where the commission approved a  
12 motion on the policies for the input meetings, to include  
13 the limitation of one speaker per day. So I think  
14 clarifying, you know, however we can make that clearer,  
15 that that is the limitation that the commission approved.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Director Kaplan.

17 I believe Commissioner Fornaciari had some  
18 clarification as well.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Let's let Commissioner  
20 Fernandez and Andersen go and then I'll --

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So Commissioner Fernandez and  
22 Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. I might have  
24 missed this, Director Kaplan, but you talked about moving  
25 from five to three minutes. Are you -- those that

1 have -- already have appointments, we're going to notify  
2 them as well that they only have three minutes because I  
3 don't want them showing up thinking that they've got five  
4 minutes and we tell them three minutes. So I would  
5 appreciate that.

6 And then in terms of opening up the appointments, I  
7 would recommend that we just open them up now for all of  
8 the days. I think that that should be less work on staff  
9 if -- instead of having to, you know, particular file to  
10 remind yourself to set it up. But my opinion would be  
11 open up all the days in case there's individuals that can  
12 only make certain days and they're kind of waiting for  
13 that to open up. Thank you. That's just a  
14 recommendation.

15 And thank you and all your staff for their work.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.  
17 Commissioner Andersen.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you, actually,  
19 for bringing up about the website. Because could you  
20 make sure that you look at the home page, because that's  
21 the first place people hit. And right now if you look at  
22 the -- there are four selections on the home page and one  
23 of submit comment. Think, oh, I'll submit a comment.  
24 That is not the draft on -- comment on draft maps for --  
25 that's a more general comment. And so it's only if you

1 hit participate do then you have the option of commenting  
2 on the draft maps. So we need to be clear on that.

3 And there's a couple things -- so I really want you  
4 to look at it from the home page, because people who have  
5 not -- aren't familiar with us at all, that's where they  
6 land. And you know, they don't necessarily know to  
7 think, if I go over and hover on all these tabs, then I  
8 might be able to find it. So if we could -- with the  
9 comments. And then, it's not obvious on that where,  
10 again, on the home page how would you sign up for -- to  
11 comment during this period. And if we could --

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Le Mons?

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have a clarity question.

16 When people sign up, are they signing up for a particular  
17 time spot?

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Director Kaplan?

19 MS. KAPLAN: So similar to how we were able to do  
20 this for the COI input meetings, people are signing up  
21 for a session of time. So right now they're set up as an  
22 eighty minute block, a ninety minute block, and a forty-  
23 five minute block on the longer -- on the 17th through  
24 20th, there's this extra block of time that we included.  
25 And so they sign up for that time, and they need to call

1 back during that time frame. So if there's -- we'll make  
2 sure that that's clear on the website as well.

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: So what I was kind of  
4 thinking about that, I know we're considering three  
5 minutes and I'm wondering if just for divisibility of  
6 math reasons, you think if you already have five minutes,  
7 half of that's two and a half, you won't have as much  
8 variation in your slot shifting. So you know, we're able  
9 to actually double the amount of people, essentially, in  
10 the current time structure. So with that said, I'd like  
11 to recommend that we strongly consider two-and-a-half  
12 minutes versus three.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.  
14 Commissioner Akutagawa?

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I also wanted to ask  
16 the question of -- I guess since we have a much more  
17 specific, I guess, end time, are we going to, for  
18 example, on the 17th, 18th, and 19th, are we going to  
19 announce that lines will close at 8 p.m. and then we'll  
20 continue to take any calls after that? Because I know  
21 that there has been some concerns raised about us opening  
22 up for public comment and then closing it thirty minutes  
23 later, and -- I don't think it applies here but I wanted  
24 to just bring that question up.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Director Kaplan?

1 MS. KAPLAN: Sorry.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: You have your hand up.

3 MS. KAPLAN: I'm happy to answer that but that would  
4 be -- the lines would close at the scheduled end of the  
5 meeting time, but anyone in the queue would be able to  
6 stay in the queue to continue to provide input as we get  
7 to them, as was done in the COI input meetings as well.  
8 But we can make sure that's clear also on the website as  
9 well, that -- so right now it's listed. When you look at  
10 the appointment sign-ups, there's the blocks and then  
11 there's the time where it -- public comment would start  
12 for each day. So we can make that clear in there, that  
13 the queue would close at the -- input in the specific  
14 time of when the queue would close.

15 I did want to also just address the note that  
16 Commissioner Andersen had highlighted about when you're  
17 on the home page and you click on public comment. We did  
18 consolidate the public comment and the map feedback form  
19 so that you're actually clicking on what kind of input  
20 you're providing. So there's a drop down, and so the  
21 public would either click on general public comment or  
22 draft map feedback. So it is one form, but it changes  
23 depending on what you're selecting. But I can -- I'll  
24 work -- connect with Freda on -- there's a way to make  
25 that clearer as well.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate that, Director Kaplan.

2 Commissioner Akutagawa?

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. You know,  
4 Commissioner -- or Director Kaplan, I notice that on some  
5 of the comments, people refer to something about the map  
6 that they don't like but it doesn't say what map they're  
7 referring to. Even -- some of them mention it but some  
8 of them don't. I wonder if there could be a drop down  
9 that says, I'm commenting on a Congressional, an  
10 Assembly, a state Senate, or all, or something like that,  
11 just so that -- I think they're assuming that we know  
12 what map they're commenting on but -- you know, I can try  
13 to guess by what I'm reading and so that would be  
14 helpful.

15 I also want to mention, I like that you're going to  
16 put that lines will close at 2:30. Just for clarity, I'm  
17 thinking that it would also be helpful that anybody can  
18 get into the queue to give public comment, I'm assuming  
19 at any time, but they have to be in by, you know, the  
20 line closing time. And that anybody who does not have an  
21 appointment, you know, will just be taken as room -- as  
22 there is room. But given the overwhelming response,  
23 which is, I have to say, is super exciting that this many  
24 people want to comment, that's great, but I think we  
25 should indicate, you know -- I think we have to spell out

1 all these things so that it's clear to everybody too.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

4 I did want to check in with Commissioner Kennedy,  
5 as -- if memory serves me, he had mentioned not wanting  
6 to go below three minutes. So just wanted to check in  
7 with Commissioner Kennedy and see what his thoughts are  
8 on going to two-and-a-half minutes.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I know that I didn't want  
10 two, and you know, if we go back to Justin Levitt's (ph.)  
11 comment about easy solutions sometimes being the best,  
12 Commissioner Le Mons' easy solution may in fact be the  
13 best. Thank you, Chair.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

15 All right. And -- so we'll come back to this issue  
16 at -- once we finish our conversation on our process --  
17 input process. And at this point we're really thinking  
18 about the operational process from now until -- the  
19 operational process for our final maps. And developing a  
20 operational project plan for the -- for that to get us  
21 through to the final maps, as well as thinking through  
22 all of the obstacle barriers and giving guidance to the  
23 Chair and to the rest of the commission on all of the  
24 issues that may arise as we get closer to final maps.  
25 And so I'm going to ask at this point -- so I -- first,

1 let's -- I wanted to bring that up and talk about it.

2 But also, the potential of creating a subcommittee to  
3 develop that operational plan for the final maps.

4 So let's start with Commissioner Kennedy and  
5 Commissioner Ahmad.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. At a very  
7 high level on looking at the way forward, my suggestion  
8 would be that we look at lengthening the hours of all of  
9 these sessions. I understand there may be contractual  
10 issues involved, but you know, my bottom line is we are  
11 here for the people of California. If the people of  
12 California, you know, want and need more time to  
13 participate in this process, I would like to see us add  
14 time to meetings that are on the schedule, to do our best  
15 to give them that time. Thank you.

16 Commissioner Ahmad?

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I think  
18 based off of what you just said, we do have a mapping  
19 playbook that was developed by a subcommittee. Perhaps  
20 we can take a look at that and use that as a starting  
21 point and make tweaks in terms of establishing a new  
22 subcommittee. I don't want to put this on them but I  
23 will put this on them. We do have a mapping playbook  
24 subcommittee. So I would just want to gauge their  
25 interest in potentially leading the efforts to what you



1 just described.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: I believe the -- Commissioner Yee.  
3 There we go.

4 COMMISSIONER YEE: So that would be Commissioner  
5 Turner and myself. Always happy to do anything that will  
6 help. Maybe you can say a little bit more how you're  
7 envisioning that adaptation to happen.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Sure. So I'm actually thinking  
9 about, you know, working through the operational issues  
10 and the product management of all of this. So you know,  
11 certainly the making decisions aspect, because I think  
12 the guide -- the guide that was created is very helpful  
13 in that it helps us think through some of the decision-  
14 making prophesies, and that's one aspect of it.

15 But the other aspect is, the schedule and all of the  
16 operational -- so more of a project management plan. So  
17 the operational issues that are involved with putting  
18 these things together, as well as coordination with the  
19 line drawers, coordination with communications, right.  
20 Making sure that the appropriate communications are  
21 coming out at the right time. That -- so we're -- that  
22 we're thinking about all of the various roadblocks and  
23 barriers. So really, a -- so that -- so it can reduce  
24 any hiccups or at least think about them prior to the --  
25 you know, prior to the -- to when we're in line drawing

1 mode.

2       So with that, let's go to Commissioner Andersen,  
3 then Fornaciari, then Fernandez.

4       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, thank you, Chair.  
5 Yeah, I understand sort of the decisions and the mapping  
6 playbook, just the straight process and how we get there  
7 and logistics of it, I thought that would be a line  
8 drawing subcommittee issue because we have been working  
9 with the line drawers and understand, you know, how  
10 they're -- how they flow and how things work and you  
11 know, what kind of communication they need, you know,  
12 what types of -- you know, this kind of file, it's got to  
13 go here, here, and here. And you know, like, I'm just  
14 thinking of a couple of things. You know, how much time  
15 frame they need ahead of time, you know, when they can  
16 make decisions. We've been working extensively with them  
17 on that, and there are items that another subcommittee  
18 might go, well, we just need it the day before and not  
19 understanding what that entails. So as far as kind of  
20 the roadmap getting there, the process of that, I would  
21 think that would be line drawing. Well, I don't mean the  
22 decisions of, you know, how are we going to process, you  
23 know, what the commissioners are talking about and how we  
24 analyze, you know, which -- one area versus another area,  
25 that sort of stuff. You know, I understand that's more

1 maybe a mapping playbook group. I just -- I'm not sure  
2 we need another subcommittee at this point.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari?

4 Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So I just want to  
6 share what I was thinking about in working on, you know,  
7 kind of just off on my own, right, not as part of a  
8 subcommittee. I'm just, you know, like I said, been a  
9 project manager for a long, long time and thought about  
10 how I would schedule this and manage it in a way that we  
11 can bring it home effectively. And in kind of reflecting  
12 on the approach that we took last time, I mean, it -- it  
13 was a fine approach but I think, for me, there's some  
14 lessons learned and takeaways. You know, part of the  
15 takeaway is we want to have a strategy for mapping that  
16 doesn't put us in a bubble, right, so we don't wind up  
17 with any bubbles, so that we can effectively work through  
18 the mapping process in a way that we can keep the big  
19 picture in mind while we're looking at the details.

20 The second part of it is all about interfaces. You  
21 know, the way -- the way we've laid out our process is  
22 focused on counties and regions, and the areas that, you  
23 know, it seems like that we are going to need to work the  
24 hardest are the interfaces, right. The interface between  
25 Orange County and San Diego; the interface between Orange

1 County LA, Riverside, and San Bernardino. I mean, so you  
2 know, the way I was thinking about this schedule and this  
3 approach is a way to ensure that we have time to focus on  
4 those areas and those interfaces and then moving out to  
5 the next areas and interfaces and manage those -- manage  
6 that process effectively. And in addition to -- you  
7 know, have clarity on -- for everyone, as I said before,  
8 on where we're going and how we're getting there. So  
9 that was, you know, a small part of it that was focusing  
10 on.

11 I think, though, in this conversation that we've  
12 had, right, it's a much, much bigger picture of a plan.  
13 That, you know, you brought in a lot of different areas,  
14 other commissioners have brought up components of a plan  
15 that needs to be put together, you know, to bring the  
16 entire process home. So I -- you know, I just -- I just  
17 wanted to share my thinking and you know, put that out  
18 there.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think -- my thinking was very  
20 much in alignment with your thinking, and it's the  
21 product management aspect, to make sure that we're giving  
22 every -- so that we get through all of California and  
23 give appropriate time to all of the California, while  
24 also highlighting those difficult decisions and in  
25 creating the operational plan to make sure that they can

1 get there.

2 Commissioner Fernandez and Kennedy.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I  
4 don't know about the subcommittee only because our next  
5 business meeting's not until the 29th, and that's when  
6 we're going to have this discussion of what changes you  
7 want to see. So it almost feels like it's too late at  
8 that point, so I'm not sure why we can't try to figure it  
9 out now. Because on the -- I'm still trying to figure  
10 out what we're going to do the 30th, the 1st, and the 2nd  
11 if the 29th we're talking about what we want to see,  
12 because that's not going to give line drawers time to  
13 really go back and make changes quickly enough for us.

14 But I also -- and I hear what Commissioner  
15 Fornaciari is saying; I hear what Commissioner Kennedy is  
16 saying, but I also go back to our meeting last week.  
17 Last week -- it was last week, yeah. And I believe it  
18 was Commissioner Sadhwani, she brought up, you know, we  
19 really need to go through LA; it's going to be a couple  
20 of days at least. I like that. I like knowing on these  
21 two days, we're going to talk about LA, and that's kind  
22 of -- and I think for me, specifically, that gives me a  
23 better idea of how to prepare for that day versus the,  
24 oh, we might get to southern California or we might get  
25 to northern California.

1 I would prefer to have a plan where we're actually  
2 talking about specific areas. And even if it was Los  
3 Angeles -- and we're going to look at the Assembly, the  
4 Senate, and the Congressional, I mean do it all at once  
5 because they kind of impact -- they impact each other,  
6 kind of. So that's kind of how I was thinking of I'd  
7 like to have a plan and I'd like to be -- have it be a  
8 more specific plan so that all of us can really plan and  
9 be ready for the discussion that day instead of trying to  
10 figure out if it's going to change on us. That was it.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

12 And I think -- and we do have an hour, but it's just  
13 one hour, to pour through so many of these issues, and so  
14 that's one of the reasons why -- you know. And we can  
15 probably tackle some of these issues to get a framework  
16 for -- a framework but we may have to have a group  
17 working outside of -- outside of this meeting to finalize  
18 some of these things and coordinate with staff and  
19 coordinate with the rest and bring something back to us,  
20 either through staff or through -- or through public  
21 meeting on the 29th.

22 Commissioner Kennedy?

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

24 I think at this point, one of the things that would  
25 be most helpful for me, and I hope it would be helpful to

1 other colleagues, is if the mappers were able to give us  
2 a color-coded map. I may have mentioned this last week,  
3 but if we had a map, one map for each plan, showing  
4 deviations and just have the color radiant, you know,  
5 from dark red to pink to white to light green to dark  
6 green, you know, if we could see, you know, in one  
7 picture were we have, you know, more population than we  
8 need and where we have less population than we need, and  
9 if we see that we have, you know, lots of green in one  
10 area and lots of red far away, we know we've got a lot  
11 more work to do than if we got lighter colors or if  
12 the -- or if the reds and the greens are more mixed in  
13 with each other. And I think that's -- it's going to be  
14 very helpful for determining the approach that we take to  
15 this.

16       You know, we've got the information in a table  
17 format, but frankly, you know, it doesn't have the same  
18 impact as if you put it in a color-coded map form. Thank  
19 you.

20       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And we'll ask the line  
21 drawing committee to explore the possibility for that.

22       Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner Andersen.

23       Commissioner Sadhwani, you have your hand raised.

24       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. And certainly I noted  
25 the idea of the color-coded map, and we can raise that.

1 I just wanted to add to this conversation. I agree. I  
2 think -- I'm pro-process. In fact, sometimes I have a  
3 hard time when we -- when we go off process. You know,  
4 we have a lot of days on our calendar, and it's not clear  
5 to me at this point what we're using them for. So you  
6 know, Commissioner Fernandez had mentioned, yes, I made a  
7 comment, we need at least two full days just to work out  
8 Los Angeles because it's so complex, and the minute we  
9 start changing in one area, it has a ripple effect  
10 throughout the whole county and possibly throughout the  
11 whole state. So I do stand by that. I think it is what  
12 we need.

13 I don't remember who had said it, but I know when I  
14 said it, someone responded, well, we don't have time for  
15 that, and I thought, well, we need to make the time. And  
16 I think even -- and that's not just for Los Angeles, it's  
17 for all different parts of the state. Even when it comes  
18 to Los Angeles, I think that we need to think about LA  
19 not simply as one county. There are 10 million people  
20 plus living in Los Angeles.

21 The map is extraordinarily complex. And as we think  
22 about it, to me, what I see, is this, like, Eastern Los  
23 Angeles County, Southern Los Angeles County, Western,  
24 Northern Los Angeles County. And as we think about those  
25 different regions, it has ripple effects into other



1 neighboring counties.

2 I think one of the things that has happened is  
3 largely because we were coming out of the outreach zone  
4 structure. We're coming out of a structure in which the  
5 mappers had regional areas. We've been kind of boxed  
6 into that thinking. And this is particularly true for  
7 me, in any case, around the LA, Orange County border. I  
8 feel like we have a lot of work to do there. And as we  
9 work up from San Diego, we run into Orange County,  
10 obviously, and as we work down from Los Angeles, we run  
11 into Orange County.

12 So I think as we think about the project management  
13 perspective of how to plan out this next phase, I do  
14 think it requires some changes in our thinking about the  
15 map and how we approach it, because I'm nervous that  
16 we're maybe a little boxed in to our approach to the  
17 different regions, and I do think that that's going to  
18 need to change. Thank you.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

20 And I am -- you know, I do want to make it so that  
21 every -- we all do, we all want to make sure that every  
22 part of the state gets adequate time, and that includes  
23 Los Angeles, San Diego, Southern California, Central  
24 Valley, and every other place in California. So making  
25 sure that -- which is why we need this thinking about our

1 process so that we can ensure that some areas don't --  
2 that all areas get the time that they need to be drawn as  
3 well as we possibly can.

4 Commissioner Akutagawa?

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I've been thinking  
6 about something similar too, and I'm wondering, one, I  
7 was thinking that from a process perspective, I'd like --  
8 I know that with the line drawers, we've oftentimes  
9 started in the Central Valley because of the VRA;  
10 however, I think given the complexity of Los Angeles and  
11 actually because of that, the complexity that it then  
12 causes throughout all of southern California, I would  
13 like for us to consider starting with southern California  
14 and specifically Los Angeles, but also looking at the  
15 region in its entirety.

16 I think -- I think in some ways I realize that us  
17 thinking about LA and each county separately, it --  
18 it's -- it has created some kind of, perhaps, mental  
19 blocks of we cannot cross county lines. And we've  
20 certainly gotten lots of feedback on that. But I  
21 think -- and actually, you know, I'm thinking also about  
22 Long Beach, and I think they're going to hate me for  
23 this, but I think Long Beach is the second largest city  
24 in southern California. I think -- you know, look at LA.  
25 We're breaking up LA. There's just no way possible that

1 we could keep LA whole if someone said, you know, keep LA  
2 whole. We might just need to also really think carefully  
3 about parts of Long Beach too. I mean, certainly there  
4 seem to be some comfort in breaking up North Long Beach  
5 from the rest of Long Beach, but I think we may need to  
6 really rethink the entire region, not just LA County, and  
7 then move northward from there, because I think the  
8 complexities of -- as Commissioner Fornaciari had also  
9 said, you know, the San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange  
10 County, LA, there's that kind of confluence of all those  
11 places coming together, as well as LA, Orange County,  
12 Orange County, San Diego, San Diego, Imperial Valley, and  
13 then, of course, to the north between LA and Kern County  
14 and also Inyo to a degree. I think those add a lot of  
15 complexity but I think we need to really unknot LA first  
16 before we start working on everywhere else because of  
17 these ripple effects that we're looking at. So I want to  
18 just propose that as -- you know, for consideration.  
19 Thank you.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

21 So we do have an hour to think through some of these  
22 issues and to -- I don't think we're going to be able to  
23 work through all of the process in an -- I've been  
24 surprised before, but I don't think we're going to be  
25 able to work through all of the process. I think

1 we're -- we can create some kind of skeleton -- skeletal  
2 process for a committee to work through or a group of us  
3 to work through. Of course, we have to -- we are limited  
4 in terms of how many commissioners can work on this sort  
5 of thing outside of meetings. So that's my thinking at  
6 this point.

7 And I'll continue with Commissioner Andersen, Sinay,  
8 and then we'll come back to that.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you, Chair.

10 Yeah. The meetings we had we have. Basically, our  
11 next meeting, you know, we have input. Then we hit the  
12 29th. And the 29th is a business meeting where we're  
13 really planning on going over input. You know, who's  
14 hearing what, what's going what. That's a good time to  
15 then to then -- basically, you know, if we put this to  
16 the subcommittee, then that comes back there and sort of  
17 finalizes things. Now, what we have after that, we have  
18 the 30th, 1st, and 2nd are supposedly visualization time.  
19 Then we have 6, 7, 8, another visualization time. Then  
20 we have a meeting on the 11th, and then we go the 12th on  
21 through for live line drawing.

22 What I see as happening, and I think this makes a  
23 lot of sense based on what everyone's saying, is we go  
24 with sort of hybrid visualization live line drawing on  
25 our 30th, 1, 2, and 6, 7, 8. And the 30th, 1, 2, I would

1 say we look at not just Los Angeles but southern  
2 California, Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, you know,  
3 parts of Ventura, and really look at that whole piece.  
4 And because we haven't -- and because they are totally  
5 intertwined and spend those three days. And then we'll  
6 sort of have -- then we'll have kind of what we're  
7 thinking there. Then, 6, 7, 8, we do the rest of the  
8 state. And you know, anchoring, we know where the VRA  
9 areas are.

10 The Bay area, Sacramento are the huge other anchors,  
11 and we haven't worked on those as one piece, and so that  
12 would give us another three days. And kind of a hybrid,  
13 in that we'd like to see this, you know, can we not do  
14 some of that. Then, that'll put us in a very good shape  
15 with those plans because we will have already known how  
16 it shifts and how it works at either end of that. Now,  
17 can Ventura, does it need to -- does it need to come all  
18 further up the coast, can it go into LA, can it -- you  
19 know, what -- are we holding a hard line at Antelope of  
20 Inyo? You know, how does that work together? And then  
21 we can work from the 12th on in, and I think we'll have  
22 a really good plan. So I would propose that.

23 And I also sort of think I'm -- in terms of working  
24 out the logistics of that, I -- that just smacks of line  
25 drawing to me, line drawing (indiscernible), that's

1 because -- that's what I think about line drawing in my  
2 background. Thank you.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

4 No, Sinay, I believe you had your hand raised. Not  
5 anymore? Okay. All right.

6 Commissioner Kaplan -- or Director Kaplan?

7 MS. KAPLAN: Just throwing this in there. If  
8 there's someone coming back with more of that plan, I  
9 think it's also helpful to include how does the public  
10 participate in that schedule as well, and so as early as  
11 we can outlining some of that I think will be very  
12 helpful for the outreach in (indiscernible), and the  
13 public.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So we still have some  
15 time to talk through some of these issues. I'm not  
16 sure -- Commissioner Fernandez, you raised the issue of  
17 wanting to work through some of these issues now in terms  
18 of what the schedule might look like post the 29th. Do  
19 you have any suggestions on how it might look or guidance  
20 to -- on how that might look?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Just be what Commissioner  
22 Andersen said in term -- if we are going to do southern  
23 California the 30th through the 2nd, it just gives me an  
24 opportunity to really concentrate on those areas. So if  
25 I -- if I knew ahead of time, I didn't want to wait until

1 the 29th to know what we're going to do on the 30th, the  
2 1st, and the 2nd, and personally, in terms of what's been  
3 more helpful to me has been the live line drawing, not  
4 necessarily the visualizations because we give direction  
5 to the line drawers, which are wonderful line drawers,  
6 but then we don't see that until, you know, the next  
7 week, so I feel like there's lost time. I would prefer  
8 to do more live line drawing than visualizations. But as  
9 long as I know, like, a week ahead, like, what's our  
10 actual hopefully plans to that week or the next set of  
11 meetings, that's helpful in terms of me being able to  
12 really structure my focus.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I hear that, and I think that's  
14 really important too. I think we need that given the  
15 time line. So if there was a way to get this information  
16 from a group ahead of time, hopefully sooner rather than  
17 later, through staff, right, through staff, so that it --  
18 so that we can -- so that we can ensure that we have --  
19 we all have the information we need to do this work.

20 Let's see, Marcy, Director Kaplan, and then  
21 Commissioner Fornaciari, Commissioner Sadhwani, and then  
22 Commissioner Sinay.

23 MS. KAPLAN: Sorry, I just didn't lower my hand from  
24 earlier.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So we'll go to Commissioner

1 Fornaciari.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I just -- I want to  
3 kind of echo Commissioner Fernandez's comment.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Um-hum.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think the live line  
6 drawing is much, much more valuable. I think that, you  
7 know, we have two weeks to sit with our maps, to think  
8 about our maps, to think about how we want them to change  
9 and play with QGIS if we so choose. To play with it, you  
10 know, with a pencil and paper if we so choose. But I  
11 think we should -- I mean, I would like to see us, you  
12 know, come in on the 30th, I guess, and hit the ground  
13 running with live line drawing.

14 So I'll just share my thinking with you all about --  
15 what I was thinking about is starting in a southeastern  
16 corner of the state and migrating towards LA and the  
17 interface between Orange County, LA, Riverside, and San  
18 Bernardino Counties, get that worked out, and go west  
19 into western LA, northern LA, and then the interface is  
20 there, and then move on up from there. You know, we have  
21 another interface up in kind of between the Bay area,  
22 Sacramento there, that we've got to figure out how to  
23 work through, but that's my thinking.

24 And I also was thinking that we would do -- you  
25 know, go through the Assembly maps, then the



1 Congressional maps, and the Senate maps or whatever  
2 order, but I thought it was most effective to start with  
3 the Assembly maps, in similar -- more complex; that we  
4 learn a lot more detail about the different areas that --  
5 and then we go to the next step. You know, if we have  
6 good Assembly maps in place, then we -- then that will  
7 help drive our Senate maps, certainly, and make that a  
8 little easier.

9 I think -- you know, for me, just kind of penciling  
10 out the schedule, I think we ought to fill out the  
11 calendar from here from the 29th on to the end of the  
12 year with meetings --

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- just so we have the  
15 time, because I think that -- you know, there was a --  
16 you know, if we take the time that we think we need to  
17 take, you know, to get southern California right and --  
18 the whole state, right. I mean, it's probably six days  
19 for Assembly, something like that. And then, you know,  
20 probably that much for Congress, and maybe not that much  
21 for Senate but -- you know, somebody mentioned, and I  
22 think it's important, that we allow time to stew on those  
23 maps and then a little bit of time to come back and  
24 revisit. And if we don't -- I think if we don't add  
25 days, we won't have time to revisit.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.  
2 Commissioner Sadhwani?

3 COMMISSIONER SADWANI: I just wanted to provide a  
4 couple of thoughts on some of the other comments that  
5 have come out. You know, in terms of the live line  
6 drawing, I agree, and I said this earlier, you know, I  
7 think we struggled in the visualizations with what we had  
8 been referring to as discipline points, in which we  
9 didn't agree on the direction that was being given by  
10 various commissioners, and yet, some of those would be  
11 reflected in the next visualization and some would not.  
12 So for me, I find that problematic. I think the live  
13 line drawing offers a better option in that regard. That  
14 being said, I think, technically, it is harder on the  
15 line drawers to do the live line drawing.

16 I wanted to uplift a couple of comments that were  
17 made earlier today. I think it was Commissioner Yee who  
18 had mentioned it. You know, actually, it's sometimes  
19 very helpful when we can give the direction and the line  
20 drawers can help provide a couple little options, like,  
21 maybe you could go here, maybe you could go there. Think  
22 about these potential blocks. So as we're thinking about  
23 planning these -- this next section of line drawing, this  
24 last part of this marathon, I think it would be helpful  
25 to build into our days opportunities where, you know,

1 we're giving direction in an area. I'm thinking, for  
2 example, the San Gabriel Valley, right, I know we have  
3 work to do there. We can provide our suggestions, and  
4 then maybe break for a while while the line drawers can  
5 have some time to work on it and show us what they've  
6 come up with, right. So I think having the flexibility  
7 of that schedule would be really a process, a clear and  
8 communicating process, but also having some flexibility.

9 We did that once or twice last week, and I think it  
10 actually worked very well because then the line drawers  
11 could come back and say, you asked us to do this, here's  
12 what we came up with, what do you think about it. So I  
13 think building in some extra time as we're going through  
14 because the live line drawing does have certain  
15 challenges, especially, I think, when it comes to Los  
16 Angeles, which is largely why, you know, I think the  
17 basic architecture of LA was okay, but you know, to me,  
18 why it didn't make sense to go into the live line drawing  
19 of Los Angeles because it would just set up so many  
20 ripple effects. And I see Karin is here, so maybe she  
21 has thoughts in particular on how to handle that.

22 Oh, and before I -- while I still have the floor.  
23 The other comment I wanted to make was, you know,  
24 Commissioner Fornaciari, you mentioned Assembly. I  
25 completely agree with that. I think we can work out so

1 many more of the community of interest testimony issues  
2 on Assembly, and I still believe that we can use nesting  
3 more to our advantage in the Senate maps.

4 I do feel like there's a little bit of a missed  
5 opportunity and almost like we're making a little bit  
6 more work for ourselves. I understand the VRA districts  
7 need to undergo their own analysis, but there's other  
8 places where, I think, we could be nesting some of these  
9 districts and possibly having districts that make a  
10 little bit more sense as we put them together.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 I did -- just wanted to go back to the point of the  
13 VRA districts are the foundation of our maps in  
14 California because they represent such a large proportion  
15 of the districts in California. And so as we think  
16 through these issues, we do need to ensure that we are  
17 addressing those districts. Whether it's first or -- and  
18 generally, I would think first, right, because if we're  
19 going to make changes to those districts and the Assembly  
20 or the state Senate, or the state Congressional district,  
21 they're going to have ripples across the whole state, and  
22 I think -- I think -- I would hope that the -- we asked  
23 the public to give us input on those districts. I would  
24 hope that they -- I believe that they will. I think  
25 that -- and that may color some of our direction in this

1 work as well. So just something to think through as  
2 we're thinking through our schedules, how do we make sure  
3 that we are -- that -- so the foundation is strong so  
4 that the rest of our house is not going to fall apart  
5 halfway through line drawing, right. And so that's just  
6 something to think through.

7 Commissioner Akutagawa, then Anderson, Sinay, and  
8 Fornaciari.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I first want to  
10 respond to what Commissioner Fornaciari was talking  
11 about, starting in the -- I guess the southeast corner of  
12 the -- I believe it was San Diego or Imperial Valley. I  
13 would actually encourage us to think about starting with  
14 LA because I think LA is going to have the greatest  
15 ripple effects, and I think we've pushed off a further  
16 conversation about parts of LA because we knew that it  
17 was going to be much more complicated, but I would be  
18 concerned about pushing it off more. I think once we  
19 have LA set more comfortably, I think, then, we'll know  
20 where we're going to have -- you know, where we're going  
21 to be able to have room for play in other areas and  
22 what -- understanding better, then, the choices that  
23 we'll have to make, both in the other areas but also  
24 going back to LA, possibly, and perhaps reworking it. I  
25 guess --

1           Karin, I don't know if this is a question that you  
2 can answer, and I think I -- and I do apologize, I think  
3 I just continued to be a little bit confused on this part  
4 in terms of the VRA district. Are the VRA districts  
5 identified by city, or is it by census blocks, or is it  
6 just a general region? If -- and if I should know this,  
7 I clearly don't because I'm asking the question, and I  
8 just want to make sure that I'm understanding just the  
9 structure a little bit more technically than perhaps I do  
10 now. Thank you.

11           MS. MACDONALD: Would you like -- Chair, would you  
12 like me to?

13           CHAIR TOLEDO: If you're comfortable -- if you're  
14 comfortable doing that, then, yes. If not, we can wait  
15 for VRA counsel.

16           MS. MACDONALD: That might be nice. I can say a  
17 couple of things if you wish.

18           CHAIR TOLEDO: Sure.

19           MS. MACDONALD: Which is basically that they -- so  
20 they're entire districts. It's not like you have the  
21 census blocked. That's -- you know, that's a VRA block,  
22 VRA district block or a city. And in this particular  
23 context, it would not be the city that's necessarily --  
24 that is necessarily considered to be, like, a VRA city or  
25 so. Basically, you know, the assessment is made by

1 region and then by VRA counsel because whether or not  
2 something is, you know, section 2 or a VRA district, that  
3 is actually a legal analysis, so we -- that's why we've  
4 been working with counsel. And in some areas, there is  
5 literally very, very little flexibility on how to comply.  
6 Sometimes really very, very, very little. And in other  
7 areas, there's a little bit more flexibility. So that's  
8 why it's sometimes even that question about what do you  
9 color in yellow?

10       You know, we've been doing the yellow districts  
11 coloring there, so just to -- that it's a little bit  
12 easier for everybody to look at it and see, you know, why  
13 these particular visualizations of districts are  
14 different from others. I think there -- those are really  
15 good little notes, like quick notes for us, but they're  
16 not necessarily all encompassing because oftentimes we're  
17 talking about a region or an area and not necessarily  
18 just about that particular visualization of a district.  
19 You may have a little bit of flexibility to draw that  
20 district a little differently in some areas. I don't  
21 know if that -- if that answers your question or  
22 anything, That it's more legal, and that most certainly  
23 should not be coming from me.

24       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Ms. MacDonald.

25       Ms. -- or Commissioner Andersen?

1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, thank you. Actually,  
2 it was very helpful, Karin, thank you.

3           I have just a couple things. I do think on -- when  
4 I say hybrid, I wasn't kind of talking like that. With  
5 live line drawing, but a little bit of could you please  
6 kind of -- this is what we want to do, could you kind of  
7 work with it a little bit, you know, that sort of thing.  
8 A little bit of -- a little bit of a combo. I also like  
9 the couple of days in between just so then everyone, the  
10 public and the commissioners, can get their head around  
11 the next set of area for that 30, 1, 2, and then, 6, 7,  
12 8.

13           I also want to say, I definitely -- we should start  
14 with the Assembly districts, then -- and this is for --  
15 at the end, we should jump to Senate districts because we  
16 need to do the Senate districts a day before we finish  
17 everything for the report. We have to do a -- we have to  
18 do the splits and that sort of thing. That takes a full  
19 day for line drawers. And then Congressional districts  
20 is what I would recommend with those. And I would  
21 also -- I understand, Commissioner Fornaciari says --  
22 which I completely understand. Like the Board of  
23 Equalization, start in that corner because you go tu, tu,  
24 tu, you know, and you don't want to leave any gaps or  
25 bubbles, but I would actually start -- for this, I would



1 start in the VRA areas of LA because those are areas, and  
2 we have districts drawn in them but I know that they're  
3 communities of interest that it needs to be shifted, and  
4 I think we should attempt to -- can we -- as we round  
5 those edges and shift a bit of that, can we still create  
6 VRA districts, because I know that's part of the, sort  
7 of, reconstruction area, the talking with all of LA.

8       And yes, it will have ripple effects but we have  
9 some play in that -- all of LA as it hits because there's  
10 LA Orange, there's San Diego. It's -- you know, we've  
11 seen it shift back and forth. So I would really kind of  
12 recommend that.

13       The other item I would really like to do, because I  
14 kind of like Commissioner Sadhwani's idea of, you know,  
15 we could nest a bit more. I would like to make sure that  
16 all of our Assembly districts are less than a plus or  
17 minus of two-and-a-half percent, because that way our  
18 Senate districts would work. There are some areas where  
19 we can't do that. I completely understand that -- you  
20 know, for the Assembly district, just because of  
21 population, we just can't get there, but I would like us  
22 to consider that. So that's my two cents. Thank you.

23       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.  
24       Commissioner Sinay?

25       COMMISSIONER SINAY: I wanted to channel

1 Commissioner Turner because I completely agree what she's  
2 been saying to us since we -- we're doing the line  
3 drawing, that going straight into live line drawing, or  
4 even visualizations or whatever, does not make sense  
5 without first taking, I would say, two -- up to two days,  
6 maybe even three, talking about the community of interest  
7 input we have without looking at maps and just talking  
8 about it and really figuring out what do -- how  
9 collectively are we hearing this, and then that was going  
10 to inform how we moved forward on the map. But if we  
11 keep forward on the maps based on the bits and pieces  
12 that we've been hearing or reading or our own  
13 interpretation, I feel like we're going to keep going in  
14 circles, and that it's better just to stop and look at  
15 the data, and then from there, create the plan on how to  
16 move forward. That -- you know, just that --

17 And you know, Commissioner Turner, my understanding  
18 was, that she had already -- you know, that that was  
19 agendized for right after this piece, but I don't want to  
20 lose it. And I don't know if one day is enough. You  
21 know, but just really getting some collective  
22 understanding of what we're hearing, what -- you know,  
23 what is -- which ones are the communities of interest,  
24 you know, are we going to hear or not hear -- we're going  
25 to hear all of them, but which ones are -- when they're

1 competing, where to go, because it was tough last week  
2 when you're trying to figure things out and someone's  
3 like, oh, and then there's one community of interest  
4 that's saying this, and it's, like, well, is it only one,  
5 is it two, where did that information come in. So I  
6 would like us to really understand the 18,000 pieces of  
7 information we've received before we even start moving  
8 any lines.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.  
10 Commissioner Fornaciari?

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Definitely agree with  
12 that. I think we need to take the time to do that. I  
13 wasn't suggesting we bypass that, so just to be clear.

14 It just kind of dawned on me, my suggestion of just  
15 going every day from now until the end of the year might  
16 not just kill us but kill our line drawing team, and I  
17 don't want to do that. So maybe that's not the best idea  
18 I've ever had. I really want to make sure the line  
19 drawing team is with us all the way.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Well, anyway, we need to finish the  
21 job we started, right. So we need to make sure that we  
22 have enough time that we all get enough rest to be able  
23 to get the work done and that we're all able to make sure  
24 that we finish -- and give every part of the state  
25 appropriate time and are able to achieve the goal.

1 Commissioner Fernandez?

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Just very quick, based on  
3 what Commissioner Fornaciari said. I would recommend  
4 that we agendize for every single day, and some of them  
5 will be TB days -- TBDs in case we need them, just so  
6 that we have them, but yes, we need -- all of us need to  
7 have a little bit of time to recharge. And again, on the  
8 29th, we're going to talk about what we've heard, and  
9 that means from the start of the 1st -- we may not have  
10 even put that we received. So it's so easy to just get,  
11 you know, focused on what we're hearing now, but we've  
12 heard from many prior to visualization. So just a  
13 reminder. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.

15 And Commissioner Le Mons?

16 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Two things. One is going to  
17 the point that Commissioner Sinay just made a moment ago.  
18 Is there a mechanism in place to take the draft maps that  
19 exist, like, this is what we voted on unanimously based  
20 upon where we are in the process, right, and then compare  
21 and contrast that to the totality of the community of  
22 interest input, so we then see gaps, we see  
23 contradictions, we see those things. Like, that data --  
24 can our data team, that they have the capacity to pull  
25 that kind of reporting together, so when we come together

1 in those information meetings leading up to the next  
2 step, whether it be visualization or hybrid or whatever  
3 it's going to ultimately be, we are starting from some  
4 place.

5 I guess, sort of what I'm hearing, and makes me a  
6 little nervous, is it feels like some commissioners are  
7 talking about this from the context, like, everything is  
8 on the table, we left some areas we knew was going to  
9 need a lot of work, and the moment you start talking  
10 about a lot of work and a lot of changes, you're talking  
11 about a lot of roads. So while they're not saying  
12 everything's up for grabs, some of the other things that  
13 are being said are sort of hinting toward what the  
14 outcome will be if we go down a particular path in a  
15 particular way. Not that we shouldn't offer high levels  
16 of scrutiny and all of those things but they're -- this  
17 can't be, like, a start from scratch mentality, loosely,  
18 accidentally. I know nobody feels that way intentionally  
19 but I think some of these threads, if we pull them,  
20 that's what it'll end up being. So that's one thought,  
21 that kind of compare and contrast. We're stepping back  
22 ourselves and scrutinizing the maps, the draft maps, that  
23 we unanimously approved, to where we feel they are, where  
24 direction may -- new direction may be necessary.

25 The second thing is, I was hoping we could explore

1 just a little bit more Commissioner Sadhwani's idea of  
2 this hybrid, because I happen to also agree that the live  
3 line drawing seems more effective ultimately,  
4 particularly for warding off this idea of visualization,  
5 direction, technique, just by virtue of the process  
6 allows for contradictory direction to sneak in. Not that  
7 it's intended to be that way, it's just based on how that  
8 process kind of works, and then you get it back.

9       So I think you were hinting at some kind of hybrid  
10 where it's almost like line drawing with the breather, so  
11 a live line drawer with the breather, where some  
12 direction is given, lines are drawn, and in a space while  
13 we're working on something else maybe or whatever, and  
14 then the line drawers come back with that where that can  
15 be evaluated both from the -- was what we asked for  
16 captured, B, what are the implications of what we asked  
17 for, because those implications are the key. That's what  
18 slows us down is, is the impact that we wait 24 hours  
19 for, whatever period of time, and then we run out of  
20 time. So I'd love to figure out if we can maybe -- maybe  
21 I missed it, the clarity around what Commissioner  
22 Sadhwani was suggesting, and maybe Ms. MacDonald can  
23 chime in from a process standpoint of ways to help us be  
24 effective and efficient simultaneously with the amount of  
25 time that we have. Those are some thoughts as I was

1 listening to fellow commissioners.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

3 Let's start with Commissioner Sadhwani, do you have  
4 a response? And if not, we'll go to Ms. MacDonald.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, I mean, I think that's  
6 exactly, Commissioner Le Mons, what I was suggesting, if  
7 feasible with the line drawers. You know, I just think,  
8 like, over the course of doing the visualizations, there  
9 were times when direction was given. I know for myself,  
10 I said I disagree with this, and yet, it made it to the  
11 maps, and then we're in live line drawing, we're still  
12 trying to work through that. So I think the live line  
13 drawing creates an opportunity for us, in which we all  
14 kind of come to a consensus. I mean, I think Trina last  
15 week was, like, are we all good with this, right, and  
16 everyone kind of gave that head nod. Whereas, when we  
17 were doing the visualizations, we didn't operate that  
18 way. Maybe there's some alternative to that, but it  
19 doesn't feel like it.

20 And so I think to me, exactly as you said,  
21 Commissioner Le Mons, the live line drawing to me is from  
22 a process standpoint, moving us closer towards where we  
23 collectively want to go, and absolutely the thought was  
24 let's be in the live session. We'll have the maps up; we  
25 give the direction that we'd like to see. And the minute

1 the mappers says, hey, I'm going to need a moment to  
2 continue working on this, we can go to a break or be  
3 working on another section, or it's an opportunity for us  
4 as commissioners also to be reading public comment,  
5 because it's coming fast and furious as well, and then  
6 come back and say, okay, this is what we were able to  
7 change, this is the effects that it's having, right, now  
8 let's think about where the next ripple might be; is this  
9 actually what you wanted.

10       So I think, absolutely, Antonio, that's exactly what  
11 I was thinking.

12       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

13       I'll go to Ms. MacDonald if she has any feedback on  
14 suggestions, process, and how we could do those more  
15 efficiently, effectively from a line drawer -- or at  
16 least collaborative, a little bit more coordinated with  
17 the line drawers.

18       MS. MACDONALD: Yeah. Thank you so much for having  
19 me back. And apologize that I actually thought we were  
20 done with this topic and I hopped on another meeting, so  
21 I missed most of this conversation, so apologies in  
22 advance. Please stop me if I'm talking about something  
23 that you have already decided and put aside.

24       So based on what I heard just a few -- just a little  
25 bit of input. Last week you decided not to do too much



1 to Los Angeles, and I think part of that was, of course,  
2 a recognition that touching anything in certain areas of  
3 Los Angeles would literally probably change our  
4 anticipated finalizing of the draft maps date. It would  
5 not have been the 10th; it would have probably been some  
6 other date before the 15th, just because it takes so long  
7 to redraw Los Angeles that -- and you know, there's quite  
8 a bit of input that's required by VRA counsel and so  
9 forth.

10       Just to give you an idea from one set of  
11 visualizations to going into live line drawing, Jamie at  
12 some point worked over 160 hours over a period of two  
13 weeks just on Los Angeles, just on configuring and we  
14 making these districts go a different way, when you had  
15 decided you didn't want to go, for example, north/south,  
16 you wanted to go east/west, just to give you an idea. So  
17 I think that there are some areas that lend themselves  
18 perfectly, even at this point, to live line drawing,  
19 whereas there are other areas where you may perhaps need  
20 to come to some decisions about what you want to see,  
21 because I think all of you have seen a lot about, for  
22 example, what can be done in Los Angeles and what the  
23 possibilities are, because you've been presented with a  
24 lot of different approaches to Los Angeles and you have a  
25 really firm handle, I think, on live line drawing now

1 also, so you know how long it takes and what ripples, you  
2 know -- what a ripple is, and how long it can take to  
3 ripple and what that all means in the context of a voting  
4 rights scenario. So I think everybody has a -- I think  
5 we've all kind of come together about what it takes to  
6 redraw something.

7       So from our perspective, I think, it would be  
8 fantastic if you could perhaps come to a little bit more  
9 of a resolution about what you would like to see in Los  
10 Angeles and then perhaps send Jamie back with some more  
11 specific instructions about, you know, just, again,  
12 changing the architecture, if that is necessary, in one  
13 or more of the plans, and then come back with something  
14 that may not be perfect but that you can then work off  
15 of, because at that point you are at a spot where live  
16 line drawing really is very applicable and you can put --  
17 you know, you can figure things out a little bit more on  
18 the margins, I'd say, because some of that big heavy  
19 lifting you've already given instructions on, and we were  
20 able to figure that out for you. Similarly, going from  
21 one percent deviations in Congress to just a handful of  
22 people, that's going to take some time.

23       So as I jumped in, I heard Commissioner Andersen  
24 talk about this, and thank you so much, Commissioner  
25 Andersen, about that, I think maybe hope ending Congress

1 might work in terms of the overall flow to perhaps a --  
2 again, you could if you wanted to, give some overall  
3 instructions about how to equalize the populations a  
4 little bit more so that we can do a little bit more of  
5 the painstaking work of trying to get these deviations  
6 down once you're relatively speaking set with what you  
7 would like to see, and then we come back and we say,  
8 okay, here are the options. And then we narrow it down  
9 together with you giving individual directions on the  
10 respective blocks and on the splits and where should the  
11 split be and so forth, to then finalize the Congressional  
12 map. So we could do that, for example, at the tail end  
13 of the process. So essentially, kind of start, maybe,  
14 with Congress and then end with Congress on some level so  
15 some work could be done.

16       Regarding giving instructions and then for us to  
17 create what we called visualizations or you know,  
18 versions of what you'd like to see, we do always need  
19 some time to do that work, obviously, as you know. The  
20 PDFing takes quite a bit of time. If we wanted to cut  
21 down on that, and I'm just going to throw this out, and  
22 this may not work, so it's just an idea, we have this  
23 fabulous district viewer, putting versions of the maps  
24 into the district viewer and not necessarily PDFing every  
25 night, or you know, with each round, that might be really

1 helpful. Even off of the district viewer, you could do  
2 screen prints, for example, you know. You could just  
3 zoom into a district and just print something if you need  
4 to see it. Or if you wanted to see it, we could, of  
5 course, put out spreadsheets of the, you know, CVAP and  
6 whatnot else with the district viewer(indiscernible)  
7 maps. But you know, the PDFing and the formatting and  
8 all of that, it really does take quite a bit of time and  
9 it sucks basically a couple of days out of our schedule  
10 because you also want to have them posted twenty-four  
11 hours minimally in advance, and I understand that even  
12 twenty-four hours is not a lot of time to review  
13 something. So these are a couple of things that kind of  
14 come to mind from my perspective.

15 I think, you know, hybrid -- some sort of a hybrid,  
16 I think that would work. I think we all know that the  
17 last week or so, we're definitely all going to be all  
18 live, but maybe after you've discussed everything that  
19 you would like to do, if there is a possibility to just  
20 offload some of the very big architectural changes that  
21 perhaps are still necessary and let us work those out in  
22 the back, and then come back once you've made a decision,  
23 that might work for us also, and that might actually save  
24 a little bit of time, so.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you --

1 MS. MACDONALD: That's off --

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- Ms. --

3 MS. MACDONALD: -- the top of my head.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- MacDonald.

5 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: No, that's excellent. That's good  
7 feedback.

8 So I want to go back to the first point that  
9 Commissioner Le Mons made about structuring the  
10 conversations about the regions for the 29th, and I  
11 believe, the suggestion was to take the draft maps and to  
12 identify those areas of the state where there is conflict  
13 with regards to communities of interest or other types of  
14 issues, where there's competing communities of interest  
15 for lack of a better word, or conflicts. And so I was  
16 wondering -- I think that might help us to not restart  
17 from scratch but rather to focus the conversation on  
18 those areas that we have the most conflict or for lack of  
19 a better word. And I was wondering if the data  
20 management committee might -- or if there is -- if they  
21 did a management committee, if they could take the lead  
22 on working with staff to develop the analysis on those  
23 areas over the next -- over the next -- from now until  
24 the 29th.

25 Is that something that's doable or -- just asking,

1 Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner Turner. I know  
2 Commissioner Turner's back as well. If that is something  
3 that you guys can take the lead on. I know staff will  
4 support as much as they're able to as well too. Yes  
5 or -- I mean, we can ask other commissioners as well. So  
6 I just wanted to get your thoughts.

7 Commissioner Ahmad?

8 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I'm more  
9 than happy to help with that if -- once I get clear  
10 direction from the commission on what you would like the  
11 end product to look like, I'm more than happy to work  
12 with whoever I need to work with to get that to you all.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think it would be up to us to  
14 give you clear direction on what that would look like.

15 Commissioner Sinay and then Commissioner Andersen.  
16 And we do have a break at 2:45, and after that, we need  
17 to take a vote on the changes to our -- a vote on the  
18 changes to our line drawing process, and then public  
19 comment.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I appreciate Commissioner Ahmad  
21 saying that she'll take this on. My concern is that -- I  
22 don't -- I guess, I'm having a hard time under -- part of  
23 it is that we're fourteen people who will -- when we read  
24 the data will see different things, and when you have two  
25 people or even two people in staff who review it and

1 analyze it, you're using their lens versus the all  
2 fourteen lenses. And that's -- you know, I think that  
3 that's where the uniqueness comes in of having fourteen  
4 of us and -- so I'm just -- I guess that would come in  
5 with conversations but I would have a hard time letting  
6 go of my habit of reading as many of the new COIs that  
7 came in as possible and taking notes.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Absolutely. We want you to take --  
9 to review. We want all commissioners to keep reviewing  
10 the input that we're receiving. This is more of a  
11 starting point for a conversation. It wouldn't be -- you  
12 know, it's the analysis of the conflicts. But -- and  
13 certainly, we're all going to be able to contribute to  
14 that analysis and talk through it and add additional  
15 information to it. It's just to start the conversation.

16 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And just to be clear, I don't  
17 think LA was the only area that we said, okay, well,  
18 we'll leave it as is for now and we're going to move  
19 forward. There were other areas, and it may or may not  
20 come up in the communities of interest, but there's --  
21 some of it is coming up, but there's definitely things --  
22 so I don't want us to -- you know, I'm afraid -- okay. I  
23 will say what my fear is, I guess, is that, you know,  
24 people will be able to -- you know, we're saying that LA  
25 has work to be done, and then we're giving a team of two

1 to come back to us to say where there's still work that  
2 needs to be done, when there's other areas that need to  
3 be -- you know, that we worked on very superficially to a  
4 certain extent.

5 I don't feel that the maps for all of southern  
6 California are very good right now. I think they were --  
7 that we were pushed a lot of times, we were rushed  
8 because we had to get to other areas, but I don't -- I  
9 think we spent a lot more time in the far north and -- I  
10 mean, in northern California than what we need in  
11 southern California, and so I'm hesitant to say, let's --  
12 you know, let's step back versus giving us all an  
13 opportunity to spend these two weeks of public input,  
14 reviewing the communities of interest, reviewing our  
15 notes, and coming back on the 29th and maybe even the  
16 next day talking about where we're seeing those places  
17 and all of us having an opportunity to go back and forth  
18 a little before we move a line.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay, for  
20 those comments.

21 Commissioner Ahmad, and then Commissioner Turner.

22 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Then, oh -- and Jane as well, sorry.  
24 Commissioner Ahmad?

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you -- thank you, Chair.



1 I just wanted to respond really quickly. First, I would  
2 really appreciate the use of I statements because I get  
3 really confused when it's stated as we when that doesn't  
4 necessarily reflect where my positioning is at the  
5 moment.

6 Commissioner Sinay, your points are well taken;  
7 however, I didn't get from this conversation that this  
8 meant that other commissioners cannot look at the  
9 community of interest input or any of the other data that  
10 has come in. From what I understood, just surface level,  
11 was this was a high level overview of what we have  
12 received. Certainly, it is the expectation of myself  
13 that everyone is looking through the input that we  
14 receive and bringing that forward to our deliberations  
15 for a discussion, but by no means did I think that myself  
16 and Commissioner Turner were being tasked to take this  
17 responsibility and no one else would be involved. So I  
18 just wanted to make that clear from my own understanding.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. That was my understanding  
20 as well. And my understanding would be that we would be  
21 looking at all the state, not just Los Angeles. We would  
22 be looking at all of the district maps, all of the areas.

23 And with that, we do need to take a break. We'll be  
24 back in fifteen minutes, and we'll start back with  
25 Commissioner Turner, then Andersen, then Fernandez.

1 Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 2:46 p.m.  
3 until 3:00 p.m.)

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
5 Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are talking about  
6 the public input sessions and thinking through some of  
7 the process for that. And Commissioner Turner was next  
8 in terms of comments. Then we'll go to Commissioner  
9 Andersen.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I  
11 just wanted to weigh in on the conversation in agreement  
12 already with my subcommittee chair, Commissioner Ahmad,  
13 shared, and definitely, I think this is the point because  
14 I think you indicated, Chair Toledo, that this commission  
15 would be creating kind of the guidelines and the  
16 direction. I took the direction as just being able to  
17 lift up areas where we felt that there was perhaps some  
18 more work that's needed, and then utilizing the data to  
19 be able to see where there was conflicting testimony, to  
20 be able to lift that. And I think commissioners for sure  
21 have an opportunity, even now, to state if there's an  
22 area that they wanted to call to our attention so it's  
23 just not leaving it to us to assume.

24 I did think that we spent a substantial amount of  
25 time in southern California, in addition to northern

1 California, but if indeed there is more time that's  
2 needed, then we need to at least flag that for, you know,  
3 the data analyst to be able to say this -- not just  
4 southern California as a whole and northern as a whole,  
5 here's an area that we continue to receive public  
6 testimony about or there's concerns about, can you check  
7 this area out for us. And I don't -- wouldn't want to  
8 call a said area right now, but can you check this out  
9 for us, and then let us know where there's conflicting  
10 testimony. And I think that would just serve as a good  
11 discussion for our conversation on the 29th.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes. I think this would serve as a  
13 starting point, right. I think, certainly, any one of us  
14 can send information to the committee, if they're so  
15 willing to take on this task, and hopefully the  
16 committee, in addition to gathering this information, can  
17 think through the, you know, and start developing a  
18 structure to have a meaningful conversation around all of  
19 these areas around the state, because we do want to have  
20 that.

21 With that in mind, I did want to raise one of the  
22 things that public comment has brought up is ensuring  
23 that all commissioners are being heard. And I think in  
24 southern California it was easier because we're all in  
25 person, so it was easier for us to be involved -- or most

1 of us were in person, rather, and engaged. And when  
2 we're doing hybrid, when some of us are online and some  
3 of us are in person, it might be a little bit more  
4 difficult. And so just thinking through to ensure that  
5 all commissioners are able to participate, and I believe  
6 I've not heard any problems with meaningful  
7 participation. And so I just wanted to make sure that we  
8 have that in the back of our mind as we're thinking  
9 through decision-making and also just participation at  
10 the meetings.

11 Commissioner Andersen?

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I'm  
13 so glad when we go over these things, no, that wasn't  
14 what -- I didn't hear that the data management committee  
15 was going to be looking at COI and just pulling out areas  
16 that they thought had conflicts. I thought it was you're  
17 looking at working with the mapper team, not our line  
18 drawers, the -- you know, the data map who had been the  
19 visualization back together, and applying the COIs in  
20 mass to the state. That's what I thought it was. So  
21 it's very obvious where things are. And so it isn't,  
22 like, you know, oh, we're just looking in particular  
23 areas because I think we could miss it that way, I  
24 wouldn't prefer it that way.

25 However, two things. One, we -- as we all -- I

1 believe we all know, we've been looking at a COI and it  
2 says one thing and the maps is another. They don't  
3 match. And there are areas where it's very specifically,  
4 they're saying something about this one area, that --  
5 like, sometimes it's just been incorrectly, it's like, a  
6 different county. But sometimes it is the area but their  
7 map is not what they're saying. And so to just look at a  
8 map could be a little deceiving.

9       And then the other thing, and I know that there are  
10 different softwares that are being used, because I  
11 understand Maptitude, which the line drawers are using,  
12 has all kinds of bells and whistles, but when you want to  
13 put every single COI layer on, it's a problem. And I  
14 know that the -- what's happening with our data  
15 management group, they're using different software, so  
16 they might be able to do this. But I'm kind of a little  
17 bit with Mr. Sinay. I didn't realize that only certain  
18 portions will be lifted about the state, and then if we  
19 don't say anything in there. So can we sort of clarify  
20 that, please?

21       CHAIR TOLEDO: I believe what -- the point that  
22 Commissioner Le Mons made, and that I agree with, is  
23 really looking at the whole state in terms of the draft  
24 maps. We have draft maps, looking at the whole state,  
25 see where -- saying where the communities of interest

1 testimony conflicts, and they might be -- and there's  
2 conflicts all over the State of California in terms of  
3 the COI and -- and identifying the ones with the largest  
4 conflicted area and the key areas, but not limiting  
5 themselves to that as well. And I hope I captured what  
6 Commissioner Le Mons stated correctly. That was -- it  
7 sounded like a good starting place for a conversation  
8 around community interest and the areas that have the  
9 biggest conflicts.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. So could I -- sorry,  
11 since I sort of brought that up. Could I say, you know,  
12 if -- you know, I don't know what the result will be,  
13 just a picture or if it's going to be, like, a list or  
14 something, but I would prefer if we could say anything,  
15 we did have the con -- oh, I see Commissioner Le Mons'  
16 hand up.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's hear from Commissioner Le Mons  
18 because he might be able to -- since he raised the  
19 suggestion initially.

20 Commissioner Le Mons?

21 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, Chair. I think you  
22 captured it -- you did capture it accurately. The idea  
23 was, and it was piggy-backing off of Commissioner Sinay's  
24 recommendation of the discussion, and before going into  
25 line drawing or visualization, et cetera, is really

1 understanding where we are. And I think that's a very  
2 good point. And so then, what does that mean  
3 understanding where we are. So my position was a  
4 cautionary tale around our thoughts about how we  
5 approached this process, and then, I thought well  
6 starting with the draft maps, and I'll reiterate that we  
7 unanimously voted for, is the great place to start  
8 because that's where we are. And so taking those draft  
9 maps and looking at COI testimony, feedback, et cetera,  
10 if our data -- I was asking whether our data team can  
11 package that information in a way that identifies the  
12 conflicts and things as you raised. That way we can  
13 review that information and we know going in that that's  
14 the lens in which we're looking at these maps, and then  
15 we can see what's realistic in being able to make certain  
16 adjustments. Because knowing --

17 We're not going to be able to satisfy every piece of  
18 COI and every piece of testimony, we know that, but we  
19 can get a sense of where there are conflicts in  
20 testimony, what are we going to privilege. Whether  
21 there's unanimous feelings around certain pieces of COI  
22 testimony that are not reflected in the maps. I think  
23 that would be an issue we would want to address. Even if  
24 we can't fulfil it, I think we have the responsibility to  
25 at least acknowledge it.

1           If there is a consensus of a particular area, and  
2 there's a reason we cannot fulfil that particular  
3 request, we should be able to say, that we realize there  
4 is strong feedback in this particular area on this  
5 particular issue but we land here because of these  
6 considerations. But I think we've got to have the data.  
7 And it -- I don't see this as pictures, I see this as  
8 information.

9           CHAIR TOLEDO: Agreed. Does that --

10          COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I didn't mean to confuse  
11 Commissioner Andersen with that statement. It could be  
12 in pictures. It's however it is. So don't get stuck on  
13 that -- on that piece.

14          I'll give it back to you, Chair.

15          CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.  
16 Commissioner Turner?

17          COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, thank you, Chair. There  
18 is -- so -- and I'm wondering if we're utilizing the  
19 tools that are already available because there is a link  
20 that we have currently, and I know that we're asking  
21 probably for a little bit more than a length -- there  
22 is -- the data team has already done some work to ensure  
23 that there is a link that pulls in input per zone that's  
24 available, and so I want to be clear so that we'll bring  
25 back a product and kind of guidelines for this discussion



1 that is exactly what you want. So in addition to the  
2 information that's already available by zone area, you're  
3 wanting and asking us to work with the data team, to work  
4 with staff or someone, you want them to do an analysis of  
5 what you already have available or --

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: I would say it's an analysis of the  
7 conflicts. So if we have -- let's take, I don't know --  
8 if one community group -- let's take San Francisco. So  
9 if the LGBT community is saying -- and I think those maps  
10 are pretty good, but the LGBT community is saying there's  
11 an issue with it, and the Asian community is saying that  
12 there's another, and the Latino and African-American and  
13 some business groups are saying something else, it's  
14 identifying what those conflicts are and whether our  
15 draft maps addressed those conflicts or not --

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Um-hum.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- is the major issue. And some of  
18 these conflicts are not as visible as others, but some  
19 are pretty visible.

20 Commissioner Fernandez?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, just quickly.  
22 My only concern is if we're only looking at conflicts,  
23 what if we change a line and then we actually now are in  
24 conflict with something else but it wasn't in conflict  
25 prior to the line being redrawn. So I think if our focus

1 is only on conflicts, we may be making some matters  
2 worse, potentially, if we change things.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.

4 And I think it's -- it's in response to our draft  
5 maps. The drafts maps is where we are in the process  
6 right now. That's what the community is responding to,  
7 and actually we're going to be -- we are getting quite a  
8 bit of feedback on those draft maps. So the feedback  
9 that we're getting is in response to those areas, and  
10 those are the areas that we'll be working to try to  
11 address over the next couple of weeks.

12 Did you have a response to that, Commissioner  
13 Fernandez?

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, just quickly. I  
15 understand that, but I would bet my, I don't know, salary  
16 or something -- I don't have a salary -- but yeah,  
17 salary, that many who have submitted communities of  
18 interest may not at this point provide feedback to our  
19 draft maps because they're okay with it. So if we change  
20 it and then it's too late, right -- I mean, I get that  
21 we're just looking at the feedback based on our draft  
22 maps, but there's also so much other communities of  
23 interest information that we also need to make sure that  
24 we keep track of us as well. That's my point. Thank  
25 you, Chair.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. That makes sense.

2 Commissioner Andersen?

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I completely agree  
4 with Commissioner Fernandez. It -- rather than just an  
5 analysis of just these conflicts, it should be a summary  
6 of the good, the bad, because there might be, you know --  
7 lots and lots and lots of people say this is -- this  
8 is -- we like these lines for these particular reasons,  
9 and then someone else might say, well, I just don't like  
10 them. And so we need to be able to weigh that.

11 So I would prefer -- you know, kind of like  
12 Commissioner Turner was just saying, we take the whole  
13 summary of those areas and then they're looking -- they  
14 might emphasize, hey, these are conflicts we've seen, but  
15 I don't want to do it in a vacuum because we -- I agree  
16 completely with Commissioner Fernandez, then we could be  
17 throwing all of the other perspectives, which is why we  
18 drew them in the first place.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen and  
20 Commissioner Fernandez. That's helpful. And I think the  
21 map -- the data team is already doing some of these  
22 summaries, so I think we can certainly get those  
23 summaries and put them as part of this analysis and  
24 really highlight the conflicts, but also understand the  
25 context, right, and the analysis of what's already come

1 in and what folks are saying on the ground.

2 Commissioner Sinay, does that meet your expectation  
3 if we did the summary of the -- get the summary that the  
4 data team is putting together and then also do an  
5 analysis of potential conflicts on the current draft  
6 maps?

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Are you asking me?

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: As a starting point forward for  
9 discussion, yes.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So --

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: With that, address any of the  
12 concerns you have.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: My concerns are here nor there.  
14 I mean --

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- I think -- I think -- so what  
17 I did during the break was kind of go into the database  
18 and kind of, you know, randomly start somewhere and spend  
19 the fifteen minutes looking at the comments. What I  
20 think would be helpful is highlighting the themes that  
21 keep coming up. So I wouldn't necessarily say a conflict  
22 or not a conflict or communities of interest that are  
23 banging heads, but maybe -- you know, the themes that  
24 continually are coming up so we can discuss -- you know,  
25 air them, discuss them, and have that conversation. And

1 do it kind of by regions. And I'm not saying our old  
2 regions or zones or whatever, but whatever feels natural.  
3 It might be the -- by -- you know, we have fifty -- you  
4 know, fifty-two districts for Congressional districts,  
5 what things came up in each of them, I don't know. But  
6 to me, it's -- I like the word themes better because  
7 there are some things that are coming up that are really  
8 strong. There are some just that are little tweaks.

9       There's -- you know the coast all the way up and  
10 down, we're hearing, you know, from the border of Mexico  
11 to the border of Oregon, we're still getting input, you  
12 know, the coast places. Yeah, that's a theme that keeps  
13 coming up. So I guess, to me, having a document that  
14 kind of has the themes. We've all spent time looking at  
15 the data and then we come back, because that's where I  
16 get lost sometimes, I forget what the themes are, so  
17 having a theme document is actually helpful when we're  
18 talking in the map, and just being able to say, okay,  
19 there's been this theme that keeps coming up about Little  
20 Saigon, can we -- you know, throwing out something,  
21 because there is a theme. But just -- you know, and then  
22 we kind of talk about it and understand that theme and  
23 where we stand. And we don't necessarily have to  
24 agree -- we don't have to have a collective agreement  
25 until it comes to the lines, but at least we're all

1 giving input to that theme or how we read it or how we're  
2 feeling it. So I guess, it might have just been the idea  
3 of conflicts in places we still need to work versus what  
4 are the themes that we're still hearing, so.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

6 Commissioner Le Mons, and then Commissioner Turner.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Okay. Yeah, I think there's  
8 a little bit of confusion about what I was suggesting.  
9 So I was thinking of the totality of our feedback leading  
10 up to the draft map. So it was almost -- in my head, it  
11 was a look back and a look forward. So we went through a  
12 whole process to get to maps that we voted on  
13 (indiscernible), and I keep saying that because that's  
14 important, but that happened over a long process. It  
15 didn't all just happen last week, right. So there could  
16 be things and themes that we missed in that process. So  
17 the question was, is there -- could -- I don't know if  
18 this is something the data team could do at all, but this  
19 analysis of the totality of the feedback that we  
20 received, whether that was COI information, comments, et  
21 cetera, leading up to the draft maps, are there things  
22 that we missed. So the word conflict is not right --  
23 necessarily the right word -- are there things that we  
24 feel we missed.

25 And the reason I raised this is because in listening

1 to the conversation earlier, there seemed to be certain  
2 commissioners that feel like there were areas that either  
3 didn't get worked properly or didn't get worked enough or  
4 didn't -- some -- you know, there was going into it, and  
5 I think I said, my concern is that if we go into it with  
6 this everything's on the table point of view, this could  
7 be disastrous in so many ways. So is this idea that the  
8 draft maps that we have gone on the record and voted for  
9 unanimously, these are our maps.

10       And we know they're not perfect and all of that,  
11 well, where are they imperfect from our own lens without  
12 the feedback of the reaction to the maps that's also  
13 common, because that's another piece of information. So  
14 just so we have this base line when we go into making the  
15 changes that captures anything that we feel slipped  
16 through the cracks leading up to those draft maps and  
17 incorporates feedback that's happening as we speak to the  
18 current draft maps. So it'll be taking all of that into  
19 consideration, and hopefully it would level set some of  
20 us in how we're going to approach moving forward when you  
21 start doing visualizations, line drawing, however we're  
22 going to do that part of the process.

23       So I hope that clarified a little bit more of what I  
24 was trying to convey. And how we get there, I don't  
25 know. I was really raising it as is this even possible,

1 actually. Thank you, Chair.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. that's helpful,  
3 Commissioner Le Mons.

4 Commissioner Turner and Commissioner Ahmad after  
5 that.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, this just makes me smile  
7 because I'm so glad that we're having a conversation  
8 because it's not an easy conversation and it's another  
9 part of discussion that we don't get an opportunity off  
10 of the hasp. So I think we, again, is come into this  
11 process with a different thought processes. And it's,  
12 like, yes, we want what Commissioner Le Mons wants but  
13 it's a little different than what he stated, and yes, we  
14 want that too but it's still just different. For  
15 example, even to talk about pulling together recurring  
16 themes, for me, recurring themes is problematic because  
17 we've also said, even in accordance with our playbook,  
18 that even if one person said it or a few people, we keep  
19 lifting up that we're not talking necessarily quantity,  
20 and if we have and send all staff or the data management  
21 folk to pull recurring themes, if we have a document from  
22 AALDEF or a document from, you know, Asians  
23 (indiscernible) injustice, or Black Census &  
24 Redistricting Hub or whatever, now their one document may  
25 reflect something from 400-or-some people but it won't



1 certainly be a recurring theme that may rise to  
2 instructions that we give an analyst to pull recurring,  
3 right. And so we've said and stated some things but you  
4 know, it's not real cut and dried what we're asking for  
5 because recurring themes may pop up and recurring themes  
6 in this process to have someone to pull it systematically  
7 could also be missed because there's not the frequency  
8 that we think, and it still may be an important point.

9       So what I'm hearing now, and I just keep asking  
10 because I am going to be one of the ones that's trying to  
11 bring you back what I think you're asking for, the latest  
12 was the totality of what we've got to as of the draft map  
13 date, and I appreciate the repetitiveness of what -- that  
14 we all voted for because we all did, but the totality of  
15 that -- just to say, this is kind of a -- from this part  
16 of the conversation, coming into it, this is an analysis  
17 on everything that's come in and what's been lifted, and  
18 I guess, maybe just in an organized fashion, because  
19 we're not trying to skinny it out and we're not trying to  
20 not bring something. Maybe we're just trying to organize  
21 the information that's there by area on the map so that  
22 when we get to a particular point of the map, we're able  
23 to talk about, here are -- here is what we've heard in  
24 this area.

25       And maybe what we're doing is getting rid of what

1 has been repeated so we're not saying it a hundred, 200,  
2 a thousand times, but these are the equally weighted,  
3 because it's been said in this area, and this is where  
4 there was agreement and maybe here's where we'll have to  
5 kind of determine.

6 And I've avoided using prioritize, because that  
7 sounds almost offensive, that we're going to prioritize  
8 somebody's word over someone else's word, but at some  
9 point we're going to have to determine what do we lift  
10 and where do we now make decisions. We'll have to lift  
11 and determine where do we make a choice over what  
12 testimony we're using. And I would imagine it would get  
13 at some point to whose voice are we muting if we don't  
14 include them in the process, you know, so.

15 Anyway, so I named that, and I'm still looking for  
16 additional words so that when we come back to have the  
17 discussion on the 29th, we've provided a product that  
18 says, yes, this is helpful, above and beyond what's  
19 already available to us. I think the information is  
20 there. Maybe it just needs to be organized differently.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. That's very helpful.

22 And so I'll go to Commissioner Ahmad, and then we'll  
23 close out the conversation.

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.

25 I would have a slightly differing view on this in

1 what Commissioner Turner just stated, in that I am  
2 actually trying not to bring a product back to the full  
3 Commission, and this is because of the conversation that  
4 we just had. I've heard different commissioners say that  
5 they expect different items to be highlighted in this end  
6 product, and my concern is that we will not be able to  
7 satisfy all fourteen commissioners and all fifty opinions  
8 that we have on what the summary document could look  
9 like. And I also fear that whatever we put out there  
10 will be scrutinized by the public in a way that my  
11 comment is not reflected in the summary document;  
12 therefore, you, the Commission, are not taking that into  
13 consideration. So in hopes to avoid that type of almost  
14 not accurate confrontation, I think it would be best if  
15 we just continued to review those COI inputs on our own,  
16 bringing back what we saw individually and trying to come  
17 to a consensus based off of that.

18 I also want to highlight that there are over 15,000  
19 and counting inputs, and that's from the COI tool from  
20 public input for draft maps. Sorting through all of that  
21 for our team in a short time period while making sure  
22 it's as up to date as possible for our discussion on the  
23 29th is quite a task that I personally would not want to  
24 undertake; therefore, I do not support our team  
25 undertaking that. Just my two cents.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

2 And we are data rich, right. We have so much data.

3 Commissioner Le Mons?

4 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you, Commissioner

5 Ahmad, because I think you answered my question. Because

6 remember, mine was a question, is this possible. And you

7 answered it, and you gave, I think, a very good

8 explanation. So I feel satisfied with your response.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: And mine was an attempt to try to see

11 if we could fulfill that question, but it doesn't sound

12 like we can. And I do think it is every commissioner's

13 responsibility to read through the comments and the input

14 that we're getting, and we're all doing that, and we're

15 all analyzing it, weighing it for ourselves, and then --

16 well, we can come back to a conversation, a structured

17 conversation, on the 29th to go through some of these

18 additional difficult conversations. I do think it was

19 helpful to go through this, to understand what we'll be

20 tackling on the 29th, when we actually do have the

21 information in front of us.

22 With that, two actions. The first, I do want to

23 create a subcommittee to work through the final maps

24 planning, and to take all the feedback that we got today

25 and develop a product plan, as well as additional

1 guidance to where the chair is coming through. And I do  
2 think we need line drawers -- someone from the line  
3 drawing, at least some person from the line drawing  
4 committee, and it would be helpful to have Commissioner  
5 Fornaciari because -- not only because he's worked so  
6 much on the public input process, but also project  
7 management wise and has a strong expertise there.

8       So I'm going to nominate, I guess, is the word,  
9 Commissioner Fornaciari and Sadhwani to work on these  
10 together, given that we need someone from line drawers to  
11 coordinate that communication, and we do -- as  
12 Commissioner Andersen noted, and we do need project  
13 management very -- and to work on the process. It  
14 doesn't mean that the rest of us can't provide them  
15 individuals -- we can send through staff our feedback and  
16 our information, and certainly, we'll be working through  
17 staff as well so -- to get these documents through.

18       It would be helpful to get a schedule from the  
19 committee, at least a couple days before the 29th,  
20 through staff, so that we know, as Commissioner Fernandez  
21 said, what areas to focus on initially through the --  
22 through the public input process.

23       And then secondly, we do need a motion to approve  
24 the changes to our public input process, moving the  
25 public input period from five minutes to 2.5 minutes,

1 two-and-a-half minutes. And so we do need a motion for  
2 that.

3 Commissioner Fernandez?

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So moved. How is that?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great, thank you.

6 Commissioner Yee?

7 COMMISSIONER YEE: Second that.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Any discussion? All right. So we'll  
9 open it for public comment, and it'll be public comment  
10 on this motion, as well as general public comment on --  
11 or rather on this motion and on all of the subcommittee  
12 item.

13 I believe Director Kaplan raised her hand.

14 MS. KAPLAN: I just wanted to confirm with the  
15 commission after this motion and perhaps I need to ask  
16 this afterwards, that you want us to then update the  
17 appointments and then send out a blast announcing once  
18 those appointments are open. And because there was some  
19 discussion about setting a time in an email, so I just  
20 want to get clarity on that direction.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Once we have approval of the motion,  
22 we would certainly go back and communicate with everyone  
23 who signs up, address all the communication channels,  
24 right, to make sure that all of our communication  
25 channels are not ambiguous and are very clear as to how

1 to sign up and all of the -- what we discussed earlier  
2 today --

3 MS. KAPLAN: Okay.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- in terms of just making sure  
5 that -- and of course, letting everyone know that this --  
6 that an opportunity to provide public input is going to  
7 be opening up. So sending out the newsletter blast and  
8 all of the other channels that we use, including social  
9 media.

10 Commissioner Fornaciari, then Commissioner  
11 Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I think that -- I  
13 think what we would like to see is a time -- a specific  
14 time being picked for when you would open -- you would  
15 open them, and then blasting on every channel that we  
16 have, that there's going to be -- it's going to open at  
17 this time, but I -- you know, I mean, you know how to do  
18 this better than me. I assume you need to give some time  
19 for the community groups to reblast and all that stuff.

20 So we -- from my perspective, I'd rather not tell  
21 you how to do your job, I'd rather just give you the  
22 direction, that's what we would like to see. I mean, I  
23 think that's what I took away from the conversation.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's right.

25 And then Commissioner Sinay?

1           COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'd like just to say that it's  
2 pretty impressive what staff did last Wednesday night.  
3 The press release that was sent out was very, very  
4 comprehensive. Had all the different -- you know, what  
5 happened. You know, that we approved it, we approved --  
6 and then how people can -- you know, inviting the public,  
7 how people can participate, and it had all the different  
8 dates, and it went out to our complete, you know, lists  
9 and everything else. I think doing it -- you know, if we  
10 would have waited and sent it out the next day, then  
11 people would have complained that we didn't send it out  
12 right away, and I just want staff to publicly know that  
13 we really appreciate what they did do, and it was very  
14 impressive. And it -- and let's try this other way now,  
15 and then others may say that that way wasn't, you know,  
16 the way they wanted it. Just like you have fourteen  
17 commissioners with fourteen perspectives, we have almost  
18 forty million people in the State of California with  
19 different perspectives.

20           So just thank you for what you did -- what you did  
21 do because it was pretty -- it was pretty impressive.  
22 And if you haven't gone and seen the press release and  
23 read through it, please do because they did an amazing  
24 job.

25           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.



1 Commissioner -- or rather Director Kaplan?

2 MS. KAPLAN: Just thank you for all that feedback.  
3 And I just do also want to highlight that I think we  
4 are -- we will work to balance that but I do want to  
5 highlight that we've tried to stretch as late as possible  
6 the closing of the appointments, pushing that later than  
7 we had with the COI input meetings to 11 a.m. the day  
8 before in order to allow for the video team to be able to  
9 get out all the invites and staff organize the back end,  
10 so as much as we can try to push some time of sending out  
11 an email and providing some additional space.

12 I want to also just highlight that in order to  
13 really get more people signed up for the 17th, that we  
14 are going to balance the timing of how much space we're  
15 going to push out for when we will open the appointments  
16 to allow for additional time tomorrow before 11 a.m. when  
17 those appointments will close for the 17th, but the rest  
18 will remain open until the day before.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. We'll go to Commissioner  
20 Akutagawa, then we'll open up for public input.

21 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you, Director  
22 Kaplan. And just out of curiosity, I definitely like the  
23 idea, for example, like, if you put out an announcement  
24 today saying that tomorrow at 11 o'clock we're going to  
25 open the appointments for whatever day, or even, like,

1 wait two days, I don't -- I agree with Commissioner  
2 Fornaciari, whatever you decide is the best way to do it.

3 I am kind of curious, because given the responses  
4 we're getting, logistically, does it make sense to open  
5 up a new day each day versus just like opening up the  
6 entire period? Just so that -- it's kind of a way to  
7 slow it down and you reset the opportunity to sign up for  
8 a new appointment on a new day for the next day. This --  
9 am I making sense in what I'm asking right now?

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Director Kaplan?

11 MS. KAPLAN: My recommendation is that once we work  
12 on -- with staff on the backend and we set a time, likely  
13 for later today, where we will open up the appointments,  
14 that we do that for the full meetings. The public will  
15 have opportunity to still participate in the input  
16 meetings without an appointment.

17 And so whether or not they receive an appointment,  
18 there are still an opportunity the end of each day to  
19 participate in the meetings. And I think it is  
20 logistically, there are a lot of steps involved in  
21 opening and closing and pulling all the contacts and  
22 giving that to our team to be able to send out invites  
23 and that whole process. And if this becomes staggered  
24 day-by-day, it's just adding a lot more steps that I  
25 don't think -- I think it will run a lot more smoother if

1 we just open it all up now --

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we do need to --

3 MS. KAPLAN: -- when we do later today. Once we  
4 vote on it.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And we do to take it to  
6 the public comment. Commissioner Akutagawa, one last  
7 comment?

8 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Once last comment.  
9 Commissioners -- or Director Kaplan, can I just maybe  
10 make one recommendation is to not open up the  
11 appointments today. We're already at 4 -- almost, you  
12 know, we're going to be at 4 o'clock. I think this is  
13 part of the complaint that people had about, you know,  
14 we're doing it at the end of the day. And unless you're  
15 following it, it doesn't give people enough time to sign  
16 up.

17 I'd like to recommend that you open it -- open up  
18 the appointments tomorrow, but you put out the  
19 announcement today. So that at least the organizations  
20 will have a chance, you know, to let people know, hey,  
21 tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock it's going to open. And  
22 the that way then, it's a little bit more fair versus,  
23 like, unless you're watching right now, I'm afraid the  
24 same thing is going to happen.

25 So that would be my recommendation, is to at least

1 wait until tomorrow. And at least it give you a little  
2 bit of extra time to get everything set up. Thank you.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa. I  
4 would agree with that. Now let's go to public input. So  
5 Katy, are you ready for public input?

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely, Chair. So it  
7 is public -- for agenda item number 3 and also the motion  
8 on the floor?

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: That is correct, thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay, perfect. The  
11 commission will now be taking public comments for agenda  
12 items number 3 and the motion on the floor.

13 To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter  
14 the meeting ID number 829 8221 1105 for this meeting.  
15 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the  
16 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been  
17 read previously in this meeting and are provided in full  
18 on the livestream landing page.

19 And at this time we have several raised hands. I  
20 invite those that have called in, if you do wish to give  
21 comment on agenda item number 3 or the motion on the  
22 floor, please press star 9 indicating you wish to comment  
23 at this time. Right now we have called with the last  
24 four 7306. And up next, after that will be called 0129.

25 Caller 7306, if you will please follow the prompt to



1 unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

2 MS. GOODMAN: Good afternoon, Commissioners. This  
3 is Carolina Goodman, League of Women Voters of Greater  
4 Los Angeles. And first of all, let me express our  
5 appreciation for how hard this commission has worked to  
6 draw fair lines in California. Ten years ago, the  
7 Redistricting Commission left Los Angeles until the end  
8 of the process. The resulting maps left much to be  
9 desired. Already, Commissioners have acknowledged they  
10 didn't spend enough time on the draft maps for Los  
11 Angeles. Please make a concerted effort to devote the  
12 time required to focus on this extremely complex, dense  
13 area that has many overlapping communities.

14 One of the Commissions earlier in this meeting said  
15 it could take two days just to do Los Angeles. And in  
16 reality, it could easily take two days just to do just  
17 the Assembly maps for Los Angeles. I agree with the  
18 other Commissioners who suggested that the Commissions  
19 first are unknot Los Angeles, VRA areas, and Southern  
20 California, before the rest of California. Ten million  
21 people in Los Angeles County deserve your finest  
22 attention. Thank you very much.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh. And right now we

1 have caller 0129. And up next after that will be caller  
2 3392. Caller 0129, if you will please follow the prompts  
3 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

4 MR. BARR: Thank you, and thank you Commissioners.  
5 My name is Michael Barr. I am the mayor of King City. A  
6 couple comments regarding outreach. The City has not  
7 received any kind of outreach from the Redistricting  
8 Commission. We asked you to provide a much more concise  
9 and more instructive concerns -- suggestions as we  
10 received that from our -- the people we represent.

11 So I would absolutely encourage reaching out to  
12 cities. I am very concerned with what's happening in the  
13 Monterey Bay area. And I would like you to look at the  
14 comments our city has sent in verbal -- written comments,  
15 because the initial lines that you put forth actually  
16 connect an agricultural community in Monterey County all  
17 the way up to San Jose. Completely different communities  
18 of interest. And while it might make sense,  
19 demographically, and to achieve the results you're trying  
20 to reach -- achieve, you're going to be significantly  
21 harming predominately Hispanic communities, predominately  
22 farm workers, and their ability to elect the candidates  
23 of their choice.

24 I do thank you for this opportunity. And I look  
25 forward to participating in more of these meetings

1 because it of great concern to all of our cities in South  
2 County -- south Monterey County. Thank you,  
3 Commissioners for this opportunity.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we will have  
6 caller 3392. And up next after that will be caller 3643.  
7 Caller 3392, if you will please follow the prompts to  
8 unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

9 MS. PONCE DE LEON: Good evening, Commissioners. My  
10 name is Alejandra Ponce De Leon with Advancement Project  
11 California. Just calling to greatly thank you for all  
12 the time you spent today and throughout this whole  
13 process of being very inclusive to so much public  
14 testimony and comments that you've been receiving.

15 First off, I just really want to acknowledge the  
16 hard work that all of you Commissioners plus your staff  
17 are doing to just be as responsive and as accessible as  
18 you can. And so for us and for many of the partners that  
19 have been reaching out to you, the community groups, just  
20 say that, one, we appreciate the process that we have  
21 here in California to giving space for communities to  
22 participate in the redistricting process and have a  
23 direct say. And that we're here to support you. We want  
24 to see you succeed in every recommendation that we bring  
25 to you is really with that goal in mind of how do we

1 continue to strengthen this process.

2 And so greatly appreciate you taking time to discuss  
3 the public input process, you know, increasing number of  
4 time slots by reducing the time for public comments for  
5 those that are getting appointments for this week just to  
6 create more opportunities from our folks to speak. And  
7 then also uplifting, you know, the public comment at the  
8 end to create enough time so that those that get in  
9 queue, you know, are still able to speak and really  
10 appreciate your commitment to stay up until 10 p.m. if  
11 necessary.

12 Continue -- we just continue to uplift, you know,  
13 that, you know, creating these opportunities --

14 MALE SPEAKER: Thirty seconds.

15 MS. PONCE DE LEON: -- making it more accessible,  
16 and for us who, we've been, you know, really speaking up  
17 with -- on behalf of communities that are most impacted  
18 by various participation, making it accessible to them is  
19 making it access to everybody. So I just wanted to --

20 MALE SPEAKER: Fifteen.

21 MS. PONCE DE LEON: -- you know, just uplift my  
22 appreciation to all of you. Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
24 right now we will have caller 3643. And up next after  
25 that will caller 2829. Caller 3643, if you will please



1 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: And just a reminder, the comment is  
3 on the subcommittee reports and -- as well as the motion  
4 on the table. Anything else will be after 4:30. We will  
5 be taking general comment at 4:30. Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 3643, the floor is  
7 yours.

8 MR. MEHTA STEIN: Good afternoon, Chair Toledo and  
9 Commissioners. This is Jonathan Mehta Stein, Executive  
10 Director at California Common Cause. Congratulations on  
11 reaching a huge milestone in your process. And for  
12 reaching your draft map on a timeline -- an accelerated  
13 timeline, in order to be responsive to public input and  
14 to enable more public participation.

15 Californians really are in awe of the hours you are  
16 dedicating to this process. And I want to thank you for  
17 your thoughtful reflection and the robust, productive  
18 conversation you've had today on the roadmaps that will  
19 get you to your final maps and the changes you're making  
20 to create more opportunities for public input.

21 We would urge you to memorialize any decisions your  
22 making today and make those decisions clear and widely  
23 available to the public as soon as possible. Including  
24 the details of your upcoming calendar, new public input,  
25 appointment opportunities, changes to public comment

1 length, other details of the public input process, and so  
2 on. And we appreciated the conversation today about how  
3 to handle the next phase of mapping, but if you could  
4 crystalize for all of us what decision was made,  
5 including when you'll discuss which regions, whenever  
6 you're able, that would be ideal.

7 I know you're heading into closed sessions soon, I'd  
8 just like to flag a letter we sent in earlier October  
9 about how you deal with closed session, urging more  
10 clarity for the public on when you're using closed  
11 session and why and cautioning against the overuse of  
12 closed session for issues that are not pending  
13 litigation.

14 Again, thank you for your incredible dedication to  
15 the people of California and for your service here. Best  
16 of luck as you head into this next round of public  
17 interest hearings and line drawing meetings. Thank you.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right know we will  
20 have caller 2829. And up next after that will be caller  
21 5944. And for those that have called in, if you have  
22 comment on agenda number 3 or the motion on the floor,  
23 please press star 9 if you have comment for those two  
24 things.

25 Right now we have caller 2829. If you will please



1 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The  
2 floor is yours.

3 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Hello Commissioners, this is Renee  
4 Westa-Lusk. I thank the Commissioners for opening up  
5 more appointments for public input on the first draft  
6 maps, but I'm asking you to please follow Commissioner's  
7 Akutagawa and Commissioner Toledo's directions to give  
8 notice through blast email and press release in advance  
9 of opening up appointments. I agree with waiting until  
10 tomorrow to open the appointments so people have time to  
11 put it on their calendar, that they can try to get an  
12 appointment tomorrow rather than opening it up tonight  
13 when people won't know about it. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And at this time, Chair,  
16 that was our last raised hand.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. So we will go to a vote.  
18 Director Hernandez, are you ready for the vote?

19 MR. HERNANDEZ: I am, Chair. One second.

20 Okay. The motion to change the speaker time from  
21 five minutes to two-and-a-half minutes for the public  
22 input meetings on the maps. That's on November 17th  
23 through the 20th, the 22nd, and the 23rd. Motion by  
24 Commissioner Fernandez. Seconded by Commissioner Yee.  
25 And we had five --

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fernandez, do you have a  
2 feedback on the motion?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. If you could just  
4 specify that it's the draft maps. Sorry, I just want to  
5 be very specific. Thank you.

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. Is there anything  
7 else anyone sees that I don't see? Okay, we'll begin the  
8 vote. Commissioner Turner?

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

10 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vazquez?

11 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee?

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

14 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Ahmad?

15 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

16 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Akutagawa?

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

18 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

20 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

22 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari?

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

24 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

2 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani?

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

5 MR. HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes, yes.

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner Taylor?

8 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

9 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. And Commissioner Toledo?

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: The motion passes. Thank you.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: And with that we'll be going to  
13 closed session under penalty litigation and agency  
14 security exceptions. It will be a brief closed session.  
15 I anticipate we'll be back by 4:30 and maybe sooner, but  
16 I would say 4:30 at this point. Thank you. And with  
17 that we'll go to closed session.

18 (Whereupon, a closed session was held from 3:49  
19 p.m. until 4:28 p.m.)

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
21 Citizens Redistricting Commission, coming back from  
22 closed session. No decisions were -- or actions were  
23 taken. And with that, we will be starting our general  
24 public input process. Katy, please open up the lines.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The

1 commission will now be taking general public comment for  
2 all items including those not on the agenda. To give  
3 comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting  
4 ID number 829 8221 1105 for this meeting. Once you have  
5 dialed in, please press star 9, this -- to enter the  
6 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been  
7 read previously in the meeting and are provided in full  
8 on the livestream landing page.

9       And for those who have called in and have been  
10 listening, if you'll please press star 9 to raise your  
11 hand indicating you wish to give comment this lovely  
12 evening. We do have one hand. Caller 8091, if you will  
13 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.  
14 The floor is yours.

15       HAYDEN: Hi, Commissioners. My name is Hayden. I'm  
16 a resident of Kern County. I just wanted to call with --  
17 say thank you to the commission for being so inquisitive  
18 with your public comment and it doesn't unnoticed. Know  
19 that there has been a lot of public comment from Kern  
20 County and I just wanted to take this opportunity to say  
21 thank you for hearing the voice of our community and for  
22 listening to us. I know that I certainly appreciate it.  
23 And just again, to uplift you guys for hearing our  
24 concerns. Please continue to do so as you're making  
25 these important and difficult decisions. And thank you.

1 I hope you had a good break. And enjoy the rest of the  
2 time. Thank you very much.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And I'd like to those in  
4 the queue one more opportunity, please press star 9 if  
5 you have anything for the general comment time period of  
6 our day. And we do have one more hand. Caller 5819, if  
7 you'll please follow the prompt to unmute at this time by  
8 pressing star 6. The floor is yours. Caller 5189, you  
9 are unmuted in the meeting so please doublecheck your  
10 phone, make sure you are no muted.

11 MR. PERRY: Okay. Thank you. I'm sorry. Can you  
12 hear me now.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. The floor  
14 is yours.

15 MR. PERRY: Thank you. Okay, I'm sorry. I was  
16 muted too long there. Michael Perry, 38-year resident of  
17 Big Bear Lake and currently working here at Visit Big  
18 Bear, our destination marketing organization. I wanted  
19 to thank the commission again for all your work.  
20 Especially on Assembly maps VVHD and our Congressional  
21 map High Desert FB.

22 As we've said before, our community is very rural.  
23 And most people think that Big Bear is the ski resort  
24 with, you know, a lot of extensive homes, classy people,  
25 et cetera. But we're really a working-class community

1 with working people that live here, trying to provide  
2 that visitor experience. And we really feel grateful  
3 that you've listened to us and the other rural  
4 communities.

5 We are a rural community. We're 40 miles from  
6 anybody else of significance. And being in the National  
7 Forest, we're greatly affected by the federal government  
8 policies and need to have representation that will  
9 advocate and understand the federal government and -- so  
10 that's why we fight -- feel a tie to the desert  
11 communities in the San Bernardino High Desert, which you  
12 have included us in because, you know, they deal with  
13 BLM. I go down there and recreate on my motorcycles and  
14 quads and dune buggies and all that kind of stuff.

15 MALE SPEAKER: Thirty seconds.

16 MR. PERRY: And that is an area that is really --  
17 has a commonality of interest to Big Bear and the  
18 ruralness and the issues we have with federal and  
19 visitors and things like that.

20 So thank you again for listening and putting us with  
21 the high desert. We appreciate you, you know, hearing  
22 our voices. So thank you and have a great night.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. At  
24 this time, Chair, it would appear that we do not have any  
25 other hands.



1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Wait to see if we've got  
2 any more hands.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Just so you know, Chair,  
4 the numbers that are in the queue have been listening for  
5 most of the day.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent, thank, you. So at the  
7 recommendation of counsel, we are being recommended to  
8 take a short break -- ten minute break and come -- and  
9 see if any members of the public want to call in as we  
10 need to keep our lines for at least 30 minutes. So with  
11 that, let's come back at 4 -- at 4:45. And we'll close  
12 the lines at 5 o'clock.

13 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 4:35 p.m.  
14 until 4:45 p.m.)

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
16 Citizens Redistricting meeting. We are finishing up our  
17 business meeting with public comments. This is general  
18 public comment on anything that was discussed today. Or  
19 any items of general public concern. We will be closing  
20 the lines in - at 5 o'clock. And Katy, can you please  
21 open up the lines.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The  
23 commission is now taking general public comment for items  
24 not on the agenda. To give comment, please call 877-853-  
25 5247 and enter the meeting ID number 829 8221 1105. Once



1 you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the  
2 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been  
3 read previously in the meeting and are provided in full  
4 on the livestream landing page.

5 And at this time we do have caller 5944 that has  
6 called in and raised their hand. If you'll still follow  
7 the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is  
8 yours.

9 CALLER 5944: Hello, I just wanted to call and ask  
10 that you please do not include Seven Oaks Country Club or  
11 Stockdale Estates or Stockdale Country Club in the VRA  
12 district that's -- that includes Delano, Arvin, Shafter,  
13 and Wasco. Those areas just do not belong in this  
14 community. They're very white, very affluent.  
15 Appreciate all your hard work. Thank you very much.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
17 for those have just called in, please press start 9 to  
18 indicate you have called in to give comment and not just  
19 to listen to the end of the meeting. Again, star 9 will  
20 raise your hand indicating you've called in to give  
21 comment.

22 Thank you so much. Caller 6190, if you will please  
23 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6 at this  
24 time. The floor is yours.

25 STEVE: Hi, can you hear me?



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

2 STEVE: Oh, great. Okay. This is Steve from Erwin  
3 Lake up in the Big Bear Mountains. I was calling to say  
4 -- excuse me, that I looked at the Assembly and the  
5 Congressional maps, and it looks like, if I'm reading  
6 them correctly, and I'm not that good on my computer, but  
7 it looks like you've included us with the -- some of the  
8 desert area up on the, I guess it would be the east side  
9 of us. And I just wanted to let you know that, at least  
10 from my perspective, that makes sense. We -- excuse me,  
11 we do drive off that direction to access services the  
12 near mall for shopping and frankly the nearest nice  
13 restaurants and everything are off on that side of the  
14 hill, and we could get off the hill during -- especially  
15 stormy winter weather. The storms push in from the west  
16 and oftentimes close the roads to the west, which are --  
17 we get rockslides, mudslides, et cetera and CALTRANS  
18 closes those roads.

19 But we always could get off on Highway 18 down to  
20 Lucerne Valley on that side so that's --

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 STEVE: -- our go to, at least for my family and my  
23 friends. That's our go to route to get off the mountain  
24 from Big Bear Valley up here and access the services on  
25 that side. So anyway, thank you. I think, if I read the

1 maps right, it looks like we're in good shape. Thank you  
2 very much.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

4 Again, one more time, for those that have called in, if  
5 you would like give comment this evening, please press  
6 star 9. This will raise your hand indicating you wish to  
7 give comment.

8 And at this time, Chair, we do not have any raised  
9 hands.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. We will be closing the  
11 comment line at 5 o'clock. Just a reminder to the  
12 public, the commission did release its draft maps for  
13 state Congressional, state Assembly, state Senate, and  
14 Board of Equalization ahead of the Supreme Court's  
15 mandated November 15th deadline. And we will be taking  
16 public comment on those maps during our public input  
17 sessions November 17th through the 23rd. Californians,  
18 all Californians are welcomed to provide feedback on the  
19 maps by visiting our website at [drawmycacomunitites.org](http://drawmycacomunitites.org).

20 You can also draw your own maps by visiting  
21 [drawmycadistricts.org](http://drawmycadistricts.org). As a reminder, our final maps are  
22 due to be completed no later than December 27th. So we  
23 have about a month and a half, a little bit more than a  
24 month and a half to get our maps completed.

25 With that we will wait for a couple minutes to see

1 if there are any additional members of the public who  
2 would like to give comment. Any closing comments from  
3 the Commissioners prior to ending this meeting since we  
4 had -- since we have a few minutes? Or any announcements  
5 you might have?

6 If not we will be ending our meeting at 5 o'clock if  
7 there are no additional callers. Commissioner Fernandez.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. This is not something  
9 that needs to be voted on or anything, but we did not  
10 discuss potentially moving the starting times for the  
11 meetings in December. So I just wanted to throw that  
12 back out to Executive Director Hernandez to see if  
13 potentially consider moving those back a little, maybe  
14 like 11 to 6 instead of 9:30, or 10 to 5. That was my  
15 only comments -- I'm not sure -- and I know that  
16 Commissioner Akutagawa did talk about that also. And I  
17 don't know if any other Commissioners have any thoughts  
18 on that. Thank you.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: I believe commission -- or Director  
20 Hernandez was -- is planning those session and thinking  
21 through the logistics. Commissioner -- or Director  
22 Hernandez.

23 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah. I just wanted to note that if  
24 we move the meeting back from 11 -- to 11, we'll go till  
25 6 p.m. I just want to make sure that we have time should

1 we have public input during those meeting -- that we have  
2 sufficient time for that. And you know the later we push  
3 it to start, the later we're going to go in the evening  
4 for public comment.

5 And I want to make sure that we're aware of that.  
6 So at this point, we can make that change to 11 6. And  
7 so the meetings, beginning on Sunday the 12th, will be  
8 from 11 to 6 through Sunday the 19th, 11 to 6. All the  
9 meetings 11 to 6. If everyone is okay with that, that's  
10 what I will propose. And that's the change that I will  
11 make and then notify all our vendors and post that  
12 information on the website as well.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Remind us what the current time frame  
14 that we have it is at this point.

15 MR. HERNANDEZ: At this point there 10 to 5 for the  
16 meetings beginning on the 13th through the 18th, 10 to 5.  
17 Only an hour shift.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Do you mean the 12th,  
19 starting on the 12th?

20 MR. HERNANDEZ: Well, the 12th is already scheduled  
21 from 11 to 6. So the changes only are going to reflect  
22 the 13th through the 18th because on the 19th we also  
23 have that one already scheduled 11 to 6. So now all the  
24 meetings would be scheduled from 11 to 6.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Sounds like there's no opposition to

1 11 o'clock. And it's up to -- and I believe you have the  
2 discretion to -- as the Executive Director to schedule  
3 those.

4 MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll go ahead and make that  
5 change.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: At this point I don't see any  
7 opposition to that change. Commissioner Turner.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Not exactly opposition. Just  
9 a question for Commissioners that is beneficial. Does  
10 that include Saturday as well?

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's a great question. Is that  
12 just during the week and not for the weekends or is  
13 intended to be every day of the week? Commissioner  
14 Akutagawa.

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'll just say Saturdays are  
16 a little bit easier and I'm a little bit more agnostic on  
17 that -- just, you know, the Monday through Friday, you  
18 know, having that two-hour window in the morning to try  
19 to get some other business done would be helpful. Thank  
20 you.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fernandez.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I agree -- I  
23 apologize. Saturday would be easier -- or do the 9:30.  
24 Thank you.

25 MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay. Saturday we are scheduled

1 currently from 10 to 5. So I'm going to leave that one  
2 as it. And change the ones during the week from 11 to 6.  
3 And the ones on Sunday will be 11 to 6 as well, that's  
4 what they're scheduled for right now.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. That was a great catch.  
8 Any other updates or announcements that you might have  
9 prior to the close of minutes -- the meeting. I think we  
10 have a good -- from the meeting earlier today, I think we  
11 have a good sense of -- for the subcommittee that'll be  
12 working on the final maps, planning, the direction for  
13 them to get us something sooner rather than later through  
14 staff in terms of scheduled and definitely by the 29th.  
15 But hopefully much sooner than that so the Commissioners  
16 can prepare for those meetings and begin that process.

17 Is there anything that you might need for that  
18 Commissioner Sadhwani or Commissioner Fornaciari in  
19 addition to what we've discussed prior?

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'm sure there will be lots  
21 that we need, but I think we're all set for right now  
22 given the robust conversation that happened today.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. All right. Just three  
24 more minutes. And it doesn't look like we have any  
25 additional comments at this point.



1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And here I thought we were  
2 going to have a flood of comments.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes. That's what I heard from -- I  
4 think staff predicted that they're would be more comments  
5 than we actually are getting. But I believe it also has  
6 to do with the fact that public input sessions are  
7 scheduled, folks have -- who want to speak have been able  
8 to get their appointments and so that might be part of  
9 why we're not seeing so many, that folks who want  
10 appointments were able to get them, I hope. I'm being  
11 optimistic. Director Hernandez.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yeah, I was just going to state that  
13 because we've probably opened up, you know, quite a few  
14 additional appointments for these up-coming meetings,  
15 maybe people are considering waiting to provide their  
16 input then. But it really is, you know, a challenge to  
17 really know how many people are going to call in at the  
18 end of the day. Any day can be very different from what  
19 it is right now. You could easily have a hundred people  
20 in the queue.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: I don't think any of us are  
22 complaining that we're going to be able to get out at 5  
23 o'clock, given that last week was pretty intense.  
24 Commissioner Fornaciari.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I believe the 49ers are

1 playing the Rams on Monday Night Football, so that might  
2 be part of it, too.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Makes sense. Commissioner Taylor --  
4 and of course, Commissioner Taylor will be our chair for  
5 the rest of the series of public input meetings. I just  
6 saw his hand up, but --

7 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, thank you Chair. So  
8 yes, I look forward to my opportunity to commission the  
9 next group of meetings. And I'm not going to let Neal  
10 draw me back into that LA/San Francisco thing.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: And we look forward to having you  
12 chair our next series of public input meetings starting  
13 on the 17th. With that, it looks like it's almost 5  
14 o'clock and we still have no members of the public  
15 wishing to comment. So as soon as it turns to 5, we will  
16 adjourn for the day. Last chance to give an  
17 announcement.

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Looks like Executive Director  
19 Hernandez's hand is up. It's just up.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner -- or Director  
21 Hernandez, do you have a update?

22 MR. HERNANDEZ: Just want to say goodnight.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. Well, with that, it's 5  
24 o'clock. We don't have additional comments in the queue  
25 so we will -- we've closed the line and we will say

1 goodbye -- or we'll adjourn today's meeting and say  
2 goodbye until the end -- until the 17th.

3 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Goodnight.

4 (Whereupon, the State of California, 2020  
5 Citizens Redistricting Commissions Public  
6 Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.)

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**CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER**

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 19th day of November, 2021.



JACQUELINE DENLINGER, CER-747  
Certified Court Reporter



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

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

*Samantha Stewart*

November 19, 2021

Samantha Stewart, CDLT-253