

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

Southern California

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Reported by:

Peter Petty



APPEARANCES**COMMISSIONERS**

Pedro Toledo, Chair  
Jane Andersen, Vice-Chair  
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner  
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner  
Alicia Fernandez, Commissioner  
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner  
J. Ray Kennedy, Commissioner  
Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner  
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner  
Patricia S. Sinay, Commissioner  
Angela Vazquez, Commissioner  
Russell Yee, Commissioner

**STAFF**

Alvaro E. Hernandez, Executive Director  
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant  
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel  
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director  
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach  
Toni Antonova, Data Manager

**TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS**

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator

**LINE DRAWING TEAM**

Karin MacDonald, Q2 Data & Research, LLC  
Jaime Clark, Q2 Data & Research, LLC  
Kennedy Wilson, Q2 Data & Research, LLC

**ALSO PRESENT**

Peter Cannon  
Chris Gates  
Unidentified Speakers





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1                   P R O C E E D I N G S

2 Monday, November 29, 2021                   1:00 p.m.

3                 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome to the California Citizens  
4 Redistricting Commission's business meeting. I hope you  
5 had a wonderful Thanksgiving and happy Hanukkah. My name  
6 is Pedro Toledo and I will serve as your chair for the  
7 next series of meetings.

8                 With that, Ravi, please take roll.

9                 MS. SINGH: Thank you, Chair.

10                 Commissioner Turner?

11                 COMMISSIONER TURNER: (No audible response).

12                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Vasquez?

13                 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Here.

14                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Yee?

15                 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

16                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad?

17                 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

18                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa?

19                 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

20                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

21                 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

22                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

23                 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: (In Spanish) Presente.

24                 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

25                 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

1 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

3 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

4 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

5 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

7 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

9 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

10 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: (No audible response).

11 MS. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Here.

13 MS. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

15 We will start with Director's reports and then be

16 moving on into closed session, and then coming back out

17 of closed session to discuss some of the other agenda

18 items. So with that, let's start with Director's report.

19 Director Hernandez.

20 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

21 I don't have a whole lot to report today. I did

22 want to share with you that we have received a number of

23 COI -- paper COI submissions from the incarcerated

24 population -- California incarcerated population. I

25 believe, we're over a 1,000 that have come in. And so

1 they are posted on our website. And so you'll be able to  
2 find them if -- I'll provide you some additional  
3 information. I don't recall the exact -- I think they're  
4 under letters received. So there are actual letters that  
5 have been received. We have staff that are scanning them  
6 in and making sure that they are added into the database.

7 We have received some additional transcripts that  
8 have just been posted today. So we have that going. And  
9 that's really all, unless there are any specific  
10 questions that you may have. Thank you.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Any questions of Director Hernandez?

12 Seeing none, let's move on to Communications report.

13 Director Ceja.

14 DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you, Chair.

15 Hello, Commissioners. Want to give you a high-level  
16 Communications report today, so that we can get on to the  
17 meatier, more substantial issues today.

18 We will be working on the December 2021 newsletter.  
19 I believe this will be our final newsletter. So we will  
20 make sure that we put substantial updates to go out this  
21 week. We're at 20,336 inputs on the data page on our  
22 website. Our ethnic media vendor held roundtables with  
23 Black press statewide, Spanish press in San Mateo and  
24 Redwood City, and Arab-American and Vietnamese-American  
25 press in Orange County. So I'll send those reports when



1 I get them. Our social media vendor started targeting  
2 ads to counties to solicit public input in response to  
3 our draft maps. So those are starting this week.

4 And wanted to also throw out the idea of having a  
5 press conference the day that we certify the maps at the  
6 end of December. Hopefully, at the Capitol steps, I will  
7 follow up with the chair for that meeting, to see if we  
8 can coordinate that.

9 I did upload transcripts today for the May 18th,  
10 2021 meeting; the June 9th, 2021 meeting; June 28th,  
11 2021; August 4th, 2021; and August 30th, 2021 meetings.  
12 So those are on the website.

13 And as far as interviews from our last business  
14 meeting, we talked to CalMatters, L.A. Times, KTVU TV,  
15 KFBK, San -- San Francisco Chronicle, Radio Bilingue.  
16 KCRA 3 here in Sacramento, L.A. Times (sic), Fresno Bee,  
17 KION News 546, and then Southern California Public Radio.  
18 And we got two requests this morning from New York Times  
19 and from Bloomberg News. So we'll get those taken care  
20 of today.

21 As far as media mentions, this month -- this week,  
22 actually, there were 161 stories mentioning the CRC, the  
23 Commission and 414 stories on California redistricting.  
24 So it's still a hot issue, and it's still out in the  
25 press. And hopefully, these next few weeks it'll

1 increase even more.

2 As far as our website contacts are concerned, we  
3 have 20,202 contacts in the database. Those numbers  
4 continue to increase. We've had 300,000 views of our  
5 website and 184,000 visits to the home page alone; that  
6 has only been within the past week. So folks are logging  
7 on, clicking through our website as well. We had three  
8 e-blasts that we sent out, one regarding a public input  
9 reminder that got an open rate of twenty-four percent.  
10 But then our November 17th through the 20th meetings got  
11 a thirty-two percent open rate. And the November 22nd to  
12 the 23rd meetings reminder got another thirty-two percent  
13 open rate. So folks, like I said, are dialing in and  
14 listening to or putting out.

15 The social media report is posted. Just want to  
16 highlight that we are at 2,580 followers on Twitter and  
17 we finally hit the one-hundred mark on YouTube  
18 subscribers. So our numbers are increasing. And that's  
19 a good thing. That's all I have for today.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

21 Do we have any questions for Director Ceja?

22 Seeing none, we'll move on to our Outreach  
23 Director's report.

24 Ms. Kaplan.

25 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Hi, good morning, Commissioners --

1 good afternoon. I'm going to be posting a report  
2 shortly, but I just wanted to give some recap of the --  
3 the public input meetings that were held on the draft map  
4 feedback.

5 So there were six days of meetings where the  
6 Commission heard from 720 members of the public. Of  
7 those, 350 of those were individuals with appointments  
8 and 370 were the total without appointments. So there  
9 was a good chunk of no-shows through that total. So the  
10 350 total with appointments was not all of the  
11 appointments that were made available. I just wanted to  
12 highlight that there were four speakers in Spanish that  
13 provided input. And of the reports we've retained so far  
14 on the listening lines, there were six callers who had  
15 listened in for those meetings.

16 I also just want to highlight that as the Commission  
17 decides -- discusses further the plans for the remaining  
18 weeks we have in December, I'll be working with the  
19 Outreach staff on how we're going to be ensuring that the  
20 public is clear on the path -- plan going forward in  
21 December, as well as staff support through this process.

22 So just to also provide a recap on the input  
23 meeting, staff supported with notetaking. And so the  
24 notes for the public comment from those meetings are in  
25 the Airtable database also right now. And we'll continue

1 to be providing that support for public input that's  
2 provided by callers through this process.

3 And then just to highlight what Alvaro had mentioned  
4 for the COI paper form, those are labeled as paper form  
5 in the database right now.

6 And staff are also continuing to provide  
7 redistricting presentations, and that'll be posted in the  
8 report also. That was it.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Director Kaplan.

10 Any questions for Director Kaplan?

11 Seeing none, we'll move on to Chief Counsel Pane.

12 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair.

13 Good afternoon, Commission. I actually don't have  
14 any updates right now in the legal realm, but happy to  
15 entertain -- answer any questions you may have.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Any questions for Chief Counsel Pane?

17 Commissioner Sinay?

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: When you have a chance, can we  
19 meet in person that new lawyer -- I'm forgetting what his  
20 title is -- just because he's been in our meetings, but  
21 we haven't --

22 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Sure. Yeah, yeah.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- met him yet. And it would  
24 be nice of --

25 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah.

1           COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- nice for him and for us.

2           CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Sure, I will definitely arrange  
3 that. Thank you.

4           CHAIR TOLEDO: Any other questions?

5           Seeing none and since we went through our director  
6 reports quite efficiently and effectively, I hope the  
7 rest of our meeting is as quick as this. But we'll move  
8 into closed session to discuss litigation matters. And  
9 before that, we will take public comments. And after  
10 that, we will go into closed session to discuss  
11 litigation concerns.

12           Katy --

13           MR. MANOFF: I -- I can help you with that, Chair.

14           CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, thank you, Kristian.

15           MR. MANOFF: In order to maximize transparency and  
16 public participation in our process, the Commission will  
17 be taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the  
18 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is  
19 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number  
20 provided on the livestream feed. It is 839-6109-6845 for  
21 today's meeting. When prompted to enter a participant  
22 ID, simply press the pound.

23           Once you've dialed in, you'll be placed in a queue.  
24 To indicate that you wish to comment, please press star-  
25 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When

1 it's your turn to speak, you'll hear a message that says  
2 the host would like you to -- to speak; press star-6 to  
3 speak. If you'd like to give your name, please state and  
4 spell it for the record. You are not required to provide  
5 your name to give public comment.

6 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
7 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
8 call. Once you're waiting in the queue, be alert for  
9 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn  
10 down the livestream volume.

11 And we do have some raised hands. Just a moment.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

13 MR. MANOFF: Up first, we'll have caller 2448. And  
14 after that will be caller 8117.

15 And Chair, would you like us to enforce a two-minute  
16 time limit?

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, two minutes is fine. And the  
18 issues should be pertaining to the -- to the items at  
19 hand.

20 MR. MANOFF: Understood.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

22 MR. MANOFF: All right.

23 Okay. Caller 2448, please follow the prompts to  
24 unmute. Go ahead. The floor is yours.

25 MR. CANNON: My name is Peter Cannon, C-A-N-N-O-N.

1 I've called in several times before. Now that you are in  
2 the final phase of your duties, this may be the last time  
3 you hear from me about the Commission's work.

4 During the last year, I sincerely appreciated you  
5 listening to my thoughts and concerns. Today, I want to  
6 draw your attention to one of the essay questions you  
7 answered when you first applied to be on the Commission.  
8 The question reads,

9 "Please explain what it means to be impartial  
10 and describe your ability to exercise  
11 impartiality. Provide examples of times when  
12 you had to set aside your personal views in  
13 order to achieve a common goal."

14 I am calling to humbly request that the  
15 Commissioners take the time to reflect on your answers to  
16 this question before you start your last month of line  
17 drawing. Lines must comply with the law, but the law  
18 isn't going to tell you how to prioritize between  
19 communities.

20 The hardest place to maintain impartiality will be  
21 in the places each of you live. This will be a unique  
22 challenge, particularly when there is strong community-  
23 of-interest testimony from your own community. As an  
24 example of this challenge, are you willing to tell your  
25 friends and neighbors as a resident: I absolutely agree

1 with you, but taking care of our community would have  
2 caused worse outcomes for others, so I had to set aside  
3 my personal view to achieve the common goal. If you are  
4 not to be parochial, partial local --

5 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

6 MR. CANNON: -- representative, but (audio  
7 interference) California State Commissioners, you must be  
8 blind to and you must put aside any personal, local  
9 interest. Take a moment to remember how you answered the  
10 question about impartiality on your application when you  
11 asked to do this tough, difficult, and challenging job.  
12 It was an act of faith by the people of California to  
13 entrust you to look inwards and act as a Commissioner for  
14 the entire state. Please affirm your ability to make the  
15 difficult choices that come with being.

16 MR. MANOFF: Thank you.

17 And next up, we've got caller 8817.

18 Please follow the prompts to unmute.

19 Caller, go ahead.

20 MR. GATES: Hello?

21 MR. MANOFF: Hello. We hear you. Go ahead.

22 MR. GATES: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name  
23 is Chris Gates. I'm a resident of O.C. for around  
24 fifteen years. And I'm calling today urging you to all  
25 please remove Irvine from its current placement in the

1 district. Irvine does not have anything in common with  
2 the beach cities. It currently is inhabiting a district  
3 with -- and a significant, important that one (ph.).  
4 Irvine's been kept the whole. And too, Irvine does not  
5 belong in the coastal district. Thank you.

6 MR. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

7 And again, the Commission is taking public comments  
8 on agenda item number 4, direct -- I'm sorry -- number 2,  
9 Directors' reports. If you have a comment on that agenda  
10 item, please, press star-9.

11 Again, one more time, we are taking public comments  
12 on agenda item number 2, directors reports. If you have  
13 public comments on that agenda item, please press star-9.

14 We have caller 5420.

15 Please follow the prompts. Again, that's caller  
16 5420. You can now unmute by pressing star-6, please.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is this feedback for the  
18 visualization maps?

19 MR. MANOFF: No, it is not. This is for agenda item  
20 2, Directors' reports; do you have a comment on that?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, we're calling for the  
22 visualization.

23 MR. MANOFF: Okay. We will have general public  
24 comment at the end of the meeting.

25 And that is all our hands for that item, Chair.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

2 So with that, let's go to closed session.

3 And then just a reminder to the public that we will  
4 be accepting general public comment at the end of the  
5 meeting where we will accept a comment on any and all  
6 items. Thank you.

7 So with that, we will -- we will recess to closed  
8 session.

9 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 1:18 p.m.

10 until 4:25 p.m.)

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California  
12 Citizens Redistricting Commission's business meeting. We  
13 are just -- came back from closed session under the  
14 pending litigation exception, and no action was taken.  
15 We will be continuing on with item number 3, which is  
16 committee and subcommittee updates. We'll start with  
17 Government Affairs, Sadhwani and Toledo, this morning.

18 Ms. Sadhwani -- Commissioner Sadhwani, any update?

19 I think she's frozen with her eyes wide open. So  
20 I'll take it. There is no update -- no substantive  
21 update at this point.

22 So we'll move on to Finance and Administration.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, no updates.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioners Fernandez and  
25 Fornaciari.

1           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. No updates.

2           CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. We have no updates for Finance  
3 and Administration. We'll move on to Gantt Chart.

4           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Nothing to report, Chair.

5           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

6           Next, we'll move on to Outreach and Engagement,  
7 Commissioners Sinay and Fornaciari.

8           COMMISSIONER SINAY: Nothing to report at this  
9 point.

10          CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent.

11          Materials Development, Fernandez and Kennedy?

12          COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We have made some progress  
13 towards a draft of the report to accompany the maps. We  
14 have discussed with the legal team what their role is in  
15 this process. And given the workload that we, as  
16 Commissioners, have are exploring the option of having  
17 the lawyers do some of the editing. The subcommittee  
18 will retain ultimate control over what is presented to  
19 the full Commission as a draft. And we are hopeful that  
20 we can have a draft to the full Commission in next week.

21          CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you very much.

22          COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And then I have just a  
23 little bit more. It's a tag --

24          CHAIR TOLEDO: Of course.

25          COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- team effort here.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Of course, Commissioner Fernandez.  
2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: There is a section in  
3 the -- in the report at section 3, I believe. And what  
4 that is, a brief description of every district that we  
5 draw. And at this point, we are hoping that our Outreach  
6 director will be able to -- her and her staff will be  
7 able to draft that language for us.

8 They've been doing a wonderful job of tracking all  
9 of our comments and all of our directions. So if they  
10 can also work with the line drawers in terms of some of  
11 the specific city information. So we're hoping that they  
12 can draft us with that piece. So that would be for all  
13 of the Assembly, the Senate, Congressional, and Board of  
14 Equalization districts. Thank you.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

16 So with that, we'll move on to website committee,  
17 Kennedy and Taylor.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing specific to report.  
19 I would like to remind staff that we have strongly  
20 suggested that items that are posted on the website, and  
21 particularly handouts and similar items, be tagged with  
22 date and time. We're getting down to a point where not  
23 only is there a lot of interest in what we are posting on  
24 the website, but we have seen occasions where documents  
25 have been replaced with newer versions. And yet, it's

1 very difficult for people to -- to see at a glance what  
2 is the latest version or when something was posted. So I  
3 would -- I would reiterate to staff that it would be very  
4 helpful to have date and time posted on documents that  
5 are going up on the website. Thank you.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

7 Data Management, Commissioners, Ahmad and Turner.

8 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.

9 We have Toni on. Yes, Toni is here on the call to  
10 give us a walk-through. So I'll turn it over to Toni.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent.

12 MS. ANTONOVA: Thank you, Commissioners. I wanted  
13 to jump on the call to give a quick tutorial of The  
14 District draft map viewer that we have on the website and  
15 to also introduce a new feature that we have added today.  
16 I'm going to share my screen, so everyone can follow  
17 along. And I'll also show where we have a tutorial  
18 posted already, so that everyone can reference that after  
19 this call.

20 So if you open up the CRC web page, I'm on the home  
21 page, you'll have to go to the data tab in the top right  
22 corner to navigate to The District Draft Map Viewer.  
23 You'll see map viewer in the dropdown here. This is a  
24 widget that essentially lets you interact with the  
25 different draft maps and also compare them to the

1 current-day district's. Some of you may be familiar with  
2 this already, but I'll go over a number of the features  
3 that we have here.

4 The very first one is just zooming in and out on the  
5 map. I just wanted to -- to show that as you zoom in the  
6 detail of the map changes. So you can actually, you  
7 know, zoom in pretty far into a city or town and see  
8 street-level detail. You can see here, if I go really  
9 far in, the names of all the streets and the highways  
10 start to appear. You'll also see things like mountains  
11 and rivers outlined. You can go back to the default view  
12 either by zooming out over here or by clicking on this  
13 little home button, and this will take you back to the  
14 default view that we started with.

15 Off the bat, the draft maps for the Assembly  
16 districts are loaded into the -- into the widget. This  
17 is something you can change, and this is where you want  
18 to navigate to this draft map layer feature over here.  
19 You can kind of toggle it on and off by clicking this  
20 button. So I can actually turn off the Assembly  
21 districts and maybe turn on the Congressional district  
22 draft map. You know, I can maybe zoom in, so that I see  
23 the county-level detail.

24 I can also turn on the current-day lines, and  
25 they'll show up in a slightly different color. So you

1 see here, the Congressional districts are in this  
2 grayish-brown color, and the current-day are in reddish-  
3 pink color. And you can kind of -- you can turn on and  
4 off as many of these maps as you want. They each show a  
5 label for the district shown; so sometimes, it can get a  
6 little crowded, and this is where you might want to  
7 actually turn off some of these labels.

8 So you know, if I zoom in here, maybe I actually  
9 want to turn off the labels for the current-day  
10 districts. I can click on these three little dots next  
11 to the map name. And here, there'll be the option to  
12 hide the labels. So the lines will still be there, but  
13 the labels for the current-day Congressional districts  
14 just went away.

15 Something else that you can do is actually change  
16 the transparency. And so, you know, maybe I -- I find  
17 this kind of too obtrusive, and so I can set the  
18 transparency of the current day lines to fifty, so  
19 they're just slightly shown. And this way, you can --  
20 you can interact with more of the maps at the same time.

21 Something else. That you can do with the map viewer  
22 is actually see some metadata on each one of the proposed  
23 districts. So if I double click on the district  
24 itself -- oops, I think I zoomed in a little bit -- a  
25 little pop-up will come up. And this will show some

1 information in population statistics about that area. So  
2 I can click on the different districts and see this  
3 information here. That's only available for the -- the  
4 draft maps themselves and not the current-day districts.  
5 So this is for the Senate districts; we have some -- some  
6 metadata available, and so on.

7 Something else you can toggle on and off are, you  
8 know, these -- the county level layer. And this is,  
9 again, just to make it easier to interact with more than  
10 one map without having everything seem really cluttered.  
11 You can also turn on and off the incorporated places and  
12 CDPs. And again, it's just to kind of declutter the  
13 screen. The map itself has a certain level of detail  
14 that will appear as you zoom in and out that you can't  
15 change, but you will be able to declutter some of the --  
16 the county-level and CDP lines.

17 It also has an address search bar. And this just  
18 makes it easier to go to a specific location. You know,  
19 maybe you want to go to West Hollywood and L.A. You can  
20 type it out as you would in Google Maps or elsewhere, and  
21 it takes you to that location. It just makes navigation  
22 a little bit easier.

23 The new feature that we added is actually on this  
24 button in the top right corner next to the layers button.  
25 And this is really exciting. It's -- it's just a really

1 easy way to view shapefiles that you have on hand. And  
2 it essentially lets you see those shapefiles with the  
3 district maps in the background, so that you can look at  
4 how the lines interact with the shapefile you're  
5 interested in.

6 It's a drag-and-drop feature. So if you have any  
7 shapefiles on hand, you essentially drag them into this,  
8 and the polygon will appear on the map. I'll go over an  
9 example of how you might use this with the data we  
10 currently have up on the CRC web page. So if you  
11 navigate to the data tab on the web page again and go to  
12 data and the dropdown, you'll find all of the submissions  
13 that we have received in this table. And here we have a  
14 column that has shapefiles, if they're available, or if  
15 someone has submitted them.

16 I'm going to actually filter to -- something  
17 happened okay. I'm actually going to filter to all of  
18 the records where that column is not empty. And you can  
19 do this in this filter feature here. So I've set  
20 shapefile to, is not empty, just so I can find what I'm  
21 looking for more easily. My internet might be a little  
22 bit slow today, which is why I am receiving that.  
23 Hopefully it won't cause anything to pause.

24 So now I see all of the records that have shapefiles  
25 available. And if I scroll to the right to that column

1 shapefile, I can actually double-click on these links to  
2 download the GIS file. So if I -- you know, I might be  
3 browsing here and maybe I have a number of records that  
4 I'd like to see the polygon in more detail, I can double-  
5 click here, and it'll download shapefile. I'll download  
6 a couple of them. And I'll be able to find the files in  
7 my downloads folder.

8       So now if I navigate back to the map viewer with,  
9 say, five shapefiles that I really want to look at more  
10 in detail from our records, I can click on this button,  
11 "Data". And I can go to the downloads folder. And I can  
12 actually just drop these ZIP files in here, and the  
13 polygon of the shapefile will appear. And it's super  
14 quick and easy, which is what makes it so awesome.  
15 There's often really no loading time. And it actually,  
16 you know, draws the -- the polygon on top of the base  
17 map, so you can even see where the boundaries are pretty  
18 in detail. And if you -- if you zoom in, you'll also be  
19 able to see that street-level of detail like you did  
20 before. Maybe I'll add the last one in. They're --  
21 sometimes, if the shapefile is a little bit larger, it'll  
22 take more time, though, this one looks fairly small.

23       So now if I zoom all the way out by clicking on this  
24 default button again, I'll actually be able to see the  
25 three shapefiles highlighted that I just added. I can

1 also check what I've uploaded into the map by clicking on  
2 this layer button on the bottom right of the -- the  
3 widget. So I've added these three files, and I can  
4 actually remove one if I don't want it. Maybe I'll re-  
5 add it, though. Let's see. that's the big. You can see  
6 here it's loading -- loading the file, taking some time.

7 While it's doing that, I want to show you where  
8 these appear -- appear in this layer view. So if you go  
9 back to the layer button -- you know, we were here and  
10 now we clicked this -- you'll actually see all of the  
11 files that you uploaded up here, and you can toggle them  
12 on and off. And you can also change the, you know, the  
13 draft map that you have shown in the base layer. So  
14 let's say, I'm interested in looking at this one and  
15 maybe I want to see how it interacts with the Senate  
16 districts draft map, I can -- I can zoom in -- oh, no.  
17 Oops. Sorry about that.

18 Something aired out when I tried to reload that  
19 initial shapefile. That may be my internet connection as  
20 well. So we'll try again later. But for now, I'll just  
21 continue the tutorial.

22 So this is the second shapefile that I have here  
23 that I have uploaded, and I can actually zoom in and see  
24 where the Senate district draft map lines fall in  
25 relation to it. This is where that transparency --

1 transparency feature comes in hand, you know, because  
2 it's filled in with this -- this deep color. And you  
3 might want to make it a little bit more opaque, so that  
4 you can actually see what's underneath it and lines that  
5 cross it. You can also always, again, zoom in to the  
6 street level, and this is where the transparency feature  
7 comes in handy, too.

8       Yeah, thank you for listening. That was that was  
9 the end of the tutorial. I know that was quite a bit of  
10 information with the new feature added in, so I'm happy  
11 to answer any questions now or later over email. Feel  
12 free to reach out with anything that might be on mind.

13       There's a tutorial on how to use The District Draft  
14 Map Viewer posted above the widget. And later today or  
15 tomorrow, there'll be a second tutorial going over this  
16 new feature in -- in detail. And it'll essentially be  
17 the video describing what I just shared.

18       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Toni. That was a very --  
19 it's great. It's nice to see the additional feature.  
20 And thank you for the presentation and the tutorial  
21 for --

22       COMMISSIONER TURNER: And right before we go to  
23 questions, still from Data --

24       CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, absolutely.

25       COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner.

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So we're working on Toni and  
3 her ah game because this is absolutely amazing. And she  
4 always delivers so matter of factly. But this is her and  
5 her team have done just an amazing job. And the hope --  
6 and, hopefully, you've picked it up from the presentation  
7 that she did -- is that for all of our shapefile files  
8 that we've received from all of California, anyone that  
9 submitted a shapefile, if we're wondering how it compares  
10 specifically without knowing an area, knowing a street,  
11 we can take the shapefile, just like she has indicated,  
12 and overlay it onto our current maps, onto our draft  
13 maps, et cetera, and see just where the variances are in  
14 the differences. And so -- and we can do that as many  
15 times as we'd -- we'd like as individuals.

16 So I'm just was really excited about the team and  
17 what they were able to bring forth. And so, yeah, I just  
18 wanted a little bit more excitement with this because  
19 this tool is powerful. And we're, Commissioner Isra  
20 (sic) and myself and Alvaro, we're really excited about  
21 what has been created. So I just wanted to add that in  
22 as well.

23 And Toni, you're funny.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for the excitement.

25 And with that, we'll move on to Commissioner Sinay.

1           COMMISSIONER SINAY: Toni, this is awesome. This  
2 whole map is really awesome. I -- I have the same issue  
3 you do where you have to just say wait a couple of times,  
4 but that just means there's just a ton of data in there.  
5 And I -- you know, I've kind of moved away from using the  
6 PDFs to using just the map. And it's been amazing.

7           But I have a quick question. When you have the PDFs  
8 and you have the map, the names are different from the --  
9 the PDFs that we have online and -- and the map. And in  
10 some instance -- like in Congressional, I said it to a  
11 Director Hernandez, and I think I sent it to you as well,  
12 like the ECA district was -- Congressional district was  
13 different in this map and the PDF. And I started really  
14 freaking myself out in the middle of the evening trying  
15 to figure out which one was the right one.

16           But I'm guessing that the most current -- anything  
17 we're working on, we can find it on this map, on the --  
18 on the online map versus the PDF set, that that's where  
19 we, the Commissioners, as well as the public should be  
20 going to see where -- where our thinking is at that  
21 moment in time.

22           MS. ANTONOVA: Yes. Yeah, the most current version  
23 of the map should always be -- it will always be in The  
24 District Map Viewer.

25           I will look into those -- why the PDF name might

1 differ from what is in here. I'm wondering -- yeah, I'm  
2 wondering if that has something to do with their data  
3 processing or, you know, maybe Paul (ph.), sometimes he  
4 creates names that are more interpretable for the public,  
5 so that that may be part of the reason why. I also --

6         Thank you so much, Commissioner Turner and Sinay,  
7 for, you know, the enthusiasm. I know I can be pretty  
8 matter of fact. I also want to quickly shout out to Paul  
9 all our data analyst. He's not on the call right now,  
10 but he really is the mastermind behind all of this. I  
11 communicated an idea that Commissioner Turner had to him,  
12 and he pretty much created this in one afternoon. So  
13 it's pretty amazing, you know, what he can do with the  
14 program. And I --

15             COMMISSIONER SINAY: And in --

16             MS. ANTONOVA: This -- this will be the most up to  
17 date. And I will -- I will check in about why exactly  
18 those names differ.

19             COMMISSIONER SINAY: In this particular tool, Toni,  
20 remind me and or correct me if not correct, is just for  
21 shapefiles, though, right? So you're not able to  
22 download PDFs. I mean, I know the name -- the name  
23 variance is something that you'll look into. But just  
24 wanting, again, say for Commissioners, this is only for  
25 shapefiles?

1 MS. ANTONOVA: Yes -- yes, this is only for -- for  
2 shapefiles, those GIS files. And there is -- there is a  
3 limit to the number of polygons you can upload. It's  
4 very high. It's something like 500 or 1,000. But if --  
5 if by chance you get an error sometimes when you're  
6 uploading something, it may be that, you know, an  
7 organization has submitted a statewide shapefile that has  
8 a lot of little polygons. And then in that case, just  
9 email. And I can work with Paul to -- to get that  
10 visualized.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

12 Any other questions for Toni while we have her?

13 Seeing none, we'll move on.

14 Thank you so much, Toni.

15 All right. We'll move on to communities-of-interest  
16 tool. Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Nothing to report.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

19 Next, we'll move on to discuss the subcommittee on  
20 incarcerated populations, federal facilities. Kennedy  
21 and Turner.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to report  
23 at this point, Chair.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

25 We'll move on to the lesson -- Lessons Learned

1 Committee. Ahmad and Kennedy.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

3 Commissioner Ahmad and I are discussing our next  
4 steps for the lessons-learned process. We are looking at  
5 the possibility of organizing an event in January that  
6 would be probably sometime second half of January for a  
7 week or more. I am starting to look at possible venues  
8 for that. We will have more for you at the next business  
9 meeting. Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

11 Next, we'll move on to Cyber Security. Fornaciari  
12 and Taylor.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Nothing of significance to  
14 report.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

16 Next, we'll move on to Legal Affairs Committee.

17 COMMISSIONER YEE: Nothing to report.

18 I don't know if our chief counsel wanted to update  
19 us on contracting.

20 MR. PANE: Yes. Thank -- thank you, Commissioner  
21 Yee.

22 Nothing exactly to report on that. We are trying to  
23 close one final litigation contract issue with Gibson &  
24 Dunn. We are moving forward. We are getting closer. We  
25 are not there yet, but we will get there.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Line-Drawing Guidelines  
2 Subcommittee. Committee -- Commissioners Turner and Yee.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: I don't think we're line drawing,  
4 we are Mapping Playbook.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: I think -- oh. On here, it says -- I  
6 think it's just called something else, Map and Playbook,  
7 here. It says I think it's called something else, okay?

8 COMMISSIONER YEE: Nothing to report, except that I  
9 did feel motivated to generate a list of California  
10 census designated places populations for you, so four  
11 pages of all the CDPs, over a 1,609.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's a great resource. Thank you,  
13 Commissioner Yee.

14 Let's move on to, at this point, Line Drawing --  
15 actually, no -- Public Input Design Committee.  
16 Fornaciari and Ahmad.

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I thought we sunset.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I guess not yet.

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Oh, no. We were -- we were  
20 tapped --

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: (Indiscernible,  
22 simultaneous speech) the record.

23 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: -- to design the -- yeah.  
24 We -- the input meetings of last week. So I think  
25 looking forward, I'm not sure if we have any other tasks

1 on our to-do list, unless the Commission decides  
2 otherwise.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I just think the --  
4 we got a lot of good input. So I think -- I think that  
5 that went well.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. It was a great process. Thank  
7 you so much.

8 And we will explore the possibility of sunsetting  
9 that committee.

10 Line Drawing Subcommittee. Andersen and Sadhwani.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think this is all being --  
12 I believe Chair should be doing this. And then we're  
13 doing the -- the -- the last -- the new subcommittee, I  
14 don't recall its name. So I'd say we don't have anything  
15 right now.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Perfect. We'll move on to the VRA  
17 Compliance Subcommittee. Sadhwani and Yee.

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You've heard a lot from us  
19 already.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: All right. And we'll hear some more  
21 at the -- when we get to the Finals Maps Planning  
22 Subcommittee. All right.

23 So we'll move on to Litigation Contracts  
24 Subcommittee. And I believe we just heard that update  
25 from -- from Chief Counsel Pane. But we'll check in with

1 Chief Counsel Pane in regard to the litigation contract.

2 MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair.

3 So, yes, I would just reiterate what I had mentioned  
4 previously.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Perfect. Thank you.

6 And then lastly, we'll go on to the Final Map  
7 Planning Subcommittee. I know you have a proposal on the  
8 table for discussion with regard to the final maps plan  
9 and schedule, Commissioners Fornaciari and Sadhwani.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So what I thought  
11 I'd start with is just a general overview of the plan  
12 and -- and what are -- the process that got us to this  
13 plan and -- and what our thinking was. So if you look at  
14 the -- the a handout that was posted on the website  
15 schedule for completing maps and delivering them to the  
16 Secretary of State. There was a little miscommunication.  
17 There was supposed to be a little more detail in this  
18 document, and we're -- I'll just talk to you that more  
19 detail that was supposed to be in that document. And  
20 then we'll -- we'll -- we'll revise this document and  
21 update it soon. I don't know when, but soon. So -- so  
22 we'll see.

23 So you know, we're tasked with developing a detailed  
24 plan to get us to delivering the maps to the Secretary of  
25 State on the -- by December 27th. You know, Commissioner

1 Sadhwani and I work very closely with Alvaro, Marcy,  
2 Fredy, both internal, external counsel, the Line Drawing  
3 team to put this -- this road map together.

4 We were trying to balance our -- our goals of -- you  
5 know, we have a deadline, obviously. And spending enough  
6 time on the maps to -- to do the best we can with the  
7 maps. You know, the draft maps seemed a little rushed.  
8 We had a lot of feedback that they seemed a little  
9 rushed. And we want to make sure that -- that we, you  
10 know, had enough time to -- to -- to do the best job we  
11 can, you know, given the time constraints that we have.

12 So I'll just offer, though, that this is a -- this  
13 is a sort of a working proposal on how we move forward.  
14 We all need to be flexible in the potentiality that we  
15 will pivot. What would be incredible is if we could move  
16 a little more quickly than this -- this schedule shows  
17 and that, you know, have more time for review and that  
18 kind of thing. But you know, in the overview of the --  
19 of the plan, we're -- we're starting with Assembly, the  
20 30th through the 6th. We -- we made the 5th a day off.  
21 I think we all need to have a little bit of time to sort  
22 of reenergize. And the 6th would be a Monday, when we  
23 come back to it, if we need to review or finish anything  
24 up, then go to the House the 7th to the 13th with the  
25 12th as a day off and the 13th as a kind of revisit

1 and -- and -- and finalize. Then the Senate the 14th  
2 through the 17th, and the Board of Equalization also on  
3 the afternoon of the 17th is the plan.

4       And so in spending, you know, time with the Line  
5 Drawing team, we kind of developed this idea of a hybrid  
6 approach. And the idea would be that we would spend --  
7 you know, start the day sort of, these are the CRE we're  
8 going to look at. Let's have a sort of big picture  
9 discussion and then -- and then dig in, work on our VRA  
10 districts, get those finalized, and then -- then work and  
11 manage the rest of the districts as best we can.

12      And then towards the end of the day, whatever we  
13 couldn't get to, you know, if there were some complicated  
14 changes that were going to take too long in live line  
15 drawing, we take the opportunity to give the Line Drawing  
16 team some specific direction that we wanted them to  
17 follow and -- and have a discussion about what the  
18 outcome and -- and consequences of that instruction would  
19 be. So we would have some expectation of what the  
20 outcome would be. And then -- then the -- for instance,  
21 the Southern California team would -- would spend the  
22 next day off-line working and tweaking our -- our  
23 guidance.

24      And so tomorrow we'll start in Southern California  
25 with the Assembly. Then Wednesday, that Southern

1 California team would work off-line. We'd be working on  
2 Northern California, and then alternate back and forth  
3 and zeroing in. So you can see there's a more detailed  
4 proposed plan for the Assembly on how we would -- we  
5 would go through it. And again, on Friday, we try to  
6 wrap everything up on Friday or on Saturday, I mean. And  
7 then the 4th, and then come back, if needed, on the 6th  
8 to wrap up details on the Assembly and then jump into the  
9 Congressional districts on the 7th.

10       And take a very similar approach with Congress, then  
11 again, less time with Senate, fewer districts. And you  
12 know, the thought is also that we would have -- you know,  
13 we'd spend a great deal of thought on the Assembly  
14 districts, take advantage as much nesting as -- as we  
15 could and then go forward from there.

16       And then with regard to -- you know, once we finish  
17 up the line drawing, then we've -- we've got a day on the  
18 18th to review the Senate Assembly BUE (ph.) maps make  
19 any final changes and number the Senate based on  
20 deferral, the Line Drawing team felt comfortable that  
21 they could work the deferral question in that amount of  
22 time. Then on the 19th final in -- any House -- finalize  
23 any House and complete any necessary population  
24 adjustments, get that done. Then on the 20th, the plan  
25 is to approve final maps.

1       Just to set expectations on what that looks like, we  
2 would release -- expect to release PNG shapefile  
3 equivalency files and statistics tables. The map here  
4 will be updated that day with the final maps. The PDFs  
5 take a few days, so they wouldn't be released for a  
6 couple of days.

7       You know, then we have the 21st, 22nd if we need to  
8 go into those days. And you know, we need to -- if you  
9 know, we need to go into those days, but probably the  
10 22nd would be that the absolute final day to approve  
11 maps. But our goal is -- is certainly the 20th.

12      We want to give the public three working days to  
13 review the maps, if we can. And then I have scheduled in  
14 here on the 23rd to review and provide feedback on the  
15 draft report. We just heard that the draft report will  
16 be out to the Commission earlier. You know, we can't  
17 talk across subcommittees. I just penciled that in. And  
18 the report team tell me, you know how you envision  
19 approving that and -- or reviewing it, and we'll revise  
20 this.

21      And then on the 26th, we put a brief meeting on the  
22 calendar on the 26th to certify the maps and approve the  
23 reports. And then we would deliver the report to the  
24 Secretary of State on the 27th. So I'm going to ask my  
25 partner in crime here, Commissioner Sadhwani, to add

1 anything I missed.

2        COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: No, I think you're really  
3 thorough. I think I just want re-up this piece that I  
4 think is no longer in this document about the postings of  
5 information and the timing.

6        So in general, we are attempting to adjust the  
7 schedule of our meetings from 11 to 6, with the postings  
8 of -- of maps that we've worked on being posted no later  
9 than 8 a.m., maybe earlier, but no later than 8 a.m., so  
10 that we, as Commissioners, as well as the public has  
11 some -- have the time to actually review them in advance  
12 of the meetings. Right?

13       One of the things that we've talked about in our  
14 debrief from a couple of weeks ago was having enough time  
15 to do that homework, to do our own kind of analysis. And  
16 so -- so that is -- is most certainly one of the key  
17 components that would require a lot of behind-the-scenes  
18 work from our consultants and staff, and that we had work  
19 done with them to make sure that that would be a process  
20 that that would work well. And again, that, you know,  
21 as -- as Commissioner Fornaciari already -- already  
22 suggested that that would be loaded to the to The  
23 District Viewer, which Toni just -- just reviewed.  
24 That's the -- the piece that our data management -- the  
25 tool that our data management team created for us. And

1 that's really user friendly. And so we felt like that  
2 would be a really appropriate way to be able to review  
3 the -- the district's, largely, because those PDFs just  
4 take such a long time. And PDFs would still come out,  
5 but would come out later after we finish the week on  
6 that -- on that map, in particular.

7 In addition, we did also talk about getting a table  
8 of, I think we were calling them, descriptive statistics  
9 or descriptive statistics on the districts or something  
10 like that, that looks at, you know, things like the --  
11 the deviations, various CVAPs, et cetera.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. Thank you for that,  
14 Commissioner Sadhwani, important point, right, where --  
15 where would -- we'd send the line drawers off to -- with  
16 specific direction to work, and then -- and then it would  
17 be uploaded by 8:00 a.m. the day we were going to come  
18 back to that map and work on it. It's a very good point.

19 And then, so we were thinking, on the 26th -- I'll  
20 just throw this out there and see what my fellow  
21 Commissioners think -- maybe like 11 to noon, have a  
22 meeting from 11 to noon to certify. But we'll turn it  
23 over for questions at this point.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. And start with questions.

25 And thank you very much on your -- on the very

1 thorough -- because I know this is -- you have -- the  
2 both of you have worked really hard on putting this plan  
3 together. And it is a very comprehensive roadmap for the  
4 last couple of days. So appreciate your work.

5           Commissioner Sadhwani, I think you had one other  
6 thing to say.

7           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, I just -- just wanted  
8 to note that we -- we do also want to have two separate  
9 conversations, one about this plan and separately also,  
10 you know, a debrief of the pieces that we heard from  
11 around the state as well. So I just wanted to preface  
12 that, so that we know we're leaving some time for that  
13 really important conversation about -- about both, first,  
14 the plan and then also around the -- the debrief.

15           CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. And let's start with  
16 questions on the plan, thus far. And then we'll move on  
17 to -- once we're done with questions on this plan and  
18 we're all in alignment, then we'll move on to the  
19 debrief.

20           Commissioner Kennedy.

21           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

22           One question and then a quick response to  
23 Commissioner Fornaciari's question. If by some chance we  
24 managed to finish early and not require, say, Monday the  
25 6th or Monday the 13th, does that mean that we're going

1 to slide everything up and get an early start on what  
2 comes next, so that if we needed more time farther down  
3 the line we would have it? Or does -- do those Mondays  
4 become days off if in some imaginary world we don't need  
5 them?

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah -- yeah, the -- yeah,  
7 this group -- yeah, we fill all the  
8 time available and then some. My thought was there  
9 would be days off, but I guess we could put them up --

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: But at the discretion  
11 of the Chair.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: At the discretion of the  
13 Chair, right. I mean, I think -- you know this is --  
14 there's two days off in the next thirty days, so it's up  
15 to the Commission how we want to handle it.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. No. I was just  
17 thinking if -- you know, for example, if we managed to  
18 finish the Assembly districts early and got started on, I  
19 guess Congressional comes next, and found that we needed  
20 more time than the time allotted on the Congressional  
21 maps, getting that start a day earlier might be the  
22 difference between, you know, finishing those  
23 Congressional maps on time, and having to bleed over into  
24 what would be the time for the Senate maps, for example.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think that's, that's a

1 great point. I think we'll --

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think when we get -- if  
4 we get there, yeah, we'll have that conversation.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Right.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think that's a great  
7 point. I really, yeah, I think that's a great point.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Well, I mean, you  
9 know, just from a personal perspective, there's a big  
10 difference between having one day off, which is going to  
11 mean staying in Sacramento, and having two days off which  
12 might mean that I could actually go home. So there's  
13 that motive as well.

14 In response to your question about the report, I  
15 just need to -- to clarify that what we're hoping to have  
16 to the Commission next week is parts 1 and 2. So part 1  
17 is the introductory text describing the process, and so  
18 forth, that Commissioner Fernandez and I had been working  
19 on; and part 2 is kind of the legal framework which the  
20 legal team is working on.

21 We would not have anything, or we don't expect to  
22 have anything at that point for part three. So part  
23 three, you know, to have the full report, I mean, that  
24 that is going to plug into your schedule pretty much as  
25 you have laid it out.

1           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, that's pretty much  
2 what I thought.

3           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah.

4           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Because, I mean -- and I  
5 mean if you're going to be spending, I assume, the 21st  
6 and -- your assumption is the 21st, 22nd, to write that  
7 part of the report --

8           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Right.

9           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- which is not  
10 insignificant, yeah.

11          COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, I mean, the Assembly  
12 part can begin --

13          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, yeah can begin,  
14 that's true. That's true.

15          COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- once we finish the  
16 Assembly districts, et cetera. But we don't anticipate  
17 having part three until, basically, the dates that you  
18 have in your timetable. Okay?

19          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, right.

20          COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, we plan on scheduling a  
21 meeting to review and provide feedback on that report on  
22 that day then.

23          CHAIR TOLEDO: Just a quick question for  
24 Commissioners Sadhwani and Fornaciari. When we think  
25 about -- when you came up with the schedule, I'm just

1 curious, if you can give a little bit of explanation to  
2 us and the public, also in terms of proportionality,  
3 we've had feedback about making sure that -- that areas  
4 across the state of California receive proportionate  
5 amount of time in our deliberations so that any one of  
6 them is left till the last moment.

7 So just want to make sure that that is just  
8 addressed in your conversation. I know you had  
9 conversations around this, and had deep conversations  
10 around this. So I just want to make sure that the  
11 Commission is just think -- is able to sort of hear what  
12 your thought process is as it relates to the plan.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I mean, I think you  
14 basically summed it up right there, right. I mean, we  
15 spent a lot of time thinking about the amount of details,  
16 and -- and the number of districts, and just numbers of  
17 districts, but also the number of VRA districts that we  
18 need to work through and resolve, and how much time we  
19 would expect to spend in a given set of areas.

20 And so you know, based on that, this is what we've  
21 come up with. We also decided to kind of keep the same  
22 approach that we've been using. We're starting with the  
23 Assembly more -- you know there's more districts that can  
24 be more complex. And we've given six -- up to six days  
25 for that.

1           And then with Congress, I think we have five days.  
2 It's fewer districts, but there is complexity in that,  
3 you know, we really have to meet those population  
4 targets. But we felt that once we had worked through a  
5 lot of the -- and talk through a lot of the COI questions  
6 that we have, and issues in the Assembly, it might make  
7 things go a little smoother with regard to the House.

8           And then, you know, as I mentioned with regard to  
9 the Senate, you know, having gone through the House -- I  
10 mean the Assembly and done all the detailed work on that  
11 that we felt like, you know, four days seem pretty  
12 reasonable, or three and a half days seemed pretty  
13 reasonable to get through that.

14          You know, of course, we'd like to have more time,  
15 but we don't. We also had to figure out how to fit it in  
16 within a reasonable amount of time. I thought it was  
17 important, I mean, personally, I thought it was  
18 important; I won't speak for Commissioner Sadhwani, but  
19 to put a couple off days in there so we can kind of  
20 decompress and regroup.

21          I mean, we could have easily just gone straight  
22 through. But everybody needs some time off, including  
23 not just us, but the support staff. And so you know,  
24 that's kind of where we got. I think Commissioner  
25 Sadhwani has some --

1           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. No, I think  
2 everything you said is correct, we definitely spent a lot  
3 of time talking through what map to work on first and the  
4 order, and we landed on Assembly, Congress, Senate, for  
5 all the reasons that the Commissioner Fornaciari laid out  
6 because of the Assembly being of smaller districts,  
7 there's more of them.

8           The COI testimony is often very similar from one map  
9 to the next, but not always. And we recognize that while  
10 there was some thought about: Should we do Assembly then  
11 Senate? I think that the key piece here for Congress is  
12 that because the deviations are so low, the issues that  
13 might arise in that map might require us to make most of  
14 those refinements and then say: Hey, line drawers, go  
15 show us, you know -- go off work and show us where can we  
16 make some of those additional refinements to get to as  
17 close to zero as possible. So we felt because of that,  
18 it was really important to do Congress second.

19           And then I just wanted to also put out there our  
20 other recommendation, again, not appearing on this  
21 document, but is that we would also be taking public  
22 comment daily, that it would be at the last half hour of  
23 the meeting, that it would provide the public ample  
24 opportunity to weigh in, and that we would run it very  
25 similar to how we have in the past.

1           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And before we go on,  
2 because I see a couple of hands raised, so one last  
3 question; and that's, so I see -- let's take, for  
4 example, the 30th, tomorrow. We have three areas,  
5 Southeast Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, is there  
6 a thought process on how much time each one of those  
7 regions would get?

8           Or having done this before, we do use up all of our  
9 time, and we could be here all night, and into the next  
10 night. So just thinking about time, any thoughts on time  
11 giving -- I guess it's prioritization and having us go  
12 through those prioritization, giving us a set amount of  
13 time to work through each one of these areas, any  
14 thoughts on that; or any suggestions on that?

15          You know, that to this Committee, but also to the  
16 whole Commission so that we can think through just having  
17 an efficient meeting, and also being able to get the line  
18 drawers what they need so that they can turn around and  
19 get us the maps, the visualizations in a -- in an  
20 efficient manner.

21          So maybe we'll just think about that. And unless  
22 Commissioners Fornaciari and Sadhwani want to touch bases  
23 on that.

24          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, we certainly -- I'll  
25 start I guess. We certainly talked about that and

1 thought about it. So part of the answer to that question  
2 is the rest of this meeting, and the -- the conversation  
3 that we're going to have in the rest of this meeting.  
4 What are the -- you know, what did we hear from the  
5 public input that we've got? And what are the areas that  
6 we think we need to work on? What are -- what are kind  
7 of the big issues that we need to address? What are the  
8 smaller issues that we can maybe just give direction to  
9 the line drawers to address for us, kind of thing?

10       And so that's part of the structure, the  
11 conversation today. I think as far as a specific amount  
12 of time, yeah, I don't think we have a specific amount of  
13 time. We need to work through VRA districts. And then,  
14 you know, work on the districts in between. But I think  
15 that -- you know, I think that you're bringing up an  
16 important point, and I think everybody needs to kind  
17 of -- sort of look at the schedule and think about, you  
18 know, the pace that we need to work through to get  
19 through it. You know, I think that's important.

20       So Commissioner Sadhwani?

21       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I would just add. I  
22 think that we as Commissioners, we need to be able to  
23 prioritize and clearly articulate what those priorities  
24 are. When we go into the discussion today, you know,  
25 Commissioner Fornaciari and I are planning to take notes,

1 and really try to bullet point, what is your priority in  
2 this area so that when we come back to actual line  
3 drawing, we can have a record of -- not every single  
4 priority -- but if you have three priorities, what are  
5 they?

6 And so that's the level of specificity we really --  
7 we really are encouraging folks to drill down to. We can  
8 have a number of items on a wish list, but what might be  
9 some of the big priorities?

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. And with that,  
11 let's go to Commissioners Andersen, Fernandez, and  
12 Turner.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I've got one  
14 really quick, easy one. We don't have any business  
15 meetings scheduled until the 26th, and that sort of  
16 alarms me a little bit. We did have one originally on  
17 the 11th, you know, I suggest we put one like on the 11th  
18 and the 13th. Just it'll be a half like, you know, you  
19 know as necessary, but you know, I'm concerned about if  
20 anything comes up, you know, if we need to have it posted  
21 somewhere, I think --

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Chief Counsel Pane has a response to  
23 that.

24 MR. PANE: Thank you, Commissioner, for that. Sort  
25 of to that point, my understanding is Executive Director

1 Hernandez is going to be posting for the 13th forward to  
2 be a combo-agendized meeting. So it would have -- it  
3 would be a business meeting as well as line drawing going  
4 forward.

5 Is that right, Commissioner Hernandez?

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: That is correct.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And then the other item.  
9 First of all, great document, there's a lot of work and  
10 way to go. The other item that I want to bring up,  
11 though, is, and I like the way you're kind of laying it  
12 out, and a lot of thought went into how we're going to do  
13 this.

14 The one issue I have is with the central and the  
15 coasts sort of at the end, it's like you're doing the Bay  
16 Area, and Sacramento, and stuff, and I'm concerned about  
17 when you do something in the Bay Area, particularly, I'm  
18 thinking about how we're doing in Hollister, San Jose,  
19 it's going to affect Ventura.

20 And the same, we do say Sacramento, the North, you  
21 know, are we -- is Inyo going to go -- you know, going to  
22 go into San Bernardino? You know, that those are the  
23 issues I'd like us to kind of do that all at the same  
24 time if possible.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. And then one other item  
2 is, I really appreciate that your -- the thought went  
3 into the Assemblies, then Congressional, then Senate.  
4 The one issue that we sort of lost in our line drawing  
5 process is we sort of did each, each of them as sort of  
6 separate units. And like, remember there were a couple  
7 of people who said: Hey, my county is in this Assembly  
8 district, but it's with these guys, but then it's in a  
9 completely different Senate district with those guys.

10          And we need to make sure that Assembly districts,  
11 you know, they can really; most of them can nest, and if  
12 we -- if we sort of think along those lines, I -- I think  
13 that would go much faster. It's almost like: Should we  
14 quickly sneak the Senate in there after we've done all  
15 the work on the Assemblies, realizing that the  
16 Congressionals are an in between and will require a lot  
17 more work. But that was just a thought I want to bring  
18 up.

19          CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

20          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, can I comment?

21          CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-huh. Yes.

22          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So yeah, yeah. So we  
23 debated it a lot. And this is -- this is kind of where  
24 we wound up in the order that we wound up. I think, you  
25 know -- yeah, this is what we're proposing. With regard

1 to your comment about the order to go in the state, and I  
2 thought a lot about this and we can revise it, you know,  
3 however we need to do, we definitely need to work on our  
4 VRA districts in the valley sooner rather than later.

5       But I guess what my vision was, is we'd start at the  
6 bottom, and start at the top, and we'd meet in the  
7 middle, because we've got interface issues. I mean, I  
8 don't think there's any easy way to go. And you know,  
9 and this isn't just my idea, right? We spent a lot of  
10 time talking with the line drawers. And so I can see  
11 that Commissioner Sadhwani wants to -- has a comment too.  
12 Didn't you? Oh, you didn't have a comment. But you  
13 know, and again, this is just a proposal. We can revise  
14 it however we all see fit.

15       CHAIR TOLEDO: Perfect. Let's go to Commissioner  
16 Fernandez, and then Turner.

17       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, just very quick. I  
18 just actually wanted to thank both Commissioners Sadhwani  
19 and Fornaciari for this approach, and the creativity.  
20 Because I am going to tell you, like two weeks ago I was  
21 a little bit nervous and apprehensive about how we were  
22 going to get through all this. And the proposal that you  
23 have just gives me hope. And so thank you very much.

24       And the only other question was in the conversation  
25 that we'll have after, I mean today and this afternoon,

1 will we also be talking about, like we received  
2 conflicting COI? So I mean I think that would be a good  
3 opportunity, especially if we have time, so that we have  
4 that settled before we start actually line drawing.

5 So thank you, again, both for this. It's great.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Yes, we have lots of  
7 hope. And the plan; and we need the plan.

8 So let's go to Commissioner Turner.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, thank you. I just wanted  
10 to echo the gratitude for the work that you've done, for  
11 the hope, the plan, all of it. And so I'm glad about  
12 that.

13 You asked a question a minute ago and it continues  
14 to come up. How are we going to actually make this work?  
15 Because we do like to use the amount of time that's  
16 available for us, and so one thought that I had is that  
17 we, this time, really focus not so much on the -- I guess  
18 the geography, or how large spaces are, and we look at  
19 population.

20 So with almost forty million Californians, perhaps  
21 we can apply some kind of math to it, and say if there's  
22 ten million in Los Angeles, that it gets this kind of  
23 prorated time based on the amount of time that we have  
24 available, because we always go into it saying, let's  
25 minimize -- let's make sure we minimize our comments.

1 Let's be, you know, we talked about being additive and  
2 not repetitive, and all of that.

3       But once we get into conversations, it seems like we  
4 kind of go back to kind of digging in to certain areas  
5 that we want to, and then we feel like we're rushed  
6 through it, or we didn't get it done so -- but we do have  
7 to apply something to be able to say this one area, even  
8 though it's a broad geography, if there's not that much  
9 population there, we should not be spending, I'm saying,  
10 that same amount of time in that space that we're trying  
11 to spend in other areas that have much more population.

12       So as we're thinking through, and move through the  
13 day, I'm hoping that we can apply something along those  
14 lines to come up with something a little bit more  
15 definitive instead of just saying, yes, we're going to do  
16 it, let's talk about how we're going to do it. And then  
17 put some kind of parameters in place that says we're  
18 going to allot this for Los Angeles that may be larger  
19 than the Central Valley, that may be larger than, you  
20 know, North, or whatever, however it shakes out. Thank  
21 you.

22       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa,  
23 then Sinay.

24       COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I wanted to build on  
25 what Commissioner Turner just said. And I do also want

1 to thank Commissioner Fornaciari and Commissioner  
2 Sadhwani for this. You know, like our draft maps, it  
3 gives us all something to react to, and gives us a  
4 starting place which is, I think, important.

5 And as with anything, it is by no means -- you know,  
6 the comments that we're making is by no means any kind of  
7 knock on, on the work that you've done. I think we like  
8 to take things and then add to it if we can. And so I  
9 just wanted to start there.

10 I did have a question in terms of kind of similar to  
11 what Commissioner Turner did ask. I think Los Angeles,  
12 as an entire region, is extremely dense and has extreme  
13 complexity because of the mix of the different  
14 populations, the communities of interest are also very  
15 intermingled, and mixed, and yet also very distinct in  
16 some places.

17 I guess my question is -- and obviously there are  
18 several VRA districts in there as well as -- as well as  
19 in the Central Valley, but in particular with Southern  
20 California, but specifically L.A. County.

21 The question that I have is I see on the document,  
22 it notes particularly Southeast L.A. I am wondering how  
23 L.A., as an entirety, also falls within this, because I  
24 believe that there's going to be ripple effects depending  
25 on what is going to be decided. I guess I'm asking

1 because I am a bit concerned that we're also going to try  
2 to get to Orange County and San Diego in the same day  
3 when and where.

4       And then also on the next day I see that revert to  
5 L.A., and I'm assuming that -- I guess that would be the  
6 rest of L.A. I guess I'm just asking both for some  
7 clarity, but also to express some concerns about -- to  
8 Commissioner Turner's point; I would like to suggest that  
9 we need to get L.A., you know, cleared up. And I think  
10 the other big area, too, is Central Valley.

11       But I hear what you said about bringing it together,  
12 but I think we should -- we should try to make sure that  
13 we have enough time so that we can just get to a place  
14 where we feel good about where L.A. is going to shake out  
15 because of all the different communities that we have  
16 there. Thank you.

17       CHAIR TOLEDO: Any response from Commissioners  
18 Sadhwani and Fornaciari?

19       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. So first of all I  
20 think, Commissioner Turner, your suggestion is great.  
21 And I'm happy to think about how we could try to  
22 incorporate some of that.

23       But I want to speak specifically to your questions,  
24 Commissioner Akutagawa, about Los Angeles. When we were  
25 working on the draft maps, we really didn't touch Los

1 Angeles in our Assembly and Congressional districts. We  
2 generally said, hmm, the basic architecture looks okay,  
3 but let's leave it. And so we specifically put Los  
4 Angeles first, and in particular, we prioritized South  
5 and East L.A. County, so that it should be read as  
6 county, largely because of the ripple effects that it  
7 will have.

8 It's going to have Northern ripple effects also, but  
9 specifically what we have not had a chance to look at is  
10 the interconnectedness of Los Angeles, the Southern parts  
11 of Los Angeles County, along with the Orange County  
12 border, along with on the Eastern end, along with those  
13 VRA districts that are built out in the Inland Empire,  
14 and San Bernardino, and Riverside.

15 And so we really wanted to focus ourselves on Los  
16 Angeles. In particular, think about those impacts going  
17 Southward, right, because there's a lot of very  
18 considerations that are happening throughout that region.  
19 That's not to say we aren't concerned or not thinking  
20 about the Northern parts, but to kind of leave that in  
21 the beginning portions, focus ourselves on some of those  
22 VRA considerations, and what that's going to do as we  
23 continue to ripple down.

24 We put all of those on there together because we  
25 anticipate what changes we might make in Los Angeles

1 could potentially have ripple effects down to the Mexico  
2 border. And which was largely why, you know, during the  
3 draft maps, and I certainly know I was a part of it. And  
4 many of us felt like: Ooh, let's not get too far down  
5 the rabbit hole of making changes to Los Angeles, because  
6 it's going to -- it's going to change -- have a larger  
7 impact.

8 So that's the thought process there, is really  
9 focusing on those key areas that we've identified and  
10 working our way Southward, and we gave ourselves the  
11 Southward direction because, otherwise, then we start  
12 heading into the Central Valley, right, because we want  
13 to kind of separate ourselves to some extent in -- in  
14 doing so.

15 And we'll see how we do. It's one map at the end of  
16 the day. So there's going to be ripples. This is why  
17 we've gone to this hybrid approach, right. So the idea  
18 being, if we're in a live session, say, with Jaime the  
19 map -- you know, our fabulous mapper for Los Angeles,  
20 who's been kind of leading the charge in Los Angeles, if  
21 we can tell her and explore some of the key priorities  
22 that we have.

23 You know, perhaps it has something to do with, you  
24 know, Asian-American representation in the maps, or  
25 communities of interest from historic communities, and in

1 various areas of Los Angeles. If we can articulate what  
2 those priorities are, we can take a look at some of  
3 the -- what would be the ripple effects of doing it.

4 We could also offer to Jaime: This is what we're  
5 trying to achieve, tomorrow please try and make that  
6 happen and bring it back to us the following day. That's  
7 where we're going date -- you know, in one day Los  
8 Angeles, the next day a different area. We'll work with  
9 a different mapper so that Jaime, behind the scenes, can  
10 help clean up any of the priorities that we were trying  
11 to make, right.

12 That's kind of the thought process there, is that  
13 it's -- we're not going straight back to visualizations,  
14 but instead this hybrid approach so that we can hopefully  
15 try to anticipate the kinds of ripples that we will have,  
16 as we make those changes. And that the line drawers can  
17 also have some time to work off-line, right. And my  
18 understanding; and I don't know if Jaime is still on, I  
19 see Karin is here, but hundreds of hours were put into  
20 the visualizations -- just for Los Angeles County alone.

21 So if we try to make every single change that we  
22 want to see in live line drawing, it might be a  
23 challenge.

24 That being said, I think for the fourteen of us,  
25 working in -- in a live session, helps us to understand

1 and see what the larger impact will be when we want to  
2 see a change, when we say this is a priority, sometimes I  
3 think we need to see on a map what that's going to do to  
4 all of the other districts.

5       I hope that makes sense. And Commissioner  
6 Fornaciari, if it didn't, please, please feel free to  
7 jump in, in terms of that thought process.

8       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. No, I think that  
9 captures it.

10      COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'd like to -- so then just  
11 for clarification, Commissioner Sadhwani, you  
12 mentioned -- I get what you're saying, and it totally  
13 makes sense. I guess my other question then would be:  
14 Why, why L.A., Orange County, and San Diego, instead of  
15 L.A., Orange County and the Inland Empire? Because it  
16 has more of a touch point from L.A. to Orange County than  
17 it does from L.A. to San Diego. It's only through that  
18 Camp Pendleton area down South.

19      And so it's such a -- it's just that one area. But  
20 the Inland Empire, with all of its complexity, and also  
21 it experienced greater growth. So I think I'm just  
22 trying to understand, and that's why I'm asking these  
23 questions. So you know, I appreciate what you're  
24 explaining.

25      COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: If I may respond to that?

1 You know, to us there are a lot of VRA districts in the  
2 Inland Empire. There might be refinements to those, but  
3 to some extent those are -- those are a bit of an anchor.  
4 So unless -- and I think this is where the debrief should  
5 come into play, right. Unless we as a Commission feel  
6 like we have a lot of changes to make in the Inland  
7 Empire, then we should perhaps switch course.

8       But if we feel fairly confident that -- that we're  
9 meeting our VRA obligations in the Inland Empire, then  
10 what comes into play is working further Southward.

11       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. I'd also add  
12 that we have two borders and an ocean in -- in San Diego  
13 and Imperial -- surrounding San Diego and Imperial, and  
14 so you know, we want to make sure that we're not  
15 districting ourselves in a corner we can't get out of.

16       CHAIR TOLEDO: All right. So we are going to go to  
17 a dinner break at 5:45. So we have three people waiting  
18 to -- to speak. So I just wanted to make sure that we're  
19 all aware that you're keeping us from dinner.

20       All right, Commissioner Andersen? Well, you're the  
21 thing between us and dinner, I should say. Yeah, some of  
22 us are hungry.

23       COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I really appreciate  
24 this. And I really like the thought involved in there.  
25 My only one issue is, I'd like us to be more flexible,

1 because with -- when you're going like, okay, and then we  
2 go to Inland Empire, and it turns out, it just makes  
3 perfect sense, clarity comes on. Wow, San Diego, if we  
4 do this and this, and then go up to Inland Empire, it'll  
5 work. We need to be flexible like that.

6       So I just want to make sure that we -- and also  
7 because there is a lot in L.A., and changing that whole  
8 VRA group is going to take a lot. I'd like us also to be  
9 a little flexible in that if we have to go, like, to  
10 another half a day to work it out, I think we should try  
11 that because of its implications, and how it'll ripple.  
12 So I just want to kind of bring that forward.

13       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: If I may? I see Neal  
14 smiling. I absolutely agree with you Commissioner  
15 Andersen. The ability to pivot and turn, and provide  
16 ourselves the time that we need, is the name of the game  
17 here, which is why those Mondays are kind of built in on  
18 an as-needed basis, right. We don't want to shortchange  
19 any area of the State of California. So I completely  
20 agree with that.

21       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And -- and you'll see that  
22 there's a couple of revisits to the areas, so that we  
23 can, you know, work on it, propose what we've done, and  
24 come back in, and revisit the complex areas specifically.

25       CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fernandez?

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Just really, really  
2 quick now that I'm thinking about it, my priority would  
3 be the VRA districts, because they're going to impact  
4 everything else. And so we've got VRA districts  
5 obviously in Southern California, as well as Central  
6 Valley. So my proposal would be to let's solidify those,  
7 so that we know what the rest of the state, what we have  
8 available for the rest of the state, if that makes sense.  
9 But my priority would be the VRA districts first. Thank  
10 you.

11           CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Yee?

12           COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I want to add my  
13 appreciation to this great plan. Like Alicia -- like  
14 Commissioner Fernandez, it just sets my heart at ease,  
15 just feel much more confident going forward the next  
16 several weeks. One question does need to be answered  
17 now, but I'm kind of wondering about big changes versus  
18 small changes.

19           So you know the thought, for instance, that we can  
20 only propose one change per Commissioner until other  
21 Commissioners have had a chance to propose changes, which  
22 I like a lot. I think it's a good rule. But then in my  
23 mind, I'm thinking, well, there are some bigger changes  
24 I'd want to propose, but there's also, you know, a  
25 handful of little changes, just things we got from COI

1 input, little adjustments.

2 You know, wouldn't necessarily want to shortchange  
3 the big changes or the little ones, so is there some way  
4 of catching those. Things that would not even affect,  
5 you know, population considerations at all. Just a  
6 couple of blocks here, a couple of blocks there, those  
7 kind of changes, how to fit those in lots, so giving  
8 attention to the bigger changes that you might want to  
9 propose.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think that's a  
11 great point. I think that's what we're going to try to  
12 capture this evening, and before we start each day. And  
13 I think, you know, I think some of the smaller changes  
14 could probably be given as direction to line drawers to  
15 do off-line, potentially.

16 I think there's a -- there's a key component here,  
17 right, that indifference that we haven't talked about,  
18 that just came back to me, right?

19 The Commissioner, or the Chair, right, is running  
20 the show. Trena led the way, and set the -- set the tone  
21 for how we do that, how we should be doing this, right.  
22 And so there has to be -- you know, we have to get to the  
23 point where we're having some level of agreement amongst  
24 the Commission that this is the direction we want to go,  
25 and the Chair will drive that, and then the Chair will

1 give direction to the line drawer.

2        And so you know, I think that was a great model that  
3 Trena set up, and we're proposing to continue that model.  
4 But you know, when we did visualizations we were, you  
5 know, different -- there were conflicting input, and  
6 there was an agreement, right, but absolutely before we  
7 send the mappers off, or before we do live line drawing,  
8 we have to have some kind of a concurrence. And you  
9 know, when we send the mappers off to do some off-line  
10 work, we have to have concurrence.

11        CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

12        Commissioner Turner?

13        COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, after listening, I just  
14 want to reiterate, because everything that was just  
15 shared to me is extremely important. I definitely agree  
16 with the VRA, and all of those of the piece parts. But I  
17 think because of the desire to still wanting to be  
18 flexible and add an additional day as we need, or  
19 additional half day, or make sure we move things and  
20 clean up little areas, all of those is where we lose  
21 time.

22        And I think it is extremely important. I don't know  
23 how to do it, and I don't know if Staff can help, or some  
24 of the other Commissioners. I know numbers of counties,  
25 but for the areas that we have been dealing with, they

1 don't necessarily fall exactly, you know, along --  
2 however, if we can get an idea of how many people are  
3 there, I think we're going to have to, because that will  
4 tell us, we're going to have to use that population count  
5 to kind of guide us in how much time we can afford to  
6 spend.

7 It'll let us know early on if we have to take  
8 another day, if we now need to work on the Sundays, and  
9 the Mondays, or whatever else. What I don't want is for  
10 us to feel that we have that kind of latitude and  
11 flexibility, and get to the end, whatever the end is, and  
12 then revert back to, we have to do it quick because we're  
13 out of time.

14 And so for me, I think it's important that we go  
15 into this knowing we do have a finite amount of time. We  
16 can prioritize it any way we want to. We can make sure  
17 wherever we start, I'm good with all of that. I just  
18 think that there should be some kind of systematized way  
19 of going into this that says: For this area, this is the  
20 finite amount of time that we're going to spend, make it  
21 work.

22 And then move on into the next area, so that at  
23 least if someone, you know, going in this is what -- this  
24 is our two or three days, this is our one day, you know,  
25 based on population count, based on a fair kind of

1 analysis of what -- you know, what we have in front of  
2 us, and people that we're trying to work with from a  
3 population count.

4 And at the end of that, it just is time to move or  
5 we know we are now, intentionally, shortchanging some  
6 other area on purpose, right? And so we have to, I  
7 think, start there and be able to say we can have wiggle  
8 room anywhere we want to within these hours. But based  
9 on this population we're trying to make it map -- work  
10 for, we need to stick and be very disciplined in this  
11 time frame.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. Commissioner Sadhwani?

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I just wanted to be  
14 responsive to that Commissioner Turner. And what I'm  
15 wondering is, look, we're getting started tomorrow. Can  
16 we stick to the schedule in terms of the dates, right?  
17 And as we go through it, and perhaps Commissioner  
18 Fornaciari and I can take a look more closely at the  
19 population pieces. I don't know if we'll have a chance  
20 to do that before tomorrow morning, but try to allocate  
21 how much time we would actually spend for L.A., versus OC  
22 or San Diego.

23 But for this week, we don't go over, right. The  
24 first day at 11:30 is LAOC, San Diego, period. The next  
25 day is North State Sacramento -- or maybe we switch that

1 to Central Valley based on some of the responses here.  
2 And we stick to that. We can attempt to put some time  
3 parameters on it, in terms of hours within the day for  
4 this week.

5 And let's see how that works. Would that be a  
6 reasonable -- reasonable way to kind of move forward;  
7 because I want us to be able to have this in place for  
8 tomorrow.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I think it's reasonable  
10 because of, I don't have the answers, I don't have the  
11 numbers --

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: -- broken out that we need.  
14 And so I wouldn't expect anyone else to have them ready.  
15 So it's a good way to proceed -- do you have it?

16 MS. KAPLAN: (Audio interference) the county  
17 populations, per county?

18 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Based on how we have the maps.

19 MS. KAPLAN: Oh, oh, no. Okay sorry.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

21 MS. KAPLAN: I thought you just needed that.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. And so from that  
23 standpoint, it's a good way to proceed. I just want  
24 to -- yeah, I would just be repeating. Yes. That's a  
25 good way to proceed.

1 (Whereupon, the court reporter interrupts for  
2 speaker ID)

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: It was Marcy.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes, and I'm going to  
5 throw a little bit of a twist in it. We're hoping what  
6 we come out of this today with is some sense of: We're  
7 kind of comfortable here, and we really think we need to  
8 work here, right? So I mean, if we're comfortable in an  
9 area with large population, then that kind of changes the  
10 equation. But we'll definitely work on thinking about  
11 this tomorrow.

12 | CHAIR TOLEDO: We'll keep track of --

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And I think -- you know, I  
14 think that's a fair way to look at it. So thank you.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: And we'll keep track of how much  
16 we're spending on each one of the districts so that we  
17 can monitor it as well.

18 Commissioner Akutagawa?

19           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, just real quick, I  
20 think we want to repeat what Commissioner Andersen did  
21 also say. I would be a little wary about boxing  
22 ourselves in. I think Commissioner Sadhwani is right. I  
23 think we -- it's a little late to be making a complete  
24 change. Let's go with what we have. Give ourselves a  
25 little bit of the flexibility that we need to see how it

1 works out. And then maybe next week we could figure out,  
2 you know, a little bit more of how much time we're going  
3 to need for everything.

4 But I would -- I would support just let's keep it  
5 with the way it is. And let's just allow ourselves a  
6 little flexibility, at least for this week and not box  
7 ourselves in too much. So thank you.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 And with that, it's dinner time. So we will be back  
10 at 6:30. So we are on break.

11 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 1:39 p.m.  
12 until 5:47 p.m.)

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, and good evening. We're  
14 continuing now with the Community Citizens Redistricting  
15 Commission's Business Meeting. We're continuing on with  
16 our Final Maps Committee presentation and discussion.

17 The next item for this Committee is discussion on --  
18 it's actually a debrief on the feedback and the input  
19 that we've received thus far over the last fourteen days.

20 And I believe Commissioners Sadhwani and Fornaciari  
21 will be kicking us off. Oops, let me start my video.  
22 They will be starting us off.

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right. Thank you, Chair.  
24 Before we do, can you just walk me through the -- how  
25 much time we have?

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: We have about an hour.

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: For discussion, and so if we start it  
4 with some of the global issues, and go around, so that  
5 each Commissioner can -- I believe we had mentioned three  
6 priorities per Commissioner, but maybe more as time  
7 allows.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I think that that  
9 would make sense. So perhaps we can do it that way. I  
10 think Commissioner Fornaciari and I went back and forth a  
11 little bit about it, on how to approach this  
12 conversation. But I think having each Commissioner  
13 identify three to five major priorities that they would  
14 have as they -- as they wanted change.

15 What -- what -- what he and I will be doing behind  
16 the scenes is taking the notes themselves, so that  
17 hopefully we can synthesize them into very specific  
18 priorities. And of course, this is a conversation also.  
19 So I think perhaps we can do a short round and try to  
20 limit ourselves to about two minutes each. That would  
21 take us about thirty minutes to get through everyone to  
22 list some of the top priorities.

23 And from there, once we've heard everyone's top  
24 priorities, perhaps we could engage in trying to better  
25 understand and synthesize some of the -- some of the

1 testimony that we've received, right. And we can  
2 actually engage in and talk through.

3 Well, it's interesting you have this is a priority,  
4 but you know, I might feel differently about it. So I  
5 think if we each take about two minutes to give those top  
6 priorities, that will take about half an hour. And then  
7 I would leave us with half an hour to kind of engage with  
8 one another. Does that work for everyone?

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: So I'm hearing top priorities. Are  
10 you thinking three, or five, or how many, three?

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I mean, I'm hoping three,  
12 but if you -- if you absolutely --

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So what is --

14 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Whatever you can fit into  
15 two minutes, and we'll try to capture it.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Perfect. I like that.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: So whatever you can fit into two  
19 minutes.

20 And Kristian, can you help us with monitoring the  
21 time, because we're serious about our time?

22 So Commissioner Sinay, let's --

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I want to be last.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, you want to be last? I thought  
25 you had your hand raised.

1           So with that, let's see. Who wants to go first?

2        MR. BECKER: And I need you guys to be quiet, okay?

3        CHAIR TOLEDO: That was not for us.

4        COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. And yes, we will be  
5 quiet, thank you.

6        CHAIR TOLEDO: We will try our best.

7        UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Start to your left -- I mean,  
8 start to your right.

9        CHAIR TOLEDO: Any Commissioner wants to start? I  
10 want to take volunteers. Let's start with Commissioner  
11 Fernandez.

12      COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Sure.

13      CHAIR TOLEDO: Two minutes.

14      COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh. Okay, so number 1  
15 priority is to get all of the VRA districts finalized  
16 because then the rest of it, I can't get to my number 2  
17 and 3. And so just so -- I focused my review of all the  
18 comments mainly for the North area. So with that one of  
19 my priorities, and we heard during quite a bit of public  
20 comment, was the cities and unincorporated areas in  
21 Sacramento County are different from the surrounding  
22 counties, such as Placer and El Dorado.

23      So my priority is to keep the Sacramento County  
24 areas together, and then also build another, hopefully  
25 another district that has the suburbs of Sacramento that

1 are in those other counties.

2       And then another priority I have is, as much as  
3 possible, having Butte, Sutter, Yuba, Glenn, Colusa, and  
4 Tehama together as much as possible. They do have the  
5 AG, and as I've been told, as I'm a flatlander, so as a  
6 flatlander, they have different concerns and issues than  
7 those in the mountains. And then my --

8       CHAIR TOLEDO: One minute.

9       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- my other priority is Del  
10 Norte. Initially I was okay with going with the coastal,  
11 but now I'm having second thoughts and thinking that  
12 maybe they do have more in common with Siskiyou going  
13 inward to the East. So that's probably something I would  
14 like to work on as well.

15       MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

16       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And thank you for that  
17 thirty-second reminder, Kristian. And I think that was  
18 four, but again, I have to circle back to VRA. We really  
19 need to get that tied down. And then also the ECA  
20 coastal district --

21       MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

22       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- trying to figure, figure  
23 that one out.

24       CHAIR TOLEDO: Time. Thank you.

25       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

1           CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Andersen, are you ready  
2 to go next, or do you want to -- you're next on my  
3 screen, that's why I'm asking.

4           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sure. I'll jump in with --  
5 I like the things which Commissioner Fernandez said,  
6 except that I also have -- you know, I like a lot of  
7 that, a couple of exceptions. But then my other priority  
8 is East Bay, the Tri-Valley, we never -- we kind of said,  
9 well, kind of threw something out there, and never really  
10 kind of revisited it. And the Cherryland, that whole  
11 area, and there's tweaks all around the South Bay, and  
12 cleaning up San Francisco a little, and Solano.

13          We divvied up that huge chunk out of it, and  
14 everyone said they hate it. So I'd really like to fix  
15 that. And I think that -- and then Hollister, the San  
16 Benito area. There's also then in the Valley, but I  
17 don't know if you'll be saying that.

18          CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. That was well under two  
19 minutes.

20          Who wants to be next? Commissioner Vazquez, thank  
21 you for volunteering.

22          COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. My priority is voting  
23 rights districts in Los Angeles County and how they --  
24 and especially sort of the transitions, particularly into  
25 Orange County, North Orange County, and trying to figure

1 out also the both the South L.A. and Northeast L.A.  
2 regions, and then also, to be specific, the West San  
3 Gabriel Valley, particularly in the Congressional area.  
4 Thanks.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Ahmad?

6 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. My  
7 priorities align with some of the items that have already  
8 been stated. So just to highlight, of course the  
9 criteria that we all have to abide by, you know,  
10 population, VRA, et cetera, but with specific emphasis on  
11 the VRA areas that we have yet to nail down. L.A. County  
12 is a huge priority for me just because of how densely  
13 populated that area is, and the various VRA  
14 considerations as well as communities of interest.

15 I'm also interested in focusing a little bit on that  
16 border next to Nevada. We've heard conflicting testimony  
17 about whether to cross over the mountains, or to keep it  
18 in the more North-South type of district. So I'm  
19 definitely keen on trying to explore that area more.  
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad.

22 Commissioner Taylor?

23 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good evening. Our priority is  
24 the state, but you know, I guess we can highlight a few  
25 of the -- a few of the issues again. Going with

1 Commissioner Vazquez, and what Commissioner Ahmad just  
2 said, just I think my mind is in the same area. Of  
3 course the VRA sets the pace. So I really think that we  
4 should concentrate on those VRA districts.

5 And then, you know, L.A. County -- L.A. County, the  
6 San Gabriel Valley, the border with Orange County, those  
7 are important. I think those are some hotbed issues.  
8 And you know, it'd be interesting if I go out a little  
9 further North to solving the Simi Valley, Moorpark, San  
10 Fernando issue. Of course, that would help us, that  
11 would help to drive some of the districts up North, but  
12 again, you know. And you know, I do think emphasis, or  
13 just paying respect to -- to our mandated population.  
14 Just, we have to always keep that mindful. Thank you.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Kennedy?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: The time starts now.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, my, gosh.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. So top two, the split  
21 along the 10 in the Coachella Valley is a major problem,  
22 plus the fact that that split actually splits tribal  
23 lands that we were trying not to split. San Bernardino  
24 and Riverside being joined in a single district, I think  
25 is problematic. We need to look at that.

1        Others, you know, that I would say are priorities,  
2 and some of these we've heard, some we will hear; North  
3 County, and East County, San Diego, how to deal with  
4 Modesto. I agree with voices that have said, you know,  
5 take the Sierra region and take it farther North before  
6 coming over the mountains. So yes, I think it's going to  
7 have to come over the mountains to get population, but do  
8 it much farther North.

9        Dealing with Malibu area, and that Council of  
10 Government, and trying to find a better way to fit those  
11 pieces together. The West San Gabriel Valley, and the  
12 interface with the National Forest, the split in West  
13 Hollywood, putting Albany back with other Alameda County  
14 areas, and I would say --

15        MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

16        COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- you know, we've got some  
17 work to do in North Contra Costa. So I'll leave it  
18 there.

19        CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. All right, let's see.  
20 Who's next?

21        Commissioner Sadhwani, are you ready?

22        COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. I was vigorously  
23 taking notes of what everyone was saying. So I don't  
24 have my own notes in front of me. So some key  
25 considerations, that's definitely nailing down the VRA

1 districts, particularly in the Central Valley. I think  
2 to go along with that, we've heard loud and clear from  
3 folks in Modesto, as well as from the Sierra folks, that  
4 they don't want Modesto in the Sierras.

5 So I would agree with what's been said about --  
6 about taking a closer look at going further North. I  
7 think what happens in the Central Valley leaves open the  
8 question of then Modesto further North into Sacramento.  
9 So I think that there's going to need to be some  
10 reconstruction there.

11 In Los Angeles, hmm, where to start? NELA,  
12 definitely San Gabriel Valley with the -- the -- that 210  
13 Corridor area, I think, particularly in the Congressional  
14 maps need work. And I agree with everything everyone  
15 said about the interconnection between Los Angeles and  
16 Orange County. That is not a hard border. And we  
17 haven't spent a lot of time actually looking at the --  
18 the fluidity that might exist between that.

19 And I think we do have VRA considerations further  
20 down that I want to make sure that we are being very  
21 mindful of, as we begin to cross over into Orange County.  
22 And so figuring out what happens there is, of course, of  
23 great importance to me. And we've certainly also heard a  
24 whole lot about San Diego and cleaning up some of the  
25 maps in the San Diego area. So I would add that to my

1 list as well. Thank you.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Yee?

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. I love  
4 everything everyone is saying. I'll repeat some of them.  
5 Yeah, get Albany back into Alameda County, work on the  
6 West San Gabriel Valley, the Congressional district, a  
7 lot of feedback about that. The ECA, Sierra district,  
8 yeah, go farther North, and stay out of the Valley if we  
9 can.

10 Simi Valley and Santa Clarita, such conflicting  
11 testimony, passionate, conflicting testimony, that we  
12 need to land somewhere there, so landing somewhere there  
13 that we'll feel good about. Our dear friends with the  
14 Van Nuys, Sherman Oaks, the POSO line that we need to fix  
15 in a couple of the maps. Lawndale, heard lots from  
16 Lawndale and them wanting to be drawn into -- to be  
17 included with the cities to the North of it.

18 Tri-Valley, yes, and VRA, of course, all over, but  
19 especially in my mind, the Central Valley, and then  
20 possibly going Westward towards the Monterey Bay. And  
21 what possibilities there might be there, San Benito not  
22 very happy about being included with Silicon Valley and  
23 wanting to see what we can do there.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa?

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And so for me, I'd like to

1 definitely focus on L.A. County as well too, specifically  
2 those Gateway Cities, and the San Gabriel Valley, both  
3 the East as well as the West, and particularly the East  
4 San Gabriel Valley with NORTHOC. All of Orange County, I  
5 think there's different perspectives, very vehement, and  
6 very passionate requests to stay separated from L.A.  
7 County, particularly Long Beach, especially, you know,  
8 coastal -- coastal district versus no coastal district.

9       I -- I think, you know, just there's been some  
10 conversation about that. Do they cross over into -- you  
11 know, into San Diego County? I'm also interested as well  
12 in the Simi Valley, Santa Clarita question, definitely  
13 the Sierras. We've heard loud and clear from the  
14 communities there, would like to explore that. The  
15 Central Valley, San Benito, Monterey Coast questions with  
16 its, you know, dip into the high tech areas of the  
17 Silicon Valley. Heard loud and clear that they do not  
18 want to be affiliated.

19       Sacramento, hearing a lot about that, that was also  
20 really important, and I think heard those as well, too.  
21 And I think others mentioned the Far North, especially the  
22 Siskiyou, and the various Native American tribes up  
23 there. And how do we honor that, as well as also the  
24 requests from the others who are in those areas, too,  
25 that wanted to keep their counties whole.

1           MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

3           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, great. Let's see. We  
4 have a couple more Commissioners. Commissioner Turner?

5           COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair Toledo.

6 Yeah, so I'd like to focus on the Klamath Tribes being  
7 kept together. I think it's the Karuk Tribe, I think we  
8 inadvertently -- I'm trying to remember the testimony --  
9 moved it the wrong direction. So I definitely want to  
10 focus in that area.

11          Also, I'd like in the Bay, to work to keep Oakland  
12 with Emeryville, and with Rodeo, Hercules, Richmond  
13 together in an East Bay district. I'd like to work on  
14 decoupling Stanislaus from the Sierras. We talked about  
15 in the ECA. And then also see if we can't keep Merced  
16 whole.

17          CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. Let's go on to Commissioner  
18 Fornaciari.

19          COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I'll try to be  
20 additive here. We heard a lot of -- some testimony from  
21 folks living in the Hayward area that they didn't want to  
22 be with the Tri-Valley. I looked at that. I don't know  
23 how we'll fix it, but I'd like to at least think about  
24 that a bit. We were a little haphazard in the way we  
25 split Santa Rosa. I did get a chance to take a look at

1 that and make something that makes more sense.

2       The Northstate is interesting. We've got more  
3 testimony recently about going East-West and North-South,  
4 but I don't know how we're going to reconcile that. I  
5 think San Diego, you know, we just radically changed two  
6 of those maps very quickly. And -- and we need to get  
7 back there, and put that together in a way that makes  
8 more sense. And that's, I guess, all I can think of off  
9 the top of my head.

10      CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So I'll give mine. And  
11 I'm also -- I'm going to just keep it high level. So for  
12 me, VRA is number 1, and focused in the Central Valley,  
13 the Central Coast, in Los Angeles, and particularly the  
14 NELA area, the Gateway Cities. The question around Long  
15 Beach, and OC, and Los Angeles rises to the top. We've  
16 received significant testimony from that area.

17      We've also received significant testimony from the  
18 Central Coast, specifically from the Salinas, so Monterey  
19 area, the San Benito area. And it's an area that  
20 deserves attention, and that we certainly will want to  
21 take a look at. And of course, the Central Valley, the  
22 Central Valley needs attention as well. As does all of  
23 California; and I think we named pretty much every part  
24 of California through the fourteen of us.

25      So with that, we'll move on to the next --

1           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Chair?

2           CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

3           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Sorry, Commissioner Le

4 Mons?

5           CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, Commissioner Le Mons, sorry about

6 that.

7           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And Sinay.

8           CHAIR TOLEDO: And Sinay; two more.

9           COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Oh. That's okay. In the

10 spirit of being additive, of course we want to focus on

11 VRA, and then making sure that we can just reconcile as

12 many of the areas that Californians have given us

13 feedback on. That's where my -- I want my attention to

14 be. Thank you, Chair.

15          CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

16          Commissioner Sinay?

17          COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I agree with --

18 everybody's got my list, but what rises to the top is

19 really looking at the Yuba, Butte, kind of that whole

20 area. East Contra Costa, and making sure that we are

21 kind of connecting all the working -- working

22 neighborhoods, and that it's very different, you know,

23 we're close, but we're not there.

24          Sacramento, I think there's a lot of questions that

25 have been raised. The Coachella Valley, really figuring

1 out that conflicting testimony there, but really figuring  
2 out how to keep Coachella Valley together, and keep the  
3 VRA district strong, East -- for the ECA, really starting  
4 with Truckee and Lake Tahoe, North and South, and really  
5 starting up there and then moving down versus starting at  
6 the bottom and moving up, and then cleaning up San Diego  
7 making -- San Diego still needs some -- some  
8 architectural work that won't be that difficult. Thank  
9 you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.  
11 Commissioner Sadhwani, Commissioner Fornaciari, I know  
12 you've been taking notes. Anything rise to the top?

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, so I mean, I'm back  
14 here just bullet pointing all of the -- the top concerns  
15 you all have just raised and the thought is, you know,  
16 between now and tomorrow I'll try to rearrange some of  
17 that so that we can see what folks top concerns were by  
18 region. Of course tomorrow we're starting in the  
19 Assembly, L.A., and working Southwards. So certainly  
20 we've heard over across many, many folks who have lifted  
21 up things like Mila, the West Sengebura Valley, Gateway  
22 Cities, Long Beach, that -- that L.A. to OC  
23 interconnection was raised numerous times, so to me that  
24 means that's where we should be spending our time and  
25 then -- and then moving further South because of the --

1 the potential ripples that are going to happen. I'm also  
2 hearing a lot of folks talking about the VRA districts in  
3 the Central Valley, so I might, you know, throw it out  
4 there. And I know this was a -- a -- a recommendation  
5 that had been made when we were looking at the schedule,  
6 but having Central Valley come before we -- we begin to  
7 approach the Northern California areas to -- to kind of  
8 hammer that -- that piece out. And I think from here it  
9 would be really helpful to talk through some of the key  
10 testimony that we've heard. I'd be curious if folks are  
11 having the same thoughts on some of these areas. To the  
12 extent that we can do that right now, I think our mappers  
13 are available to pull up the map for us and -- and look  
14 at some of it. Not actually start line drawing, but at  
15 least so we can have it up as a visual. If there are  
16 particular areas where folks would like to have a little  
17 bit more in depth conversation, I think we've received a  
18 whole lot of -- of testimony over the last 14 days. As  
19 many of you pointed out, conflicting testimony, and so I  
20 think here is our opportunity to talk a little bit more  
21 in detail about the conflicting -- the pieces that feel  
22 like they're conflicting throughout the state. You know,  
23 I think, if I may throw one out there, and I'm sure the  
24 conversation will -- will move from there. You know, I  
25 think the Modesto Sierra piece, I heard a lot of people

1 mention the Sierra district. I think it's called ECA in  
2 -- in both Assembly and Congress. It sounded like there  
3 was a lot of folks suggesting that we should definitely  
4 be creating from Inyo all the way North to, at least,  
5 Truckee and grabbing that population elsewhere. I think  
6 that would be an interesting place perhaps to start some  
7 of our conversation and the kind of testimony everyone --  
8 everyone had. And then just to throw out there, I am  
9 absolutely going to share all of this with you, but it's  
10 kind of -- it's very notes form right now, so I'm happy  
11 to share it as I -- as I clean it up.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. Thank you. Commissioner  
13 Fernandez, let's start with you.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, yes. And that's fine  
15 if we want to start with that. I would ask that the  
16 topography layer be added because there's actually quite  
17 a bit of the melon areas in some of these communities  
18 that they said they didn't want to be part of the  
19 mountains, but they really are part of the mountains, so  
20 I believe that's important for our discussion.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Akutagawa.

22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Sorry, I thought she was  
23 going to go on. I thought Commissioner Fernandez was  
24 going to talk.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Am I winding or what?

1           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: So just for clarification,  
2 Commission Sadhwani, so we're going to start here in  
3 terms of what our conflicts are or what we've heard and  
4 kind of try to hash out what we're -- we're going to try  
5 to agree upon. I think I'm just asking for clarification  
6 here?

7           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. I mean, this is an  
8 opportunity for us to talk about the comments that we've  
9 received, so I think we can really go in any direction we  
10 want to here. I was throwing out the ECA district as a  
11 potential starting point because I think we heard a lot  
12 from it. As everyone was prioritizing their comments  
13 that came up quite a lot. If you want to start off.

14          COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh, thank you. Okay. I  
15 think then I'll just start it off with just maybe a  
16 general comment that I -- a theme that I've heard from  
17 all that commented on this particular region. What I  
18 heard is the mountains does create a very large, and at  
19 times, especially during the winter, impassable path to  
20 go from East to West and so anybody who lives to the East  
21 of the mountains have to go North/South and so the  
22 concerns around anything being on as they call the valley  
23 floor and besides just the identification was one of  
24 geography and just trying to cross over, and so I guess  
25 I'll just start there and just say that's -- that's a

1 starting place where I heard, as a way to kind of think  
2 about the area.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Fernandez.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you for queuing  
5 me in, Commission Akutagawa. And I actually think we  
6 should go -- start at Inyo and go up, but I just -- what  
7 I thought was important that everyone should see, because  
8 we did receive testimony from many of the counties not  
9 wanting to be split, but if you look at the topography,  
10 you've got Tulare, Fresno, Madera, all of those counties  
11 have the map on there, so they may have to be split. And  
12 that's -- that's I think what was important to me when I  
13 was looking into this further and digging down and  
14 getting more of that information on the mountains, that  
15 more of the counties may need to be split in order to  
16 keep that Sierra type district. And again, it will be  
17 large because many of these areas are population wise are  
18 small.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Andersen.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, thank you. Yeah, what  
21 I see in this area is, you know, Stanislaus said and  
22 Commissioner Fernandez said, the flat part of Madera,  
23 which is that area, but actually it's a little further  
24 up, because if you remember we had testimony that talked  
25 about the Coarsegold, I believe is sort of area where

1 they're talking about in Madera. That is part -- that is  
2 part of the Sierras, but the rest really isn't and that's  
3 what everyone in the Valley also says. Like what, what  
4 are we doing here? So I would like to see us almost, you  
5 know, do the reconstruction sort of around the edges so  
6 you can kind of have a really good look at, you know, how  
7 we redraw part of the areas and getting our area  
8 districts good and really solid with solid numbers,  
9 because that's really a concern. But it will definitely  
10 have to go further North and then I think actually we  
11 might end up -- I know we created another district kind  
12 of in that area, but we might shift it elsewhere to  
13 accommodate. It's just sort of what I'm thinking. I'll  
14 just stop right there for now.

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

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Regarding  
18 the Sierras, there are two things. One is traversability  
19 of the Sierras is one question. The other question is,  
20 you know, mountain communities versus valley communities.  
21 So you know, if we're talking about traverse ability,  
22 then we're talking mostly an issue affecting Inyo, Mono,  
23 and the counties on the Eastern side of the Sierra crest.  
24 If we're talking about mountain communities in general,  
25 then we're talking as Commissioner Fernandez said, we

1 need to have the terrain layer and see what is mountain  
2 and what is valley, but we would still be faced with the  
3 traverse ability issue. Thank you.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. And  
5 Commissioner Akutagawa?

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I think on -- on --  
7 just to build upon what Commissioner Fernandez and  
8 Commissioner Kennedy just said, I'm also thinking about  
9 not only what we've read, but Commissioner Andersen and I  
10 had -- had the outreach liaison role to these counties,  
11 or at least particularly some of the Eastern counties,  
12 and -- and the understanding that I got is that the  
13 mountain communities would prefer to stay with the valley  
14 communities to the East. So that would include, like,  
15 Mono and Inyo and -- and particularly because they have  
16 some working agreements, like counsel of government type  
17 work. I think they talked about some of that. Although,  
18 you know, the further up it went, I -- I did read in some  
19 of the COI testimony that they don't all see themselves  
20 as being together, but I think due to population needs to  
21 establish the districts to meet those deviations, we're  
22 going to have to go further North. I think that's where  
23 it's going to get a little trickier. I would suggest  
24 that we -- we perhaps look at maybe some of the mountain  
25 crests or perhaps even down from the foothill communities

1 as a place perhaps to what I think it was Commissioner  
2 Fernandez that suggested potentially having to split  
3 these counties. That's just food for thought that I'll  
4 just put out there. Thank you.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Fornaciari.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So let's see. You know, I  
7 think the VRA districts in the valley are going to drive  
8 a lot of this. So you've got a lot of testimony from  
9 Inyo and Mono, what they would like, and I'm conflicted,  
10 you know. They are two very, very remote counties and  
11 people who lived in -- decided to live in those remote  
12 counties chose to live in a remote county and it's going  
13 to be far away for them wherever they have to go. You  
14 know, we -- we got a lot of feedback from the counties  
15 that would be on the Northern end of that district. They  
16 didn't have anything in common with Inyo and Mono and  
17 wanted, you know, a different approach. And so you know,  
18 I'm kind of conflicted here. I'd like to accommodate  
19 everybody's input, but this is -- this is going to be a  
20 tough one here because they're so small. I mean, my take  
21 is they have two -- two wishes, right?

22 One, they didn't want to go South, and the other one  
23 was they want to go all the way North and reach in and  
24 grab Roseville. I mean, it's like, so basically they  
25 want to drive the whole state map, you know, so I'm not

1 sure where to go from there.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

3 Great points. Commissioner Taylor?

4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. And I guess I have  
5 a more general comment, but it sort of relates to this,  
6 especially since we're talking about the Assembly seats.  
7 And I hope I didn't miss it, or maybe it might, you know,  
8 cause a little bit more conversation, but as we march  
9 towards these final maps, is our approach as it relates  
10 to breaking up cities and counties more as it relates to  
11 communities of interest? So -- so we are going to --  
12 our -- our consideration is that we can break up city and  
13 county lines when communities of interest seems to -- to  
14 outweigh for that particular region. In other words, the  
15 mountain region, we want to -- we are not -- mountain  
16 region, then we are overlooking or we're willing to break  
17 up those city and county lines. And I say that so we can  
18 see if we can get a consistent theme throughout the state  
19 so that we can start to see things through the -- through  
20 the same lens. So just sort of generally what are  
21 people's thoughts as -- as we go along this journey?

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner, I think,  
23 Commissioner, you have the response to that because he  
24 was working -- he and Commissioner Turner were working on  
25 the guide book -- or the play book.

1           COMMISSIONER YEE: Well, it's just that it's just  
2 the six criteria. It's criteria number 4, places city  
3 and county boundaries on the equal level with COIs or  
4 vice-versa, so it's rather brilliant, but also it raises  
5 many, many more possibilities for us to sort through  
6 since we have to choose which one to favor in each  
7 individual case, so I don't think there's any -- there's  
8 not going to be any rule that can cover all the cases.  
9 They're equal weight and we just have to decide which one  
10 to use in each case.

11          CHAIR TOLEDO: Did the subcommittee have a  
12 recommendation on -- on -- when you're looking at these  
13 types of communities of interest, which include the  
14 counties, the cities, tribal lands, et cetera?

15          COMMISSIONER TURNER: I -- we, not as a -- not as a  
16 subcommittee, but I do have a thought.

17          CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

18          COMMISSIONER TURNER: Earlier -- when we were  
19 talking earlier -- oh, I just lost the thought. Oh my, I  
20 should have said it earlier. I was going to wait until  
21 you it out. But anyway, so we're talking about an equal  
22 level criteria. Oh, thank you. Someone earlier talked  
23 about the citizens Commission heavily weighing on the  
24 citizens' testimony, so beyond it's equal, it's in that  
25 same level of criteria, but we can establish as either a

1 policy or a preference that if we've had people that's  
2 called in to tell us about the area that they live in, to  
3 me it should take -- for sure should be heavily  
4 considered when people have written in to tell us about  
5 their COI area.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner -- let's  
7 see. Commissioner Taylor, do you still you have your  
8 hand up? I think, yes.

9 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No, I'm going to lower it.  
10 Thank you.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay, no worries. Commissioner  
12 Andersen?

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I -- I was actually  
14 thinking exactly what people have been saying in that it  
15 is communities of interest when the people in the same  
16 county are saying the same thing, like, we would like  
17 this to be cut up. And I think that makes it -- that  
18 kind of makes it easier for us. And it is, you know,  
19 communities of interest or common interests. Like in  
20 this particular area we're talking mountains. It is the  
21 mountains.

22 You know, mountains have completely different issues  
23 than the valley and they're all saying the same thing.  
24 So I think when we're -- when we're in an area where most  
25 of the people are all saying the same thing, that is a

1 direction that I believe we should follow. I think in  
2 some of these areas it is kind of clear where other areas  
3 it is definitely not, like Simi and Santa Clarita. But  
4 in this area, I believe, you know, it's the mountain  
5 areas that they're talking about. Oh, I'm sorry, and the  
6 other one is the comment about, you know, the Mono, Inyo,  
7 and the mountain areas is federal land. That is a big  
8 issue, because they don't own their land and these  
9 counties have to then supplement their funds another way  
10 to pay for the roads, things like that. That's a common  
11 interest that they need a Congressional representative  
12 for.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

14 Commissioner Turner?

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I was just going to add  
16 and thank the mapper for putting on the Assembly district  
17 because, again, it's clearer than to see how we've drawn  
18 our draft maps that cut into -- down into counties and up  
19 into the mountains. So with the topography there, to me  
20 it presents a clear opportunity to split, which would  
21 split counties, but it would probably bring them in  
22 closer alignment with the community of interest  
23 testimonies for mountainous regions versus some of the  
24 inland areas and the rural areas down below.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay?

1           COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. This is where there's,  
2 like, different names now for the different maps and so  
3 it gets a little confusing. According to our map on  
4 the -- the online map that we have that awesome tool.  
5 Well, never mind about what I was about to say. But ECA  
6 is higher up than the -- and the area we are right now  
7 Cala Inyo draft, but was that South -- North Tahoe, South  
8 Tahoe, Truckee are in three different counties and we've  
9 kind of just like chose which county to put them in  
10 versus join all three counties up there together. And so  
11 most of the testimony says please keep Sierra, Placer,  
12 and Eldorado together and I think that that, just for us  
13 to think a little bit about how we are joining on the  
14 East side. I think we -- we took a lot more time looking  
15 at the -- kind of down on -- on the valley, but if we can  
16 start up there and then see what makes sense down below.

17           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

18           Commissioner Yee?

19           COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah, what I remember from the  
20 Mono, Inyo testimony was that fear of once again getting  
21 a representative from the valley. You know, the feeling  
22 was that if you grab population of the valley, that's  
23 almost certainly where the representative would come  
24 from.

25           So that in mind, you know, I think it does make

1 sense to split counties along the ridge line and go as  
2 far North as you need to for population. Now, the  
3 problem is, that's really far North, so you know, Inyo,  
4 Mono, Alpine, you've got about 33,000 people in the three  
5 counties all together. So you start going North and how  
6 far North you go, you actually get to Plumas before you  
7 have almost, almost the Congressional district, you know,  
8 so. And that includes all of Placer, you know, so it's  
9 just a lot of population you need to fill in somehow.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.

11 Commissioner Akutagawa and then Commissioner  
12 Sadhwani.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I did want to address  
14 two things. One thing that I think Commissioner Andersen  
15 mentioned is that Mono and Inyo have federal lands. I  
16 also want to note that the Sierras, as you look  
17 throughout this topography I'm seeing this. There's a  
18 lot of national forests, national parks, and so it does  
19 seem to make sense to have, at least, you know, from that  
20 perspective, you know, a representative that would also  
21 be able to take that into account and perhaps stop, or  
22 start, going eastward at least either at the ridgeline or  
23 a little bit further down the foothills depending on how,  
24 I mean, depending on -- I know that some parts of it,  
25 like, Yosemite is, I believe, you know, a little bit

1 further down the ridgeline, I think, from what I saw on  
2 the map. But anyway, separate from that, I think it was  
3 either Commissioner Yee or somebody mentioned the VRA  
4 districts in the central valley. My sense is, and please  
5 correct me if I'm wrong, my sense is that when the  
6 mountainous regions are sparsely -- sparsely populated  
7 and that those who do tend to live in those areas tend  
8 not to be quite as diverse, and I do wonder if removing  
9 them would actually help increase the CVAPs of some of  
10 the central valley areas, it may also mean in some cases  
11 moving a little bit more Westward in that case, but just  
12 wanted to just kind of point that out and to see if  
13 that's -- that would be the case if by their removal it  
14 would not really affect the CVAPs, especially the VRA  
15 districts in the central valley.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa.

17 Commissioner Sadhwani?

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, I just wanted to  
19 provide a little bit of -- of reflection on this  
20 conversation. So we spent about 20 minutes at this point  
21 discussing an area that's pretty low population. Just to  
22 speak to the earlier conversation about -- about, like,  
23 prioritizing, and I want to just try to clarify, right?  
24 So based on everything everyone has said, we've kind of  
25 talked in circles a little bit about the pros and cons.

1 There's federal lands. I would also just add to that  
2 conversation that I think we had heard also recreation  
3 areas, right? Going up through Lake Tahoe makes  
4 recreation areas as well. Are we -- where are we  
5 landing? It sounds to me like we're landing with  
6 something like what Commissioner Sinay had kind of  
7 proposed as pulling in those districts, and I think  
8 there's two of them perhaps at this point from Assembly  
9 and Congressional, and moving further up Northward to  
10 Placer and I can't see them right now, Sierra Nevada and  
11 up into that region and cutting along the ridgeline. Do  
12 we generally feel like, is that the general direction  
13 that the Commission wants to take? And I'm pushing this  
14 because I think that this is -- we need to -- we will  
15 need to focus ourselves to come to some consensus if  
16 we're going to operate based on consensus.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner, are you going to  
18 speak to this?

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, thank you. It's exactly  
22 the point I want to speak to. I am pushing towards that  
23 and I know that that's a rub and I guess where we need to  
24 just kind of name is that we've had some avoidance of  
25 trying to create a district that seems so long and

1 distant and all of that, but anytime you're talking about  
2 sparsely populated areas, and our first criteria being  
3 equal population, keeping in mind that we're trying to  
4 create districts where people will have the ability to  
5 elect a candidate of their choice, somebody that's going  
6 to champion their shared concerns. It's going to be  
7 long. It's going to be far, and so absolutely, that's  
8 what I'm saying, Commissioner Sadhwani, is that I think  
9 we should be building it in a way that makes sense for  
10 those that can elect candidates of their choice and that  
11 will include distance because of the sparse population.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Commissioner Andersen?

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, thank you for that. I  
14 would say in this area you can't get there if you just go  
15 the ridgeline. You can't get there. The population  
16 isn't big enough. You can go all the way up to Oregon,  
17 you're not going to get there. And Inyo and Mono, most  
18 of the things they were saying, including with people  
19 from Mariposa Tuolumne, is Mariposa Tuolumne, Calaveras,  
20 Amador, going into Eldorado, but again, it's the issue of  
21 here you run into Sacramento areas going up North. But  
22 then the other issue is, at the North, you've got to come  
23 down to, so that's why we kind of need to look at this  
24 all at one, which I was saying earlier. Do the North and  
25 the edges and that'll kind of really help things, figure

1 out where we can and cannot go, as opposed to trying  
2 to -- but I think we need those counties. You can't  
3 just -- you need the foothills and those are -- that's  
4 the gold country. That's what they're all about.  
5 There's very little of the valley in there, except Madera  
6 certainly has a lot of valley. Fresno has a lot of  
7 valley. So I -- I would say going up, and I think it's  
8 Eldorado, Placer, and Sierra Nevada always want to be  
9 together. Placer and Eldorado always want to be  
10 together. And then but you have the whole North area.  
11 Tehama, where does it go? Does it go North? Does it go  
12 with Glenn, Colusa, Yuba, et cetera? Those are the areas  
13 that I would look at that combination and play with it a  
14 little bit either way.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you Commissioner Andersen.

16 Commissioner Akutagawa, then Fernandez, Fornaciari.

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I would -- I would  
18 support going further North and I'm not sure who is  
19 controlling the map. If you could just go a little bit,  
20 I don't know, scroll down, scroll up, just closer to the  
21 Oregon border so we can see a little bit more of the  
22 farther North counties. Okay, thank you. So -- so yeah,  
23 I would absolutely agree going further North. I'm also  
24 thinking kind of along the lines of -- I think this is  
25 where Commissioner Andersen was going. We're also

1 looking at, for example, Siskiyou, you know, the  
2 possibility of reconfiguring Siskiyou to keep the Klamath  
3 tribe together, so that may also kind of change things up  
4 for there. It may then be possible, looking at -- I know  
5 that Yuba, Butte, Sutter, Colusa, Glenn, Tehama wanted to  
6 stay together, maybe for population needs. That also  
7 means adding in Shasta, part of Siskiyou, or depending on  
8 far how up North we need to go for this Sierra district,  
9 you know, it could be a part of Shasta, a part of Lassen,  
10 you know, because it includes the national forest. I  
11 know that there's going to be some unhappy people about  
12 that too, but you know, just kind of maybe using that as  
13 our logic for that part.

14 I know that that area all feel that they have a lot  
15 in common in terms of the kind of agriculture and  
16 ranching. That's what I was hearing and reading in terms  
17 of those areas, but I'm just wondering if maybe that may  
18 be a possibility? Just like we have a very long coastal  
19 district, it just means that we'll have a very long  
20 mountainous Eastern edge district and it seems like a  
21 long of them besides, as Commissioner Sadhwani has  
22 mentioned, the recreation as a commonality, one of the  
23 things that I had heard and red, in terms of both the  
24 comments and the written comments, is having to leave the  
25 state to come back into the state, having to go into, for

1 example, Reno or into Nevada to get healthcare. That  
2 also struck me as well, too, because going to the West  
3 was not really an option. They had to go to the East and  
4 so it seems like those are also some other kind of  
5 common -- common, kind of, challenges that those who live  
6 along the California/Nevada border as also grappling with  
7 this too. Thank you.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

9 Commissioner Fernandez, then Fornaciari.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. The  
11 reason I was considering, or I would recommend starting  
12 at Inyo is because if you start at the North, Placer  
13 County has 400,000. So if you start at the North and  
14 down, my fear was that Inyo is going to be put in with  
15 some inland communities. So I was trying to keep Inyo  
16 with that whole forest piece of it. So that's -- that's  
17 why I was recommending going from Inyo, moving up, and  
18 then once you get to the population then you start with a  
19 new district.

20 So that's -- if you go the other way around, you're  
21 going to get to your numbers fairly quick once you get to  
22 Placer.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's go to Commissioner Fornaciari.  
24 I -- I feel the conflict that he was feeling, but being  
25 conflicted, so let's see if he unconflicted himself.

1           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I know. No, I -- I  
2 didn't. I mean, we heard a lot from Placer and El Dorado  
3 and Nevada that they're East West counties, not North  
4 South counties. That they -- when we drew the district  
5 that --that we're talking about now, we get tons of  
6 feedback from those counties that they didn't like it.  
7 You know, I'll just touch on the Siskiyou County thing.  
8 We did that and we didn't like it, and so, you know,  
9 we're -- we're talking about doing it again. We got a  
10 lot of feedback the other way. So I guess I'm just  
11 highlighting that we have a lot of conflicting coy input  
12 that -- that we're going to have to work through.

13           But I'll just circle back to what I said before.  
14 We've got to get those VRA districts figured out, because  
15 for instance, you know, Fresno in the Assembly, the North  
16 East side of Fresno is sort of an island out there unto  
17 itself. And where is it going to go? Right. It's got  
18 to pick up a lot of population to -- to make a district.  
19 So how do we do that, you know, so we have to consider it  
20 all in context.

21           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Yes, some of district are  
22 certainly going to impact the infrastructure of the whole  
23 state. And Commissioner Sadhwani, comment?

24           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I completely agree that the  
25 VRA districts impact the architecture of the whole state.

1 So I'm looking at this just from an exercise of us  
2 discussing this area. And what I'm seeing is that we're  
3 not coming to any agreement. And it's not clear to me  
4 yet what the priority would be. Is the priority to  
5 create that North South district, or is -- is that a  
6 shared priority of the Commission? Or is it to -- to  
7 keep some of these Northern counties, Placer and El  
8 Dorado, for example, whole or moving East West? And I  
9 want to raise that, right, because I think this is the  
10 kind of mentality that we now need to have. Which one  
11 are we prioritizing, and are we going to move forward  
12 with?

13 I also just want to note the amount of time we've  
14 spent just on this one conversation. Right. We haven't  
15 even begun to talk about, for example, Simi Valley, Santa  
16 Clarita, or Santa Ana, or any of these places where we've  
17 had differing testimonies. And so I would very much want  
18 to just -- I know people don't like it, but in the  
19 beginning of this hour, we each took two minutes. It was  
20 hard and we had to force ourselves to rein ourselves in.  
21 But I think it's something that we should think about  
22 moving forward to have a little bit of -- of self-control  
23 there, or forced control, if you will, so that we can --  
24 we can keep our -- our conversations moving. So I offer  
25 that as -- as something for the Commission to consider.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Any other reflection from  
3 the exercise? Commissioner Anderson?

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: One reflection is numbers.  
5 We say hey, what business in this. You know, Placer has  
6 4 -- 401,000 people. So we start adding, and then El  
7 Dorado has 191. So too big for an Assembly district.  
8 Those kind of help resolve, you know, oop, can't do that,  
9 very quickly. And I think we should a little bit more  
10 like that, which I think was in the documents, you know,  
11 trying to bring up ideas of how we're putting this, and  
12 this and this together.

13 And those do create a district. And then how does  
14 it affect everything else around it, though? You can't  
15 just -- you know, everyone gave us lovely, beautiful  
16 districts in isolation, and we had to put them all  
17 together. And I think some numbers will help us do some  
18 of that. So I just thought we'd try to -- with our  
19 documents and our reference guide help ourselves with  
20 that.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Anderson.  
22 Commissioner Sinay, Turner, then Vasquez.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Building on that,  
24 I -- I would argue that well, my thought what I -- for  
25 me, it wasn't so much putting the whole county, but

1 putting a region together. You know, Tulare -- Tulare --  
2 Truckee, South Tahoe, North Tahoe, and then building from  
3 there is what I said. And so I think sometimes I was  
4 trying to look at, hey, this is the anchor and then let's  
5 build from there. And I feel like we don't do that often  
6 enough.

7 We just talk about big, huge regions and -- and  
8 we're past that now. That was something we did in our  
9 first visualizations. Now, it's time to say, okay, how  
10 are we anchoring, and then move it from there. So in the  
11 valley part, if it's, you know, are we anchoring it with  
12 Tehama, you know, you know, Glenn, Butte, Colusa -- no,  
13 not that valley. The other valley. Sorry. You know,  
14 are we -- Yuba, Sutter, you know, is that our anchor, and  
15 then we add to that.

16 We need to start being specific about what's our  
17 anchor, and then what are we adding. Yes, the community  
18 is going to hate hearing that they're an add on, or  
19 they're not part of the anchor. But you know what?  
20 We -- that -- that's what we're doing in our  
21 heads, but we're not verbalizing it and sharing it with  
22 each other.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

24 Commissioner Turner?

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And I think similar to what

1 Commissioner Sinay said. I saw it as an anchor in Inyo  
2 moving up not to have to take in the entirety of Placer,  
3 or any of the areas that were larger, but stopping with  
4 the needed population. So there would be splits, but it  
5 would allow then the mountainous communities to be whole.  
6 And I think we can get to the population if we go in  
7 Inyo, Mono, and then stop wherever we need to.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.  
9 Commissioner Vazquez?

10 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I -- I really  
11 appreciate the exercise, and Commissioner Sadhwani for  
12 you, sort of synthesizing, I think, my -- my inner dialog  
13 about this exercise. And for me, I -- we have got to  
14 spend this kind of time on the VRA districts, which we  
15 have absolutely avoided. And I think by necessity, that  
16 will -- it will force us to create these anchors in the  
17 VRA districts, which I think nearly all of us have  
18 expressed to some degree or another that like, yes, we  
19 like -- we're legally obligated to.

20 So let's get those right and figure those out. But  
21 they are going to require us to do these kinds of  
22 conversations, but with a purpose. And I think if we can  
23 do that, and if we can buckle down and have these  
24 conversations about the really politically contentious  
25 areas in the Central Valley, in L.A., in San Diego, in

1 the bay, then those are going to be our anchors.

2       And again, by -- by virtue of -- of just time, we're  
3 going -- I think we're going to have more productive  
4 conversations about non VRA -- non VRA regions of the  
5 state, because we'll have our anchors throughout the  
6 state in these VRA districts. And so -- we just haven't  
7 spent nearly enough time, honestly, in L.A. That -- that  
8 we really should, too, and we need to.

9       So I'm looking forward to this kind of conversation  
10 and -- and making commitments, hearing some proposals,  
11 and -- and getting consensus and -- and moving forward  
12 with those in our VRA districts across the state.

13       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And that's the goal for  
14 tomorrow, Commissioner Taylor?

15       COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, just to build upon what  
16 Commissioner Sinay said, and Commissioner Vasquez said,  
17 I -- I couldn't stress enough, at least for my mind, the  
18 concept of the anchors. As -- as long as -- or as we've  
19 been presenting, I think we've all had different anchor  
20 points. We will never get to a consensus if we don't  
21 have a shared vision or a shared agreement on some sort  
22 of anchor point. We're always -- we're going to see the  
23 whole map through a different lens. And we have to get  
24 to a point where we're sharing some -- some concept.  
25 Something that -- that we all hold that that we can build

1 upon. And I think that would propel us forward.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So tomorrow we will be  
3 starting with Los Angeles, with -- with -- with the VRA  
4 district in Los Angeles, specified in the -- in the run  
5 of show for tomorrow, and then the schedule. So  
6 hopefully, everyone will have a chance to come with their  
7 thought process on these VRA districts in specific, but  
8 also other areas that we'll be looking at tomorrow. And  
9 be ready to have a thoughtful conversation about  
10 prioritization. The anchors that will anchor these --  
11 these districts focused on the VRA areas, but certainly  
12 areas around it as well, so that we can move this  
13 conversation along faster.

14 But we have many districts to go through tomorrow.  
15 We spent about -- about an hour on -- on Inyo County  
16 up -- up North. And so we won't have -- we'll just need  
17 to figure out -- once we get used to this, and we got a  
18 hang of this, I think it'll go faster. But we do need  
19 to -- to make sure that we get through all of the areas  
20 that we need to get through. And -- and so we'll be  
21 imposing time limits as appropriate to -- to make sure  
22 that we get through the agenda, and have appropriate  
23 discussion as well.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Any other comments before we go to  
25 public comment? It's the end of the day for today, and I

1 know some of us still have homework to do.

2 Commissioner Turner, is your hand up?

3 COMMISSIONER TURNER: No.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm just imagining it. End of the  
5 day. All right, seeing no hands raised, we will go to  
6 public comment. General public comment. Please, Katie,  
7 if you could read the instruction?

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely, chair. In  
9 order maximize transparency and public particip -- public  
10 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be  
11 taking public comment by phone. To call in dial the  
12 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is  
13 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter the meeting ID  
14 provided on the livestream feed, it is 83961096845 for  
15 this meeting.

16 When prompted to enter a participant, ID, simply,  
17 simply press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you  
18 will be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to  
19 comment, please press star nine. This will raise your  
20 hand for the moderator. When it is your turn to speak,  
21 you will hear a message that the host would like you to  
22 talk, and to press star six to speak. If you would like  
23 to give your name, please state and spell it for the  
24 record. You're not required to provide your name to give  
25 public comment.

1       Please make sure to mute your computer or live  
2 stream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during  
3 your call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert  
4 for when it is your turn to speak. And again, please  
5 turn down the livestream volume.

6       There may be a two-minute public comment period with  
7 a warning at thirty seconds, and fifteen seconds  
8 remaining. And we will be starting off our evening with  
9 caller 1302. And up next, after that will be caller  
10 3241.

11       Caller 1302, if you will, please follow the prompts  
12 to unmute by pressing star six.

13       Caller 1302, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
14 unmute.

15       Caller 1302, I do apologize, there may be some type  
16 of connectivity -- oh, no. There you go. The floor is  
17 yours.

18       UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. I wanted to uplift the  
19 need to reach a general consensus among Commissioners  
20 before implementing the change, that all Commissioners  
21 have a chance to be heard, and each individual should be  
22 able to suggest changes before any one Commissioner makes  
23 multiple changes. Watching your November line drawing  
24 that balance was something often lacking. One  
25 Commissioner would often dominate the conversation,

1 usually the Commissioner from that area.

2 Deference to the home team may have been helpful  
3 early on, but it is time to move beyond that. I  
4 encourage you to not only embrace these policies, but the  
5 principle behind them. All 14 of you are going to have  
6 to vote for all 176 districts. All your voices have to  
7 be heard for every part of every plan.

8 If there is a line you support, you have to be  
9 willing to speak up for it, even if the local  
10 Commissioner opposes. If there is a line where you are  
11 from that you oppose, you have to be willing to recognize  
12 the will of the body if it is clear the rest of the  
13 Commission supports. You are Commissioners of the  
14 California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Not Los  
15 Angeles, not San Joaquin, not San Diego, not Alameda,  
16 California. I thank you all for your hard work (30  
17 seconds) on behalf of our state.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we'll have  
20 caller 3241, and up next after that will be caller 9194.

21 Caller 3241, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
22 unmute.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you hear me?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. The floor  
25 is yours.

1           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi there, I just want to say  
2 that when you redistrict the area in Orange County, like  
3 to the coastline, that you should make sure it's just  
4 from SOP to San Clemente, because it just makes sense  
5 that way. Like right now, with Dana Pointe being part of  
6 San Diego, they don't get much representation. And so  
7 their voices are drowned out by the district being mostly  
8 centered in San Diego. So they should come up and be  
9 part of an Orange County district.

10           And also keeping inland cities out is a good idea,  
11 too, because they have nothing in common with our area,  
12 with our coastal communities. And so -- and then also  
13 keeping it out of L.A., because L.A. and Orange County  
14 are like almost two different worlds. And so I think  
15 just an Orange County district, a coastal district will  
16 make the most sense. Thank you.

17           PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
18 right now, we will have caller 9194. And up next after  
19 that, will be caller 5428.

20           Caller 9194, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
21 unmute.

22           Okay, they hung up. We will be going to caller  
23 5428. And up next after that will be caller 5546.

24           Caller 5428, if you will please follow the prompts  
25 to a to unmute by pressing star six. The floor is yours.

1           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Commissioners, I have been  
2 watching your hearings for several months, and have  
3 followed visualizations to preliminary maps. You've  
4 worked toward your population goals in less than one  
5 percent deviation in Congressional districts. When you  
6 found that you would had reached those goals, you moved  
7 on. No one ever asks, did we fix that problem? Did we  
8 create additional problems? You must be willing to go  
9 back and fix the unintended problems.

10           The Northern Contra Costa map is one of those  
11 Congressional districts. Albany is small. Alameda  
12 County Incorporated area is included with Richmond in  
13 Contra Costa, and Vallejo and Solano counties. 200  
14 thousand plus people cities, both with great needs. You  
15 must be willing to go back to a previous idea that may be  
16 better. It is hard to admit you need to reconsider, but  
17 we are running out of time. The public needs to comment  
18 on any changes. There will be additional time to comment  
19 in ten years, but the final maps are just that, final.

20           Please consider North Contra Costa Congressional  
21 District for changes that will be better for the  
22 residents. And thank you for teaching the best  
23 postgraduate course in geography and government that I  
24 have ever taken.

25           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

1           PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. And now we  
2 have caller 5546, and up next after that will be caller  
3 3023.

4           Caller 5546, if you will, please follow the prompts  
5 to unmute.

6           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening, Commissioners.  
7 My name is Juanita Salas. I've called in several times  
8 before about empowering the Latino community in the  
9 Coachella Valley. First, I recommend you begin each day  
10 with a discussion of the Voting Rights Act for the plan  
11 and the reason being discussed that day. If that is done  
12 in closed session, it is no longer acceptable to deny the  
13 public a substantive report. Sorry about that. Back  
14 from your closed session, you should publicly report back  
15 on the VRA obligations, goals, and options you want to  
16 explore. Those three are all different. An obligation  
17 is a floor established by the VRA. There is an  
18 obligation to draw ex districts in Y region. There is  
19 not an obligation in Z region. So any majority minority  
20 districts should be drawn based on other criteria.

21           A goal is something you want to pursue to further  
22 the purpose of the act. While District X is compliant,  
23 we would like to boost the feedback for Group Y to  
24 maximize their opportunity to elect. An option involves  
25 tradeoffs between the VRA and other criteria. We would

1 like to explore -- keep exploring and keeping community X  
2 whole while still drawing VRA compliant district Y.  
3 Recognizing, if not the VRA is a -- if not, the VRA is a  
4 higher priority criterion.

5 That simple report will help focused Commission  
6 debate and discussion. Just wanted to make sure that you  
7 know that lawyers -- lawyers will always say don't tell  
8 anyone anything, ever. But this is not the VRA counsel  
9 redistricting Commission. This is a citizens'  
10 redistricting Commission.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right, now, we'll  
13 have caller 3023, and up next after that will be caller  
14 0313.

15 Caller 3023, if you'll please follow the prompt to  
16 unmute by pressing star six.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, and thank you  
18 Commissioners. Good evening. Hello. I'm a resident of  
19 Yorba Linda, and I'm calling to thank the Commission for  
20 keeping our communities with Anaheim Hills, and East  
21 Orange, and East Orange in the -- in the Congressional  
22 draft maps. I think that this properly reflects our  
23 communities and our interests, because these are areas  
24 that make sense in one Congressional district. I do  
25 think, though, that we need to reconsider separating

1 Yorba Linda from cities like Brea and North Fullerton.  
2 We are currently placed in an inland Orange County, but  
3 we are separated right now from Brea and North Fullerton.  
4 Cities like Brea and North Fullerton have so much in  
5 common, both culturally, racially, geographically,  
6 community wise with Yorba Linda, Anaheim Hills and East  
7 Orange. So I would ask the Commission to please keep us  
8 all into one Congressional district. Thank you.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will  
11 have caller 8514, and up next after that will be caller  
12 6638.

13 Caller 8514, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
14 unmute by pressing the star six.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, one more time, caller  
16 8514, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute. Oh.  
17 They hung up too. All righty. Right now, we will have  
18 caller 6638. And up next after that, will be caller  
19 6089. Caller 6638, if you'll please follow the prompts  
20 to unmute by pressing star six. The floor is yours.  
21 Caller 6638, I want to double-check your phone and make  
22 sure you are not on mute.

23 Caller 6638, you are unmuted in the meeting, but we  
24 are not hearing you. Please double-check your phone and  
25 make sure you are not on mute.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you hear me now?

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can. The floor  
3 is yours. Okay

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you.

5 Commission, as you finish, I know you will continue to  
6 make sure underrepresented voices are heard.

7 Please do not lose track of your number one goal to draw  
8 fair lines for all Californians. I am not arguing to  
9 draw lines for the privileged minority. To the contrary,  
10 as a Central Valley Latino, I know how minority voices  
11 are often diluted. When deciding where to draw the  
12 26,720 people living in (indiscernible) in Fresno County,  
13 so it's your priority be the 793 people who reported  
14 themselves as AAPI or the 22,064 who reported themselves  
15 as being Latino.

16 When deciding how to divide the City of Fresno, your  
17 main goal must be drawing strong Voting Rights Act  
18 districts for a city that is fifty-one percent Latino.  
19 Other committees should be respected, but not as  
20 extensive compliance with federal law. Look at all the  
21 trees, but not lose sight of the forest. Otherwise, you  
22 will make decisions based on those who are  
23 (indiscernible) best for the minority. This is true, not  
24 just in Fresno County, should the Punjabi community be  
25 put first in Fremont where they are twenty-seven percent

1 of the population, yes. Latinos make up fourteen percent  
2 of Fremont. The AAPI community should be your priority  
3 in the South Bay, just as Latinos should be in your  
4 priority in the Central Valley.

5 In the Sacramento area, drawing Elk Grove to Placer  
6 based on Asian Indians, who make up five percent and two  
7 percent of the population is not respected at all. It is  
8 getting lost in the forest. Yes, listen to testimony,  
9 but at the end of the day that's the map.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for your comments.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right, now we will  
12 have caller 6089, and up next after that 0313.

13 Caller 6089, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
14 unmute by pressing star six. The floor is yours.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I will be quick, as I know  
16 you have a lot on your agenda. I just wanted to come in  
17 and support the regional approach on your December  
18 schedule. The draft maps division between Northern and  
19 Southern California seems to make a lot of sense. So  
20 alternating days between the two makes a lot of sense.  
21 What is North should be, and what the South should be  
22 South. Those decisions seem to be largely settled.

23 Meanwhile, in Southern California, it seems like  
24 there are a lot of interaction between San Bernardino,  
25 Orange County and Los Angeles. Particularly with San

1 Gabriel Valley and the Gateway cities. And those impact  
2 the ability to draw the best voting right acts districts  
3 possible in all three counties. So as looking out from  
4 Southern California, I support treating them holistically  
5 rather than separately. You want to make sure you draw  
6 strong representative districts for each, but you also  
7 need to recognize how they interact and ensure you are  
8 drawing all the opportunities for Latinos the law  
9 requires. Thank you for your hard work and good luck.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will  
12 have caller 0313, and up next after that will be caller  
13 8514. As a retry, which she called back.

14 Caller 0313, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
15 unmute by pressing star six. Thank you. The floor is  
16 yours.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening, Commissioners.  
18 I wanted to speak today from Fresno County. I wanted to  
19 address some of the testimony that I know you guys have  
20 received from Kern County regarding Kern County and  
21 Fresno County not be in one district. And I know that  
22 there are multiple elected officials trying to  
23 gerrymander and sway public testimony in their favor.  
24 And I want you guys to all be aware that right now your  
25 draft maps have State Senator Andreas Borgeas, and State

1 Senator Shannon Grove in one district. And you have  
2 Congressman Devin Nunes and Congressman Kevin McCarthy in  
3 one district.

4 The attempts to separate Fresno County and Kern  
5 County in state and Congressional districts is a partisan  
6 attempt to create two separate Congressional Republican  
7 and two separate Senate Republican districts. This is  
8 not going to help our community here, because we need  
9 districts that prioritize our VRA communities, our Latino  
10 communities. And I know this can be accomplished while  
11 having Fresno and Kern in one district. Thank you.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thanks for your comments.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now, we will  
14 have a retry for caller 8514. And then up next after  
15 that, I would like to give caller 1396 an opportunity.  
16 You have not chose to raise your hand. If you would like  
17 to do so, please press star nine. But either way, I'm --  
18 we will be giving you an opportunity. Oh, there's a  
19 hand. Perfect.

20 Caller 8514, if you will please follow the prompts  
21 to unmute by pressing star six.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you for the redo. I am  
23 from Yolo County, and want to thank you for considering  
24 each of the three plans independently. Specifically, the  
25 Commission should reject the idea of just nesting the

1 Senate plan to save time for the other plans. Yolo  
2 County demonstrated why nesting is the lowest ranked  
3 criterion. There are fair arguments on both sides of  
4 where to put West Sacramento. I think it would be a good  
5 balance if West Sacramento was with Sacramento in at  
6 least one plan, and with Yolo in at least one plan. At  
7 times, smaller counties like Yolo, Solano, and Napa may  
8 have to be split. To me, splitting Yolo to put what West  
9 Sacramento with Sacramento makes them plan.

10 However, in your draft, the Senate plan, all three  
11 of these counties are kept whole within the same  
12 district, because you didn't nest. If you had nested,  
13 the Senate district Yola would have been split a second  
14 time, or the entire county would have been pulled into  
15 Sacramento. In general, you shouldn't nest more than the  
16 last mission did. Nesting seems to be a good idea in  
17 plenty of places, but not all. For example, just to the  
18 South of Yolo, there are an odd number of Assembly  
19 districts in the Bay Area. Nesting could unnecessarily  
20 throw together two very different Assembly districts.

21 Please take your time in drawing the Senate Plan.  
22 See where it lines up with your Assembly plan, make  
23 conforming changes, where appropriate, and make sure each  
24 plan can stand on its own merits. Thank you very much.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.



1           PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will  
2 have 1396. If you will please follow the prompts to  
3 unmute by pressing star six. One more time. Oh, there  
4 you go. The floor is yours.

5           UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. I've called before, and  
6 I first want to thank all of you so much for your  
7 tireless public service. I really appreciate it. I'm  
8 calling tonight about your proposed schedule, which I  
9 generally support, but have three suggested amendments.  
10 First of all, your proposed schedule emphasizes the  
11 opportunities for live line drawings, but it doesn't  
12 include time to reflect on the weeks of comments you've  
13 received.

14           Overall, I suggest that you build in some cushion to  
15 provide more time to review the valid feedback you've  
16 heard in the past week, and about the consequences of the  
17 map you've drawn. The proposed schedule focuses on the  
18 forward-facing process. That is, what do we draw  
19 tomorrow? But it excludes looking back, which would be  
20 are we happy with what we drew yesterday?

21           First, I suggest that you change your December 6th,  
22 and December 13th, meeting from, if needed, to be  
23 definite meeting dates that would allow time to make sure  
24 you are all comfortable with the lines you've drawn, and  
25 all the consequences those newly drawn lines have.

1       If there are places where some Commissioners are not  
2 comfortable and the fix is not quick, for example, when  
3 there is conflicting communities of interest testimony,  
4 those issues could go into your bucket list so you can  
5 discuss the differences and balance the priorities and  
6 resolve them in the last week. The length of those  
7 bucket list items will let you and the public know if  
8 you're heading towards finishing the redistricting on the  
9 20th, the 21st, the 22nd, or the 23rd.

10       Second, I recommend you also add this reflective  
11 time for the Senate plan, which could occur on December  
12 18th. Then beginning on the 19th, you could resolve  
13 those bucket list items for all three plans, reduce  
14 Congressional deviations, number the districts, handle  
15 Senate deferral. We all know the project has to be  
16 finished by end of year. This is going to be a rush to  
17 the end. But drawing the best lines possible should  
18 include reflection time rather than just live line  
19 drawings for every second until the time runs out. This  
20 means that time must be scheduled to --

21       CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

22       PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: At this time, I'd like to  
23 ask caller -- oh. Never mind. They hung up. At this  
24 time, we do not have any callers.

25       Chair?

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's wait a couple of minutes to see  
2 if they call back.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: And then we will -- the lines will  
5 close at 8:00. If we have no further calls, we will --  
6 we will be adjourning the meeting.

7 Commissioner Sinay?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: The last caller mentioned the  
9 reflection time, and I thought we were going to do a  
10 little bit more of that. I know we did it a little bit  
11 today for just one area, but are we going -- mean, I  
12 thought that that was kind of what Commissioner Turner  
13 had -- had set us up to do this week. And then start the  
14 actual line drawing, because I feel -- I mean, I think it  
15 is critical for us to have some conversations, and not  
16 jump right into action.

17 We've been -- we've been reactionary. And I do feel  
18 that if we're going to get to the -- to the right place,  
19 the best place, we do need to have conversations and not  
20 just give direction.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Sadhwani?

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah, I think that's  
23 absolutely right. I certainly had hoped that we would  
24 have a little more time today to do that. But I think,  
25 as Commissioner Vazquez kind of pointed out, you know, in

1 an earlier comment, like when we start tomorrow, I think  
2 it makes a lot of sense to start with some of these  
3 conversations before we start jumping into now change  
4 this line here.

5 Right. I -- I think, you know, and this is a part  
6 of like our homework is what is our overarching goal?  
7 What are we trying to achieve? What is one -- one -- and  
8 this is what I'm synthesizing right now from all of the  
9 notes that I took is, you know, here's all of the goals  
10 that were mentioned by various Commissioners. And do we  
11 all share those goals? Are there ones that -- that rise  
12 to the top for most of us?

13 And so I'm going to try and get all of that prepped  
14 and ready to go for tomorrow, and perhaps use that to  
15 start us off with that conversation. And hopefully --  
16 hopefully, we can then dig into the maps from there. I  
17 hope that that's a reasonable way of working moving  
18 forward.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: I think that's -- we'll -- we can try  
20 this approach. And I think if we try this approach and  
21 it doesn't work, we can try other approaches as we -- as  
22 we go through and find the -- what works for this  
23 Commission.

24 Commissioner Fernandez, Taylor, and then we'll take  
25 the callers that have come in.

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, I do. I do agree with  
2 Commissioner Sinay. But I also felt that as we go  
3 through -- when we're looking at the maps, and working on  
4 the VRAs, we're also going to have the conversations  
5 there. So that's why I felt, you know, I've got my  
6 information and when we get to that place, then that's  
7 the time to have it. Because then it's -- it's actual,  
8 right? It's real. We're looking at the lines. And I  
9 thought that would be a good time to talk about it,  
10 because then we can also see the ripple effects. And so  
11 anyway, I think, yes, definitely talk about it, but  
12 hopefully when we get to that point do the mess.

13           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And just a reminder to  
14 the public, the lines are closing at 8 o'clock.

15           Commissioner Taylor?

16           COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah, just real -- real  
17 briefly. I strongly agree with the comments by  
18 Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner Vazquez, and --  
19 and the caller. I think we need to have those  
20 conversations. The ground is for -- for our approach for  
21 the day. Thank you.

22           CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.  
23 Commissioner Akutagawa?

24           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I -- I definitely  
25 agree with what the -- what the caller had suggested in

1 that aligned with what Commissioner Sinay, and Vazquez,  
2 and Sadhwani had said too. I do want to perhaps ask this  
3 question from a process point of view. We also had a  
4 fairly extensive conversation about, you know, time  
5 limits and other things like that. And I feel like  
6 reflection does take time. And I -- I appreciated how  
7 Commissioner Sadhwani did know just from the one  
8 district, you know, the time that it took. And that,  
9 yes, we didn't necessarily come to a -- a clear  
10 consensus.

11       But I -- I am - I am just asking, are we going to  
12 reflect, or are we going to try to just try to move  
13 through as quickly and as efficiently as possible?  
14 Because I -- right now, I'm not necessarily seeing that  
15 it's going to - I think given our style that we've  
16 established, I don't know if that's necessarily going to  
17 mean speedy. So I just want to ask.

18       CHAIR TOLEDO: I think it's a work in progress, and  
19 I think we're going to try to - we're going to do the  
20 conversation, and while also being efficient and having  
21 time parameters around some of this, so that we can get  
22 through to the -- the districts that need to be. All of  
23 the districts need to be drawn, but specifically the --  
24 the ones that we have on the agenda for tomorrow.

25       So let's go to call line. The queue. We have a

1 couple of lines --

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: - with their hands up.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. We have caller  
5 5820, and then up next after that will be caller 1784.  
6 And I'd like invite caller 5566. If you do wish to give  
7 comment, please press star nine as to raise your hand  
8 indicating you wish to comment.

9 Caller 5820, if you'll please follow the prompts to  
10 unmute by pressing star six. The floor is yours.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, hi. I've called in the  
12 past regarding VRA districts in the Central Valley. I  
13 focused a lot of my concerns in the past on the City of  
14 Fresno, but I did want to kind of save that VRA district  
15 conversation for a little more up North into valley,  
16 specifically Stanislaus County. I know there's been a  
17 lot of callers in conversation today about Stanislaus  
18 County. And I just did want to reiterate the fact that  
19 by being able to split up Stanislaus County, that you as  
20 a Commission were able to achieve three VRA districts in  
21 the Central Valley. Which really was a huge  
22 accomplishment, and asked of the community here.

23 I know there is a fear from a lot of us in the  
24 Valley that some of the people calling in don't really  
25 want to maximize the number of Latino seats in the

1 Central Valley. So again, I just want to reiterate, you  
2 know, me and a lot of members of my community do support  
3 three VRAs seats in the Central Valley, and we do urge  
4 the Commission to keep a minimum of three seats.

5 If you reuniting Stanislaus as one district would  
6 have a ripple effect, that could marginalize Hispanics  
7 and Latinos, and prevent them from selecting a candidate  
8 of their choice. We know hard decisions are going to  
9 have to be made. You -- you can't make a hundred percent  
10 of people happy. But we do know that this is a priority  
11 for the Central Valley, and splitting up counties to meet  
12 Voting Rights Act regulations we believe should be the  
13 priority of the Central Valley. So thank you for your  
14 time, and your night, and you have a good day.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. And right  
18 now, we will have caller 1784, and then up next after  
19 that will be caller 9194.

20 Caller 1784, if you'll please follow the prompt to  
21 unmute by pressing star six. The floor is yours.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, Commissioners for  
23 taking the time. I wanted to make sure I got in this. I  
24 just snuck in. I'm coaching high school girls'  
25 basketball. So it's a busy night, but I know you guys

1 are busy and -- and you're talking about everything. And  
2 I know there's been a lot of conversations about the  
3 Central Valley today. But I want to echo this last  
4 caller who called in. You know, I think you guys have  
5 done a great job in the Central Valley, just -- just  
6 meeting everyone's goals, and -- and listening in where I  
7 could tonight, you know, it seems clear there's another  
8 caller earlier talking about, you know, people calling in  
9 for -- for partisan reasons and -- and all this other  
10 stuff. And I just kind of want to echo his sentiment in  
11 the sense of, you know, I think you guys have done a  
12 fantastic job not caring who lives where, doing what.  
13 And -- you know, and I know you guys are working through  
14 a process, you know, reflection and all that is -- is a  
15 good thing.

16       But if -- you know, those of us who have been  
17 following this from front to back, you know, we want you  
18 guys to draw the lines. That's what the voters approved  
19 several years ago. And we want you guys to do it, and do  
20 it -- and do it right. We don't want the courts to draw  
21 it. We don't want the legislature to draw it. We want  
22 you guys to draw it. And so I'm just calling in to say,  
23 you know, this Assembly. I know you guys got areas of  
24 concern, but for my home area in the Central Valley, I  
25 think the three VRA seats that you guys have fought to --

1 to create down in the Southern part of the Central Valley  
2 is excellent.

3 I think you've heard the communities up North,  
4 especially the ag communities, and of course, Stockton,  
5 and then Tracy being kept whole, and then all this stuff.  
6 And I -- I just want to really encourage you guys just to  
7 continue on the path you are. I think you guys have done  
8 great work in the Central Valley, and I know there's a  
9 lot of noise. And I would imagine a lot of that noise  
10 late is partisan in nature. And I hope you guys continue  
11 to push your -- your bipartisan efforts to draw great  
12 lines. Thanks for your work. Bye-bye.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for calling in.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will  
15 have caller 9194. And up next after that we will be  
16 caller 5566, if they would choose to talk.

17 Right now, we have caller 9194. Please follow the  
18 prompts to unmute by pressing star six. The floor is  
19 yours.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'd like to start by saying I  
21 really like how the Commission discussions focusing on  
22 (indiscernible) to draw a map. I think that should be  
23 done in the case of Irvine and Orange County. That being  
24 said, the coast needs to be kept together from Seal Beach  
25 to San Clemente. Irvine and Costa Mesa needs to be kept

1 together more than -- than being with the coast. The  
2 coastal cities will lose their voice, and care for the  
3 environment if they merge with the inland cities. The  
4 ocean habitat of interest. The Congress person  
5 represented both people and the environment. We need to  
6 just stay united because of our common interests and how  
7 much they rely on the ocean for our economy and culture.  
8 Thank you very much.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right.

11 Now, we will go to caller 5566. If you wish to give  
12 comment, please press star six. The floor is yours.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm speaking about city  
14 underscore, very sunny underscore draft map in Alameda  
15 County and Santa Clara County. Good evening, all. I'm  
16 an active parent in the school, a basketball coach, a  
17 student mentor, and scout leader. It deeply concerns me  
18 about a clean environment for the kids and the community.  
19 I support the Congressional districts, (indiscernible)  
20 draft map, which includes Cupertino, Sunnyvale, Fremont,  
21 Santa Clara, Milpitas.

22 There are two major, large industrial facilities  
23 that create air pollution, and require local, regional  
24 and federal oversight to protect several of the  
25 communities as shown in the (indiscernible) map. These

1 facilities are the (undiscernible) planned and  
2 unincorporated Cupertino on county land and the landfill.  
3 Recycling and composting operations found new balance  
4 that impacts located in South Fremont.

5 I have appreciated the current Congress member who  
6 has supported the activists on this issue, written  
7 letters to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
8 and contacted the EPA. And we appreciate the Congress  
9 member, whoever it is, and their Congressional office in  
10 future to have a dedication to the community's concerns  
11 with respect to these two major industrial facilities.

12 Commissioners, I thank you for your time, effort and  
13 dedication to the community. We really appreciate it.  
14 Thank you. Good night.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And I believe, Katie,  
16 that's the -- that's all of the calls.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That is all of our  
18 callers this evening, Chair.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent. So with that, we will be  
20 adjourning for the business meeting. I'm trying to  
21 remember recess, adjournment, today is -- we're recessing  
22 the business meeting, and we'll be coming back tomorrow.  
23 We have a meeting to go through some of the deliberations  
24 for the Los Angeles and Southern California region.

25 So we will see you when -- we're adjourning today.



1 No, I meant to say it. We're adjourning for today, and  
2 coming -- and we'll be meeting tomorrow at 11 a.m. Thank  
3 you so much. See you tomorrow.

4 (Whereupon, the Public Input Meeting adjourned  
5 at 8:07 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER  
2

3 I do hereby certify that the testimony in the  
4 foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein  
5 stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were  
6 reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and  
7 a disinterested person, and was under my supervision  
8 thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

9 And I further certify that I am not of counsel or  
10 attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing  
11 nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause  
12 named in said caption.

13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this  
14 12th day of December, 2021.

15

16

17



18 PETER PETTY, CER-493  
Court Reporter  
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1                   CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

2

3       I do hereby certify that the testimony in the  
4 foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein  
5 stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were  
6 transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a  
7 disinterested person, and was under my supervision  
8 thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

9       And I further certify that I am not of counsel or  
10 attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing  
11 nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause  
12 named in said caption.

13      I certify that the foregoing is a correct  
14 transcript, to the best of my ability, from the  
15 electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the  
16 above-entitled matter.

17

18      *Cylia Israel*  
19

December 12, 2021

20      CYLIA ISRAEL, CDLT-113

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