

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

REVIEW PUBLIC INPUT/LINE DRAWING MEETING

Southern California

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2021

11:00 a.m.

Reported by:

Claudine Metoyer



APPEARANCES**COMMISSIONERS**

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

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Marcy Kaplan, Outreach Manager
Toni Antonova, Data Manager

Technical Contractors

Kristian Manoff, A/V Technical Director/Comment Moderator

Line Drawing Team

Karin MacDonald, Statewide Database
Jaime Clark
Kennedy Wilson, Q2 Data & Research
Sivan Tratt, HaystaqDNA

VRA Counsel Strumwasser & Woocher

David Becker

Also Present**Public Comment**

Maria Stella Valencia
Kayla Asato, Orange County Environmental Justice
Margaret
Susan Chang
Stephanie Wilson
Ana Chadquin, Latino Health Access
Katie Alexawitz

Taavi Kaskla, United Domestic Workers
Adria Orr, Advancing Justice Asian American Law Caucus
PUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

Ethan

Terry Hudgens

Lourdes Cruz

Mike Carroll, Irvine City Council

Melenaite Fifita, Pacific Islander Health Partnership

Mark Creffield, Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce

Jennifer Jones

Facil Kazee

Bob Tiffany, San Benito County Board of Supervisors

Jennifer Oaks

Alissa

Deborah Allen, City of Rancho Cucamonga

Larry Felchier

Jesse

Brad

Stephanie

Angela

Morgan

Jonathan

Harry

Chris

Dennis Kriz, St. Philip Benizi Church

Chris Bowman

Sarissa

Kelly Zalis

Griffin

Bobat Dodvan

JT

Vincent Tran, VietRISE

Manny De Leon, Orange County Asian Pacific Islander
Community Alliance

Unidentified Speakers

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:00 a.m.

CHAIR TOLEDO: Good morning, California. Buenos dias. We're on our second day of visualizations, a very exciting process. We were working on San Diego, Southern California yesterday, and we were able to get through quite a few of the VRA districts in terms of just giving feedback and direction.

You know, overnight I've been thinking about it, and have -- just thinking about our process and really the focus, and the direction, and trajectory of where we're going, and I really do think we need to make many more decisions than we've made. We've given directions, but haven't really made some concrete decisions, especially around some of the Los Angeles regions, the VRA regions.

And so for today we're going to go back, I'm going to use Chair's discretion, and go back to Los Angeles and focus on some of these VRA areas where we really need to make some difficult decisions, I think. We've made some, and we've come up with some refinements, and given direction to the line drawers, but we need to do more of that, and especially in some of the areas that we haven't looked at.

And so that's what we'll be doing today, is going back to Los Angeles area. And from there, as time

1 permits, we will be going to the other VRA areas, so that
2 will be impacted by that, which likely would be, if we
3 have time, the Central Valley. So we will be doing that
4 today. And so that is a change from our run of show, and
5 so I just wanted to alert the Commission, and the public.

6 With that, we will do roll call.

7 MR. SINGH: Okay, Chair.

8 Commissioner Turner.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vazquez.

11 Commissioner Yee.

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

13 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.

14 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

15 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

16 Commissioner Andersen.

17 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Presente.

20 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

22 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

24 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

1 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

3 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

5 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

6 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Presente.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Here.

9 MR. SINGH: The roll call is complete, Chair.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Ravi, as always. And I
11 think I -- I see Commissioner Akutagawa joined, so she
12 can be present as well.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Hi. I'm here now.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent, sounds good. So I just
15 mentioned that we will be focusing on the Los Angeles
16 region, finishing up some of our VRA work there and
17 giving further direction and -- further concrete
18 direction and making some decisions.

19 Before we do that, we'll go into a brief closed
20 session just to go over some of the -- go over some of
21 the pending litigation issues that we must look at before
22 we begin this work.

23 So with that, we will adjourn to closed session --
24 or not adjourn -- we will recess to closed session, and
25 then come back in an hour. Thank you.

1 (Closed Session)

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California
3 Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are coming back
4 from closed session on the litigation exception that
5 was -- no action was taken during that meeting. We will
6 continue on with the visualizations. We will be focusing
7 on the Los Angeles region.

8 In particular, I just want to thank the public.
9 We've been getting so much feedback from the public, and
10 it's something that we're looking at, and that our --
11 especially with the feedback from the VRA districts which
12 we've, you know, encouraged communities to give us input
13 on these important and critical areas for fair maps.

14 And we have received significant input from the --
15 from Lancaster, Palmdale area, Victor Valley area, and
16 those are areas where the Commission is going to be
17 looking at and focused on for -- we're going to start in
18 that area because we've received significant feedback,
19 and we, after consulting with VRA counsel, we do believe
20 that that VRA -- that that area has VRA considerations as
21 we've been -- as we've been hearing from the public, and
22 also from our own analysis.

23 And so we will be focused there. And then work
24 through the Los Angeles VRA districts. And if we have
25 time we will be continuing on to the Central Valley this

1 afternoon.

2 So we will start with Jaime. Can you please load
3 the Los Angeles map, and go to the Palmdale area.

4 MS. CLARK: Just one moment.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think just for the public, and
6 for the Commission, our goal today is to really focus on
7 the VRA areas to get to consensus on what they look like,
8 the region looks like, and less on the specific aspects
9 of all of the underlying COIs. We need to make sure that
10 we address the VRA compliance aspects, and then once we
11 do that, then we'll come back and do refinement as time
12 permits.

13 MS. CLARK: So right now on the map, we're showing
14 Antelope Valley here in this area, and Victor Valley here
15 in this area. Currently, the boundary between these two
16 districts is on the county line between San Bernardino
17 and Los Angeles County. Additionally -- I'm just going
18 to zoom out a little bit -- the Antelope Valley District
19 currently includes areas like Tehachapi, California City,
20 Edwards Air Force Base, et cetera.

21 And the Victor Valley-based District includes
22 northern areas here in San Bernardino County. And I will
23 zoom back into these specific areas.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And if you can
25 specifically focus on the Palmdale area. Thank you very

1 much. So now, in looking at the VRA considerations, and
2 I think if Mr. Becker is available perhaps he can give us
3 a general overview of the VRA considerations in this
4 specific region.

5 MR. BECKER: Yes. Thank you. Hopefully my internet
6 will cooperate and you all can hear me. Can I get a few
7 nods if people can hear me okay? Okay.

8 So what we have found is that in Assembly elections,
9 all three Gingles preconditions appear in that minority
10 voters in this area of California, and the
11 Lancaster/Palmdale area, and going across into San
12 Bernardino County into the Victory Valley area, are large
13 enough to comprise the majority of an Assembly district,
14 and that there is racially polarized voting in Assembly
15 elections sufficient to trigger VRA protections for
16 Latino voters in this area.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. At this point we are
18 seeking suggestions from the Commission. I want really
19 concrete direction on how we can potentially modify this
20 district to meet VRA requirements.

21 Commissioner Kennedy, and then Commissioner Andersen
22 and Fernandez; we'll start with Kennedy first.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Just as a
24 general principle; and this is reiterating something that
25 I've said before: Having heard community input on this

1 at various points throughout the -- throughout the
2 process, I would urge the Commission to ensure that the
3 population -- if we do cross the county line, that the
4 population be balanced between a Los Angeles County
5 portion and a San Bernardino County portion so that both
6 elements of the district have an opportunity to elect a
7 candidate of their choice. Thank you.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.

9 And Commissioner Andersen?

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. To do this
11 process, could we please have the -- see the CVAP, Latino
12 CVAP heat map turned on, please.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. In the meantime, while
14 we're looking at the heat map. Commissioner Fernandez?

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Fornaciari, Fernandez, it's
16 all blended right now. Is there any way to overlay --
17 Mr. Becker had provided us with a -- like, a similar heat
18 map type that -- just so that we could see -- or I could
19 see where some of the concentrations are. But I think
20 that would be a really good starting point for us.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: So you'd like to look at the Gingles
22 preconditions?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Is there any way to overlay
24 it with this? Or maybe there isn't.

25 MR. BECKER: Yeah, that's in a PDF and I -- that you

1 have.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

3 MR. BECKER: But if you want, I can share that, and
4 show that if you think it'd be helpful.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, probably not because
6 we need to be drawing -- the drawings. Ugh, I'm trying
7 to see, obviously the Palmdale side. But then on the San
8 Bernardino side we have those huge concentrations, so I'm
9 just -- I'm thinking out loud right now with the
10 Victorville, trying to link the two, so let me -- let me
11 think about it a little bit more. Thanks. And I think I
12 have those maps so I can actually reference them.
13 Thanks.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.
15 Commissioner Akutagawa?

16 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. I do want to
17 reference some COI testimony that -- perhaps to give us a
18 starting point, that mentions the cities of Hesperia,
19 Victorville, Adelanto, and Apple Valley that seem to be
20 the core of a High Desert community in the Inland Empire
21 that also are home to significant communities of color.
22 And as we can see from the heat map, they seem to also be
23 quite significantly home to a very concentrated
24 population of Latinos.

25 Separately, I believe we're -- for population

1 purposes, if we're crossing county boundaries, and I
2 believe that's what I've heard, just again, a starting
3 place, looking at cities like Palmdale and perhaps even
4 Lancaster as well too into -- also including Sun Village
5 and Lake Los Angeles. Perhaps that might give us an
6 evenly-balanced starting point that aligns with what
7 Commissioner Kennedy mentioned.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: That is helpful. Thank you,
9 Commissioner Akutagawa.

10 And then Jaime, if you would, taking into
11 consideration Commissioner Kennedy's feedback, and
12 Commissioner Akutagawa's feedback, if you could give us
13 some suggestions on how we might draw a VRA district in
14 this area. And what your thoughts are around this. So
15 if you can walk us through the -- and also the potential
16 opportunities, and also some of the challenges.

17 MS. CLARK: Sure. Thank you for that question. As
18 we all know, you can't draw one district without
19 impacting a different one, so I'm going to zoom the map
20 out to kind of show where these areas have some overlap
21 because -- it slows the map down; I'm going to turn off
22 the heat map with Latino CVAP. So I think that it is
23 possible to have approximately fifty percent of the
24 population in each county without creating huge ripple
25 effects, or without creating huge impacts to the rest of

1 the state, or large portions of the state, it would be
2 possible to basically have a switch, or a, you know,
3 population change just between these two districts,
4 potentially slightly impacting, actually, the Tulare-Kern
5 district.

6 And so I guess I would suggest, first, removing
7 population from this Antelope Valley District, maybe
8 assigning this area of western Antelope Valley and the
9 areas that are currently in Kern County to Tulare-Kern.
10 So I would first assign that so then you know, basically,
11 how much population you're looking at, and how much more
12 you then would need while also looking at the Latino CVAP
13 in the area that you're picking up.

14 So first, unassigning a lot of this area, in this,
15 and then and then working on creating that -- the
16 district that are under discussion right now, and then
17 balancing population between the remaining -- between the
18 remaining areas. That is how I would accomplish that.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: And that sounds like a good plan. To
20 that, if Akutagawa and Fornaciari have any input on that
21 particular plan, please let us know. Commissioner
22 Fornaciari or Commissioner Andersen, any concerns with
23 that plan, moving forward?

24 Commissioner Andersen, any concerns with moving in
25 that direction?

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: I have some recommendations of
2 how -- or where to give directions to -- how to start.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh. And that will be excellent.
4 We're going to ask for concrete direction at the moment.
5 So Jaime, are you ready to --

6 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: I'll wait.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So yeah, and it will be
8 very helpful to have very concrete direction on what
9 areas to take out, and when areas to add in, so.

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. So could we put the
11 CVAP back on, please?

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I believe Commissioner Akutagawa
13 did give some areas to add and to take out as well.

14 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. I would like to go, but
15 since we're sort of looking at the LA Country right now,
16 sort of get an idea on this one. And then I totally
17 agree with, and grab that same chunk over, that
18 Commissioner Akutagawa said, in the VVHD, and see if
19 those are the same, and we can do switch, sort of.

20 But in this, Antelope, I would start with the area
21 of -- and I'm kind of thinking of more like a -- not a
22 solid block, but actually more like a C, and leaving the
23 open space of Palmdale, I believe that is --

24 Correct, just like that, Jaime. It's exactly what
25 I'm thinking. And one quick question, and I don't know

1 what that is, it's just a large block, it doesn't have
2 much population in it, but directly over the Los Angeles
3 County title, that little -- if that has any
4 population -- yes. I don't know if that has the
5 population, but if you could grab that section and see
6 how much population it has.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: So Jaime, if you can start capturing
8 some of this area. Of course, and be responsive to
9 Commissioner Andersen's question, but if you can start
10 grabbing some of this area so we can start shifting.

11 MS. CLARK: Yeah. So if it's okay, I do think the
12 most efficient way to accomplish this is going to be to
13 kind of unassign some of these areas first, and then
14 you'll know how much population you have left, how much
15 population you'll need to gain -- basically to start
16 balancing this, and start -- great. Yeah.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: We trust your guidance. I trust your
18 guidance, so let's move forward with that.

19 MS. CLARK: Okay. That's perfect. Thank you very
20 much.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: And so --

22 MS. CLARK: So just one second, I will get that
23 ready, I'll get it started, grab the areas that you just
24 mentioned, and we'll see where we're at.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: And while you're doing that, we'll

1 take discussion with Commissioner Andersen, if she has
2 additional discussion around that, and then Commissioner
3 Vazquez.

4 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. So as she's doing that,
5 yes. My idea is to take that, essentially, large C area
6 and connect it with that same area that Commissioner
7 Akutagawa mentioned, Hesperia, not necessarily taking all
8 of Apple Valley, Victor Valley, because there are large
9 sections which are -- you know, are not the same density
10 of CVAP, and we're trying to see how we can make this
11 district.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.
13 Commissioner Vazquez?

14 And Jaime, let us know when you're ready, too.

15 Commissioner Vazquez, did you have a comment,
16 question? I think you're on mute, or we can't hear you.
17 I think we're having technical issues. Let us know when
18 your audio is working.

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Is your computer on mute
20 too?

21 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here we go. You all should
22 hear me now. Okay, great. So I agree where this is
23 going. Just wanted to note that I think, to the extent
24 possible, I don't think they need to be completely whole,
25 but I do think that the majority of Lancaster and

1 Palmdale, specifically, should be included in sort of the
2 attempt at district, sort of, pairing with the Victor
3 Valley, with those sections.

4 Again, don't need to be kept whole, but I think
5 there's just such a concentration of both population of
6 particularly Latinos in those cities that I think it
7 makes sense for us to try to include the majority of
8 those -- of those two particular cities.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. So once we start adding
10 areas, we'll take the -- we'll take that -- we'll take
11 that into consideration. And if you can give that in
12 very concrete direction, as you just did, once we get to
13 that point.

14 MS. CLARK: So I believe, Commissioner Andersen,
15 this is generally the area you wished to include, and
16 this right now is almost sixty percent of a district; it
17 needs about thirty-nine percent of a district to complete
18 your -- or to meet your population requirements.

19 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: So this, we're trying to get
20 to essentially half a district here, so we can get half a
21 district in the other, put them together, so one
22 district, and then the other -- a district out of the --
23 since we're taking two districts, trying to make a VRA in
24 the middle here, and the remaining would be the second.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we're trying to. But it may not

1 be possible given the -- if we look at the heat map, and
2 maybe, Jaime, you can give us a little bit of
3 information, but when I look at this heat map I see
4 strong concentrations on the Los Angeles/Palmdale area,
5 less on the San Bernardino side. And so it may not be
6 possible to achieve compliance of the Voting Rights Act
7 and also do the half and half. But we can try to get it
8 as close as possible.

9 MS. CLARK: Yeah --

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Can you give us guidance on how to do
11 that?

12 MS. CLARK: I would suggest from here, trying to
13 meet your fifty percent CVAP, and then you can, you know,
14 refine from there, once you know for sure that you've got
15 that population that you need.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: So that's great. So if you would
17 begin the process of expanding population and getting the
18 population in there. So do we have any concrete
19 direction from Commissioners for Jaime, in terms of what
20 communities to add?

21 Commissioner Vazquez?

22 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I would start sort
23 of -- I would aim south, and then we can work -- I would
24 say go up per population. So I'd start with, sort of,
25 Pinon Hills, Phelan, Oak Hills, Hesperia, and

1 Victorville, and see where that gets us, and then we can
2 start -- yeah.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think that is in alignment with
4 what Commissioner Akutagawa and what Commissioner
5 Andersen had said, as well as Commissioner Kennedy. So
6 let's move in that direction.

7 (Pause)

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Akutagawa, if you have
9 some comment while we're -- while this is being
10 constructed?

11 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I'm going -- because
12 what I did read in terms of some of the COI testimony, is
13 that Victorville is an important part of this, and I'm
14 wondering if, as much as, you know, we -- I know people
15 don't like to be split, whether it's better to split
16 Pinon Hills and Phelan, and include more of Victorville
17 as well as Spring -- it looks like Spring Valley Lake.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. That will be helpful as
19 we get to refinement.

20 Ms. Clarke?

21 MS. CLARK: Thank you. So just what is highlighted
22 on the map is Pinon Hills, Phelan, [Phe-lon] -- and I
23 don't know how to say that one, apologies -- Hesperia,
24 Oak Hills, some of the unincorporated areas, and then
25 southern, sort of southwestern Victorville. And the

1 percent deviation is good, it's negative 1.28 percent,
2 the Latino CVAP is 46.9 percent, so basically some areas
3 with less Latino CVAP concentrations need to be removed
4 in areas where more Latino CVAP concentrations need to be
5 added.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. At this point, are you
7 suggesting we add this area to the district we're
8 creating?

9 MS. CLARK: I would suggest, potentially, removing
10 maybe starting with some of the southern Hesperia area,
11 from what would be added to this district and kind of
12 working from there. Would it be okay if I made that
13 change?

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Absolutely.

15 Commissioner Andersen, if you have some feedback?

16 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. I like what we're doing
17 here, and what I would like to do is, along with what
18 Jaime is essentially planning on doing, going up a bit
19 north in this section. I'd also like to, in the Antelope
20 section, the northern border with Kern County, I'd like
21 to draw that line down. It would reduce some of the --
22 but that's population which is certainly not Latino.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. As we finish this
24 process, we'll look at that as well. Thank you.

25 MS. CLARK: So this area, it'd be negative 6.6

1 percent deviation, and have a Latino CVAP of 47.23
2 percent; I could commit this change and then move that
3 border down per Commissioner Andersen's suggestion, and
4 then continue working on this.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Do you think that adding -- moving
6 the border down is going to help in meeting the
7 requirements or -- based on what you're looking at at
8 this point?

9 MS. CLARK: I don't think that it will hurt.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Perfect.

11 MS. CLARK: I don't think that there's a ton of
12 population in there, but there is some population.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So let's -- let's commit this.
14 I don't see any objections. So let's commit this, and
15 then let's look at -- I agree, I don't see a lot of
16 population, so it shouldn't be -- it shouldn't hurt us in
17 our goal. It might help.

18 So while you're doing that, we'll hear from
19 Commissioner Vazquez, and Commissioner Akutagawa, and
20 Commissioner Fornaciari, to see if they have any concrete
21 guidance on next steps to get us to a compliant VRA
22 district. That also is in alignment with the community
23 input we've received. Akutagawa?

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. As Jaime is bringing
25 down the northern border in the Antelope Valley, I would

1 still like to also go back to that Victorville/Spring
2 Valley area and try to capture more of those areas.
3 Again, I think, going back to some of the COI testimony
4 those -- the Victor Valley -- oh, Victorville and
5 Hesperia were noted.

6 Adelanto and Apple Valley were mentioned, but they
7 do have lower Latino CVAP, so as we're, I think trying to
8 create this, I think we should try to first capture the
9 areas where there's higher Latino CVAP, which it does
10 look like Victorville and Spring Valley -- Spring Valley
11 Lake, yeah.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Yeah, that is the plan.

13 Ms. Clark?

14 MS. CLARK: Thanks. So the highlighted area is a
15 little over 1,600 people. Making this change would move
16 the Latino CVAP from 47.23 percent to 47.29 percent.
17 Please let me know if it --

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: So it doesn't make -- it doesn't make
19 too much a difference because the population is so low,
20 is our -- I'm fine with committing this change. In terms
21 of the compactness, it's becoming a little bit more
22 compact. So let's commit it.

23 All right, let's hear from Commissioner Fornaciari
24 to see.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll wait until after

1 Commissioner Akutagawa's change is made to see if that
2 has something --

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, good. Let's add Commissioner
4 Akutagawa's changes, and then we'll go on to Commissioner
5 Fornaciari for his direction.

6 MS. CLARK: Commissioner Akutagawa, is there a
7 specific area you would like me to add?

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: I believe it was the Victorville.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, the Victorville. I
10 wish you could see my cursor. In looking at the map,
11 it's going -- yeah, you kind of have it, you just might
12 need to pare away some of the areas where there's no
13 Latino CVAP really.

14 MS. CLARK: Okay. So I will start doing that. This
15 is the rest of City of Victorville. Making this change
16 will make the deviation 9.6 percent, and the Latino CVAP
17 47.14 percent. I will start removing some of the areas
18 in Northern (audio interference), so it's a lot less
19 populated up there. I'm just going to keep kind of
20 removing some areas, trying to get closer to that needed
21 population.

22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: What about also going a
23 little bit west of Victorville, like almost straight
24 across you could see -- yeah, exactly, and maybe even up
25 into Adelanto, if -- where are we in deviation right now?

1 MS. CLARK: Right now we're still at 6.1 percent
2 deviation; adding this area would make the Antelope
3 Valley, Victor Valley District 47.34 percent Latino CVAP,
4 it's currently at 47.29 percent.

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And would splitting Phelan
6 and Pinon Hills move -- removing some of that southern
7 parts of it, also help -- I don't know how -- how much
8 population they would have there, and if it would also
9 help raise the CVAP.

10 MS. CLARK: I think that one -- if I may, I might
11 suggest trying removing them all together,
12 (indiscernible) across the counties through this less
13 populated area, and then grabbing the populations, like
14 here, kind of right in the center of Victor Valley, like
15 parts of Adelanto, parts of Victorville, parts of
16 Hesperia, and seeing where that would get you. If that
17 sounds okay with the Commission, I would suggest that.

18 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: That's sounds good.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: That sounds excellent. Let's move in
20 that direction.

21 Commissioner Fornaciari, did you have any comment on
22 how to get to the fifty percent plus?

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, but let's finish
24 this. Okay?

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Let's exercise that first,
2 and then I'll see where we're going. Okay?

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: And Commissioner Taylor?

4 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. Jaime, would it be
5 advisable to -- based on CVAP numbers -- to move Mountain
6 Meadows and Tehachapi, because of their lower Latino
7 CVAP, into the district to the north? So that would
8 be -- because that could help with the proportions into
9 Tulare-Kern?

10 MS. CLARK: Yeah. Thank you for that suggestion.
11 Right now those are the removed and in the Tulare-Kern
12 area right now.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Okay, thank you.

14 MS. CLARK: So I think, yeah. So if this
15 highlighted area was included, it would be joining this
16 Hesperia -- with this area, kind of making a bridge to
17 the Antelope Valley areas. This would be 2.49 percent
18 deviation, and 48.86 percent Latino CVAP. One suggestion
19 is you could try making this change, maybe adding some of
20 this area a little bit, and potentially looking at
21 removing some area right here that's currently assigned
22 to the Antelope District, if you wish.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's move in that direction. Yes.

24 (Pause)

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: While waiting for the change,

1 Commissioner Fornaciari, Commissioner Fernandez,
2 anything, any comment relating to potential changes that
3 will get us to the fifty percent plus?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I thought -- I
5 thought that when we first started, and she took out the
6 area south of Oak Hill, I thought we'd gotten to fifty
7 percent CVAP at that point, but maybe I just wished that
8 we had. I don't know, but it -- I don't know if grabbing
9 some of this Oak Hill might help. And maybe we're
10 getting to the point where this is an offline exercise
11 for Jaime to refine and get us to our goals.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. So we may need to get to --
13 and we probably do need to get to the point where we give
14 the general input, and give directions for Jaime to get
15 us to compliance here.

16 Commissioner Fernandez?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I just had a -- I
18 mean, I agree with giving Jaime general direction, but
19 I -- Jaime, I believe when we had the Victorville and
20 maybe Adelanto, it didn't change the CVAP, but the
21 population wasn't that high, so if we don't have to split
22 up the cities, I would prefer to keep the cities if it's
23 really not going to hinder the VRA.

24 I don't know how the rest of the Commissioners feel,
25 but that could also be additional direction that you

1 could work on later. Thank you.

2 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much for that. So we
3 are -- I'm happy to work on that offline later today,
4 this evening. I did want to note -- when I turned the
5 blocks off, I did want to note that currently the Victor
6 Valley-based -- or the San Bernardino County-based
7 District, is negative 39 percent, and the Tulare-Kern
8 District is over by 34.58 percent. Would the Commission
9 (audio interference) me to try to join these areas
10 together to make the districts more balanced before we
11 move on?

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Feedback from Commissioners?
13 Commissioner Fornaciari, Commissioner Turner, and
14 Vazquez.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think that's a
16 great idea. I'd like to -- you know, you had talked,
17 initially, Jaime, that you were hoping this could just be
18 a two-district swap. So if we can do that, I think that
19 would be outstanding.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Can you give direction for that?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Please do that. I direct
22 you to do that. You know, I mean, I think you understand
23 what --

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah, I --

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So okay, here's my

1 direction. Work on creating a VRA district kind of in
2 the direction that we were going using -- using just
3 those two districts. And if you could come back with
4 that, that would be outstanding. Thank you.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner?

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. In addition with
7 that, Jaime, if it helps with your offline there's also
8 community of interest testimony that may help with that,
9 keeping these cities together when you're moving,
10 considering, you know, so with Adelanto, Hesperia,
11 Victorville, Apple Valley, so any of those that can go
12 into that district when you're doing the work, would be
13 great.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.
15 Commissioner Vazquez?

16 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I was just going to
17 say that I am not completely sold that the -- this, like,
18 current C-shape in what is now the Antelope, the new
19 Antelope district is helping us with our goals of getting
20 a VRA district in the center. So my direction is if we
21 need -- if we need to eliminate that shape, I would like
22 us to do so in the Antelope district.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. We'll reconcile all the
24 directions in a moment. Commissioner Taylor?

25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you. There is some

1 community input, and again I'm looking at the
2 proportional numbers in order to create a VRA district.
3 Is there some thought to adding California City to that,
4 to that northern district?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.
6 Commissioner Turner?

7 Okay, so Ms. Clarke?

8 MS. CLARK: Thank you. So what is on the map right
9 now, I'm going to zoom out, this would just impact the
10 Victor Valley -- the San Bernardino-based district, the
11 Tulare-Kern, and then the northern Los Angeles County
12 area. Moving these areas, which are kind of the rest of
13 Antelope Valley, and northwestern Los Angeles County, and
14 then including sort of the California City, Edwards Air
15 Force Base areas with the rest of the San Bernardino
16 County-based district, that would -- it would leave the
17 San Bernardino County-based District at a little bit over
18 negative five percent.

19 This is something that, you know, the Commission
20 could -- you could direct me to make this change right
21 now. And then as I'm working on this Antelope Valley and
22 Victor Valley-based district, we'll also, you know, fix
23 the deviation in that area as well, so that you have
24 balanced districts, and a district that is over fifty
25 percent Latino CVAP next time you look at this.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Kennedy?

2 MS. CLARK: Would that be okay?

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's hear from Commissioner Kennedy,
4 and then we'll decide.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Again, I
6 would like to urge us, to the extent possible, to ensure
7 in this area, when we we're crossing county lines, that
8 populations are balanced between counties.

9 Jaime, the other thing is that yesterday, in giving
10 direction to Sivan, she was asked to look at that. The
11 boundaries of what is on your map as SECA, but the
12 southeastern part of San Bernardino County, at all
13 levels, that is tying into eastern Riverside, and down
14 into Imperial County so that we can have a uniform
15 western boundary of that area, which is going to make the
16 administrative portion of this much easier.

17 So you know, seeing that SECA is slightly
18 overpopulated, I know that's not a densely populated
19 area, but you know, we might pick up a little bit. I
20 just want you to be aware that we do want to adjust that
21 area that's going down into Riverside and Imperial, so
22 that we have a uniform, western boundary with that
23 element. Thank you.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

25 MS. CLARK: Thank you. Sivan and I will definitely

1 collaborate on this to make that possible. Thank you.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So I believe, Jaime, we're
3 asking about direction to add this area, this space to
4 that district. And am I -- do I hear -- is there any
5 opposition to adding this space to the district?

6 Seeing none, we'll add this area to the district.

7 MS. CLARK: Thank you. One moment while the program
8 makes that change.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Then we'll go over our
10 decision points now. What we decided on for this area,
11 and the direction that we were giving to Jaime, and then
12 we'll move on to our next area of focus.

13 (Pause)

14 MS. CLARK: So that change was made, and we're ready
15 to move on to any area.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate it. So in terms of moving
17 on to the next area, let's go over the decision points.
18 So what we've decided here is to give -- and Jaime, if
19 you can highlight the area that we're working on, just to
20 help us.

21 That in this area, the Antelope district where we're
22 at 48-point -- it looks like 48.1 percent CVAP -- Latino
23 CVAP, that we're going to give you, essentially,
24 discretion -- not discretion, but that we're going to
25 direct you to get us to fifty percent plus Latino CVAP in

1 this general area, and to -- and what I'm hearing from
2 Commissioner Vazquez, and others, is that if we need to
3 change the border somewhat, if we need to even change the
4 backward C, in order to achieve that, that that would be
5 acceptable.

6 And so that, as long as it's within this space that
7 we're looking at this point, that you have a direction to
8 develop a compliant district for us to make any minor
9 refinements at the end. I just want to make sure I
10 captured that direction correctly, and adequately. And
11 that it's clear to both Ms. Clark and the Commission.

12 Commissioner Andersen?

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. I had one
14 additional point which, if it comes to half a city, or
15 half a city of one -- one-half of a city versus a city,
16 and it doesn't change the CVAP negatively, please keep --
17 you know, try to go for whole cities where possible.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: So where possible, keep --

19 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Where possible, whole.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- communities of interest and cities
21 whole, as long as it doesn't impact the CVAP.

22 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Great. Also --

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: But of course, the CVAP is more
24 important than -- yeah.

25 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Absolutely. Also, if we do

1 cut cities in terms of, you know, which ones we cut, if
2 you make that sort of look like -- don't just cut out
3 little, tiny piece of a city, try to make it out so it's
4 half and half. Try that one first.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Where possible, where practical.

6 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Where possible.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. And then Commissioner
8 Fernandez?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I was going to -- I
10 was going to bring up the -- if you don't have to cut a
11 city, keep it whole. And also, I mean, we're giving you
12 the discretion, and I hope you understand that that means
13 that if it's going to look completely different than
14 this, that's okay, too, because we're just trying to do
15 it quickly. So yes, I would like to give Jaime that
16 discretion as well.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: The direction is in this area; so
18 within these communities that we just discussed, it may
19 look different, but we want to get to compliance, but
20 that is the direction, that within these parameters that
21 you're looking at, that we get to a compliant district.

22 Commissioner Vazquez?

23 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I just, since it
24 wasn't in your summary, Chair, I do think I heard --

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, absolutely.

1 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: -- and agree that the new --
2 excuse me -- new VRA district we are creating should be
3 balanced of the two counties (audio interference) when
4 possible, that we should be able to keep -- I'm sorry,
5 about half the district population, and the LA County
6 about half of the population of this in San Bernardino
7 County.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And so where possible, if
9 it is possible to do so, to shift, to be as balanced as
10 possible with the counties' lines, and that -- that was,
11 we're giving general direction in this area right here
12 between the county lines.

13 Is that clear enough direction, Jaime? Do you need
14 more specificity?

15 MS. CLARK: No. I understood the direction. Thank
16 you all so much.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: I just wanted to make sure. Because
18 you're not the only -- we're also having staff take notes
19 on the reasoning for the direction. It's not just for
20 the line drawers; it's for our recordkeeping as well.

21 Commissioner Vazquez, did you still have your hand
22 up? Okay. It doesn't look like it.

23 So for this area that we are creating a VRA
24 district, it will be sort of in this specified area that
25 we've been talking about, and that we will have this back

1 in the next day or so for -- at that point it would be
2 minimal refinement. Thank you.

3 And so that is the decision we made in the Antelope
4 Valley. With that, we do need to go to the MPH district.
5 So let's go to MPH district.

6 Thank you. And in the MPH district, can you go over
7 the district, Jaime. And then Mr. Becker can go over the
8 VRA considerations here as well. Or if you want -- let's
9 start with Mr. Becker, and then Jaime can walk us
10 through.

11 MR. BECKER: And this is pretty simple, this is an
12 area Voting Rights Act concerns where the 3 Gingles
13 preconditions existed. The Latino CVAP is probably on
14 the low end of what would adequately protect Latino
15 voters in this area under Voting Rights Act. So I think
16 the only consideration is: Can Latino CVAP be increased?
17 It doesn't have to be a large amount, it has to -- at
18 least should definitely go over fifty percent, perhaps
19 even a shade higher, to adequately protect Latino voters
20 in this area.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And then, Jaime?

22 MS. CLARK: Yeah, so this includes --

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: And can you put the CVAP on this?

24 MS. CLARK: Okay.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: The Latino heat map. Thank you. She

1 has it up.

2 MS. CLARK: Yeah. So would just like me to describe
3 the areas that are in here?

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, please, and specifically,
5 potential areas that might get us to over the fifty
6 percent.

7 MR. BECKER: Chair, can I make one more point that
8 might be helpful here as well?

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes, absolutely. Thank you.

10 MR. BECKER: As Ms. Clarke continues. I'll just
11 note the SECA district has -- putting my glasses on --
12 has the percentage of 50 -- it's at 58.05 percent of
13 Latino CVAP, which is very adequate to protect Latino
14 voting rights under the Voting Rights Act in that area.
15 So there might be -- that's another area where, if that
16 were lowered a little bit, but that -- but it yielded a
17 higher percentage in the MPH district, that would --
18 that's one possibility among probably some others.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And Commissioner
20 Fornaciari?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm sorry. I thought we
22 spent time on this yesterday, and gave the line drawer
23 specific direction on -- to take on, or to go off as
24 homework, to bring back tomorrow to figure this out for
25 us. We were going to move Winchester and Hemet into

1 SW -- well I have it here.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Well, let's hear from --

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is there something -- is
4 there something different that I'm missing here?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we're getting feedback that we
6 need to increase the CVAP additionally. And so we'll
7 look at that. So let's -- Clark -- Jaime, do you have
8 the instruction that we had yesterday, and can you read
9 that out?

10 MS. CLARK: So I do not have that, this is Sivan's
11 area. And I do believe that yesterday the Commission
12 gave Sivan direction on this area, that she is working to
13 incorporate, and we will have that tomorrow.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay; sounds good. So given that,
15 and given that direction was made, I think we'll just
16 reiterate that direction is to get us to the VRA
17 thresholds needed to assure that Latinos have an
18 opportunity to elect candidates of their choice in this
19 area.

20 And with that, we can move to the La Habra area. I
21 believe this is also an area we worked on yesterday that
22 Counsel wants us to focus on. And just clarify direction
23 on that as well.

24 MS. TRATT: Hi, Chair, this is Sivan, the mapper
25 from this region. I just wanted to come on quickly, I

1 was listening on the live stream, so I'm, like, two
2 minutes or so behind. But I was just -- wanted to
3 confirm that I did get those directions from you all
4 yesterday, and I do have several versions of changes that
5 were made, that I was going to present on Thursday,
6 pursuant to the plan that was discussed.

7 So I didn't know that we were going to be returning
8 to this region, but I do have those changes that raise
9 the CVAP -- the Latino CVAP of MPH to above fifty
10 percent, and was planning on presenting those to the
11 Commission during the meeting tomorrow.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Excellent, Sivan. We'll look forward
13 to that tomorrow. And I believe La Habra is also a part
14 of your area, if I remember correctly -- Orange County,
15 or is that Jaime?

16 MS. TRATT: Yes. That is correct.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Can you also give us feedback on how
18 the La Habra is doing, and going?

19 MS. CLARK: So that was actually an area that I was
20 working on, so I can -- I can speak to that. We heard
21 from counsel yesterday that La Habra area should be
22 included in one of these districts with Orange -- or
23 excuse me -- with Los Angeles County. La Habra is about
24 thirteen percent of an Assembly district in size, so
25 still working on exactly how that will work, and if it is

1 the Commission's direction, then I can present something
2 tomorrow with that included.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. The direction of the
4 Commission is to get these -- these areas that are in --
5 that you just mentioned, into a VRA district to ensure
6 that they're protected and are able to -- to elect
7 candidates of their choice.

8 And with that, since we have -- since we've roughed
9 our VRA areas, and have made decisions points on all of
10 these, the goal of course is not to make huge changes to
11 the VRA areas, but rather to make refinements. I think
12 we will be getting those in the next day or two for this
13 area. We have them for the Antelope Valley, we are -- we
14 have explored them in Orange County, and we'll have
15 drafts, hopefully, tomorrow.

16 Is that correct, Jaime and Sivan? Yes, so tomorrow,
17 and then once we've looked at those, we can make further
18 refinement as necessary.

19 And then, with that, we will -- we will be moving on
20 to the Central Valley, the VRA districts in the Central
21 Valley. So we do need some time for a change with -- for
22 change for our line drawers to prepare for that.

23 So let's take a fifteen-minute break.

24 (At 1:26 p.m. a recess was taken until 1:39
25 p.m.)

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California
2 Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are working on
3 visualizations in the Central Valley, focused on the VRA
4 districts, starting with a global overview of the VRA
5 areas, as well as our VRA considerations and
6 requirements. So we'll start with Mr. Becker, if he's --
7 if he's on at this point.

8 MR. BECKER: I am. Thanks. As we've talked about
9 before, we have substantial Voting Rights Act concerns in
10 this area for Latino voters. Throughout the Central
11 Valley and into San Benito County, we have seen Latino
12 voters that are large enough and geographically compact
13 enough to form majorities in districts, and racially
14 polarized voting between Latinos and non-Latinos
15 sufficient to invoke Voting Rights Act protections.

16 And here we've got several districts that are
17 designed to protect Latino voters' ability to continue to
18 elect candidates of their choice, and they range --
19 excuse me -- from a high of 57.23 percent Latino CVAP in
20 the West Bakersfield district to 50.94 percent in the
21 Merced/Fresno area. I should also say, we do see some
22 cohesion in some of these areas between, particularly,
23 black voters and Latino voters.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Mr. Becker. And this is
25 an area where we've received significant community input,

1 significant comment and testimony from the public,
2 specific to our VRA districts in the Bakersfield, Kings,
3 Merced, and San Benito areas. Actually, we've received
4 significant testimony on all of these areas, and it's an
5 area that certainly deserves and merits our attention.

6 And with that, we'll go to Ms. Kennedy, so she can
7 give us an overview of the districts, where we are now,
8 and some of the work -- some of the -- some of the
9 potential areas we might move into. So if you can just
10 give an overview of the VRA districts?

11 MS. WILSON: Yes, so starting with West
12 Bakersfield -- I'm going to zoom in quickly to that -- we
13 have a bit of concern, last time we met was in this area
14 of Bakersfield by the Olde Stockdale Country Club areas,
15 and so possibly looking to move some of this out of
16 there, is where we looked at. And we still have we still
17 Benton Park, La Cresta, Hillcrest, down to Arvin, those
18 communities of interest all kept together. And then
19 moving north into Kern County, we also have Wasco and
20 Delano all together.

21 And then hits a line at the county lines between
22 Kern, Kings, and Tulare, and then moving into the Kings
23 and Tulare District. We have Kings kept whole, and then
24 in -- moving into the County of Tulare, we have carved
25 out population in the northeastern part of Visalia, and

1 we took in Farmersville, and the entirety of Tulare as
2 well.

3 And then moving north, it takes a bit into Fresno
4 County, and we have Kingsburg and Reedley a part of this
5 as well, and then continuing north into Fresno. We have
6 the City of Fresno that goes up to Old Fig Garden, and we
7 take Mayfair, and we kept Sunnyside and Sanger together,
8 Fowler, Selma as well.

9 And then moving into Merced-Fresno, we have the
10 western part of Fresno County, along with Madera County,
11 the City of Madera, Madera Acres up to Fairmead and
12 Chowchilla, and then we have almost all of Merced, but we
13 do have a line that excludes Delhi, Ballico, Cressey,
14 Snelling, Hilmar, Irwin as well, but Livingstone and
15 Montana South are a part of it.

16 And then moving a bit more west, we have San Benito
17 and the Salinas Valley, and it goes into a bit of Santa
18 Cruz County, and Santa Clara as well, and you can see in
19 Santa Clara, San Martin and Gilroy are taken in as well,
20 Watsonville to Corralitos in Santa Cruz County.

21 And that is a general overview of what these
22 districts include as far as counties and cities go.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you so much. At this point, we
24 are doing -- at this point, we're looking at the -- let's
25 start with the southern portion of these districts.

1 Let's start with the Bakersfield district.

2 So I will ask Commissioners, in general, is this
3 the -- just like for Los Angeles, our focus here is not
4 so much on the community of interest, but more on
5 compliance with the VRA district, and so -- VRA
6 requirements, and making sure that the VRA requirements
7 are met. And we've received significant testimony from
8 communities in the Central Valley, asking us to ensure
9 that our CVAP levels are at -- are sufficient to meet the
10 ability -- to allow Latinos to be able to vote for
11 candidates of their choice.

12 So with that in mind, thinking about the -- making
13 sure that these districts meet the compliance
14 requirements; I would like directions, if there is any,
15 from Commissioners. Ms. Fernandez -- Commissioner
16 Fernandez?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. In terms
18 of the Bakersfield, I do believe the CVAP number is good.
19 I did have some information on that, but it looks like --
20 based on the feedback. And I apologize, I was -- I
21 didn't realize that we were going to go through the
22 Central Valley. But as Kennedy mentioned, the feedback
23 has been, in terms of removing Oildale, Stockdale, and
24 Rosedale. But it looks like Oildale is already out.

25 And the one district, VRA district that I would like

1 to see us try to get additional CVAP, would be the
2 Merced-Fresno, because I think that one is, like, just at
3 fifty percent. So when we get to that then maybe we can
4 discuss it.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Yee.

8 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. So Kennedy, you had
9 mentioned one of the country club neighborhoods, and I
10 think it was Olde Stockdale. That's probably already
11 out. But there were others that we were in the middle of
12 working on that we never completed. I'm wondering if
13 this is the best time to work on that, or whether that
14 kind of detailed work should be left for later.

15 I have census tract numbers, I don't know if you're
16 able to reference areas by that, or whether we should
17 work that out differently.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Perhaps if we give the general
19 direction to -- and Kennedy can work on this offline.
20 But if the general direction is given so that she has the
21 information, and it's in the public record, we have
22 specific --

23 MS. WILSON: If we -- oh, sorry.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh. Go ahead, Kennedy.

25 MS. WILSON: I was just going to say, I can do that.

1 I can handle that over the break with that information
2 given to me, with the tract numbers.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: Why don't I go ahead and -- can I
4 go ahead and read them off then?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER YEE: For the public record then?

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Please.

8 COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. Some of these may already
9 be out, I would have to double-check that, but the
10 numbers are 32.21, 32.12, 28.11, 28.22, 28.23, 28.18,
11 28.07 -- that's the Olde Stockdale one, 28.04, and then
12 the Bakersfield Country Club which I don't have a number
13 for.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy -- or
15 Commissioner Yee. Sorry.

16 Commissioner Fornaciari?

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, that's kind of where
18 I was going too. Kennedy, did you have a chance to -- I
19 mean, I didn't know if offline you had a chance to look
20 at this at all, and had an idea of --

21 MS. WILSON: So I -- oh --

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- what the COI -- I mean,
23 so Commissioner Yee gave you the numbers, but kind of
24 where the line would be or something, do you have kind of
25 an idea for us? Or if you --

1 MS. WILSON: I have a general -- I don't have --

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

3 MS. WILSON: -- shapefiles up right now, but the
4 general line would be still keeping Benton, Parkwood, Old
5 Stine, and kind of going down this way. It would be
6 removing more of the area. Farther west of Olde
7 Stockdale, and kind of down this line, here, from Old
8 Stine down, is the general area.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: And Kennedy, it would be helpful if
11 you could overlay the Latino CVAP, just so we can see. I
12 know that slows down the program, but if you can just
13 provide it so that we can take a look at it, as we're
14 looking at this area.

15 Commissioner Turner?

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I was going to -- I
17 don't know the census tract numbers, but I just wanted
18 to -- Kennedy, I think some of the previous discussion
19 where we may have failed to give direction, there were
20 two country clubs up in that area. There was the one
21 that was mentioned, and I think there was a second one.
22 I'm wondering if that was some of the census tract that
23 was given. And then also, the west part of the area that
24 you're -- that we're talking about removing. What's in
25 that area?

1 MS. WILSON: So this is the City of Bakersfield,
2 there are -- there's Pumpkin Center, that's here, and
3 Greenfield, Old Stine, Olde Stockdale. But other than
4 that there aren't any other CDPs or cities in this area.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So this is it. Okay.

6 MS. WILSON: This is the City of Bakersfield.

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So that the consideration is
8 separating Bakersfield from east --

9 MS. WILSON: So I'll zoom out a bit farther, so you
10 can see that.

11 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

12 MS. WILSON: This scooped out -- whatever you all
13 like to call this, comes in, and there's other cities and
14 CDPs that are within the City of Bakersfield.

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I see.

16 MS. WILSON: So it would just be separating more of
17 the City of Bakersfield from this part that is more in
18 the center.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

20 MS. WILSON: This is still all the City of
21 Bakersfield that goes around this outline that I'm
22 following.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Turner, did
24 you have a follow-up, or?

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: No. I don't have a follow-up

1 right now.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. Commissioner Andersen?

3 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: This is a follow-up: Just for
4 our general purposes, so we have an idea where we're
5 going with that. Could you just highlight that chunk and
6 see, you know, so what is the population there, what's
7 the CVAP in it? And you know, if you were pretending to
8 take it out, you'd have the differences.

9 MS. WILSON: Yes. And I would say -- I will
10 highlight that now, and I will say that most likely will
11 lead to including Shafter into this. It's not already in
12 there, but I will do that.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, I see.

14 MS. WILSON: Show you what it would do to take this
15 out.

16 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: So maybe we can -- we can look at the
18 population numbers now. And then once we have those
19 numbers we'll take a break for lunch. And once we have
20 those numbers, we'll be able to think through some of the
21 changes that -- it will give the Commission time to think
22 through some potential changes for this area.

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: And could you lower the box so
24 we can see what the CVAP is? Thank you.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Can we also look at the -- Kennedy,



1 at the African American, and other CVAP? Can you just
2 read it off? It's a little hard to see.

3 MS. WILSON: Yes.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. For African American,
5 Asian, and Latino.

6 MS. WILSON: Yes. So Latino CVAP for West
7 Bakersfield with this highlighted chunk is 62.96 percent,
8 so that's with this chunk taken out. And then black CVAP
9 is 8.26 percent, then we have Asian CVAP at 4.21 percent,
10 Indigenous CVAP at 0.82 percent, and then white CVAP at
11 22.97 percent.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: And deviation we still would --

13 MS. WILSON: Deviation, it does -- we have an issue.
14 We have Tulare-Kern at 17.25, and West Bakersfield at
15 negative 15.27, and that's when I was talking about the
16 possibility of putting in that Shafter portion. That's
17 what's in there in the congressional version as well, but
18 that is something to look at.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we're looking for about 80,000
20 population at this point; is that correct?

21 MS. WILSON: About, yes. And over the break I can
22 refine that into the specific blocks, and look at the
23 shapefiles as well to make sure that we have the correct
24 line, but this is a general area of that.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate your hard work on this.

1 Thank you.

2 Commissioner Andersen? And then Commissioner Sinay.

3 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, Kennedy,
4 that's perfect. And in there, where you say you might
5 add Shafter, I'm assuming that that probably might not be
6 the entire city, or I don't know. But that's Smith
7 Corner, Mexican Colony, I'm assuming that is not part of
8 Shafter, but that is what you'd be adding?

9 MS. WILSON: I'll experiment with adding all of it,
10 or just this part. I can try to put all of Shafter in to
11 see what that would do as well, and still try to maintain
12 CVAP of around fifty-seven percent.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Right. I'm just thinking in
14 terms of that if we have overpopulation in this one,
15 maybe you could shift it up for the fifty to STANISFRES.
16 That's where I'm going with my thought -- thinking there.
17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And Commissioner Sinay,
19 Commissioner Vazquez.

20 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I just wanted to add
21 that I've done additional reading on that part of
22 Shafter, and community input as well. I think it's okay
23 to split that piece. It technically is part Shafter,
24 they pay city taxes to the City of Shafter, I believe,
25 but given the history of racial discrimination in that

1 particular portion of the city, I'd be okay moving that
2 portion into a -- into the VRA district.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Vazquez.
4 Commissioner Sinay?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So why are we doing all of this
6 if the VRA district -- it was over, and it feels like
7 we're going more over on the Latino CVAP?

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: We're working on creating compliant
9 district that meets all of our requirements.
10 Commissioner Yee, did you have additional feedback on
11 that?

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: Right. It's a matter of opinion,
13 but we have gotten input that even though it was at
14 fifty-seven, that even higher may be more desirable, and
15 so that's what we're trying to do.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we are hearing from the community
17 groups that the VRA -- VRA district in this area would
18 be -- that Latinos would have a better opportunity to
19 elect the candidate of their choice if the CVAP were
20 higher. And we're exploring the possibility; there might
21 not be a way to do that, and balance for the COIs, and
22 all the other information that we've already
23 incorporated, but we're exploring at this point. Thank
24 you.

25 So with that, let's now give Kennedy some time to

1 work through some of these scenarios, and see if she's
2 able to get us to a district that meets all the
3 requirements as given through direction. And we will
4 come back at -- after the lunch break.

5 Thank you. So we are on recess for lunch.

6 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 1:59 p.m.
7 until 2:45 p.m.)

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California
9 Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are focused on
10 visualizations in the Central Valley at this point. We
11 do have a map that is presented.

12 And Kennedy, can you walk us through some of the
13 changes you were able to work through over the break?

14 MS. WILSON: I sure can. So let's start. Yeah. So
15 I'm going to put on the old lines just so you can see
16 what changes I made. Here's the information you gave me
17 in digging up the shapefiles that were sent in. I used
18 that COI testimony to refine the line here in
19 Bakersfield. And I'm going to turn on the old district
20 so you can see the differences.

21 So about in that same area that I had predicted,
22 plus a little bit more, so before it stretched out here,
23 did a loop around Olde Stockdale, went out into more
24 Western Bakersfield, there were some changes along this
25 line here as well, and a little bit above Bakersfield

1 Country Club. And here in River Grove and Goodmanville,
2 it was out there and we refined that a little bit more,
3 and took it in.

4 And again, Shafter was not included before, but I
5 went ahead and put it all in there, because with it in
6 there I was able to balance Tulare-Kern to a 4.24, and
7 Bakersfield to a negative 2.27, and brought the CVAP to
8 61.1 percent, still including all of Shafter.

9 And I'll turn off the old lines, or I can switch
10 however you'd like, but this is what the new version
11 looks like. And let me just turn on the old version.
12 Again, it went further out here, so we kind of took that
13 off and pinched in around the sides here as well, and
14 then took in all of Shafter.

15 And we went from the 57.23 percent to now 61.1
16 percent Latino CVAP. And I balanced it here with a 4.24,
17 and a negative 2.27.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you so much. Can we put the
19 heat map on? And also can we look at the CVAPs for the
20 other ethnicities as well, in addition to Latino?

21 MS. WILSON: Yes, one moment. So I have this in --
22 would you like me to just put on the label, or read it
23 off of the pending changes window? What would you
24 prefer?

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: If you can read it off.

1 MS. WILSON: Yes. So again, for Latino CVAP we're
2 at 61.1 percent, black CVAP is 7.92 percent, Asian CVAP
3 is at 4.38 percent, Indigenous CVAP at 0.78 percent, and
4 white CVAP at 24.98 percent.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Any comments from the
6 Commission? Commissioner Turner?

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Kennedy, what was the previous
8 black CVAP?

9 MS. WILSON: Let me pull that up; one moment. So
10 I'm just going in and changing those labels on all of
11 them so we can see.

12 MR. BECKER: It was 57.23, if memory serves.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: The black CVAP was?

14 MR. BECKER: Oh, no. Sorry, Latino, my fault.

15 MS. WILSON: So black CVAP was at 8.16 percent.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Did you say 3.16 percent?

17 MS. WILSON: 8-point --

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, 8.16 percent.

19 MS. WILSON: Yeah.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: 8.16, and now it's 7-point --

21 MS. WILSON: Yes, it dropped to 7-point -- one
22 moment, let me just turn this the right way. And now it
23 is at 7.92.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Do we know where
25 the drop came from?

1 MS. WILSON: I'm not entirely sure where the drop
2 came from, but I would assume, you know, just the areas
3 that we took out probably in Bakersfield here, we took
4 out a quite a large chunk here, and adding -- possibly
5 adding in Shafter; I'm not entirely sure. But those are
6 the changes that we made, that would affect that.

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Kennedy, I'm going to call
8 some cities out. The map is jumping around a little bit.
9 And then let me know if they're in or out. So some of
10 those areas were South -- was Benton, and I see that
11 Benton, Cottonwood, yeah, still there, La Cresta, and --
12 I don't know where it is, then.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fernandez has her hand
14 up. I think you'll go after that --

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: My only comment was going
16 to be that it's possible that the number of black -- the
17 black population didn't go down, it's just that Latino
18 went up, so percentage wise, then the black percentage
19 goes down. Does that make sense? In my head it makes
20 sense, but it's hard to say, right; unless we actually
21 see the black heat map, which might be helpful.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: So let's see the black CVAP. And in
23 the meantime let's hear from Commissioner Akutagawa.

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I was just going to
25 mention that I did read a comment in -- a couple -- there

1 was about three or four comments about Benton Park, and
2 about an area slightly north of Benton Park, has a -- I
3 guess a African American community. Sorry.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And is La Cresta -- oh, sorry.

5 MS. WILSON: La Cresta is not split, it is in there.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Oh. What's south of La
7 Cresta? What's that carve-out, that area in there?

8 MS. WILSON: Sorry, one second. I was zooming in
9 closer. I'm working on putting the black CVAP map up,
10 one moment.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Ms. Andersen -- or Commissioner
12 Andersen? Vice Chair Andersen.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thanks, Chair. I'm just
14 wondering if -- because percentages are deceiving, if we
15 could just see the total number of the black population
16 and the differences, because it has a -- you know, if you
17 had a lot more people of just one race, the percentages
18 would obviously go down. And I don't know I that's --
19 you know, in your total if it has the actual population
20 numbers, or only has percentages.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner? And then --

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I was going to say it
23 looks like right underneath that line that's drawn there.
24 And I'm not sure, again, what that area is, but I do see
25 some black population there, right, again, south of La

1 Cresta. Oh, yeah, right there, that line maybe to the
2 west.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: What communities are there, Kennedy?

4 MS. WILSON: I'm not seeing any other cities.

5 There's La Cresta, East Bakersfield, by Hillcrest,
6 Potomac Park, Casa Loma, Benton Park are all around it,
7 but this is the City of Bakersfield.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So --

9 MS. WILSON: I can try adding that back in, if you
10 would like.

11 COMMISSIONER TURNER: No. Just maybe -- Chair, may
12 I?

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-huh.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: At the -- right where the
15 carve -- let me see where this line goes. Maybe if we
16 just play with some of the census blocks there where the
17 black population is, to keep them --

18 MS. WILSON: I can also work on something like that
19 offline as well.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, yeah, that would be
21 great.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. So with that, is the
23 Commission comfortable with this map as it looks at this
24 point, with changes to be made around the area that we're
25 looking at at this point, La Cresta area? Okay. So

1 let's move on to the next map, the next VRA map, so going
2 north.

3 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Sorry, did Commissioner Yee
4 have a hand up?

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, sorry. Commissioner Yee?

6 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah, I was just wondering if we
7 might think about moving some population out of Tulare-
8 Kern. You know, 4.24 is okay, but a little high,
9 especially when we've got a negative 2.27 in West
10 Bakersfield. So I know we --

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-huh.

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: I don't know, Kennedy, if there's
13 any particular neighborhoods, or parts that come to mind
14 easily that might move over and make sense.

15 MS. WILSON: I can take a look at that offline.

16 COMMISSIONER YEE: Sure. Thank you.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. All right, the next VRA
18 district? Any comments on this, any potential changes
19 here? Commissioner Andersen?

20 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Excuse me. I believe we heard
21 that we should be -- in the City of Visalia, if there are
22 people -- population there -- excuse me -- which should
23 be added to Kings-Tulare, if someone else had that actual
24 input.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Any feedback from -- of the

1 Commission in terms of what parts of Visalia or --
2 Kennedy, do you have any suggestions on what parts of
3 Visalia might be added to this district and not impact
4 the CVAP?

5 MS. WILSON: That is -- just as a reminder of what
6 we did last time, I can go ahead and point that out.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Let's do that. Why don't
8 you go ahead and give us reminder of what you did last
9 time, where we're at now, and any potential opportunities
10 or challenges that might arise.

11 MS. WILSON: So Visalia was a city that you looked
12 at keeping whole, or what parts to cut out and how much
13 we could keep. But we saw -- I can go ahead and turn
14 that heat map on again as well, but a population that you
15 wanted to preserve here in this northeastern part in
16 Visalia and keeping it in the VRA district. And the rest
17 of Visalia did not match with that vision. And that is
18 why we chose to make it this way last time. Looking at
19 those and factoring that in.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: I want to appreciate that --

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSON: Thank you.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- that reminder. We have been
23 receiving community of input, telling us all sorts of --
24 providing us with insightful information. And as we go
25 through this, we're really looking at this from a VRA

1 compliance standpoint. And if possible, we're also
2 keeping communities of interest whole.

3 With that in mind, any additional review? Or are we
4 for the most part comfortable with this district?

5 (Pause)

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Hearing no comments, we have a
7 question from the court reporter and then from
8 Commissioner Yee.

9 Court reporter, do you have a question? Okay.
10 Commissioner Yee?

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I am comfortable with this
12 district. Just to confirm, Kings is -- Kings County is
13 whole here?

14 MS. WILSON: Correct. Kings County is whole.

15 COMMISSIONER YEE: Very good. Thank you.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. I am comfortable with
17 this district as well. Commissioner Andersen?

18 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Just one thought. We do like
19 this, but remember how we were talking about West
20 Bakersfield is now at 61.1. And I believe we were trying
21 to get up to our area which is only at 50 -- Merced-
22 Fresno.

23 I don't know if playing with shifting a little bit
24 of population from West Bakersfield to Kings-Tulare to
25 have its CVAP to go up higher. And then ultimately

1 shifting that north. I don't know if that's something
2 that the Commission wants to explore? But I know that we
3 were looking for where we could increase the CVAP for the
4 Merced-Fresno.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And Mr. Becker?

6 MR. BECKER: I just wanted to chime in, I think
7 that's a really good idea that Commissioner Andersen just
8 raised. The 50.94 percent is on the low end. So it's a,
9 you know, I can't say definitively it's too low right now.
10 But it's definitely on the low end. Whereas the Benito
11 district next to it is, I think, comfortably protecting
12 Latino voting rights consistent with the Voting Rights
13 Act. I think the Fresno district is likely -- and the
14 Kings-Tulare district currently are also likely in a
15 comfortable range of protecting Latino voting rights
16 under the Voting Rights Act.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So the thought process is
18 to shift some population north at this point. Let's hear
19 from Commissioner Kennedy and then we'll go back to that
20 thought.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. We are
22 receiving feedback in real time to what we're doing, so I
23 wanted to ask Kennedy if we could just zoom in a little
24 bit around Selma and Reedley to understand where the line
25 goes. Okay --

1 MS. WILSON: Yes. So we have Reedley and Kingsburg
2 are part of Kings-Tulare. And then Selma and Parlier are
3 going north into the Fresno district.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. So we've just received
5 a recommendation to move Parlier into Kings-Tulare, and I
6 wondered what the impact of that would be. Thank you.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Kennedy, can you look at that area
8 and try to incorporate it and see what the impact would
9 be? It looks like Kennedy is frozen.

10 So while she's unfreezing, and -- I think she's
11 having some technical difficulties. Hi, Kennedy.

12 MS. WILSON: Hello. I am back. Onto share. Okay.
13 So last I heard was exploring Parlier back into Kings-
14 Tulare, but I didn't hear whatever else you had said to
15 me.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: So if you could highlight that area
17 and -- so that we can consider the possibility of adding
18 it back?

19 MS. WILSON: I can do. One moment. So in doing so,
20 that is --

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: She's freezing. Can you read out the
22 CVAPS?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So it looks like --

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: The deviations?

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- by doing so, the Kings-

1 Tulare -- oh, are you back, Kennedy?

2 MS. WILSON: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: You froze up. I was
4 actually going to be Kennedy for, like, two seconds. I
5 was very excited. But you can be Kennedy.

6 MS. WILSON: My apologies. I don't know where we
7 left off, but I was going to say that Latino CVAP for
8 Kings-Tulare is at a 54.5. So it jumped about a percent.
9 Less than a percent. And then Fresno goes down to a
10 52.23 from a 53.13. And the deviations in Kings-Tulare
11 rises to a 5.26, which I was saying, puts it in a space
12 to give away population. And Fresno now goes to a
13 negative 1.6 percent deviation.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: So Fresno would go down in Latino
15 CVAP. Director -- or Mr. Becker?

16 MR. BECKER: Kennedy, can you enlarge that box so we
17 can see the -- the other CVAPS in that district?

18 MS. WILSON: Yes. So for the black CVAP for the
19 Kings-Tulare, what's being added in is 3.01. And Fresno
20 is at a 7.86. And then for Asian CVAP for Kings Tulare
21 is a 4.21. Fresno is 11.29. Indigenous for Kings Tulare
22 is 1.33, Fresno 1.18. And this is all percents. My
23 apologies. And white CVAP is 35.48 for Kings Tulare,
24 percent. And then 26.74 percent for Fresno.

25 MR. BECKER: I'll just advise, I mean, this is

1 nearly a full percentage point drop of Latino CVAP in the
2 Fresno district. I'm not saying that this can't be done.
3 And this would pose a problem for sure. It just gets me
4 into -- it just gets into a little more of a gray area.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: So let's hold off on this now until
6 we can find other solutions that may make it possible.
7 Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Fornaciari?

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. The other
9 part of the recommendation which I did not mention the
10 first time around was to move Riverdale and some of that
11 far western part into Merced-Fresno district. So I don't
12 know whether that would help or hurt. But the idea was
13 that that would at least help with the deviation, if not
14 with the CVAP as well. Thank you.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: So let's put up the heat map on.
16 Because maybe the heat map might give us a hint as to
17 whether it will help or hurt. In the meantime, let's --
18 if you could do that, Kennedy, that would be helpful.
19 And let's hear from Commissioner Fornaciari and we'll
20 come back to this in a second.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Just kind of
22 generally, I was going to say, we need to move
23 population, sort of, at this point, west, probably. Try
24 to move population west to build up the CVAP in Merced-
25 Fresno.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Absolutely --

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And that was the -- kind
3 of consistent with the suggestion there, so.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great, thank you. Okay, Commissioner
5 Kennedy, do you have direction on where to add population
6 to the west? I'm trying to remember what your direction
7 was.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Well, it was to -- the
9 recommendation or suggestion was to move Riverdale from
10 Fresno to Merced-Fresno. And as far as a specific
11 location, you know, perhaps taking that line coming south
12 from Caruthers and just extending it straight down to the
13 Kings County line. I don't know the area specifically.

14 MS. WILSON: And adding that to Kings-Tulare or
15 Merced-Fresno?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: To Merced-Fresno.

17 MS. WILSON: Okay. I will -- oh, if, Chair, if that
18 is direction.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Let's highlight it and see what the
20 impact would be.

21 MS. WILSON: Okay. So there is a population of
22 5,519 people. The CVAP actually stays the same for --

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: For both --

24 MS. WILSON: For Merced-Fresno. But Fresno it goes
25 up to 53.15. And for Merced-Fresno, it stay at 50.94.

1 So for Fresno it goes up .02 percent. And then for
2 Merced-Fresno, it stays the same.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

4 MS. WILSON: And the -- but a change is the -- are
5 the deviations. So we go from 1.92 percent to a 0.8
6 percent in Fresno.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

8 MS. WILSON: And then the deviation for Merced-
9 Fresno goes from a 2.45 to 3.56.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Any concern with accepting this
11 change? Any opposition to it?

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't think it helps.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari doesn't
14 believe it helps. Any other comments? All right, so
15 we'll not make the change at this point.

16 Commissioner Kennedy, did you have follow-up, or --
17 Commissioner Fernandez, we'll go to you.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Actually, I wanted to zoom
19 out a little bit because we needed -- I feel like we need
20 to go to the district east and then push -- because
21 that's the one that's over, I think, right? The Tulare-
22 Kern? And I'm wondering if we have to push the
23 population that way. I'm not sure.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: So I think you're right. I think we
25 need to push population towards the west. And it in a

1 way --

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- that also protects the -- the CVAP
4 set where they are, or increases them. Do we have any
5 specific direction around that? Commissioner Fornaciari,
6 I believe you were -- had brought this up a couple of
7 minutes ago.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, Kennedy, can
9 you -- can you zoom into, like, that Visalia? Yeah,
10 thank you so much.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I'm going to ask Mr. Becker to
12 also chime in here.

13 MR. BECKER: Yeah. I don't want to -- I was going
14 to ask to zoom out. But don't do that, because that
15 would be -- that would be more confused after you zoomed
16 in. But I think, I believe, if I'm mistaken the district
17 immediately to the east of Tulare-Kern is significantly
18 underpopulated, even beyond the legal limit, which
19 Tulare-Kern is still in. So before making any decisions
20 about Tulare-Kern, you probably want to zoom out and just
21 make sure I'm right about that, because that would be an
22 easier fix. And you're going to need to find some
23 population, I think it's the VVHD district. Yes. See
24 that, which is currently a minus 5 -- is it 5.37? Yeah.

25 MS. WILSON: Correct.

1 MR. BECKER: So that's a natural place where there
2 could be an exchange of population that could solve two
3 problems that wouldn't impact the VRA areas.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. Commissioner Fornaciari?

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's the district
6 they're in the middle of working on. And we, you know,
7 we talked about the swap within the two districts, and
8 Tehachapi and those cities were in those two districts
9 previously. So I would expect that those might go back.
10 And that would lower the Tulare-Kern and raise the VVHD.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: That is my understanding as well.
12 All right, so let's go back to the Central Valley,
13 recognizing that if there is any need for additional
14 population, we will have to do refinements later. But I
15 do know that our line drawers are considering
16 those changes.

17 All right. So pushing population westward, any
18 thoughts on that, Commissioner Fornaciari, since you
19 brought it up last time?

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, I was going to do
21 what Commissioner Kennedy suggested. But if you scroll
22 up towards Fresno --

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-huh.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- it seems like maybe
25 around West Park there might be some higher density,

1 maybe not, that might be a place to look to pull some
2 folks in.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: And if we don't have specifics, we
4 can also give general direction --

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. That would probably
6 be better.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- to the line drawers and have them
8 work on it afterwards. So if there's not specific -- and
9 this is why I'm looking for specific feedback from the --
10 from the Commission. If there's not, we can give general
11 direction to the line drawers. They -- we're all pretty
12 much in consensus we want the districts to look like
13 this, for the most part, we're just making minor
14 refinements at this point to push population. Let's see,
15 I think we've heard from Commissioner Fernandez and
16 Kennedy. I'm a -- Commissioner Akutagawa and then Sinay.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Wait, so not me?

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, I thought you were already heard.
19 So I think -- I believe Commissioner Fernandez had a
20 comment, and then we'll go to Akutagawa.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, my comment was going
22 to be to give direction to the line drawer. But to
23 obviously be very cautious of that 50.04, to try to move
24 that up. And try to push the population from east to
25 west. That was going to be my -- but to maintain at

1 least the CVAP that we have now, the Latino CVAP in
2 Kings-Tulare and Fresno and then increase the one in
3 Merced-Fresno. Thank you.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And I believe that's the
5 direction we'll move in, but let's hear from Akutagawa
6 and Sinay and Andersen.

7 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So I -- so just
8 going back to what Commissioner Kennedy had asked about,
9 about moving Parlier into the Kings-Tulare and moving
10 Riverdale into the Merced-Fresno. Can you must remind me
11 what, was the impact to the Latino CVAP again after you
12 did that?

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: The impact was --

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Did it change?

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: It did change. And that's the
16 what -- it changed in a manner that we did not want to
17 move in.

18 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: But would the --

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: It reduced the CVAP.

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: -- but when -- I thought
21 when Riverdale was moved out it increased the CVAP?

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Slightly.

23 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. The reason why I'm
24 asking is also because perhaps pushing that west, I know
25 the Merced-Fresno district is larger, I wanted to also

1 look at that San Benito area. And if we could also just
2 blow it up, I guess, or just zoom in. Not blow it up but
3 zoom in. Because that would mean moving, perhaps, some
4 of the Merced-Fresno district into San Benito.

5 And since San Benito is slightly under populated --
6 there was some comments about, I think there was some
7 cities they felt should be included in that San Benito
8 district, and I'm not sure if that's reflected or not and
9 if that would also -- if that might reduce some of the
10 CVAP there but also help up the Merced-Fresno Latino CVAP
11 as well, too.

12 And then, separately, in that Fresno district that
13 we're talking about, I know that we got a lot of
14 testimony about the Punjabi community. They called it
15 the Central United community, and just -- I'm wondering
16 if making sure that they're also included in this
17 district will also help up the Latino CVAP in the sense
18 that there's a lot of, just, intermingling amongst all of
19 the different various communities in the Fresno area.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you Commissioner Akutagawa.
21 Let's go to Commissioner Sinay.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY. Well, first I wanted to follow
23 up on what Commissioner Akutagawa just said. We know,
24 you know, earlier we had heard from Commissioner Sadhwani
25 that she had thought for Stanislaus-Fresno that there

1 would be that crossover voting for the black vote. But
2 do we know in this area, in this region, if there is
3 Asian crossover voting? Can our counsel let us know?

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Mr. Becker, do you have any guidance
5 on crossover voting in this area?

6 MR. BECKER: Yes. So what we found is, unlike in
7 Southern California, there is a degree of Asian cohesion
8 with Latino voters. It is not as high and consistent as
9 black voters are cohesive with Latino voters in this
10 area. But unlike Southern California where we see much
11 more cohesion between the Asian and white communities,
12 there is some Asian cohesion with Latino and black voters
13 in this area, according to our analysis. All that said,
14 I still -- I still think the Merced-Fresno district here
15 is on the lower end. It may not be significantly
16 possible to increase it. And that's just the way it
17 would be, given where populations happen to reside. But
18 I do think this is an area where, if possible, boosting
19 it a slight amount would likely create a -- slightly more
20 of a safety net for VRA compliance.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Do you have any guidance on where --
23 or recommendations, having looked at this area so
24 carefully, that you might give to the Commission?

25 MR. BECKER: So I think there are two ways to do it.

1 Commissioner Andersen suggested one, which would be to
2 kind of move population -- Latino, shift some Latino
3 population up from -- I forget what it was called, the
4 West Bakersfield district into Kings-Tulare. And then
5 make a commensurate shift of population from Kings-Tulare
6 into Merced-Fresno with the goal of keeping Kings-Tulare
7 roughly where it is now and maybe boosting Merced-Fresno
8 a little bit.

9 Another possibility would be to try to -- try to add
10 some population from the Benito district.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Uh-hum.

12 MR. BECKER: Those seem to be the most likely
13 possibilities. Neither one is necessarily an easy fix
14 with these maps. But Benito is at a comfortable
15 percentage right now. West Bakersfield is at a
16 comfortable percentage right now. But Kings-Tulare and
17 Fresno are at percentages likely adequately protect the
18 Latino populations there.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioners Sinay,
20 Andersen, Fornaciari, Turner.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So one of -- we've gotten
22 conflicting testimony about Old Fig Garden. And then
23 there's -- it gets complicated also because there is a
24 Fig Garden Loop. And so Old Fig Garden -- this is one of
25 the areas where we wanted to increase the CVAP for

1 Latinos. And -- but I'd like to have a conversation
2 because Old Fig Garden is a traditionally black community
3 and therefore because there's crossover voting, that
4 should be okay. But we have heard from the Latino
5 community, asking to take Old Fig Garden out but making
6 sure that we have Fig Garden Loop in.

7 And then we've heard from the black community,
8 asking us to keep it in. And so I just -- I wanted to,
9 you know, this goes back to the question about the CVAP
10 and the crossover voting.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And I think -- thank you.
12 I think our focus here is to really make sure that the
13 districts have the CVAPS necessary to ensure compliance
14 and to, as practicable and possible, we will certainly
15 try to keep all CVAPS identified together.

16 Commissioner Andersen?

17 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. I had two
18 issues, and one was, we did a lot of input on Fresno in
19 terms of if we take that out, we'll increase the CVAP. I
20 believe that was -- well, that was exactly what
21 Commissioner Sinay was just saying, but I didn't know if
22 there was some others. And Kennedy, if you remember, or
23 people remember, similar to how we did the country clubs
24 down around Bakersfield. Was it -- were there any areas
25 around like that around -- in the Fresno area which would

1 increase it, that also that might benefit Merced-Fresno?

2 That was one question.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. And thank you,
4 Commissioner Andersen. And we are looking to shift
5 population up, too, to get -- to prop up the district
6 that needs a little bit, if possible, additional CVAP.
7 Commissioner Fornaciari?

8 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Wait, I'm sorry, because my
9 other question is, instead of going to San Benito, we do
10 have areas of Madera. And I know we were playing around
11 with that, with the population. I'm just wondering if --
12 have the line drawers have already pursued, you know, in
13 that area. And, actually if you go out a little bit
14 further --

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: My understanding --

16 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- because you were saying
17 move population from the east-west, and see if that
18 increases anything.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: My understanding is we have done some
20 visualizations with the Madera area. And so there have
21 been some -- but it's something that we should look at as
22 well. Commissioner Fornaciari?

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. With regard to San
24 Benito, the -- if you could scroll over there for me,
25 Kennedy, please. The challenge with San Benito when it

1 comes to Merced-Fresno and this context is that the
2 population of San Benito is almost exclusively in
3 Hollister and to the west. So in order to pull adequate
4 population to bump the CVAP, you've got all this area in
5 the middle that's -- it's all white, because there's very
6 little population there. But that's going to be a heavy
7 lift, I think, to go in that direction.

8 And then, in regards to Commissioner Akutagawa's
9 question about feedback we got about including other
10 cities, those other cities are down to the south --
11 southwest of that district, around Greenfield, King City,
12 maybe a little further south. And I was going to ask
13 Kennedy to take a look at that to -- when we get there.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. Commissioner Turner, and then
15 we will look at potential opportunity -- a way and
16 hopefully come to a decision to try to get the population
17 to where it needs to be.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. There was direction a
19 minute ago when we went back to Bakersfield --

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Um-hum.

21 COMMISSIONER TUNER: -- to shift up. And I just
22 wanted to give some census block information that we
23 received through COI testimony that should not be
24 included in any VRA district. So when we're looking to
25 shift that, if we could -- I'm going to list off some

1 areas to make sure that we do not include them in the VRA
2 district. And its 32.21, 32.12, 28.11, 28.22, 28.23,
3 28.18, 28.07, and 28.04. So we do not include those in
4 the VRA districts as we're looking to shift up.

5 Then I wanted to move back to the area with that Old
6 Fig Garden and the Fig Garden Loop and just ask you to
7 zoom in. Let me look at that, please, because there is
8 conflicting testimony there, as shared by Commissioner
9 Sinay. And trying see if anything -- so if you would
10 circle the difference of the Old Fig Garden Loop as
11 opposed to Old Fig Garden. Does any -- can we identify
12 that?

13 MS. WILSON: If it's okay to turn off the block
14 level, it might be easier to see underneath. So using
15 this layer, Old Fig Garden Loop is --

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Oh, there it is.

17 MS. WILSON: -- slightly more. So circling Fig
18 Garden Loop and then Old Fig Garden here.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Okay, so Fresno COIs of
20 Fig Garden Loop is split, it says -- okay, I see it. So
21 if there is a way we can at least keep Old Fig Garden
22 Loop together as we are trying to do our CVAP -- our VRA
23 districts, Old Fig Garden -- and that's north of Shaw up
24 to Bullard Avenue, and try to not have it paired with
25 Clovis. Maybe put it into -- yup, maybe Merced-Fresno --

1 MS. WILSON: I was going to say, this here is
2 Bullard Avenue. So zoom in a little closer. Shaw is
3 right here and it goes up to Bullard Avenue.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

5 MS. WILSON: So I'm not sure if there's a difference
6 between the base map that we have, but Shaw up to Bullard
7 is included here. It stops at Bullard, which is right
8 here. And then Shaw is this one that I'm circling.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay, Bullard is good. And
10 then maybe include --

11 MS. WILSON: Right above it there's that, like --
12 what makes that loop is West Fig Garden Drive here. But
13 Bullard -- where it's cut -- where it looks cut --

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I see.

15 MS. WILSON: -- in between that, it is -- this is
16 Bullard Ave -- West Bullard Avenue.

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. And then the college
18 COI -- Okay. I got it. So West Park and college. And
19 then West Park is where?

20 MS. WILSON: West Park is further south, here.

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. And we have that
22 included?

23 MS. WILSON: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Okay, thank you.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen?

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. It's an idea. I
2 really appreciate all the stuff that we're all trying to
3 find out. Here's a different idea in terms of increasing
4 the CVAP. And it's actually over on the San Benito side
5 if we can kind of have a look. This is for the Merced-
6 Fresno I'm considering here.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: It sounds like we have, at this
8 point, two options, right? It's the San Benito option
9 that you're exploring now and then --

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: No, no, no. This is something
11 different.

12 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: I'm saying just add portions
14 of the Merced-Fresno -- the western portion of Merced-
15 Fresno, which is basically white. Now, I don't know if
16 there's any population in it. If it's still all -- if
17 it's still in the terrain level, throw it into San Benito
18 county and see what that does. Basically take out white
19 population.

20 MS. WILSON: Sorry, was that direction to draw -- to
21 draw?

22 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes.

23 MS. WILSON: Okay.

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. To actually shift the
25 county -- the line so it'd be on the county. Shift it

1 into the area -- and you can see that it's sort of all
2 terrain. I don't know if there are any people in it.
3 But it might help -- it might be enough to help. Might
4 not have census blocks done that way, so.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. Let's look at that, but --
6 Commissioner Turner?

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: It just looked like it was
8 cutting in too far, but I'll -- let's wait and see what
9 it looks like.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: We can take a look. But in the mean
11 time we can have a conversation while that's happening.
12 Commissioner Fernandez?

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Yeah, we'll look at
14 this. But my only concern is that this will potentially
15 then reduce the Latino CVAP in Benito. And I wouldn't
16 necessarily want to do that, because they keep saying we
17 need a higher percentage.

18 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: I was thinking we might be
19 able to grab Soledad.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Mr. Becker, do you have any
21 suggestions here?

22 MR. BECKER: I think the Benito district is -- has
23 some flexibility there. And I think this is a good idea
24 that's possibly worth exploring. Particularly since
25 Benito is slightly underpopulated and Merced-Fresno is

1 slightly overpopulated.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Great. Let's explore it. Any other
3 conversation --

4 MS. WILSON: So now --

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, sorry, Kennedy, go ahead.

6 MS. WILSON: Sorry, no. I was just going to ask if
7 I was going around the general direction, if you wanted
8 it to go more south? I was just picking up the white
9 that was right across in Fresno, but wasn't sure.

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. I was thinking in
11 Fresno, but also in that little bit in Merced. You know,
12 essentially try to stick with the areas that do not have
13 Latino voters -- or according to the CVAP.

14 MS. WILSON: So far this is only 258 people.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: It's all mountains.

16 MR. BECKER: If I may, maybe that area just south of
17 the Merced-Fresno county line that -- right next -- yeah,
18 that area there, maybe increase that a little bit. Got
19 it up to 351.

20 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Or even going south on the
21 mountains -- exactly, in that area around Coalinga.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: It's so few people that I'm not
23 seeing a change in CVAP -- in the --

24 MR. BECKER: It was a good idea worth exploring, but
25 it's -- it seems to be having virtually no effect on the

1 overall percentages of either district.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. It doesn't seem that there's
3 enough population there, Commissioner Andersen, but thank
4 you for the idea. Any other -- I believe the other
5 idea -- the other option was to shift population up.
6 Because there really was only two. One from San Benito
7 into this area. The other is from the Bakersfield area
8 up.

9 MS. WILSON: And if that is -- or I'm not sure, was
10 that direction to me?

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: No. So that --

12 MS. WILSON: Oh, okay.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- those are the two concepts that we
14 had talked about. It's not direction at this point. But
15 it's the two areas where we might be able to shift
16 population up to the Merced-Fresno -- is it the Merced-
17 Fresno area that needs additional -- if possible, trying
18 to increase that CVAP.

19 So if any commissioner has any direct -- direct
20 guidance, direction for the line drawer. If not,
21 we'll -- we can give general direction and keep moving
22 forward. Mr. Becker?

23 MR. BECKER: Yeah. I just suggest -- I was going to
24 suggest some general direction here. I also want to make
25 clear, I'm not suggesting that 50.94 percent here is --

1 is a big red flag. It's more of a -- it's more of an
2 area that if it's possible to improve would be good to
3 improve to get into a better position. So this might
4 get -- this is not an area where sirens are going off,
5 but it's an area where I appreciate all of the effort to
6 try to -- to try to improve the percentage.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: Appreciate that. Commissioner Sinay
8 and then Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Going back to the Fig Loop --
10 Fig Garden Loop. One of the recommendations to keep the
11 Fig Garden Loop all together was to go -- to use instead
12 of the -- that one road is to use the river, the -- I
13 think it's the Kings River? Where is the Kings River.
14 So it's still not going to the north of that. I know.
15 And what river is above it? Where it says the Consulate
16 of Mexico? Is there another -- is that a river, or is
17 that --

18 MS. WILSON: That is -- here is the county line --

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Okay, but the San Juan
20 River states -- but there's no river -- San Juan river up
21 there?

22 Ms. WILSON: Not that I am seeing.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner, were you talking
25 about this general area as well, your comment?

1 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I was. I was -- Kennedy, if
2 we follow Bullard all the way across, what's in that
3 area? Is that an area we previously excluded?

4 MS. WILSON: Previously it was more so about keeping
5 populations. And so we kind of -- we rose to East
6 Bullard to keep more of the Hmong and Sikh Communities
7 together, because before it was just at Shaw. So that's
8 why those kind of rose and took up to East Bullard
9 because previously it was at Shaw. And it never did go
10 all the way across at East Bullard.

11 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. So can we explore, can
12 we look and see what that helps?

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. Let's explore and see if that
14 helps.

15 MS. WILSON: And I put the heat map back on as well,
16 and I will try that.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Akutagawa, while we're
18 doing that, do you have any comments?

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I just wanted to ask
20 a question. I -- sorry, I'm just kind of, like, not
21 remembering everything again now. If we were to -- I
22 believe -- I thought I had heard from Mr. Becker that the
23 San Benito district number -- the CVAP was comfortable
24 enough and perhaps, I don't know if I'm putting words
25 into his mouth, that maybe it could go a little lower.

1 Or I'm just thinking that instead of Merced-Fresno going
2 west, or giving up, I guess population to San Benito,
3 what if we were to take some part of San Benito and put
4 it into Merced-Fresno? I know it's already
5 overpopulated, but to bring up the Latino CVAP. Would
6 that help?

7 And I can't remember if we already discussed that.
8 I think I'm -- there's been so much that now I just need
9 a reminder. Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: I think we have. I think we have.
11 If you have any direct direction -- any direction on
12 that. Let's go to this and then we come back to that
13 after --

14 MS. WILSON: So with this, it does raise the
15 deviation of Fresno and it drops the CVAP, going across
16 East Bullard. So we go from a 53.13 to a 52.04. And
17 we're above deviation.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Kennedy.

19 MS. WILSON: Um-hum.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thanks for exploring that. We did
21 get feedback to Commissioner Sinay's comments. We did
22 get feedback that Old Fig Garden should not be in the VRA
23 district. And I just wanted to -- can you look at the
24 impact of having it out of the district, and then we can
25 talk about it.

1 MS. WILSON: Yes. And that is, again, from a
2 previous iteration --

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: It is from a previous iteration.

4 MS. WILSON: -- but it does help to raise the CVAP.
5 I will put that up now.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: And then while we're -- while we're
7 looking at that, let's have the conversation around
8 whether it makes sense to keep it or to explore other
9 options. Or to keep portions of it. I believe the
10 feedback we got was specific to some neighborhoods in the
11 Old Fig Garden.

12 MS. WILSON: So I slightly smoothed out the line and
13 put it in there. There's an addition of 5,577 for
14 Fresno. It puts the deviation at 0.79 percent. And it
15 raises the CVAP, but only slightly, from a 53.13 to a
16 53.52 percent.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Does -- and you're saying it doesn't
18 help with deviation either?

19 MS. WILSON: No. It does help to bring down the
20 deviation. We move from 1.92 percent to -- with this
21 change to 0.79 percent. However, it does bring the
22 Calaveras-Inyo to 5.11 percent.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Where we do need population at some
24 point, right? Because we're -- anyway --

25 MS. WILSON: If you're planning to shift things,

1 moving them --

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: If we're shifting population up, it
3 makes sense to, because the goal is to shift population
4 westward and upward.

5 Okay. Any other comments on here? Can we see the
6 black CVAP in this area? And then we'll hear from
7 Commissioner Yee.

8 MS. WILSON: Yes. So the percent black CVAP with
9 this selection here is 7.75 percent.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Does it go down or up with the
11 change?

12 MR. BECKER: That's a slight increase, if my memory
13 serves. I think it was around 7.13 or so. Is that
14 right, Kennedy?

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: So taking it out increases the black
16 CVAP?,

17 MS. WILSON: One moment.

18 MR. BECKER: No. I'm seeing, actually 7.71. It's
19 about the same.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: So it doesn't change the black CVAP,
21 but any -- can we see the black CVAP -- the heat map?

22 MS. WILSON: Yes. One moment, please.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: And while we're waiting, let's hear
24 Commissioner Yee. Sorry, Commissioner Yee, I forgot.

25 COMMISSIONER YEE: No problem. I was just going to

1 say I like this change. I think we should go forward
2 with it.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. Thank you. This is the
4 African American CVAP, Kennedy?

5 MS. WILSON: No. One more -- one --

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, okay.

7 MS. WILSON: One other second. Okay. Now it is up.
8 My apologies for that -- waiting.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's great. And can you zoom them
10 in a little bit so we can all see the neighborhoods?

11 MS. WILSON: So we don't have a neighborhood layer
12 for this area as we do for, like, San Francisco and LA.
13 But I can also turn on the terrain if that would help as
14 well, to kind of see --

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. If you could do the terrain or
16 the -- so it looks like the African American community is
17 centered around the left -- the western portion of this
18 area. Is there any way to see where Shaw is?

19 MS. WILSON: So Shaw is the line that it is
20 currently going across the top is --

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Um-hum.

22 MS. WILSON: The line is Shaw. I have to switch the
23 layers to make sure it's just above each other so that
24 you can see them both.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Can you zoom in a little bit more so

1 we can see a little bit closer? Our screens are -- or my
2 eyes are not as good as they used to be.

3 MS. WILSON: Yes. I can continue to zoom in so you
4 can see major streets; Ashland Avenue is right where my
5 cursor is going across. And then Shaw is at the top.
6 Those are two big street names that we've heard of. So
7 here is Shaw again. And then Ashland, about two-thirds
8 of the way down -- or one-third of the way down.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: And the black CVAP is -- or the black
10 CVAP, can you show us right there?

11 MS. WILSON: Yes. So the way that the layers stack
12 on top of each other, it's not transparent. So it does
13 not show through. But actually, give me one more moment
14 to try to -- so I changed the opacity, but it is hard to
15 see the colors underneath of this. I can exit the
16 selection as well.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: No. I can see it.

18 MS. WILSON: Okay.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: I don't know if other commissioners
20 can, but I can make it out barely, but -- any direction
21 on this -- or feedback, Commissioner -- Commissioners?
22 Commissioner Yee, Andersen?

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I don't know about the
24 exact boundaries. I know we did receive testimony about
25 removing Old Fig Garden from this district.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen?

2 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. I was actually
3 just a little bit over -- above this, take out a
4 little -- put a little section of the CALA-INYO into the
5 Merced-Fresno, so it wasn't exactly about the Old Fig.

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So -- and we can explore that
7 after we decide what to do with -- let's figure out this
8 area. So at this point we're leaning towards taking out
9 Old Fig, and the question becomes, do we want to keep
10 some portions of -- split Old Fig, or are there any
11 splits that we want to do?

12 Overall, if we remember, moving this into -- moving
13 this out of this district would improve deviations and it
14 doesn't really change the CVAPs very much at all. Keeps
15 the CVAPs about the same. So that's -- we're probably
16 not talking about a -- well, given the large size of the
17 district, it's probably a sizable community, but not a
18 large impact on deviation. Commissioner Ahmad?

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I just
20 wanted to ask a clarifying question. Are we thinking
21 about moving this, if not for population or VRA-related
22 items, then is it for community of interest? Or am I
23 misunderstanding?

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, it's for deviation purposes.
25 Because it improves deviation and also moves population

1 up, and it improves the CVAP as well.

2 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: So it would increase deviation
3 for CALA-INYO?

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: I believe it does impact -- increase
5 the Latino CVAP slightly.

6 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: But Kennedy, can you please --

8 MS. WILSON: Yeah. I was just going to say, as far
9 as moving population up, that is -- would be for the
10 eastern part. As far as what can be moved to Merced-
11 Fresno, this doesn't necessarily help that, because you
12 would want this to have a higher percentage of people so
13 that it could move over. So by lowering this deviation,
14 it doesn't help with the transferring of people over to
15 Merced-Fresno.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: But it would -- we are looking to
17 transfer some population northward in the Inyo district.

18 MS. WILSON: And it would help that, yes. I just
19 wasn't sure what -- sorry, I wasn't sure what move --
20 where you were going. So I just wanted to make that
21 clear about both of those.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. We're thinking of a couple
23 steps later. All right. Commissioner Akutagawa, and
24 then we'll go to Commissioner Fornaciari and Sinay and
25 then Andersen --

1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I --

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, okay.

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: -- I guess I'll just say --

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: So Akutagawa and then Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I hear what you're saying
6 about trying to lower the deviation. But I also hear --
7 well, I guess, I'm just wondering if that's the best
8 place to do it. We did get -- while, I think there was
9 COI testimony to remove it, there was also COI testimony
10 that there is a -- I guess, a black COI there in that
11 particular area. And I know that that's what you're
12 trying to look at. And I'm just wondering if removing it
13 is just not really going to make that much of a
14 difference. And if it's better to leave them there and
15 then to look elsewhere to move population and give us a
16 little bit more of that flexibility.

17 I think overall, it seems like everything was
18 incremental and based -- the request from the community
19 there was to be included in this district over the other
20 district.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: That's correct. That's the decision
22 point here.

23 Commissioner Andersen?

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Sorry. Yes. I believe that I
25 was still -- this -- I'm thinking of adding more Hispanic

1 people to the vote -- to the Merced-Fresno. And in
2 Fresno area, could you up just a little bit and then turn
3 on the -- turn off black CVAP and put on the Latino CVAP.
4 Because I believe that essentially quarter north of the
5 word Fresno, that section there does have a higher Latino
6 CVAP. But if we circled it, you would find out exactly
7 what it was. Because if it's less than 30, it's not
8 going to help us.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.
10 Let's hear from Commissioner Fornaciari as that comes up.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, a couple of things.
12 I think that -- the same thing caught my eye that caught
13 Commissioner Andersen's eye. That there seem to be a
14 couple little corners there that had pretty high L-CVAP.
15 I kind of feel like we're getting a little bogged down in
16 our progress in a detail, and that we can put this on the
17 list to kind of come back to, circle back to.

18 But I think we got to kind of finish up our VRAs and
19 keep this moving, because we got some districts up north
20 that definitely need to be fixed. And I think, actually,
21 you know, we'll get more clarity on our ability to make
22 this move, you know, once we get the other districts more
23 kind of settled in.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner?

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, Chair, I was just going

1 to ask that we not accept Old Fig Garden change for now
2 so that we can move.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So we don't change -- we won't
4 accept this change for now. And then we will continue to
5 look at the change that Commissioner Andersen is
6 exploring, and then move to general direction to the line
7 drawers so we can continue to move forward.

8 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: If you want to try -- Kennedy,
9 if you just took that one square -- oh, well, let's talk
10 about that. I was actually talking about above the --
11 above and to the left of Old Fig Garden.

12 Yeah. That little area right in there, which is
13 still the City of -- yeah. That little area right in
14 there. But it doesn't -- the coloration of it looks
15 like -- could you just outline that and see, it's tell us
16 what the CVAP is in that area. Doesn't look high enough
17 to give any help at all.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: And at this point, since we're just
19 making refinements and adding little portions of the --
20 of the area, we might want to just give general direction
21 so that Kennedy can work on this offline.

22 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah, that's -- I don't
23 believe that's worth exploring. Thank you, Kennedy.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: So Commissioner Turner.

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Can you remind me, Chair,

1 where we're trying to move this?

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: We're -- thank you. So we're trying
3 to increase the CVAP for the Merced-Fresno area, as well
4 as push population to the west towards Merced-Fresno area
5 if possible. And up.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: And so those are the two priorities
8 at this point.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: So if direction can be given, I'm
11 looking for direction for the line drawers. I believe
12 Commissioner Fernandez had given some direction in terms
13 of this area. And to prop up the -- if possible, to
14 explore -- to do some explorations of the -- to try to
15 get the CVAP up in the Merced-Fresno area.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right, Kennedy, do you
17 remember -- we started from the -- I can't even remember
18 on the east -- I don't want to say it's overpopulated,
19 but possible -- yeah, the Tulare-Kern and potentially
20 push to the west, one, with the goal of not decreasing
21 the CVAP in -- oh, you're moving it so fast -- in
22 Fresno --

23 MS. WILSON: Sorry. I was trying to move that out
24 so you can see --

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, perfect.

1 MS. WILSON: -- what's in Tulare.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you so much. I
3 appreciate that. Yeah. Trying to move some of that
4 population to the west while at the same time not
5 decreasing the Latino CVAP in the VRA districts. But
6 hopefully increasing the Latino CVAP in the Merced-Fresno
7 area.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Andersen then Sinay.
9 And we're looking for general direction for Kennedy.

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. My general direction on
11 the Merced-Fresno, again, is really trying to look at
12 decreasing the non-Latino CVAP areas. And that could be,
13 you know, from San Benito. It could also be, if you
14 go -- scoot out just a little bit -- or if the map will
15 let you do that. It could also be in the, you know,
16 Merced area, you know -- well, I guess it's a little bit
17 further north. Yes. If there's any population in there.
18 You know, where were kind of trying to add population to
19 create this district. If we can essentially take some of
20 the areas of -- anywhere in the Merced area -- within the
21 Merced-Fresno area that have very low in population, one;
22 and two, low Latino CVAP. And if so, trying to take
23 those out of the Merced-Fresno area, because that would
24 be our best bang for the buck, given how the Latino CVAP
25 around the area is just not very high.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.
2 And so what it's sounding like is, in terms of general
3 direction, I'll summarize and then we'll make sure that
4 I'm capturing correctly -- is that we're pretty
5 comfortable with this district as is. That we are, if
6 possible, and it is -- it looks -- it's looking
7 difficult -- if possible, we would be working to try
8 to -- giving Kennedy the ability to explore around the
9 edges of this district, whether it's adding or
10 subtracting populations, to get us to a CVAP that is a
11 little bit higher.

12 And with that, I'm going to go to Commissioner
13 Turner to see if she has additional input.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Again, to the COI
15 testimony and the support that we're getting currently,
16 I'll just kind of read it off, and for Kennedy to explore
17 later, not necessarily for now. But for the same area,
18 and I think we were trying it earlier, and that is to try
19 and put Parlier with Reedley, into the Kings-Tulare
20 district, and in the same token, move Riverdale and some
21 of western Fresno into the AD_MERCED to balance the
22 population and keep the western county rural areas.

23 And then, also, I don't see Terra Bella, but perhaps
24 that'll allow it to be kept whole. So that's just new
25 information that's coming in as well, that if it helps

1 with shifting that towards Merced. Yeah. That Fresno-
2 Merced.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: So if it's possible to shift those
4 and maintain or increase the Latino CVAP and shift the
5 population towards Merced, to do that.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: So just want to make sure. Well, the
8 direction is to work around the edges and try to increase
9 that CVAP, as well as maintain the direction that
10 Commissioner Turner gave with regards to the specific
11 community of interest.

12 MS. WILSON: And I would like to note that Terra
13 Bella is whole. Just --

14 CHAIR TURNER: Thank you.

15 MS. WILSON: -- I think it's right here.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. So is that sufficient
17 direction, Kennedy? We're pretty comfortable with this
18 district as is. It's just some refinements to try to
19 increase the Latino CVAP, if possible.

20 MS. WILSON: Yes. And so mostly working between
21 these three, and not going between this county line and
22 bringing it up, is what I'm hearing.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: And the goal is to shift some
24 population west, if possible, as well, right? Towards
25 districts that need deviation. Although, it looks

1 difficult to do. Challenging, in that other districts
2 are -- the communities where Latinos reside makes it
3 complex, because it potentially reduces the CVAP. All
4 right.

5 So with that, let's keep moving forward to the next
6 district. We've talked about Fresno-Merced.

7 MS. WILSON: So are you wanting to move to San
8 Benito, or north, more north in my area, in this
9 northern, inland area?

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: I'm looking to the Commission for --
11 we can look at San Benito, if that's -- there's
12 significant COI input from the community.

13 So Kennedy, are you responsible for San Benito? Is
14 it somebody else?

15 MS. WILSON: I will switch. She's right here, and
16 we can -- there's no break time needed.

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, excellent. So why don't we do
18 that? Let's switch, and we'll go to San Benito, given
19 that that's also an area with Voter Rights implications.

20 Oh, it's Tamina.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: And thank you so much, Kennedy.
23 You've been, as always, awesome.

24 MS. RAMOS ALON: Good afternoon, Commissioners.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari?

1 Good morning, or good afternoon. Feels like the
2 morning, still.

3 Commissioner Fornaciari?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Hi, Tamina.
5 Thanks.

6 So I just want to comment on this district. I
7 think, in general, it looks good. It could use a little
8 population. Some of the feedback -- I mean, so it's kind
9 of a minor tweak, and I don't want to get down a rabbit
10 hole chasing this, I just want to throw it out for
11 general thoughts. We did get some feedback that the
12 Salinas Valley as a whole is a community of interest, and
13 the folks that live in the Salinas Valley would like to
14 be part of the VRA districts around here.

15 And so you can see, if you go a little further
16 south, you have a number of small little towns there, San
17 Lucas, San Ardo, Lockwood was even brought up, could be
18 part of it. So I would -- I just offer that I'd be
19 interested in kind of exploring that, what the impact
20 would be of doing that, maybe down to Bradley.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: So can you give a specific direction
22 there?

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sure. Extend the southern
24 portion of the San Benito District down to the county
25 line, sort of following the river there. Not that far,

1 not all the way to the coast. Just --

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: And is it really focused around
3 the --

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Around that river.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Around the river. So around the --
6 and it's capturing those communities with --

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- the highest Latino CVAP?

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I'd just be curious
10 to see what it's doing with our CVAP. And what it's
11 going to do, I mean, part of my -- part of my concern
12 here is that you got the Monterey coast that's already
13 low, and we're going to make it lower. And so I wouldn't
14 want to make this move without everyone being comfortable
15 with it.

16 And where did the Latino CVAP go? It went down.
17 That's weird. That's kind of weird.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: So the Latino CVAP goes down --

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Down.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- to 55.98.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Down .1 percent.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Could we put the heat map on, Tamina?
23 Sorry to interrupt, Commissioner Fornaciari.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No, no. That's fine. I
25 mean, we'd have to -- we'd have to kind of extent that,

1 obviously, to the county line to the east to make it
2 contiguous, but.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: So we're talking about 3,000 people.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Well, the highlighted area is 3,000
6 people.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, but that's just a
9 few more people.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible) curiosity
11 kills the cat.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Also kills our
13 time. But yeah. If you can just kind of fill it in
14 quickly and rough it out. I don't know. I'm kind of,
15 sort of, on the fence here.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: Would it make sense to add, and it's
18 probably not a lot of people either, the area to the
19 left? I keep worrying about taking population out of
20 the -- out of the neighboring district.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So we're getting to
22 a point where it's getting uncomfortable, and we got to
23 figure out how to add population back to Monterey. We'd
24 have to get that from the north. I don't know if that
25 city --

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Santa Cruz?

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No. Let me get it real
3 quick. I don't know how much -- I don't know how much
4 value Prunedale is adding. Oh.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I like this one. Thank you,
6 Tamina.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. That's really good.

8 MS. RAMOS ALON: This is just to show you how many
9 zero population blocks there are around here, and kind of
10 where the people reside, so you can see an area that may
11 look big only has five people. And that's why you're not
12 really getting the increase in the CVAP that you were
13 expecting.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. It wasn't really
15 about CVAP, it was just including these folks in the
16 district. But again, it's hurting the Monterey coast a
17 bit.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: So given that we're not seeing any
19 increase -- I know that there's community of interest --
20 community of interest testimony suggesting we add these
21 populations, but at this point, since it's not really
22 making a difference in the population, it could
23 potentially impact our population numbers.

24 Just wondering if this is a change that the
25 Commission is interested in continuing to pursue, or if

1 we are interested in moving on, or looking at other
2 alternatives?

3 So we'll go to Commissioner Akutagawa, and then
4 Commissioner Forniaciari after that.

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Can you zoom in on
6 Soledad? Is that included in the district, or not? This
7 might be just a small refinement, or a small change
8 that -- okay. No, they're included, so that's okay.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: It looks like it is.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Yeah. Yeah.
11 There was just -- some of the testimony seemed -- they
12 seemed really mad that Soledad was separated from them,
13 and given some of these small cities and separating them
14 from the bigger ones, it may seem like it would be an
15 easy fix, but no. This is okay. Thank you.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: I think that may have been a
17 reference to the other maps, I think the congressional
18 and State Senate, or congressional, I believe.

19 Commissioner Forniaciari?

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Maybe this is
21 something we can think about, because Monterey is so
22 negative already, maybe this is something we can think
23 about with regard to the congressional district when we
24 get there.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. It may be something we can do

1 in the State Senate map, which is bigger, or the
2 congressional map. It doesn't look like it's possible at
3 this point, although we can keep thinking about this in
4 our minds and try to look at different options as we do
5 our homework. So we can come back to this in refinement,
6 because it is -- it would be refinement. We're talking
7 about not too many people. But at this point, it doesn't
8 look like it's making an impact. Perhaps, once we shift
9 population down to Monterey, it may be possible to do
10 this.

11 So Commissioner Akutagawa and Andersen, if you're
12 okay with this, we will --

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Actually, I just had a quick
14 question about the, was all of Soledad in, and it
15 didn't -- it actually looked like there was more that was
16 not in, if we zoomed in, or was that the river?

17 CHAIR TOLEDO: I think it's the river.

18 But Tamina, can you also --

19 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Could you go just a little
20 closer, please?

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- put on the Latino CVAP so we
22 can -- the heat map to see if there's any population we
23 missed?

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay. The only area --

25 MS. RAMOS ALON: That's the river.

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you. It is the
2 river.

3 The only area I would think is -- I don't know if
4 that would help at all, but at least would be -- I
5 believe it's around Greenfield, this little bit -- the
6 next town south, if any of that population would help.
7 It doesn't have a whole lot of population, but in the
8 little city, it sort of does. Oh, it's fourteen people.
9 Oh. So it's just a thought for later. Thank you.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So it would need refinement.
11 Okay. So it looks like we're comfortable with this
12 district. And we're going to take a look at the State
13 Senate maps and the congressional maps and see if we can
14 address these -- keep these communities whole in those
15 maps, where we have more ability to do so, because these
16 are districts that aren't quite so big.

17 So let's keep moving north. Okay. So we're
18 entering Merced-Stanislaus.

19 MS. RAMOS ALON: Okay. Well, that would be back to
20 Kennedy. We're just going to switch chairs again. One
21 second, please.

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you for -- thank you for the
23 help, Tamina.

24 MS. WILSON: Hello.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: And welcome back, Kennedy. All

1 right. So let's see. So we've talked about Merced-
2 Fresno.

3 MS. WILSON: Okay.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: And we've given direction on that.
5 Can we go to the next district in the Central
6 Valley?

7 MS. WILSON: Yes. Next district would be Stanislas.
8 And again, from last time, we were tinkering with the
9 border, and previously, Stanislas was split into three.
10 We cut that down to two. This keeps Modesto down to
11 Turlock and the west side of it together, and then,
12 Hughson up to -- and then Salida, Del Rio, Riverbank,
13 Oakdale, up to Knights Ferry, and Valley Home are pushed
14 out of this district.

15 And that's just a general overview that I don't know
16 if I was supposed to give, but that's what is in this
17 district here.

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: I appreciate the overview. And our
19 break is going to be in two minutes, but in the meantime,
20 I would like Commissioners to think about these are areas
21 where we've received significant public input around,
22 especially the Modesto area, and so as we break for 15
23 minutes, if you can come back with your thoughts and
24 specific direction in this area.

25 It's not a VRA area, so we have a little bit more

1 discretion, but it is important that we get this area
2 right for the public and the communities that are in this
3 community.

4 So we'll be back in 15 minutes, and we'll be looking
5 at the Stanislas District. Thank you. So 4:30.

6 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 4:14 p.m.
7 until 4:30 p.m.)

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Welcome back to the California
9 Citizens Redistricting Commission. We are continuing on
10 our visualizations for the Central Valley. We are now
11 focused on the Stanislas region, with a particular focus
12 on the Modesto area.

13 So any general direction here from the Commission?

14 What I do look -- and what stands out a little bit
15 here is that the deviation is -- the deviation numbers
16 stand out.

17 Commissioner Fernandez, and then we'll go to
18 Commissioner Turner, and then Fornaciari.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

20 On the Central Valley, it's hard for me to discuss
21 this piece until we get that whole ECA portion done,
22 because it could impact what this looks like. Remember,
23 we talked about that? About maybe looking at that? So
24 that was kind of what my focus was more on, the Sierras.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you. Okay.

1 And then, Commissioner Turner?

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And that may be a good idea --
3 thank you, Chair -- because we've received a lot of
4 testimony about this area, particularly as it relates to
5 Modesto, so I'd be willing to look at ECA first because I
6 think it's absolutely going to have a ripple impact if we
7 really start to consider making some of the changes that
8 would perhaps include moving Tracy into Stanislas area,
9 in with Modesto and some of that area, so it would be
10 some of that type of architectural change.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

12 Commissioner Fornaciari?

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I think we've gotten
14 pretty good feedback from Stanislas on this particular
15 district for Assembly. The negative feedback we've
16 gotten is really focused on the congressional district
17 going up into the hills. I'm pretty comfortable with
18 this, but we do, I think, need to go back and revisit
19 that ECA district and get that finalized before we can
20 continue north, because that's certainly going to impact,
21 I mean, the areas that --

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: Sure.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- we have to work here in
24 the valley are still in the finalizing far north in the
25 Sacramento area, but the ECA is going to definitely



1 impact that.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So I'm hearing what seems to
3 be a consensus on moving on to the ECA.

4 Akutagawa, then Fernandez.

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Can we just see
6 the -- just the larger area? I'm just trying to get a
7 context for this, too.

8 CHAIR TOLEDO: Absolutely. Can we get this -- zoom
9 out?

10 And then, Commissioner Fernandez.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And I apologize. It's not
12 actually called the ECA on this one. I was looking for
13 the name of it. Is it the CALA-INYO? Yeah. Is that the
14 one?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hold on.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. It's ECA in the
17 other maps. Yes. It's the CALA-INYO.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

19 MS. MAC DONALD: Hello. Apologies. Kennedy just
20 got booted out of the internet, and we reconnecting.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

22 MS. MAC DONALD: So just one moment, please.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: We'll be going to that region. It's
24 in more of the Sierra region, the mountainous areas.

25 So while we're waiting, just some discussion in

1 terms of the general direction. We really do need
2 general direction, or rather, specific direction on how
3 to move and how to deal with this area.

4 Commissioner Fernandez?

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair.
6 And so how I was looking, I was looking at the terrain,
7 so if at some point, we can also look at the terrain.
8 And I was thinking more of this, if fellow Commissioners
9 are in agreement, the CALA-INYO would be more of a
10 mountainous, Sierra-type district, and my recommendation
11 was to move from south to north, so from Inyo going up.
12 So that was going to be my focus.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: So if we're thinking about a anchor,
14 what would be your anchor?

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So my anchor would probably
16 be Inyo, in part, and then, if we're building a mountain-
17 type district, some of the counties would be divided
18 because some of them have the mountains, like Tulare, and
19 Fresno, and Madera, most of Mariposa is mountain, so some
20 of these counties will be split based on those ranges.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So we have the terrain layer
22 here.

23 And so what I'm hearing from you, Commissioner
24 Fernandez, is that we would get -- we would have Inyo
25 County in this district, Mono County, and go up as much

1 as we can? Is that what you're suggesting, or can you
2 please clarify?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So what I was suggesting,
4 because if we go up that way, we're going to go into
5 Oregon, I think, or Washington, to try to get that
6 population, so we're actually going to have to go into --
7 you see Tulare's got the mountains and Fresno, Madera,
8 Mariposa, I was -- that would be my suggestion, but of
9 course, I would definitely welcome other opinions.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: So now that we have Kennedy back on,
11 can we look at the district as it is right now? It's
12 difficult with the terrain layer. Can you show us what
13 the district looks like now? So the district --

14 MS. WILSON: So I can tell you that -- oh, sorry --

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: It's all right.

16 MS. WILSON: -- I could just go over the counties.
17 We have Inyo, Mono, Alpine, and then, we do not have
18 Amador. It's cut between Amador and Calaveras.
19 Calaveras is a part of it, Tuolumne, Mariposa, and then,
20 parts of Madera right up -- there's Chowchilla, Fairmead,
21 Madera, Parkwood that it kind of cuts off of, and then,
22 we have this northeastern part of Fresno and Clovis, as
23 well, and Fresno.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: So Commissioner Fernandez, your
25 direction would be?

1 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We would -- wait. Hold on.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Because I do see the mountainous
3 areas are already in this district.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Some --

5 MS. WILSON: The one not in this district that she
6 mentioned --

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Was Tulare, huh?

8 MS. WILSON: -- is Tulare. However, there's not
9 very much population, because that's all, again, this is
10 where the Sequoia National Park, Sequoia Forests are, so
11 that there's not very many people.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. But like, I -- I'm
13 sorry. I need to see the boundaries again. It just
14 isn't as clear. I have my other map at home,
15 unfortunately, that has all of my notes. But I think,
16 right now, I think some of the borders that we have, like
17 in Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, may need to be moved --

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- towards the mountains.
20 That's what I mean, in terms of refinements.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Sinay?

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, I'm good. Sorry.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy?

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. The

1 testimony that's been most helpful and persuasive to me
2 is the testimony from various persons that has said,
3 essentially, divide along the crest. On the eastern side
4 of the crest, go fairly far north, and yeah, eventually,
5 you're going to hit a road that -- a major road that
6 crosses the mountains to be able to pick up population.
7 So no, we're not going to go all the way to the Oregon
8 border, we're going to go far enough to hit a major road
9 to cross the mountains and pick up the population.

10 So and then, everything to the west of the crest is
11 separate from that. Just as far as ease of
12 transportation, as well as, I think, a different set of
13 concerns, generally, so. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

15 Commissioner Turner?

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Absolutely. I'd love to see
17 that visualized, and see what that does. Exactly what
18 Commissioner Kennedy just described, based on the desire
19 to separate the mountainous communities from kind of
20 flatlands, and so if we could -- and I would perhaps
21 leave the southern border alone. Inyo, Tulare, we're
22 already worked that through, but starting at the
23 crestline, where that divides in Fresno, and cut up,
24 straight up from there.

25 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Well, not straight, but follow
2 the terrain.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: All right. So we have direction from
4 Commissioner Kennedy.

5 Kennedy, if you can start looking at that?

6 In the meantime, we'll take input from Commissioner
7 Fornaciari and Commissioner Andersen.

8 MS. WILSON: I'm not too sure --

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm also in the queue.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, and then Commissioner Akutagawa
11 as well. Sorry about that.

12 Kennedy, you were saying?

13 MS. WILSON: I'm not too sure about what the
14 direction was.

15 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So let's get Commissioner
16 Kennedy to give the direction, and --

17 MS. WILSON: And if I may make another point?

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. Absolutely.

19 MS. WILSON: Is just that we have this district
20 built here, so before making it what it needs to be, I
21 have to add these portions to that district, and then
22 continue shifting things around. So it would have to
23 start with moving these counties into another district,
24 and then maybe moving some out to get to what he was
25 saying. Just so that you understood the process of --

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yes. And so I do understand that
2 you'll need to shift population first and then -- in
3 order to be able to go back.

4 Commissioner Kennedy, do you want to give the
5 direction?

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'll make a recommendation.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: How about you make a recommendation
8 and then we'll see if we all agree? We'll make the
9 recommendation and then we'll get comments from the
10 Commissioners.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Right. My recommendation is
12 that we start with Inyo County, Mono County, Alpine
13 County, we continue going north to the east of the crest,
14 until we hit, kind of, the Tahoe region, which connects
15 west towards population, and that is where we drop down
16 to get the population that we need to fill that out as a
17 district. We're not going to go past -- I'd say we're
18 not going to go past Plumas in any case. There's no need
19 to.

20 And then things to the west of the crest, that would
21 essentially be a separate district or joined with Valley
22 districts.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Which would be -- which would be
24 difficult, because many of those are VRA Districts,
25 right? So but possibly, there might be a separate

1 district --

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. Yeah.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think let's go to Commissioner
6 Akutagawa, Fornaciari, Andersen, Fernandez, and
7 specifically, any comments on this suggestion.

8 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So I want to just
9 say that I think what I'm hearing Commission Kennedy say,
10 reading through some of the COI testimonies, there's kind
11 of mixed results, but at the very least, there seems to
12 be this kind of east-west divide from the crest of the
13 Sierras, and that those to the east would prefer to be
14 with more of the eastern sides, and then, those to the
15 west and the foothills would rather be with the Valley
16 floor, is just some of the general themes that -- just
17 based on what I just quickly skimmed through again,
18 there's new ones coming in.

19 And so I think there's not going to be a whole lot
20 of population. I think that's the question where,
21 perhaps it's more general direction to give to -- I don't
22 know if it's Kennedy again. I apologize. I'm not sure
23 who's doing the mapping right now, but general direction
24 to say, if possible, use the crest going east and add to
25 this district going further north.

1 I know that there's some people that are not happy
2 about going too far north because of the distance, but in
3 more sparsely populated areas, these might be the best
4 ways possible to keep some communities of interest, even
5 if they're further apart. Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

7 Commissioner Fornaciari?

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So if I can kind of
9 paraphrase, it looks like what we're going is putting
10 33,387 people up into what is currently ECA, all on the
11 east side of the ridge of the Sierras, and then CALA-
12 INYO, which is the foothills, or the west side of the
13 peak, down to the foothills, and down to the Valley, is
14 going to be a little negative, and we can probably put
15 Amador to the south and come out about right.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay? So I mean, I guess
18 this seems like a reasonable approach to me. Just want
19 to make sure I understood it.

20 CHAIR TOLEDO: And thank you for providing the
21 clarification.

22 Commissioner Andersen?

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Well, thank you,
24 Commissioner Fornaciari, for saying that. It is a very
25 small group.

1 In terms of where the first road is that goes over
2 the hill, it's actually 120 at Tuolumne, up the back side
3 of -- into Yosemite. And that is kind of what they were
4 talking about, because it's Mono, and they basically
5 share the back side of Yosemite.

6 Anyway, if we do this, though, what I'd like to --
7 I'd almost like to start, yes, we know we want Inyo, but
8 if we start at the north and kind of work that out, I
9 think it's going to work out for a lot of things. The
10 issue here is, is CALA-INYO, there's the -- Mono's part
11 of the Fresno, there's the Mount Yoruba part of Madera,
12 and there's a little tiny bit of (indiscernible) and
13 Mariposa, and then, you're already in the foothills. So
14 unless you want to try to add that stuff to STANIS-SSAC,
15 to create another district there, you've lost the
16 mountainous area.

17 Because remember, these are areas that they are
18 saying, we're completely different than the Central
19 Valley. Our farming is different, it's the Gold Country,
20 that sort of thing. And to create another district here,
21 I don't believe Amador have -- I don't have the number
22 right in front of me, but it doesn't have enough to
23 completely change that. So I understand where we're sort
24 of going from. I'd almost rather start at the north, and
25 work it out through the Assembly to (indiscernible)

1 follow, and come on down the side.

2 CHAIR TOLEDO: Um-hum. Commissioner Fernandez?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. This was very
4 different than what I was looking -- I was looking more
5 at the entire -- not east-west, just all of it, in terms
6 of the mountainous areas. But if this is the way you
7 want to go, I guess we can go that way. It just
8 doesn't -- I don't know. I think I'm getting tired now.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.
10 Commissioner Yee?

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. We keep talking about the
12 crest, and the east side of the mountains, and the west
13 side of the mountains. Is that the county lines there?
14 I don't know, and I don't remember my geography lesson
15 well enough. I mean, the eastern parts of -- thank
16 you -- Tuolumne, Mariposa, and Madera, so forth, they're
17 mountainous, but on the west side of the mountains, which
18 we had some testimony the other day that that was fine.
19 It's the crest. So is that the crest? I mean, it kind
20 of looks like it right now, looking at this, more or
21 less, in which case, I like Commissioner Fornaciari's
22 proposal.

23 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner?

24 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I put my hand up just
25 to be in the queue in case I wanted to say something

1 different, but I actually like the way this is, and
2 perhaps, to start adding in population across the crest
3 to see where it is and how far it needs to go.

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari, is that your
5 direction, or was that your recommendation, rather?

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, technically, this is
7 Commissioner Kennedy's direction, and I just paraphrased
8 it.

9 CHAIR TOLEDO: Well, it's the Commissioner's
10 direction?

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So here's the challenge,
12 Commissioner Fernandez, is we have a pocket of population
13 in Fresno, and a pocket of population there in the bottom
14 of Madera County that has no place to go, right? I mean,
15 unless we can figure out a different place to put them.
16 They have to go somewhere. And there's very little folks
17 in the foothills, so I mean, for me, this is kind of a
18 compromise, where we get the east side of the hills going
19 north in the direction they want to go. I know the folks
20 in the foothills aren't -- well, some of them are, some
21 of them aren't. We've heard some testimony where the
22 folks in the foothills like to come down to the Valley,
23 but I mean, unless we can think of another way to deal
24 with that population in Fresno and Madera County, I'm not
25 sure there's another answer.

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah. Commissioner Fernandez, can
2 you respond?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm not necessarily
4 responding to any of that, I just feel that we're being
5 inconsistent in terms of, we're going to go along the
6 crest, and then once we get to El Dorado, Placer,
7 whatever, it doesn't matter. Right? We're going to take
8 the whole county. So I was trying to be consistent in
9 terms of defining a mountain area, so that's -- I was
10 just trying to be consistent. That's kind of analytical
11 way of thinking, but if this is the way the majority want
12 to go, we'll go along for the ride.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: So let's -- since Commissioner
14 Kennedy made the initial recommendation, I'd like to hear
15 his thoughts on that, and then come back to the queue.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. The idea
17 has never been necessarily to stick with entire counties.
18 I mean, colleagues will recall that I've been saying for
19 a long time that Placer County is, in many ways, two
20 counties. You have a mountain area, which is, I think,
21 Supervisorial District 5, essentially, and you have
22 Sacramento suburbs.

23 And yes, I understand that eastern Placer County has
24 a relationship with western Placer County, but it also,
25 to me, makes sense to, once you get to Alpine, to go

1 ahead and extend that area that we're talking about up
2 through Truckee, and then look at compensating for
3 population on the other side of the ridge.

4 You have one area along the Nevada border,
5 essentially from -- what is that -- Floriston, northeast
6 of Truckee, all the way down the Nevada border, and then
7 we have another district on the western side of the ridge
8 going all the way down, and keeping as many of the
9 foothill communities as possible together on that side of
10 the ridge, but I'm not proposing that we necessarily
11 maintain counties or necessarily split them. We need to
12 do what we need to do to make this work. Thank you.

13 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Fornaciari, was that
14 your vision as well?

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, I took a quick look
16 yesterday. I'm kind of questioning my capability in
17 QGIS --

18 CHAIR TOLEDO: Me, too.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- since I was so far off
20 in the CVAP on San Benito, but my quick, kind of, look,
21 if we just took the mountainous regions of all these
22 counties, we would literally go to the Oregon border to
23 get enough population to make this work.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And then, that, I mean,

1 then the outcome would be a complete revision of the rest
2 of our map.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. So let's go to the queue and
4 see if there's other thoughts in the queue and then come
5 back. Oh, Commissioner Kennedy wants to clarify.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Again, I'm
7 not advocating going any farther north than that existing
8 northern line of ECA, just northeast of Truckee. If we
9 get that far and we don't have enough population yet,
10 we'd take a left turn, and head towards the population.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. I think I understand the
12 recommendation from Commissioner Kennedy. It's slightly
13 different than the recommendation from Commissioner
14 Fornaciari, and we'll figure out which direction to move
15 in.

16 Commissioner Akutagawa, and Commissioner Andersen.

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I'll offer some,
18 hopefully, some additional clarification.

19 So is it possible to look at -- can you show the, I
20 guess, the highway lines along this eastern corridor?
21 Because some of the COI testimony that I have read
22 through previously, and just skimming again through
23 what's come in more recently, and refreshing my memory
24 about this, the main corridor is the, I believe it's the
25 395.

1 And there's one COI testimony that I want to point
2 out. It notes that the only passes that are accessible
3 for crossing the Central Sierras for much of the year is
4 US 50 and I-80, which, I believe, is up in that area
5 where Commissioner Kennedy is talking about making that
6 kind of left turn. This particular COI testimony also
7 mentions that in, specifically, the eastern ridge of the
8 Sierra Nevadas in Nevada County, Placer County, and El
9 Dorado Counties including the Lake Tahoe Basin and
10 Truckee, could be part of this particular district, and I
11 think that may also alleviate some of the concern that
12 Commissioner Fornaciari is talking about.

13 And what it does do is, it enables not only those
14 who share a particular type of interest, in terms of
15 recreation and mountain, and frankly, I mean, it's not
16 well-populated because people very specifically want a
17 certain type of lifestyle experience living in some of
18 these communities. And also, it's not too different than
19 those who are asking for a specifically coastal district
20 in various parts of the state, so I'd like to just offer
21 that as direction to look at.

22 And as, I think, Commissioner Kennedy had noted,
23 looking to see, at least, if we can go to the eastern
24 ridge of, in this case, it would be Amador, Calaveras, El
25 Dorado, Placer, and Nevada Counties, and then seeing how

1 much more we need to go to pick up population, trying to
2 keep in mind as close to possible the kind of COIs that
3 would share similar interests with parts of, at least the
4 northern part of this Central Sierra area.

5 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: And I think that's in alignment with
8 Commissioner Kennedy's recommendation. There is, also,
9 the concern about the Fresno population that needs a
10 home, and so there is some populations in the south that
11 would need a home, and we'd have to make sure that it
12 gets covered.

13 Commissioner Andersen?

14 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. (Indiscernible)
15 people --

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Are you in support of this idea, or a
17 slightly different, or what's your thoughts?

18 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, there are two different
19 things going on here. We're talking about, essentially,
20 a COI interest which is based on highways. The eastern
21 ridge, up 395, down through Tahoe and El Dorado.

22 But what most of the people in the area are -- their
23 issue is, it's the mountains. It's the fire districts
24 they share. It's the water districts that they all are
25 concerned with. It's recreational use of mountains as

1 opposed to, let's just say, logging use of mountains.

2 And that is throughout the area.

3 Now, Mono and Inyo definitely have other issues, but
4 they also know they have no people. And so they've
5 thrown out several different ideas of combinations they
6 can be in together, which is in the mountain area.

7 And we did hear, absolutely, several people say,
8 let's just go up the ridge, but again, this is 33,000
9 people. If you just go straight up the ridge, I mean,
10 you're -- El Dorado has 200,000, and I can't remember
11 what Placer has. I mean, you'd have to take those
12 counties and stuff. You can kind of get there, but it's
13 a backwards way of getting there.

14 When I think we -- I think we're kind of sort of
15 stuck with Fresno, because -- this portion of Fresno,
16 because I don't see how we can get away from it and
17 connect it to anywhere. But let's not then make --
18 separate it out twice, I believe, because you're -- this
19 whole area needs mountain people who can look after those
20 particular issues. And remember, the fire went rip-
21 roaring through Amador and El Dorado --

22 CHAIR TOLEDO: So if you have any specific direction
23 on that? We're all in agreement with what you're saying.

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Well, we're saying two
25 different things, so that's why I wanted --

1 CHAIR TOLEDO: Oh, okay.

2 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- to make sure. Now, if we
3 are in agreement, then I think we have to kind of go with
4 what Commissioner Fornaciari said. It's not -- I don't
5 like it, but then, what do we do with Fresno and Madera?
6 I think we kind of, sort of, have to do that, almost.

7 CHAIR TOLEDO: So let's check in with Commissioner
8 Fornaciari and see where he is at this point.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So a couple things.
10 I mean, if we simply made this -- if we simply move the
11 red up into ECA and Amador to CALA-INYO, we'd be about a
12 wash in population, and that is going to also, in a lot
13 of ways, define what we do further north, and what we're
14 able to do in Sacramento. So I just wanted to lay that
15 out there. I guess that's all I have at this point.

16 CHAIR TOLEDO: Do you have a recommendation, in
17 terms of a path forward?

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, I think we could --
19 I mean, I think we can make this, if this is the general
20 consensus of the Commission, I think we can make this
21 move. I just, recognizing that it's going to impact what
22 happens up north, and I'm not sure what that looks like,
23 because we just have to play that out.

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: Commissioner Turner?

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: For the portion of -- CALA-

1 INYO, it's not a VRA area. For the portion of Fresno
2 that was left -- can we zoom in -- is there a possibility
3 that we -- because it looked like that other side went
4 almost all the way into Fresno. Okay. So that's, then,
5 Clovis? Where's the line?

6 CHAIR TOLEDO: Yeah, it's Clovis. Clovis, Fort
7 Washington.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. What I was trying to
9 see if we took Fresno and moved it, but it goes further
10 than what I'd want to -- okay. That's the pocket.

11 CHAIR TOLEDO: And it would impact the CVAPs in the
12 neighboring VRA districts.

13 Commissioner Fornaciari? Okay. You're not the
14 queue anymore?

15 Commissioner Kennedy.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So at least to try to move
17 things forward at this point, if we can zoom the map back
18 out, what I would be looking at is, we extend Inyo, Mono,
19 Alpine, and then, kind of along the crest, or as close to
20 the crest as we can, to take in that little portion of
21 ECA that is right under where it says ECA, that we not go
22 any farther north than that. What is the population in
23 that? We look at how far west we might have to go in
24 Placer, and then, Amador, El Dorado, or most of El
25 Dorado, most of Placer would go into -- would replace --

1 we'd basically be doing a switch, with those areas
2 replacing Inyo, Mono, Alpine, and the Lake Tahoe area.

3 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay. That sounds like we have a
4 consensus to move forward with this exploration, so I'd
5 like to explore this, Kennedy. If you could take that
6 recommendation and highlight those areas?

7 MS. WILSON: So I just went forward to doing that,
8 and I'm not sure if everyone was able to see the
9 deviations while that was up there, but CALA-INYO, this
10 portion of Fresno, it's at a negative 2.78, so it's still
11 in acceptable ranges. Obviously, I'm not sure if it's
12 where you want it to be, but it's not creating a bubble
13 or anything. It's in the range that it should be, and
14 then this is at a 4.45.

15 So getting rid of all of that will definitely be
16 a -- it'll be a lot of what's making up the population
17 already, and maybe a better way -- I mean, I don't know.
18 We can do whatever you want, but I think that we would
19 end up expanding pretty far as it is, and maybe taking
20 some out first, if you want to lower it to around zero,
21 but it's still in the deviation, and I think taking all
22 of that out, it's going to be a lot that you have to take
23 out. It'd be (indiscernible) --

24 CHAIR TOLEDO: And maybe we don't have it all out.
25 And so do you have any concrete direction on this,

1 Commissioner Kennedy?

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I think Commissioner Andersen
3 has --

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: Okay.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- or she can correct me if
6 I'm wrong. If Amador and Calaveras want to be together,
7 and I think I just saw the population of Amador, it seems
8 like moving Amador from ECA to CALA-INYO might be a
9 reasonable measure.

10 CHAIR TOLEDO: So with that, I'm going to ask
11 Commissioner Andersen to take over for a couple minutes
12 while I take a break, and move this forward. It would be
13 great to get to a consensus on where to move this
14 district forward, and I think we're getting there. I
15 think it's coming along.

16 Commissioner Andersen?

17 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. I'm sorry. Am I
18 speaking as this or as taking over as chair?

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: You are.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: As chair.

21 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Right. So well, okay.
22 I will speak on this. Basically, yes, Amador is 36,000,
23 and I believe you said Alpine, Mono, and Inyo are about
24 33,000, so you'd switch those out. But you still also
25 have Sacramento in here. Folsom and parts of Sacramento,

1 I think Arcade, are now up with Lake Tahoe for population
2 here, which I am not sure anyone was considering here.

3 But let's hear from other Commissioners, please.

4 Oh, sorry.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: You're the chair,
6 Commissioner Andersen.

7 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. I'm sorry about that.

8 Commissioner Sinay, please. Oh, no. She's passing
9 right now.

10 Commissioner Fornaciari?

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I was just going to
12 say this swap would even it out, but yeah, I mean, that's
13 kind of the thing. The population driving this whole
14 thing is all really in Sacramento County. A little bit
15 in this, what's this, next to Cameron Park, it's El
16 Dorado Hills, I think? Is that right, Alicia? The pink
17 thing? So the population center that is anchoring that
18 whole district is in Sacramento. So is that the outcome
19 that we were looking for with this change? I guess
20 that's the question I want to lay out to the Commission.

21 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. On that one, is this --
22 let's get some head shakes. Is this yes, this is what
23 we're thinking, or no, this is not what we're thinking?
24 Okay. I can see some yeses and not -- let's see. I'm
25 seeing -- okay.

1 Let's go with, who is a yes on this? One, two,
2 three. I'm seeing three hands; is that correct?

3 So how many on the nos? Ah. I'm getting four
4 fingers from Alicia. Sorry, from Commissioner Fernandez.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I have four votes.

6 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh. Four votes from
7 Commissioner Fernandez. So how many on the no on this?
8 One --

9 MR. BECKER: Chair, maybe one option is to see if
10 the line drawers can explore this, and you can come back
11 with whether they work or not. I don't know if that
12 would help move things along.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for that, Chief
14 Counsel.

15 Kennedy, have we explored this before?

16 MS. WILSON: I'm not entirely sure of the direction,
17 what you would like to explore.

18 As far as these being pushed out this way, that also
19 comes from keeping Elk Grove and Sacramento and that kind
20 of thing, was pushing population north and pushing it to
21 the west, and so that is how these cities or CDPs in
22 Sacramento County were pushed out west, and that's --
23 because before, it was a little too much farther in, so
24 we started to push the line out, and that was a part of
25 the direction that we had last time.

1 And I also wasn't sure if that Amador direction was
2 something that I was supposed to implement or not. The
3 changes are up here. Deviation goes from negative 2.78
4 to a 4.63 positive, and ECA is at a negative .96.

5 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay.

6 MR. BECKER: Chair, I think you have some hands as
7 well.

8 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh. Thank you very much.

9 Commissioner Fernandez?

10 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Obviously, I'm not
11 supportive of this zero percent.

12 And because what I started out as a concept of a
13 mountains, I don't know if any of you have been to
14 Sacramento, but we have no mountains. There are no
15 mountains in Sacramento, and now, we are pushing part of
16 Sacramento into this mountainous -- so Amador-Calaveras,
17 they would be more appropriate to be with that other --
18 with the mountainous districts, and potentially, if
19 Kennedy can zoom out, some of the counties further north.

20 But then again, now you've got this huge district
21 for an Assembly. I realize for Senate and congressional,
22 we're going to have huge, but -- and when I say huge, I'm
23 talking about miles. I remember comments from -- reading
24 some input about individuals upset that they had to drive
25 30 miles, and we're talking about probably 400-plus miles

1 here from one end to the other. Again, very few actually
2 ever visit their assembly people, but still.

3 So anyway, that's -- and even Tuolumne. Tuolumne
4 could theoretically go into this mountainous -- again,
5 not highly populated, but I am opposed to having
6 communities that are not mountainous in this district.
7 And the whole purpose of the district, I believe, is what
8 we agreed to, would be a mountainous-type, which have
9 similar communities of interest with the forest
10 management, and water, and ecological issues.

11 So again, I would not want to have the Sacramento
12 area in there, and then go further north. But also, as I
13 mentioned, some of those counties, Amador, Calaveras,
14 Tuolumne, maybe Mariposa, they may be more appropriate to
15 be in that district. Thanks.

16 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

17 Commissioner Akutagawa?

18 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I am
19 uncomfortable -- I know I said do that left turn,
20 affirming what Commissioner Kennedy had suggested, but I
21 am uncomfortable with including the more suburban areas
22 of Sacramento. I agree with what Commissioner Fernandez
23 just said.

24 I also want to note, it looks like, from the
25 visualization, or what we're seeing currently right now,

1 that some of the crestline of the Sierras is not
2 included, and that the cuts are all at the county lines,
3 and I'm wondering how much of a difference -- I don't
4 think it'll make that much of a difference. I went back
5 to the October 27th and November 2nd visualizations for
6 this area, and what I saw was that it did include Amador,
7 Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, and the Yosemite part of
8 Madera.

9 And so in the case, I believe it was Mariposa and
10 Madera, at the very least, and it looks like part of
11 Calaveras and part of Tuolumne, it was cut. The county
12 was cut, and it got that ECA district to just about under
13 2 percent, minus 2 percent, roughly, deviation, and that
14 included the counties all the way up to Nevada.

15 I think we can also -- I believe we can go up even
16 into Sierra to make sure that Truckee is also included
17 with that Lake Tahoe area, and then that might get us the
18 kind of population. In the visualization that we saw, I
19 believe, also, El Dorado and Placer was also cut so that
20 the more suburban areas, and therefore, the more, I
21 guess, bedroom communities of Sacramento were not
22 included in this district.

23 And so perhaps it's either going back to a previous
24 visualization and starting there and doing the tweaks,
25 that might make it easier. I'm happy to give that as a

1 general direction to Kennedy to start from, and looking
2 at just ensuring that we're including the mountainous
3 regions, the crestlines going east.

4 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: So okay. To summarize that,
5 basically, you're saying, go Inyo, Mono, Alpine, just the
6 crest -- essentially, the crest of El Dorado, crest of
7 Placer, up to Tahoe?

8 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: No, I'm also saying let's
9 include Inyo, Mono, the crestlines, like let's say, from
10 Yosemite going east, and so we'll split Madera, split
11 Mariposa from the crestline, split -- actually, I may be
12 wrong. I think Yosemite is in Tuolumne. My apologies.
13 So split Tuolumne, split --

14 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Tuolumne, that essentially is
15 the crestline. The county line is the crestline around
16 Tuolumne. And then, it's -- yeah -- you would basically
17 kind of continue a little bit up through Alpine kind of
18 in that direction, so --

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Where is the 395 on this?

20 MS. WILSON: 395 follows in -- it starts at the
21 corner between Alpine and Mono. Let me zoom in a bit
22 closer. So I'm circling where it kind of comes in from
23 Nevada, and then goes through Mono, kind of coming to the
24 county line, and it goes here, not so much in the middle
25 of these counties, but more towards the ridgeline, I'm

1 assuming is what that geography is.

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh, okay. So actually, it
3 looks like we may already be following the 395.

4 MS. WILSON: Yeah. The 395 --

5 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, we are. Yes, we are.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

7 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner
8 Akutagawa.

9 Commissioner Kennedy, do you want to sort of clean
10 this up a little bit? Because we -- basically fifteen
11 minutes, and then we're going to public comment.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. I think we're getting
13 confused here. All we've done so far is essentially
14 switch Inyo, Mono, and Alpine for Amador. So we did have
15 Calaveras to Fresno, plus Alpine, Mono, and Inyo, and
16 we're just moving Inyo, Mono, and Alpine into the ECA,
17 and Amador from ECA to CALA-INYO.

18 The issue of Sacramento suburbs going out to Tahoe,
19 that was always there. That's not something that we just
20 created. That's been there. And I don't see that
21 necessarily as all that unnatural, given what I've heard
22 about people from Sacramento going out to Lake Tahoe.

23 If we want to try to find a way to trim that closer
24 to the Nevada border, I'm okay with trying it, but it
25 seems like we are at least within acceptable bounds at

1 this point, and all we've done is exchanged Amador on the
2 one hand for Alpine, Mono, and Inyo on the other. And
3 people in Inyo and Mono realize that they're never going
4 to be the dominant force in this district, but I think
5 they will feel that they have more in common with people
6 in this district than they had in the district that
7 they're currently in. So that's where my thinking is on
8 this. Thank you.

9 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Commissioner Sinay, and
10 then we'll just do a quick through this.

11 Commissioner Sinay?

12 Commissioner Fornaciari?

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I mean, basically, are
14 people from Inyo, Mono, and Alpine County going to have a
15 representative in Fresno or in Sacramento? That's the
16 choice we're making right now. There's just not enough
17 people to make a district.

18 And kind of to Commissioner Akutagawa's point, the
19 main difference here between the 27th is those VRA
20 districts is driving everything we're doing now. And we
21 didn't have those VRA districts. And Fresno was totally
22 in a Valley district, as was the parts of Madera County
23 that are now not in a Valley district. So that's the big
24 change that is being driven by the VRA.

25 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. And we did also

1 make changes after we did the VRAs, up through -- which
2 has created that other district.

3 Commissioner Ahmad?

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you. What Commissioner
5 Kennedy said makes a lot of sense to me, based off of our
6 criteria, as well as COI testimony I've read. Thanks.

7 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

8 Commissioner Fernandez?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. And I realize what
10 Commissioner Kennedy said. I also remember what I said
11 when we adopted these draft maps, where this was one area
12 that I wanted to revisit because of the Sacramento
13 communities were in with the mountains, and then also the
14 vineyards. So I realize it's an easy swap. I'm still
15 not happy with it, just as I wasn't happy with it on
16 November 10th.

17 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And I just feel we're
19 mixing very different communities at this point, and --

20 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- that's why I was
22 offering some of the other mountainous communities, or
23 counties.

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
25 Fernandez.

1 Commissioner Turner?

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Vice Chair. I just
3 wanted to understand the step two from Commissioner
4 Fernandez for the -- going back, remembering what you
5 were initially trying to accomplish.

6 I do see, and I'm in support of the current swap.
7 That seems just like a swap, but you are indicating there
8 are other areas up at the top. I mean, I'm wondering, is
9 that another discussion that we can have and what's
10 prohibitive about this for that, if we can do that?

11 I know. Too much this for that. So I like the
12 swap. The swap is good for me, and I hear -- what I'm
13 hearing and reading in what you'd said, and maybe I just
14 would like you to reiterate, is that there are concerns
15 about mixing communities, and land use, and the people
16 that's there further up north, that you weren't
17 comfortable with before that may impact this or may not,
18 but I'm trying to understand the other part that you're
19 concerned about.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: The part I'm concerned
21 about right now?

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Well, so the --

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Sorry. I guess --

24 COMMISSIONER TURNER: -- Amador is a swap with those
25 other areas. But you just indicated that there are other

1 places in Sacramento further north that's mixed in with
2 the mountainous communities, and I wanted to have you
3 talk a little bit more about that to see how it's
4 impacted by Amador.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'd have to -- I'd have to
6 have Kennedy zoom in to --

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- West Placer. Wait.
9 Where are we? Yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Okay. If you just
11 give it a -- just a very short on this, because I want to
12 wrap this up so we can move forward.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. And we can discuss
14 it later, that's fine, after the public comment, if we
15 want to. What I'm saying is -- so November 10th, we did
16 what we did to try to get the drafts out there, which
17 is -- I completely understand that part of it.

18 But as you get -- Kennedy, could you move a little
19 bit -- just move it a little bit -- yeah -- move it the
20 other way. Sorry. It was going to be my down, your up.
21 I wasn't sure which way we were going with this.

22 But I would say, probably the borders of Sacramento
23 County, those are more of what you would call your
24 flatlanders, because somebody liked to give it that term.
25 And as we move up north, you have your Auburn, your

1 Newcastle, those communities are more with the mountains,
2 does that make sense?

3 But they're also -- it can be something where you're
4 swapping. We're going to have to go in and swap, but I'm
5 just saying, at this point, how it looks, I would
6 recommend moving the Folsom, Rancho, all of those areas
7 would go in, possible, with Roseville, and then the other
8 communities, which are more in the mountains, and that
9 includes, also, Placerville and Cameron Park.

10 Although they're somewhat attached, that's where you
11 start going up the grade. And then that's where you've
12 got Auburn, and Newcastle, those areas as well. Go up
13 the grade. So what I'm trying to keep together would be
14 those that are what you would call the Valley versus
15 those that actually start going into the mountains.

16 Does that answer your question, Commissioner Turner?

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So with the swap with Amador,
18 if that did not occur, what you would be saying is to
19 continue up north and grab more of El Dorado instead of
20 Amador?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So what I'm saying was I
22 wasn't excited about the current map to begin with,
23 regardless of it being Amador or whatever, because I
24 still have the issue with the Valley communities being
25 lumped in with the mountainous areas, so regardless of

1 Amador in or out. Does that make sense?

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: It was just knowing that we
4 were going to have to come back and rework it.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right? So it's being
7 reworked a different way that I had envisioned.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Ah. Okay.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you.

11 And I just want to just -- I'm going to do a quick
12 summary here. I believe we've sort of made a change that
13 is not -- it's an idea. It has a lot of areas that still
14 need to be worked out.

15 At this point, and I want to hear from other -- what
16 I would be suggesting is that we leave this, and
17 tomorrow, we actually start on, realizing we still have
18 this Fresno issue, but actually start sort of sorting out
19 things possibly from the north, and then we could lock
20 those in, and understand where we can and cannot make our
21 changes in the whole rest of the map, because we did do a
22 lot of changes in this area and said we're all going to
23 come back to it.

24 And so I don't believe there are enough people who
25 are really excited about this to lock this in, but I'm --

1 that's what I'm sort of proposing that's what we sort of
2 might do for this evening, but I want to hear from
3 Commissioner Akutagawa and Commissioner Kennedy.

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you.

5 I do have a question, I think probably along the
6 lines of what Commissioner Fernandez was saying. I think
7 Commissioner Fornaciari had a good point. He said the
8 eastern -- the Sierras, these mountain communities, I
9 mean, part of why they've been really advocating for a
10 district that would just be the mountain communities is
11 that they feel like, ultimately, if they're paired with a
12 larger city, that's where their elected official comes
13 from, and regardless of whether they see them or not, the
14 general sense that I've received from their testimony has
15 been that they -- when an elected official is based in a
16 larger city, they just feel like they're completely
17 ignored, and that that person, said elected
18 representative, just focuses on the issues of the larger
19 cities.

20 So with that in mind, what I'm hearing from
21 Commissioner Fernandez is trying to limit it to the
22 mountain areas. Is it that bad that we would go further
23 up? I mean, I know I'm contradicting my earlier
24 statement about going up and then turning left, but
25 maybe, kind of along the lines of what Commissioner

1 Fornaciari was saying earlier about just going up to the
2 Oregon border, is that a bad thing? Is that something
3 that anybody or everybody would be uncomfortable with?

4 In doing so, would that then -- it would mean
5 restructuring the far north areas. I believe we're
6 already looking at some because of the Siskiyou and
7 trying to keep some of the tribal nations together, but
8 in doing so, would that enable us to put somewhat more
9 like communities together, versus putting what seems like
10 right now very suburban, urban communities with more
11 mountainous communities?

12 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. I believe that is
13 an issue which we are discussing, but we can't have that
14 long discussion right now.

15 And so Commissioner Kennedy, I'm going to give
16 everyone, let's say, like, a minute or two here.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I'm
18 perfectly happy to take another look at metropolitan
19 Sacramento. I think we need to. I think that might
20 actually be the better starting point tomorrow, is let's
21 work out metropolitan Sacramento. It's a large
22 population center. We know there are diverse communities
23 in the area. We are trying to respect communities of
24 interest to the extent of our ability, while not
25 violating higher priorities. But I think that would be a

1 good place to start, and I agree. We need to do some
2 work there. Thank you.

3 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

4 Commissioner Turner?

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Thank you. I wanted to
6 say there is a lot of draw and a lot desirous of being in
7 a mountainous area that has very few people around, but
8 our first criteria is equal populations, so you have to
9 know that you're either going to have to deal with a
10 large district with lots of travel, or you're going to be
11 dominated by a closer, more populous area, and you may
12 not have representation.

13 It's going to come -- I don't know how you do it
14 differently. It's either going to be like communities
15 that will be large geography, or you're going to be
16 paired with a closer community that has more people in
17 it, and so we'll have to make a choice. It's one or the
18 other.

19 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

20 Commissioner Taylor?

21 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. Sort of to piggyback on
22 what Commissioner Turner just said, we have to fall back
23 on our criteria. And I know I've been wanting to be
24 appreciative of criteria number 5, compactness, because I
25 believe that leads itself to accessibility.

1 Communities of interest is criteria number 4, and so
2 I had to -- I might be leaning towards Commissioner
3 Kennedy's suggestion, in that this like community might
4 outweigh the compactness of what I would like, but I have
5 to recognize what the criteria is laying out for us.

6 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

7 I'm sorry. Commissioner Yee had his hand up. Am I
8 not seeing it?

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: I put it down. Thank you.

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Oh, okay. All right. Well, I
11 think we have a lot of things to think about this
12 evening, and come back kind of with, maybe bright ideas,
13 bushy-tailed, bright ideas, and at this point, I believe
14 it's -- oh, Commissioner Akutagawa. Sorry. I thought
15 I'd seen (indiscernible).

16 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Chair, could we just give
17 general direction to Kennedy, given the discussion, and
18 perhaps come back to us with maybe some options?

19 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: I'm sorry. For continuing --

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: For this --

21 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: -- (indiscernible)?

22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: For a mountainous area, or --

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Yes.

25 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. But not including

1 anything in CALA-INYO?

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Well, I mean, there's two
3 proposals, right? Keeping it completely mountainous and
4 how far up does that need to go, and then what would that
5 do, and then the other ones that we're discussing, trying
6 to, I guess taking in more of the, I guess, the suburban
7 Sacramento areas.

8 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Sorry. I'm going to
9 jump to -- I'll be back with you in a minute,
10 Commissioner Ahmad.

11 Kennedy?

12 MS. MAC DONALD: Hello, this is Karin, actually,
13 Chair Andersen. Thank you so much.

14 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

15 MS. MAC DONALD: I just wanted to let you know, so
16 the idea, generally, was that if you give direction to
17 come back with something, that the mappers would have the
18 next day to work them out, so there is limited work that
19 can be done if you want to go back to Kennedy's area
20 tomorrow morning, but she can, of course, try to
21 implement some of the direction that you have already
22 given. So just wanted to let you know that.

23 And then, also, since you -- today was supposed to
24 be the Northern California day, and you did take some of
25 that time, quite some time, to work on Southern

1 California, continuing to work tomorrow on this is
2 probably actually keeping you on the schedule, but just
3 moving things around a little bit, but also --

4 CHAIR TOLEDO: The schedule for tomorrow is -- the
5 schedule for tomorrow is to go back to LA.

6 MS. MAC DONALD: Right. That's what it was, but
7 today was supposed to all be Northern California, and I
8 just wanted to say that, if you would like for Jaime and
9 Sivan to come back tomorrow afternoon, perhaps, that's
10 totally possible. So just let us know what you decide to
11 do so we can schedule accordingly. Thank you.

12 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you. We might end up,
13 actually hitting LA and just doing it in reverse. Maybe
14 LA in the morning, and this one in the afternoon, but
15 we'll let you know.

16 Now Commissioner Ahmad, you had your hand up?

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. I think I just want to
18 be careful on the task that we send our line drawers on,
19 considering that there are two kind of diverging points
20 on the table right now, and the impacts and the ripple
21 effect that would have on the neighboring districts.

22 I just, I'm thinking about if I were to go home and
23 map this, I would be a little confused as to where
24 changes could be made in neighboring districts that would
25 be acceptable to the Commission, and where it create more

1 work for us, and we would all have to backtrack.

2 So I don't know if I'm comfortable sending them on a
3 specific mission at this point, given that the Commission
4 has not landed on a very clear direction at this point
5 regarding this area.

6 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you for that.

7 And Kennedy, do you also want to ask about -- talk
8 about that?

9 MS. WILSON: I'm sorry. I (indiscernible) my hand.

10 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: That's all right.

11 Commissioner Yee?

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: I just wanted to mention the idea
13 of going all the way north to the Oregon border doesn't
14 really help because there's just not population there,
15 and there's not a ridgeline there, either, so. I mean, I
16 would love for that to work, but I don't think that's an
17 option.

18 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yeah. Oh, Commissioner
19 Fornaciari? I don't see it.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think there is -- I
21 think there is a way to do that that's reasonable, within
22 kind of the design of the districts as we have them now,
23 but we can explore that on Friday, I guess.

24 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: When we come back to this.
25 Great. Okay.

1 With that, what I would like, actually, Kennedy to
2 do, which I think might help, is if you could just give
3 us, even just examples, even snapshots or something, of
4 what we have done in this area, because I think some of
5 these, we might go, oh, yeah, you did that in this case,
6 like the 27th, or the 2nd, or the 7th, if that's an easy
7 thing to show us.

8 But otherwise, I agree that I think it's a little
9 confusing in terms of something for you to go back with,
10 or -- how do you feel? Did you get direction?

11 MS. WILSON: I have -- yeah -- I have the 27th, the
12 7th, and the -- November 7th, November 2nd -- November
13 2nd and 10/27, I have those loaded in my map currently.

14 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Great. So then we
15 might have a look at that. I don't know if that's -- if
16 you might be able to think, do those help us in what
17 we're talking about, or not for tomorrow. And you also
18 have some assignments in -- let's see. You don't --

19 MS. WILSON: In the -- yes. In the --

20 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: You do.

21 MS. WILSON: -- I do, in the Fresno area, which I
22 was playing around with, and did find that if -- I don't
23 know how the Commission would feel about it, but I could
24 show it tomorrow, of moving West Park in here and
25 bringing this up to 51 and this staying at 53.

1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Okay. Great. All right.
2 Thank you. I think we'll -- I think we'll be doing that.
3 At this point -- let's see.

4 Kristian, could we go ahead -- we're going to go
5 ahead to public comment, and could you go ahead and read
6 the instructions, please?

7 MR. MANOFF: Sure thing, Chair.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure, Chair.

9 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes, Katy?

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Here I am.

11 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're welcome.

13 In order to maximize transparency and public
14 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
15 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
16 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is
17 877-853-5247.

18 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number
19 provided on the livestream feed, it is 88465429407 for
20 this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID,
21 simply press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you
22 will be placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to
23 comment, please press star 9. This will raise your hand
24 for the moderator.

25 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a



1 message that says, the host would like you to talk, and
2 to press star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your
3 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are
4 not required to provide your name to give public comment.

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

10 There will be a two-minute public comment period,
11 with warnings at thirty seconds at fifteen seconds
12 remaining.

13 And we'll be starting out this evening with caller
14 0203. And up next after that will be caller 2232.

15 Caller 0203, if you will please follow the prompts
16 to unmute by pressing star six. The floor is yours.

17 MS. VALENCIA: Hi. Good evening. My name is Maria
18 Stella Valencia (ph.). I am a Santa Ana resident and a
19 community organizer with Orange County Congregation
20 Community Organization. OCCCO works with congregations
21 and community leaders across the county on the issues of
22 housing, immigration, and education.

23 I'm very concerned about yesterday's discussion
24 about Orange County and breaking up communities of
25 interest. I would like to highlight the importance in



1 minimizing the cuts within the City of Fullerton. It is
2 important to keep communities of interest intact,
3 specifically, with South Fullerton and West Anaheim.
4 Some of the similarities between these two communities
5 are that there is a dense population of Latinx, low
6 income, immigrant, mixed status communities.

7 A lot of the struggle that they share is that
8 they're rent-burdened. You know, they do tend to work a
9 lot of low-income jobs, and this is an opportunity for
10 the Commission, at the Assembly level, to create a VRA
11 district with these two communities, and also being able
12 to create another VRA district with -- with centering in
13 the City of Santa Ana. Again, the same community of
14 interest that they have and keeping in mind that these
15 are communities that are rent-burdened.

16 And there are numerous maps that have been submitted
17 by the community that have shown the --

18 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

19 MS. VALENCIA: -- Commission that they can comply
20 with federal Voting Rights Act in Los Angeles and Orange
21 County and keeping communities of interest whole. So
22 please use these as road maps to achieve this balance.
23 Don't break up our communities unnecessarily.

24 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

25 MS. VALENCIA: Thank you so much for your time and

1 attention.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 All right. Now we will have caller 2232. And then
4 up next after that will be caller 4109.

5 Caller 2232, if you'll please follow the prompts to
6 unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

7 MS. ASATO: Okay. Can you hear me?

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

9 MS. ASATO: Awesome. My name is Kayla Asato. I am
10 with Orange County Environmental Justice, and I kind of
11 want to mention the exact same community that was
12 mentioned in the previous call.

13 Communities of interest in Orange County for Orange
14 County Environmental Justice are environmentally justice-
15 impacted communities, like there are in Santa Ana, like
16 there are in Anaheim and Fullerton. And a lot of times,
17 these incomes are low income. They're Latinx. They're
18 rent-burdened. They are impacted by police brutality.
19 They want a lot of things, and we need to keep them
20 together.

21 So there are VRA districts centered around Santa Ana
22 at every level, including Assembly, and we are very
23 thankful for that. We also wanted to note that the
24 Commission has the opportunity to create, at the Assembly
25 level, create a VRA district in Santa Ana, and an

1 adjacent Latinx influenced-district centered around South
2 Fullerton and West Anaheim.

3 The current district layout is mildly okay. I think
4 there could be a few tweaks to it. The areas of West
5 Anaheim that are being centered are very thankful --
6 like, we're very thankful for that, but we think that we
7 could alter lines just a little bit. So thank you very
8 much. Just wanted to point that out, and keep our
9 communities together, alter the --

10 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

11 MS. ASATO: -- things a little bit for -- to
12 maximize the community interest. And thank you very
13 much. Have a great rest of your night.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

15 And right now, we will have caller 4109. And up
16 next after that will be caller 5056.

17 Caller 4109, if you'll please follow the prompts to
18 unmute. The floor is yours.

19 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hi. This is Margaret
20 (ph.) (indiscernible), and I'm a little bit frustrated,
21 because I spent a lot of time and effort into figuring
22 out some suggestion, which I know that you've been
23 deluged with public input, but please, please, look at my
24 PDF that I sent in. It's in the airtable under ID number
25 29343.

1 You absolutely should not need to put Sacramento in
2 with the mountains. I was -- I've just been focused on
3 figuring out congressional districts, but I was able to
4 figure -- to -- and you'll see it on -- if you look on
5 page 3 of the PDF that I sent in, it -- I was able to
6 create two mountain districts, and these are
7 congressional districts, and so certainly, you could
8 figure out Assembly districts that would work much better
9 for communities of interest, but I was able to draw a
10 congressional district with zero deviation that included
11 Mono, and Inyo, and Alpine, part of El Dorado County, all
12 of Placer, and all of Nevada County, and then, also, the
13 City -- most of the City of Folsom, and Sacramento to
14 make a Congressional District, and then I was able to
15 make a separate mountain district that included the rest
16 of El Dorado, all the other mountainous, rural --

17 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

18 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: -- counties down
19 through to the Fresno area, dipping into the Valley to
20 take some of the rural areas.

21 So I encourage you to please look at that. I have a
22 lot of other suggestions in there about how you can draw
23 some of the Central Valley districts better, and -- and
24 also, take some of the other community of interest
25 keeping problems that you seem to be unnecessarily

1 creating.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 And right now, we will have caller 5056. And then
4 up next after that will be caller 5314.

5 Caller 5056, please follow the prompts to unmute by
6 pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

7 MS. CHANG: Good evening. My name is Susan Chang
8 (ph.), and I'll be commenting on the draft maps in Orange
9 County, specifically, the Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin
10 area.

11 Today I wanted to comment on the communities of
12 interest in Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin. Irvine and
13 its surrounding areas have changed and grown so much in
14 the past decade. I wanted to emphasize that it's so
15 important that we keep the communities of interest there
16 together because of the common challenges that immigrant
17 communities face, such as access to affordable housing,
18 transportation, and environmental justice. These parts
19 of Orange County should be drawn together, especially
20 keeping Irvine whole, and with Costa Mesa and Tustin.

21 While the congressional map generally looks good in
22 Orange County, the division of Irvine and splitting of
23 Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin COI are major concerns.
24 It's extremely important that we keep disproportionately
25 immigrant communities whole and together, especially as

1 one of the fastest growing major cities in the state.

2 At the Assembly level, I thank you all for keeping
3 Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin whole and drawn together
4 in this district. Please keep this disproportionately
5 immigrant district together. It would be great if the
6 other maps could reflect something like the Assembly map.

7 Numerous maps submitted by the community in LA and
8 Orange County have shown that it's possible to comply
9 with the federal Voting Rights Act and keep our
10 communities of interest whole. Please use these maps as
11 a road map to achieve the balance. Thank you for your
12 time, and have a nice night.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 now we will have caller five --

15 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Katy?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

17 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: May I break one -- just one
18 minute. For the public, we really appreciate all your
19 comments, all your input. I just want to make sure
20 everyone knows the lines will close at 6 p.m., so if you
21 do want to call and get in line, please do so now. The
22 lines will be closing at 6 p.m. If you're in the line,
23 if you're in the queue by then, we will listen to you.
24 Thank you very much.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair. And



1 right now we will have caller 5314. And up next after
2 that will be caller 3321. Caller 5314, if you'll please
3 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
4 floor is yours.

5 MS. WILSON: Hi. Thank you so much, Commission, for
6 hearing me. My name is Stephanie Wilson (ph.), and I'm a
7 resident of Simi Valley. For the second year in a row,
8 Simi Valley was subjected to power shutoffs on
9 Thanksgiving Day. We realize that these are really
10 important to save lives and to save property during a
11 fire zone. We share this fire zone with Santa Clarita,
12 and we appreciate the fact that Santa Clarita has the
13 same representatives that we do. It is important for us
14 that this fire zone be maintained. I don't have to tell
15 you how disruptive it is, especially on Thanksgiving, to
16 have your power shutoff. And when it's -- it's
17 efficiently handled, we know it's going to come back on
18 in a -- in a reasonable time, and we know that it's being
19 turned off at the correct time.

20 Our neighbors in Santa Clarita also have their power
21 shutoff due to the wildfire concerns for the past two
22 years just like we did. This is one of the biggest
23 issues facing both of our cities. Our power is shut off
24 all the time here. We realize it's important, we like it
25 to be efficient, we need a representative who will focus

1 on this issue and also focus on the shared values that we
2 have between Simi and Santa Clarita. So we would like to
3 keep Simi Valley and Santa Clarita together in the same
4 legislative and congressional maps.

5 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

6 MS. WOLSON: Thank you so much for hearing me.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
8 right now we will have caller 3321. And up next after
9 that will be caller 4199. Caller 3321, if you'll please
10 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
11 floor is yours.

12 MS. CHADQUIN: Hello. My name is Ana Chadquin
13 (ph.). I am with Latina Health Access in Santa Ana.
14 Latina Health Access has been proudly working alongside
15 community residents for over twenty-seven to improve the
16 social determinants of health in our city. I appreciate
17 all your long hours you and the line drawers have put
18 into balancing so many diverse communities of interest
19 throughout the state.

20 Santa Ana is primarily composed of low-income and
21 mixed immigration status Latinx families. They are
22 extremely hard-working families with many employed in
23 essential jobs that are unfortunately often overlooked
24 and underpaid, yet they share a very strong sense of
25 community. The city includes numerous communities of



1 interest including immigrants, low-income families,
2 families without medical insurance, mixed immigration
3 status who share the same needs for equitable and
4 affordable housing and need for social services and
5 resources.

6 I also want to note that there are VRA districts
7 centered around Santa Ana at every level including the
8 Assembly level. Once again, the Commission has the
9 opportunity at the Assembly level to create a VRA
10 district in Santa Ana and an adjacent Latinx-influenced
11 district centered around South Fullerton and West Anaheim
12 who will share the similar -- who share similar
13 communities of interest of Santa Ana and numerous
14 community interest and concerns.

15 All in all, I want to point out that numerous maps
16 have been submitted by the community have shown that the
17 Commission can comply with federal Voting Rights Act in
18 Los Angeles and in Orange County and keep our communities
19 of interest as whole. Please use those maps as a roadmap
20 to achieve this balance. Thank you for your time and
21 have a great night.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
23 right now we will have caller 4199. And up next after
24 that will be caller 0969. Caller 4199, if you'll please
25 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

1 MS. ALEXAWITZ: Hello.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

3 MS. ALEXAWITZ: Hi. Can you hear me? Hi. Can
4 you --

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

6 MS. ALEXAWITZ: -- hear me?

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

8 MS. ALEXAWITZ: Thanks. Thanks so much for
9 considering my comments. My name is Katie Alexawitz
10 (ph.). I'm a Simi Valley resident and business owner.
11 My concern is that Simi Valley is a very unique city in
12 Ventura County and it's extremely different from and
13 should not be in the same district with Thousand Oaks,
14 Westlake Village, Calabasas, or Malibu.

15 First of all, Simi Valley and Santa Clarita total
16 sales per capita was similar at \$13 to \$15,000, but on
17 the other hand, total sales per capita was \$22 to \$25,000
18 in Thousand Oaks and Calabasas, and almost \$36,000 in
19 Westlake Village, so well over double. But more
20 importantly, Simi and Santa Clarita are also way, way
21 more diverse than T.O., Malibu, Westlake, and Calabasas,
22 which means we deserve similar representation in our
23 districts.

24 Simi's Hispanic population is twenty-six percent.
25 Santa Clarita's Hispanic population is thirty-five

1 percent. On the other hand, Hispanic population is only
2 nineteen percent in Thousand Oaks and only nine percent
3 in Calabasas, Malibu, and Westlake. So those are just a
4 couple of the very many key differences that distinguish
5 Simi from those more -- sorry -- from those more, like,
6 rich and coastal cities, and I think that explains why
7 Simi should not be in the same district as those -- as
8 those cities but actually should share a district with
9 Santa Clarita. I really appreciate you taking this into
10 consideration. I know you're doing your best and I don't
11 envy your position, but we really appreciate it. So
12 thank you so much.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 right now we will have caller 0969. And up next after
15 that will be caller 2567. Caller 0969, if you'll please
16 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
17 floor is yours.

18 MR. KASKLA: Hello. Can you hear me?

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

20 MR. KASKLA: Okay. Great. My name is Taavi,
21 spelled T-A-A-V-I. I am calling on behalf of United
22 Domestic Workers, the in-home supportive services union.
23 A significant number of our members belong to the Latinx
24 communities of Santa Ana, West Anaheim, and South
25 Fullerton. For this reason, UDW encourages the

1 Commission to use these areas to create a VRA district to
2 empower our Latinx voters. UDW members need proper
3 representation because a lot of Latinx families depend on
4 the (indiscernible) program for income and, most
5 importantly, for keeping loved ones at home where they
6 receive quality care.

7 Numerous draft maps that the community's already
8 submitted to the Commission recognize the importance of
9 creating a Latinx VRA district in Santa Ana, West
10 Anaheim, and South Fullerton. UDW highly encourages the
11 Commission to use such maps when creating Assembly and
12 other districts. Please keep these Latinx communities of
13 interest together. Thank you for your time and thank you
14 for what you are doing.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
16 right now we have caller 2567. And up next after that
17 will be caller 9290. 2567, if you'll please follow the
18 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is
19 yours.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening. I live in the
21 city of Senora in the Sierras. I have heard numerous
22 callers asking for the Sierras to be kept separate from
23 the Central Valley, specifically Stanislaus County and
24 the current ECA congressional district. I strongly
25 disagree with these callers.

1 As a resident of the Sierras, my community has a
2 strong relationship with the Central Valley and
3 Stanislaus County. We do our grocery shopping there. We
4 have medical appointments there. Essential services we
5 rely on are based in Stanislaus. Many of our residents'
6 jobs are also based in the Valley. Residents in the
7 Central Valley also travel and vacation in our Sierras.
8 There is a clear connection between the Sierras and
9 Stanislaus County and Central Valley as a whole. I
10 strongly support the current congressional draft map and
11 ask for the Sierras to stay with Stanislaus County.
12 Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 right now we will have caller 9290. And up next after
15 that will be caller 8488. 9290, if you'll please follow
16 the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is
17 yours.

18 MS. ORR: Hi. My name is Adria Orr, and I'm calling
19 from Advancing Justice Asian Law Caucus on behalf of the
20 AAPI and AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative.
21 During your discussion of the Fresno area earlier today,
22 I was disappointed to note the Punjabi Sikh community of
23 interest straddling Highway 99 in West Fresno which
24 represents the largest Punjabi Sikh communities in this
25 area is one of the fastest growing in the country

1 continues to be cut into three different districts.

2 There were many members of the Punjabi Sikh who
3 called in last week to raise this issue, and our
4 Collaborative also submitted a letter yesterday morning
5 with written feedback as well as a map with proposed
6 lines aimed at keeping this community as whole as
7 possible. We know there are many competing interests in
8 this area, including VRA considerations, but we believe
9 it's possible to reduce the negative impact on this
10 community while respecting those other interests.

11 We have two recommendation to this end. One is
12 moving the portion of the boundary that follows Shields
13 Avenue slightly south to Quinton Avenue. And two is for
14 the boundary east of Highway 99, recommend keeping it
15 along the railroad until it hits Herndon Avenue rather
16 than cutting through small neighborhood streets. These
17 changes are demonstrated in our submitted map. Thank you
18 for all of your time and effort in this process as it
19 continues.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
21 right now we will have caller 8488. And up next after
22 that will be caller 4795. Caller 8488 --

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: One -- one minute. One
24 minute, please, Katy.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hold on one moment.



1 VICE CHAIR ANDERSON: It is -- it is five minutes to
2 6, so the lines will be closing at 6. If you wanted to
3 call in and make a comment, please call in now. Thank
4 you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair. Caller
6 8488, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by
7 pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hello, Commissioners.
9 My name is Ethan (ph.), and I have been a resident of
10 Huntington Beach for eighteen years. And I'm calling to
11 express my disagreement with Commissioner Sadhwani, and I
12 think it is a sentiment shared with most of Orange
13 County.

14 We do not see LA and Orange County border as fluid,
15 and I worry about your continued idea that there's some
16 sort of interconnectedness with these two cities and
17 counties. We do not see it the way -- that's the way
18 Orange County could be connected with LA. And I believe
19 that the Commissioner said that they would -- that they
20 should start in LA and see how that ripples into Orange
21 County. And I don't think that is a fair way to approach
22 the Orange County congressional districts. I know that
23 you have so many things to consider, but I hope you can
24 revisit the way that you're looking at the Orange County
25 congressional districts and keep these cities together.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
3 right now we will have caller 4795. If you'll please
4 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. And one
5 more time, caller -- ope. The floor is yours.

6 MR. HUDGENS: Hi. Thank you very much. This is
7 Terry Hudgens (ph.). I'm in Huntington Beach, and I've
8 been coming to Huntington Beach since 1957, and I became
9 a resident fifteen years ago, and I have a couple of
10 comments about the map that contains -- or -- or
11 incorporates Irvine into a district with our cities here
12 to the north, and I do not agree with that from a social
13 and cultural and developmental standpoint.

14 I see a much more logical approach to be the
15 inclusion of Huntington Beach, Seal Beach, Fountain
16 Valley, and Westminster, which has been the fact for the
17 many years, and it has really developed over the last
18 ten. I would point out that there's a strong affinity
19 between the -- the beach cities. Recently, most of us
20 went through the oil spill, and it particularly
21 significant to see the congressional delegation, the
22 local legislators, and cities and so forth, and emergency
23 personnel work together to take care of mutual -- of the
24 mutual impacts that resulted on the beach cities that
25 would not obviously include anything if Irvine were --



1 were part of this district. So -- so --

2 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

3 MR. HUDGENS: -- from a state beach perspective and
4 a local beach perspective, Sunset and Huntington and
5 Newport have some real con -- congruity.

6 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

7 MR. HUDGENS: Secondly, I would point out that the
8 Asian community has also moved into Huntington Beach and
9 become integral through Fountain Valley and Westminster.
10 So I appreciate you allowing me to comment.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
12 Chair, I believe at this time we are up against a break.

13 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Yes. Thank you, Katy. And
14 I -- I just want to tell all the callers in line, the
15 lines are closing I think just about now. But if you are
16 in line, we will get to you. Just, you know, follow
17 the -- follow the wonderful prompts that our amazing
18 video people are giving -- giving you, and we will have
19 to take a break right now. It's a required fifteen-
20 minute break, so we will be back at 6:15. Thank you.

21 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 5:59 p.m.
22 until 6:15 p.m.)

23 VICE CHAIR ANDERSEN: Thank you and welcome back,
24 California, to the Citizens Redistricting Commission. We
25 are in public comment right now, and we'll be -- if



1 you're in the queue, we'll be -- we'll stay until we hear
2 everyone. Thank you so much for calling in. Katy, could
3 you please take over?

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I will. Thank you so
5 much, Chair. All right. Now we will have caller 2072.
6 And then up next after that will be caller 5137. I'd
7 also like to remind all those that have called in, by
8 pressing star 9, it helps manage the queue. It will
9 raise your hand, so please press star 9 to raise your
10 hand if you have not done so already. Caller 2072, if
11 you will please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
12 star 6. The floor is yours.

13 MS. CRUZ: Hello Commissioners and public. Thank
14 you so much for allowing us this opportunity to speak.
15 My name is Lourdes Cruz (ph.) and I am the proud product
16 of the Fullerton College community and I also am the
17 proud product of Cal State Fullerton where I received a
18 master's. And the reason why today I'm here speaking to
19 all of you is because my understanding is that there is
20 talks about splitting Fullerton.

21 And as somebody who -- who attended Cal State
22 Fullerton and Fullerton Community College and someone who
23 taught at the Fullerton College level as well, I am a
24 little bit puzzled and concerned the -- that there is
25 talks about the possibility of separating that city

1 because, one, is a small city, and then also because when
2 you talk about Santa Ana and Fullerton, you -- as I'm
3 sure you're aware with the data -- Santa Ana already has
4 a community college district, that there are about three
5 colleges in that district.

6 And north Orange County community that has Fullerton
7 College already has their -- their community colleges.
8 So I am here today to please ask you to reconsider and I
9 support strongly a VRA district anchor in Santa Ana, and
10 I'm also asking you to please draw a second and separate
11 district anchor in Fullerton --

12 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

13 MS. CRUZ: -- and with Anaheim because those
14 communities are different. Thank you so much for your
15 time and please do not split up Fullerton.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
17 right now we will have caller 5137. And up next after
18 that will be caller 9099. Or I apologize. 9009. Caller
19 5137, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by
20 pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good afternoon. Can you hear
22 me?

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. Thank you. Good
25 evening, Commissioners and staff. My name is (audio



1 interference) and I am from Fullerton, a thirty-five year
2 resident. I've worked with different organizations, and
3 I'm also part of the district that was suggested that
4 gets cut out of Fullerton to be part of a different
5 legislative district, what -- what's currently AD55.

6 I'm calling in to strongly oppose some of the
7 changes that were suggested in north Orange County today.
8 Fullerton is not a big city. It makes up less than a
9 third of our Assembly district. Not one of the community
10 groups suggested even a single split in the City of
11 Fullerton at all. And -- and yesterday, you -- and
12 yesterday, I believe you suggested splitting it into
13 three different -- three different districts. That --
14 that in itself makes no sense to anyone who lives here.
15 It doesn't really make any sense to anyone.

16 The congressional that was pro -- that was approved,
17 or that's being approved, has Fullerton all together in
18 the same congressional district and I would hope that you
19 keep Fullerton all -- all together in -- in one Assembly
20 district. I do support a sec -- drawing a second and
21 separate district anchored by the bulk of Fullerton and
22 West Anaheim. Please don't split up Fullerton in the
23 ways that you've already discussed. As someone who does
24 live in that part of the district, I would literally be
25 cut off from the rest of my city --

1 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- if the current map as
3 proposed is -- is kept. So I would please ask
4 Commissioners and staff to please keep the City of
5 Fullerton all together. Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
7 right now we will have caller 9009. And then up next
8 after that will be caller 3979. Caller 9009, if you'll
9 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

10 And caller 9009, one more time, if you'll please
11 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. And
12 caller 9009, there appears to be some type of
13 connectivity issue for you at the moment. I do have you
14 down as a retry. Ope. There you are. The floor is
15 yours.

16 MR. CARROLL: Oh hi. I apologize. Thank you so
17 much. First, I just want to thank the Redistricting
18 Commission. Really appreciate all your work. I'm an
19 Irvine City Council member. My name is Mike Carroll. I
20 know a little bit about the detail regarding public
21 comments, and this is obviously very, you know, detailed
22 as far as getting all this information. But I just
23 wanted to put in this information for your all's perusal.

24 At our last meeting, the City Council passed a
25 resolution in support of keeping Irvine, our city of

1 310,000 residents, as one united city. In this
2 resolution, our City Council stated unequivocally our
3 desire to keep Irvine whole in the creation of
4 congressional and other districts to protect the
5 interests unique to the great city that I am privileged
6 enough to help represent.

7 At Monday's Commission meeting, one of our
8 Commissioners on your Commission mentioned the idea of
9 anchor cities as a focal point for districts, and the
10 Irvine City Council and I one hundred percent supported
11 Irvine being an anchor city for a completely inland
12 district that is separated from our good friends on the
13 coast. Our issues and our needs are distinctly different
14 from those of our coastal cities, and I believe that is
15 of significant importance that we keep the two separate
16 for the betterment of our constituents. And on behalf of
17 the whole of the Irvine City Council I'd like to thank
18 you for all the hard work that you've done so far. I --
19 again, as a council member, I cannot imagine -- I know
20 personally what it means to --

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MR. CARROLL: -- to take in all public comments on
23 hot issues, and this is very -- you're at that -- you
24 know, basically at the go time, and I can truly empathize
25 with everything you're going through, and I just thank

1 you for your service, appreciate your --

2 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

3 MR. CARROLL: -- consideration of my testimony today
4 on behalf of the City of Irvine. Thank you very much.
5 Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
7 right now we will have caller 3979. And up next after
8 that will be caller 2990. Caller 3979, if you'll please
9 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

10 MS. FIFITA: Hi.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

12 MS. FIFITA: My name is -- hi. My name is Melenaite
13 Fifita. I am with Pacific Islander Health Partnership.
14 I am a Tongan patient navigator, and I want to make a
15 comment on the draft maps in Orange County. To emphasize
16 the importance of keeping communities of interest
17 together for VRA compliance purposes, there are prominent
18 Tongan and (indiscernible) to the Santa Ana with members
19 who are underserved and medically uninsured. And I've
20 navigated Pacific Islander patients to the Serve the
21 People Community Clinic in Santa Ana where there are VRA
22 districts centered around Santa Ana at every level
23 including the Assembly.

24 And the Commission has the opportunity at the -- at
25 the Assembly level to create a VRA district in Santa Ana

1 and an adjacent Latinx-influenced district centered
2 around South Fullerton and West Anaheim. Our nonprofit
3 is based in Garden Grove and serving Pacific Islanders
4 that are low income and live in multi-generational
5 households in West Garden Grove, Westminster, West Santa
6 Ana, and north Fountain Valley.

7 The majority of our community are service workers,
8 own small businesses, and earn low-income wages as
9 compared to the beach coast communities. The beach coast
10 communities like Seal Beach and Huntington Beach, they do
11 not face the same challenges that my community
12 experiences. Numerous maps submitted by the community
13 have shown that the Commission can comply with the
14 federal Voting Rights Act in Los Angeles and in Orange
15 Counties and keep our communities of interest whole.
16 Please use those maps as a roadmap to achieve this
17 balance. Do not break up our communities. I'd like to
18 thank the Commission for the --

19 MR. MANOFF: Twenty seconds.

20 MS. FIFITA: -- opportunity to speak and all your
21 hard work. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
23 right now we will have caller 2990. And up next after
24 that will be caller 0565. Caller 2990, please follow the
25 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is

1 yours.

2 MR. CREFFIELD: Thank you. Good evening,
3 Commissioners. My name is Mark Creffield, and I'm
4 calling from the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce.
5 In addition to serving as the CEO of the Chamber, I was
6 also an appointed redistricting commissioner for San
7 Bernardino County. As a commissioner myself, I firmly
8 understand that tough decisions need to be made as you
9 come closer to your deadline.

10 Unfortunately, I was incredibly frustrated to watch
11 your draw an Assembly VRA district encompassing Los
12 Angeles County communities of Palmdale and Lancaster with
13 San Bernardino County communities of Victorville and
14 Hesperia. As someone who understands VRA consideration,
15 VRA districts need to be compact and adjacent. There is
16 no major transit corridor to drive across this proposed
17 district. It would make just as much sense to draw the
18 Antelope Valley with the Los Angeles County San Gabriel
19 Valley as this proposal to draw a VRA Assembly district
20 with Antelope Valley in San Bernardino County.

21 Moreover, as we are two days away from the
22 Commissioner's goal to complete Assembly districts, I am
23 appalled that we are suddenly adding a VRA district at
24 the eleventh hour. How is this a transparent process for
25 the public and business community if we are suddenly

1 making significant architectural changes at the last
2 minute? Thank you for your time.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
4 right now we will have caller 0565. And up next after
5 that will be caller 6321. Caller 0565, if you'll please
6 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
7 floor is yours.

8 MS. JONES: Yes. Hi. Can you hear me?

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

10 MS. JONES: Hi. Good evening. My name is Jennifer
11 Jones, and I am a resident of Simi Valley. And the
12 reason I'm calling in is, first off, thank you,
13 Commissioners, for all of your hard work and listening to
14 the public comments for the past several months. And I
15 do appreciate all of your service in regards to this. It
16 must be a difficult job.

17 With that being said, I would like to keep Simi
18 Valley whole and Santa Clarita whole, and I would like to
19 keep them in the current Assembly and congressional
20 districts. Both Sim Valley and Santa Clarita, we share
21 first responder resources for fires since we are prone to
22 wildfires due to the Santa Ana winds. We have the same
23 geographics. Both cities are surrounded by mountains.
24 The house median prices are pretty much the same. We
25 have a high Hispanic population. Santa Clarita has a

1 high Hispanic population.

2 And most recently -- actually last year and this
3 year -- due to the Santa Ana winds, both Simi Valley and
4 Santa Clarita were subjected to the public safety power
5 shutoff. And well, you know, it -- it was very
6 unfortunate that it happened on Thanksgiving Day, and
7 that just seems to be something that looks like it's
8 going to be continually happening, and we really
9 appreciate our current Assemblywoman who is actively
10 listening to the residents and trying to find some sort
11 of resolution to this so it does not happen on holidays
12 so our --

13 MR. MANOFF: Ten seconds.

14 MS. JONES: -- food doesn't spoil. So thank you
15 very much for taking time out of your evening to listen
16 to my comment, and I hope you had a wonderful holiday.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
18 right now we will have caller 6321. And then up next
19 after that will be caller 6988. Caller 6321, if you'll
20 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
21 The floor is yours.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello. Can you guys hear me
23 okay?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: All right. Good evening. I

1 live in the Angel and Kemp area in Calaveras County.
2 I've heard numerous calls asking for these areas to be
3 kept separate from the Central Valley, specifically
4 Stanislaus County in the current ECA congressional draft.

5 I strongly disagree with these callers. As a
6 resident of the Sierras, my community has a strong
7 relationship with the Central Valley and Stanislaus
8 County. We do our grocery shopping there. We have
9 medical appointments there. Essential services we rely
10 on are based in Stanislaus County. Many of our residents
11 jobs are also based in the -- are also based in the
12 Valley. Residents in the Central Valley also travel and
13 vacation I our Sierras. There is a clear and strong
14 connection between the Sierras and Stanislaus County and
15 the Central Valley as a whole. I strongly support the
16 current congressional draft map and ask for the Sierras
17 to stay with Stanislaus County. Thank you for your --
18 thank you for your time.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
20 right now we will have caller 6988. And up next after
21 that will be caller 5944. Caller 6988, if you'll please
22 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
23 floor is yours.

24 MR. KAZEE: Can you hear me?

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.



1 MR. KAZEE: All right. Thank you for taking this
2 call in. Appreciate all the work done by the
3 Commissioners. My name Facil Kazee (ph.). I'm a
4 resident of Fullerton, and my comment is in regards to
5 the redistricting proposal for north Orange County
6 including the City of Fullerton.

7 It seems like a proposal or a number of proposals
8 are suggesting dividing the city into two or three
9 different Assembly districts and just wanted to make a
10 point that it doesn't make sense on a number of levels.
11 One, it compromises the representational integrity of our
12 city, it's small businesses, it's underserved
13 communities, and -- and logistically and practically, it
14 would make representational advocacy very difficult for
15 the -- for the City of Fullerton and for the residents of
16 Fullerton.

17 I'm a physician in this community. I -- I treat
18 people from across this area specifically within this --
19 the city where St. Jude Hospital is one of our large
20 institutions. I'm part of charitable service groups that
21 work through -- with nonprofits, including the local
22 Rotary Club. I've had a chance to be on a commission
23 serving Fullerton residents, and all that really takes a
24 strong representation and access to our representatives
25 which will be diluted and compromised if the city's

1 divided into as many districts as it's been proposed.

2 So I hope you can take that into account, and -- and
3 listen to the number of voices that have been represented
4 here in terms of maintaining our integrity. And I
5 appreciate, again, all the work you're doing, and it's an
6 arduous task.

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 MR. KAZEE: So I appreciate it and thank you for
9 comments.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
11 right now we have caller 5944. And then up next after
12 that will be caller 7173. Caller 5944, if you'll please
13 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
14 floor is yours.

15 And one more time, caller with the last four digits
16 5944, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by
17 pressing star 6. I do apologize, caller 5944. You
18 appear to have some type of connectivity issue at the
19 moment. We will come back to you. Caller 7173, if
20 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
21 star 6. The floor is yours.

22 MR. TIFFANY: Good evening. My name is Bob Tiffany,
23 and I'm a longtime resident of Hollister in San Benito
24 County of the Central Coast area. I'm also an elected
25 member of the San Benito County Board of Supervisors.



1 I just wanted to say how important it is that San
2 Benito County remains connected with Salinas,
3 Watsonville, and Gilroy as it currently is in the Benito
4 map draft. Earlier today, I heard briefly the idea
5 kicked around of moving San Benito County into the
6 Central Valley. This would have a huge negative impact
7 on our community.

8 First, San Benito County is geographically connected
9 to the Salinas Valley and Central Coast whereas there is
10 a major mountain range between San Benito County and the
11 Central Valley. Furthermore, and most importantly, all
12 of our community interests in San Benito County,
13 especially in terms of Latino populations, agriculture
14 and farm workers, housing, and transport --
15 transportation are shared with the Salinas Valley area.
16 So I strongly urge you to keep Benito Assembly district
17 draft map as it currently is with the entirety of San
18 Benito County remaining connected to the Salinas,
19 Watsonville, and Gilroy areas. Thank you for your time
20 and consideration.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
22 right now we have caller 6722. And up next after that
23 will be caller 0706. Caller 6722, if you'll please
24 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
25 floor --

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- is yours.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. Can you hear me okay?

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Perfect. Commission, thank
6 you so much. I'm going to go ahead and keep this short
7 and sweet. I want to thank you for your work once again,
8 and I am calling because I want to urge you to keep
9 working to make better, more effective Latino VRA
10 Assembly districts in the Central Valley, specifically in
11 the Fresno/Madera/Merced area.

12 In Fresno, I know you have heard conflicting input
13 on the neighborhoods of Old Fig Garden and Sunnyside.
14 These county islands should not be included with the
15 southside Fresno Latino VRA districts. Including these
16 areas is what it is hurting your Latino CVAP in the
17 Fresno draft. Consider joining cities of Chowcilla and
18 Madera with southside City of Fresno plus Sanger, Fowler,
19 Selma, Parlier basically following along Highway 99 and
20 taking in the southeast part of Fresno County. Also just
21 a helpful little hint of mine, it's [Par-lee-er], not
22 [Par-lee-aye]. Unfortunately, it doesn't have that
23 French sound like some have been pronouncing it.

24 Continuing forward, the Merced/Fresno Latino VRA
25 district needs to increase Latino CVAP but do not cross

1 over into San Benito County for the Assembly. There are
2 more than enough Latinos in the Central Valley to create
3 four strong Latino Assembly VAR (sic) seats. These are
4 complicated puzzle pieces but keep working to get it
5 right. Thank you so much for your time.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
7 right now we will have caller 0706. And up next after
8 that will be caller 1986. Caller 0706, if you'll please
9 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
10 floor is yours.

11 MS. OAKS: Thank you. Good evening. My name
12 Jennifer Oaks (ph.), and I just wanted to reiterate some
13 of the things said by an earlier caller regarding
14 confining portions of the High Desert in southern
15 California with the community of Palmdale. I was born,
16 raised, and lived in the San Bernardino County High
17 Desert, and I wanted to say I was really disturbed to see
18 the Commission today use our High Desert as a population
19 base for an Antelope Valley seat.

20 Our community is completely different from Antelope
21 Valley. We don't share any real connection at all.
22 There's no major transit corridor, and in the map you
23 drew today from Palmdale to Hesperia, I'm not even sure
24 how you'd get from one end of the proposed district to
25 the other without driving outside of the district. It

1 really does not make a lot of sense at all. It would
2 almost be just as easy a drive from Palmdale to the San
3 Gabriel Valley through the forest as it would be driving
4 across the High Desert.

5 I'm also concerned about the lack of transparency
6 the Commission showed. We are almost a year into this
7 process, and at the last minute, you start completely
8 carving up my community. Please look at other options to
9 keep our San Bernardino County High Desert whole and not
10 just meet behind closed doors and make these dramatic
11 changes. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
13 right now we will have caller 1986. And up next after
14 that will be caller 4521. Caller 1986, if you'll please
15 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
16 floor is yours.

17 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Good evening,
18 Commissioners. My name is Alissa (ph.). I'd like to
19 talk about the FRESNOTULARE congressional district. The
20 City of Fresno does not belong in the FRESNOTULARE
21 congressional district draft. As a resident of rural
22 Fresno County, I understand how different the city's
23 urban population is from the rest of the district's rural
24 communities.

25 The City of Fresno should be included in a district

1 like STANFRESNO where will share representation from the
2 Fresno County Board of Supervisors and Fresno County City
3 Council and not disrupt the FRESNOTULARE district's rural
4 communities of interest. Instead, the FRESNOTULARE
5 district should include more of rural Kings or Tulare
6 County which are far more similar to the rural
7 communities in Fresno County like mine. Thank you for
8 your time.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
10 right now we have call -- I apologize. I didn't know she
11 was done. All right. Now we have caller 4521. And up
12 next after that will be caller 3580. Caller 4521, if
13 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
14 star 6. The floor is yours.

15 MS. ALLEN: Hi. Good evening. This is Deborah
16 Allen with the City of Rancho Cucamonga, and I would like
17 to respectfully request to please not split the City of
18 Rancho Cucamonga into multiple districts. Rancho
19 Cucamonga has a strong sense of identity and has
20 historically been mostly in all one Senate, one Assembly,
21 and one congressional district.

22 The proposed congressional, State Assembly, and
23 Senate district maps unnecessarily split Rancho Cucamonga
24 and our community into different neighborhoods,
25 diminishing our community power and our opportunity for



1 strong representation. Thank you for your consideration
2 for this request and have a nice evening.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
4 right now we will have caller 3580. And up next after
5 that will be caller 3739. Caller 3580, if you'll please
6 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
7 floor is yours.

8 MR. FELCHIER: Hi. First of all, I just wanted to
9 say I'm really sorry if my voice is messed up. I got my
10 booster shot last week, and so I have a flu. So I'm
11 sorry my voice is going to be all messed up. Anyway, my
12 name is Larry Felchier (ph.), and I live in Simi Valley,
13 and I want to thank you guys so much for all the work
14 that you're doing, all the Commissioners here.

15 In the current mapping that you have with Simi
16 Valley, you've placed us with Agoura, Thousand Oaks, and
17 Calabasas, and Malibu, and we really have nothing to do
18 with those uber-wealthy areas. As you know, Simi Valley
19 is a very working-class family, and we're very much
20 aligned with Santa Clarita. And as we have stated
21 beforehand, some of the other people, that we have the
22 same shared power grid. We have the same shared forest.
23 Many of the people that we have here that work in Simi
24 Valley travel up to Antelope Valley to the aerospace.
25 There's a very strong connection that we have.

1 We have a very diverse community with a lot of
2 Latinos here, which we would not have if the new lines
3 were drawn including Calabasas, Thousand Oaks, and
4 Agoura. And we really have nothing in common with, you
5 know, like, the Kardashians of Calabasas or the uber-
6 wealthy -- you know, the rocks stars and stuff that live
7 in -- in the -- the areas out there.

8 So I just would like to specifically request that
9 you keep Simi Valley, Moorpark, and Santa Clarita
10 together and -- and draw it up so that -- so we can keep
11 the same VRA district which is majority Latino and has
12 the proper representation that we currently have. And it
13 would just be a shame that Simi Valley, being at the very
14 end of Ventura County, to be batted around as it always
15 is, especially with so much change that's gone on with
16 this COVID the last two years, to have one more change
17 for both our kids and our elderly parents. So thank you
18 very much. I do appreciate you hearing all of our
19 competing --

20 MR. MANOFF: That was two minutes.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
22 right now we will have caller 3739. And up next after
23 that will be caller 6511. Caller 3739, if you'll please
24 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
25 floor is yours.



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello, Commission. Thank you
2 for your work. I'm calling in about the Fresno area
3 Assembly draft maps, specifically Fresno and Calaveras-
4 Inyo drafts. I want you -- I want to urge you to keep
5 working to make strong Latino VRA Assembly districts in
6 the Central Valley, specifically in the Fresno area. It
7 seems like a big issue is the community of interest input
8 that is almost working against your Latino VRA
9 obligations.

10 I think you can keep the AAPI community together and
11 whole, but instead of adding them to the South Fresno
12 district, you should explore adding them to the
13 Calaveras-Inyo district. It's not perfect but it is a
14 compromise that keeps communities whole. If you work on
15 switching around some of these communities and
16 neighborhoods in the City of Fresno, I bet you could make
17 the Calaveras-Inyo district smaller so that it is just
18 North Fresno, Clovis, and eastern Fresno County all the
19 while respecting AAPI (sic) communities. Plus, the South
20 Fresno district would have a solid Latino CVA -- CVAP of
21 working class and rural Latinos. Thank you for your hard
22 work.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
24 right now we will have caller 6511. And up next after
25 that will be caller 6472. Caller 6511, if you'll please

1 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
2 floor is yours.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening, Commissioners.
4 I am calling from the San Fernando Valley, and very
5 simply, I'm requesting that you please keep the Valley
6 together when crafting the legislative districts. In
7 fact, you could make the San Fernando Valley into a
8 couple of majority Latino VRA districts to represent the
9 community fairly.

10 My community just wants you all to be focused on
11 this critical matter because we have unique needs here in
12 Los Angeles and we need our representatives to be a
13 hundred percent invested in the San Fernando community
14 proper (audio interference) Valley. So please listen to
15 all the callers asking for this and keep the San Fernando
16 Valley together while making it into two majority Latino
17 VRA districts, a huge community of interest in the State
18 of California. And I thank you all for your time and
19 work on this matter.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
21 right now we will have caller 6472. And up next after
22 that will be caller 6188. Caller 6472, if you'll please
23 follow the prompts -- ope. The floor is yours.

24 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Yeah. Hi. Thank you,
25 Commissioners, first and foremost. Oh yeah. Thank you

1 so much for all your work on kind of this Herculean task.
2 So again, I wanted to thank you for -- for all that
3 you're doing there in drawing these lines.

4 My name is Jesse (ph.). I am born and raised in
5 West Anaheim, went to Cal State Fullerton, live in
6 Anaheim, have a young son in Anaheim, clearly have roots
7 to this community and is dedicated to this community.
8 I'm calling just to kind of reiterate what a lot of other
9 speakers kind of from this area discuss, and that is
10 really trying to keep as much of Fullerton together and
11 joining Fullerton with West Anaheim as its own Assembly
12 district and then Santa Ana as its own.

13 Considering these are major population centers, they
14 rightfully kind of deserve their own, and they would
15 still be kind of Voting Rights Act district compliant.
16 So then with that, just to reiterate one more time, we'd
17 like to have -- I think it's best to have an Assembly
18 district with West Anaheim kind of supplemented by
19 Fullerton and Santa Ana as its own. But thank you so
20 much for your time and have a great evening.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
22 right now we will have caller 6188. And up next after
23 that will be caller 0282. Caller 6188, if you'll please
24 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

25 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hello?



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

2 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Can you guys hear me?

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

4 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Thank you. All right.

5 Hi. I'm Brad (ph.). I was raised in Long Beach, and I
6 know you -- it's been a long night for you guys so I'll
7 just make it quick. I just wanted to share my concerns
8 that part of LA County being washed out by Orange County
9 in the congressional map proposal would kind of drown out
10 the -- the voices of people -- of concerns of people in
11 Long Beach. And I -- I think it's best for both
12 communities if we kept it -- kept them separate in terms
13 of districting. I thank you guys for what you're doing
14 and have a good night.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
16 right now we will have caller 0282. And up next after
17 that will be caller 8224. Caller 0282, if you'll please
18 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
19 floor is yours.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello, Commissioners. I'm a
21 resident of Los Angeles County, and I'm concerned that
22 our southern county cities are being washed out in Orange
23 County. Orange County and LA have different ways of
24 live, and it would be a shame to combine our counties in
25 the next decade of congressional maps. There are just



1 too many differences between our communities to justify
2 making places like Long Beach -- and with Long -- Long
3 Beach and with Huntington Beach. Thank you for the
4 consideration.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
6 right now we will have caller 8224. And up next after
7 that will be caller 1031. Caller 8224, if you'll please
8 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
9 floor is yours.

10 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hi. Can you hear me?

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. The
12 floor --

13 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- is yours.

15 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you.

16 Hello, Commissioner. My name is Stephanie (ph.). I'm a
17 longtime resident in Orange County. I'm calling to thank
18 you for what you are doing. I appreciate all your hard
19 work. If you have not heard the recent County Board of
20 Supervisor redistrict map that were approved last week on
21 November 22nd by the Orange County Board of Supervisor
22 that (indiscernible) belong to Westminster, Midway City,
23 (indiscernible) Los Alamitos , portion of (indiscernible)
24 and Huntington Beach. The County had accessed through
25 the social service program (indiscernible) in the county



1 and the area of (indiscernible) or not.

2 This clearly confirmed that the County acknowledged
3 that Huntington Beach does, in fact, belong with Little
4 Saigon where they share social service, governmental and
5 healthcare service, and especially education.

6 (Indiscernible) on the Senate map so use that map as a
7 guide when you draw the line for Assembly and
8 congressional map in (indiscernible) Huntington Beach.

9 Thank you all for listening and happy holiday. Thank you
10 so much.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
12 right now we will have caller 1031. And up next after
13 that will be caller 4725. Caller 1031, if you'll please
14 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
15 floor is yours.

16 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Good evening,
17 Commissioners. My name is Angela, and I am calling from
18 Lake Arrowhead, which is an unincorporated mountain
19 community in the San Bernardino County National Forest.
20 First of all, I want to thank the Commission for their
21 hard work to ensure that our community is represented in
22 the State Assembly.

23 Furthermore, my family and I have lived in Lake
24 Arrowhead for about five years, and I am concerned that
25 we are currently being drawn into a district whose

1 population is in Pasadena, California. I just looked at
2 Google Maps, and it is two hours one way and seventy-two
3 miles to the population center of the Assembly district
4 we have been drawn into.

5 I am requesting the Commission to include Lake
6 Arrowhead with the San Bernardino County High Desert
7 communities of Hesperia, Oak Hills, and Apple Valley. We
8 share similar small-town values, educational needs, rural
9 living, and other (indiscernible) located in San
10 Bernardino Co -- County. Sorry. Thank you for allowing
11 me to speak on behalf of including Lake Arrowhead with
12 the San Bernardino County High Desert.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 right now we will have caller 4725. And up next after
15 that will be caller 0526. I'd like to ask the public if
16 they could please be sure to speak at a steady pace and
17 take time with county and city names and numbers. It
18 helps our interpreters.

19 Right now, we have caller 4725. If you'll please
20 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. And one
21 more time, caller with the last four digits, 4725, if
22 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
23 star 6. I do apologize, caller -- ope. There you are.

24 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hello?

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.



1 Hello.

2 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Oh. Hi. I'm Morgan,
3 and I'm a Los Angeles resident. I'm concerned that
4 there's talk of combining Long Beach and Orange County
5 into one congressional district. I think that these two
6 districts have pretty different cultures, and I think it
7 would harm Long Beach to combine with Orange County. I
8 believe that the poor city of Long Beach would be greatly
9 harmed by having to weigh the competing interests of the
10 OC cities. And yeah. That's all I wanted to say. Thank
11 you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
13 right now we have caller 0526. And then up next after
14 that will be caller 2893. Caller 0526, if you'll please
15 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
16 floor is yours.

17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hello?

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello.

19 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hi. My name's Jonathan
20 and I'm from LA County. And I just wanted to say that,
21 like, to be honest, the only things that Long Beach and
22 Seal Beach have in common is the word beach in their name
23 because our community in LA County is reliant on the Port
24 of Long Beach for economic stability. So separating it
25 from the rest of the county in the congressional map



1 hurts us here in LA because this port fuels tens of
2 thousands of jobs in LA, and if it gets taken away in the
3 proposed maps, it'll only add another layer of
4 bureaucracy to keep our area economical afloat. So
5 please keep LA County and Orange County apart. Thank
6 you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
8 right now we will have caller 2893. And up next after
9 that will be caller 3889. Caller 2893, if you'll please
10 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

11 Caller 2893, if you'll please follow the prompts to
12 unmute by pressing star 6, the floor is yours.

13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hello. Hello. My name
14 is Harry. I live in Fullerton. I've lived here for
15 twenty-two years, and I -- thank you for this time. I
16 want to ask you not to split Fullerton up into different
17 Assembly districts.

18 We in Fullerton are a very diverse community, but we
19 have common problems. We share the same crumbling roads,
20 the same crumbling water system. We depend on state
21 funding for our solutions to homelessness for our shelter
22 in Fullerton, for preservation of our -- our library, and
23 for open space in Fullerton in Coyote Hills, and we work
24 together on this. And we -- we depend on -- on the
25 same -- same funding for -- for these problems. And I

1 want to say I've lived in San Diego County, in L.A.
2 County, and when I moved here twenty years ago, I found
3 out that there's such a thing as North County. When
4 you're north of the 91, you're in -- in North County.
5 And it's different than -- than being --

6 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: -- south of
8 (indiscernible). We should remain together so that we
9 can work together with our representatives.

10 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Thank you. Bye-bye.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
13 right now we will have caller 3889. And up next after
14 that will be caller 1007. Caller 3889, if you'll please
15 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
16 floor is yours.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. I'm calling about the
18 neighborhoods of Acton and Agua Dolce. I just wanted to
19 say that -- that we are part of the Santa Clarita Valley,
20 not the Antelope Valley. For many of us here, we shop,
21 work, go to the doctor here in Santa Clarita. We would
22 like to be, and if you could please put us, in the same
23 districts as Santa Clarita Valley. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
25 right now we will have caller 1007. And then up next



1 after that will be caller 5590. Caller 1007, if you'll
2 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
3 The floor is yours. Ope. Caller one -- ope. There you
4 are again.

5 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hi.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.
7 Hello.

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: My name is -- hi. My
9 name's Chris, and I'm a resident of Newport Beach. I
10 have an issue with linking up together with Irvine. Our
11 communities are completely different. There's no reason
12 to bring the coastal districts of Orange County and
13 connect us together with the inland areas of Orange
14 County. Coastal Orange County has an economy based
15 around tourism, and our economy's not connected to that
16 of Irvine. Our needs on the coast would be washed away
17 if we get connected to Irvine. Please considered
18 separating Irvine away from the coastal Orange County
19 district.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
21 right now we will have caller 5590. And then up next
22 after that will be a retry of caller 5944. Caller 5590,
23 if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
24 star 6. The floor is yours.

25 MR. KRIZ: Okay. Hello. My name is Father Dennis

1 Kriz. I'm pastor here at St. Philip Benizi Church in
2 southwest Fullerton. Please keep Fullerton intact.
3 Dividing this city into three Assembly districts would
4 deprive the city of effective representation in the
5 California Assembly and create a new layer of confusion
6 when trying to coordinate projects between the city and
7 now various Assembly members, each representing parts of
8 various other cities as well.

9 Assembly members will not necessarily want to
10 support projects that claw outside their districts, and
11 yet the city -- with a city like Fullerton, for instance,
12 will not necessarily be able to locate projects within
13 supportive Assembly members' boundaries. As it is,
14 Orange County is already infamous for the crazy whack-a-
15 mole game in which county government and its constituent
16 thirty-five cities each blame each other for inaction.
17 Now, you -- you'll now add this new layer of
18 institutional confusion where a city like Fullerton is
19 represented by three Assembly members but each of those
20 represent -- Assembly members represents several other
21 cities as well. This guarantees a mess that will --
22 where everyone will suffer. Even south -- South
23 Fullerton's Latinx residents as the district will now be
24 attached, you know, to a district, you know, dominated by
25 Santa Ana and it's concerns there. Please keep Fullerton

1 intact. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
3 right now we will be retrying caller 5944. And then up
4 next after that will be caller 0045. Caller 5944, if
5 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
6 star 6. The floor is yours.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, Commissioners. A
8 little break from Orange County here. I just want to
9 talk about the Assembly lines and the VRA district in
10 Bakersfield you guys drew earlier today, just wanted to
11 comment the lines you guys did were spot on, pretty much
12 perfect job moving the country club sort of areas out of
13 that VRA district. I hope next week when you guys dig
14 into the congressional seats that you guys match that --
15 that same stuff and take those same communities out of
16 the VRA district that -- that's connected to Kings.

17 Also, full disclosure, I'm not from Mono or Inyo,
18 however, I did work there for a very long time, and I'd
19 just like to say the City of Ridgecrest in eastern Kern
20 is very much in the consciousness of that -- that entire
21 area. There's about 25,000 people there. They actually
22 share a community college system together, and there is
23 a -- I forget the name of the mass transit system, but
24 there's a bus system that runs all the way up to Mammoth
25 lakes from Ridgecrest. They do a lot of recreating

1 together and whatnot. So maybe a solution to that
2 problem, give you guys a little bit of wiggle room up to
3 the north that you guys, you know, put Ridgecrest in
4 (indiscernible). So good night. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
6 right now we will have caller 0045. And up next after
7 that will be caller 5138. Caller 0045, if you'll please
8 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

9 MR. MENDOZA: Yes.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

11 MR. MENDOZA: Yes. Yes, Commissioner. My name is
12 John Mendoza (ph.). I live here in the City of Pomona in
13 the 35th Congressional District and 20th Central --
14 Senate District. And I'm just asking you to, please,
15 keep us, some of the cities that are in the Santa Ana
16 watershed above Prado Dam that extend up to the north
17 hills to the foothills and also inside the Chino Basin
18 cities which include Pomona, Chino, Chino Hills, Ontario,
19 Montclair, those cities all in one district.

20 We have a severe water crisis and it fragments it
21 when we don't have elected officials that are zeroed in
22 on a particular region, you know, dealing with that water
23 issues. That goes up and down the State of California.
24 So I just wanted to put that forward. Recently,
25 Riverside County came under pro -- protest because they

1 only decided to have one Latino district. I don't -- I
2 don't know how Chino Hills is going to fit into that if
3 they get shifted over there into the Riverside County.

4 And another issue is that here in Los Angeles with
5 your redistricting process, people are -- are -- are
6 saying -- are -- are -- are crafting lines that say let's
7 go fifty miles within from the ocean inland so that, you
8 know, people that have -- don't have a voice with the
9 ocean could have, you know, a voice. Well, when you
10 start crafting lines, you know, and you put --

11 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

12 MR. MENDOZA: -- you put these -- you put these in
13 front of the people, then they -- the lines, you know,
14 you -- you fail to start dealing with the -- the problems
15 in your regions, like, which is going up and down the
16 state with the watersheds, with the -- the mountain
17 people, and so forth. So --

18 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

19 MR. MENDOZA: -- I just wanted to share those
20 comments. Thank you.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
22 right now we have caller 5138. And then up next after
23 that will be caller 0682. Caller 5138, if you'll please
24 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
25 floor is yours.



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening, Commissioners.
2 I will not burden you with the congressional discussions
3 on Assembly day, but I -- I'm sure you guys are all
4 tired, and God bless all of you for your hard work.

5 I'm calling in on, again, San Joaquin on Stanislaus
6 line. I know you kind of worked your way around the San
7 Joaquin district today and the -- and that you guys took
8 a hard look at the Stanislaus lines. I just wanted to
9 call in because I heard one Commissioner earlier say
10 there was all this testimony on the Assembly and the
11 Senate lines and then, I think, Commissioner Fornicari --
12 Fornaciari, you know, caught it that, you know,
13 everything you're hearing out of the Central Valley is --
14 is -- is -- you know, negative or otherwise, is -- is the
15 congressional lines.

16 We're -- we're all very happy with these three seats
17 in particular that are touching San Joaquin and
18 Stanislaus County. Pretty happy with the Senate lines.
19 You know, I mean, I don't anybody got everything they
20 wanted, but everybody got something and it -- it's common
21 sense. It's contiguous, so we just strongly encourage
22 you, those of us that live on the east side of those
23 counties, to -- to -- to keep -- keep it intact as -- as
24 much as you can.

25 We all understand that some changes are going to

1 have to happen and -- and you guys got some stuff that
2 you got to work out, but in the northern part of the
3 Central Valley, you know, the -- the complaints are few
4 for the state lines. We understand you guys got work to
5 do congressionally there, but one doesn't necessarily
6 have to affect the other and -- and I just want be a
7 caller again tonight that says --

8 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- you guys have done a great
10 job of hearing everybody in the Central Valley, in the
11 northern Central Valley, especially on the state lines.
12 So best of luck the rest of the way and happy holidays.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 right now we will have caller 0682. And then up next
15 after that will be caller 7592. Caller 0682, if you'll
16 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
17 The floor is yours.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello, Commissioners, I'm
19 calling in regards to AD draft ANTELOPE and CD draft
20 AVSCV. I'm a nearly lifelong resident of Palmdale. I
21 understand the immense responsibility that you have, but
22 what happened today to the Antelope Valley's Assembly
23 draft is wrong, and I hope it's not telling of what's to
24 come for our congressional draft based on how often we
25 seem to have the wrench thrown at us. For years,



1 Palmdale and Lancaster have begged to be united. We are
2 quite possibly the most similar cities in California. I,
3 along with a majority of our citizens, am begging you to
4 keep the Antelope Valley completed united.

5 Regarding our congressional draft, please just leave
6 it alone. It is exactly what the Antelope Valley and
7 Santa Clarita Valley have been asking for nearly a
8 decade. A large majority of public comments have been in
9 support of the draft, and I agree. Many of the people
10 who keep calling in from Simi Valley are only asking to
11 be kept with Santa Clarita, in part, due to political
12 grievances that the current congressman has made very
13 public. Simi Valley sits in a different county and is
14 fifteen miles from Santa Clarita.

15 Also, contrary to what a previous caller said, they
16 are, in fact, very different as far as demographics
17 speak. Why should we allow Simi Valley as a
18 gerrymandered enclave of AVSCV? They deserve no special
19 treatment yet continue to get it. Simi Valley drowns out
20 the voices of BIPOC in the Antelope Valley, and it's not
21 fair. They are an outlier in every way, including from
22 our Santa Clarita Valley brothers and sisters.

23 Please stop allowing Simi Valley, a wealthy, white,
24 Ventura County community, to -- to dictate the -- the
25 issues of black, indigenous, and people of color in north

1 LA County. It's downright racist and we've put up with
2 it for too long. No more. Thank you, Commissioners, and
3 thank you, interpreter, for your hard work and happy
4 holidays.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
6 right now we will have caller 7592. And up next after
7 that will be caller 8571. Caller 7592, if you'll please
8 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
9 floor is yours. And one more time, caller 7592, if
10 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
11 star 6. The floor is yours.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening, everybody. The
13 draft State Assembly and congressional districts for
14 Santa Clara County should be improved. In regards to
15 State Assembly redistricting, the Golden Triangle area of
16 San Jose's divided between two districts. While West
17 Valley communities Campbell and Saratoga are in the South
18 Peninsula district, West Valley communities Los Gatos and
19 Monte Sereno are in another district.

20 The Franklin-McKinney school district area is -- is
21 split between two districts. It should be completely in
22 the ALUMROCK district. The ALUMROCK district, however,
23 should not include the Rose Garden neighborhoods. It
24 should, however, include the Latinx-majority Gardner
25 neighborhood. I should mention that there is a multi-

1 group proposal for the ALUMROCK district, however, I
2 cannot support this particular proposal, in part, because
3 it splits the various neighborhoods of San Jose. It'll
4 also split the Franklin-McKinley School District area.

5 I hope to send my proposals as far as State Assembly
6 and congressional for Santa Clara County, hopefully, in
7 the next day or two. And in regards to congressional
8 districting for Alhambra, Monterrey Park, North El Monte,
9 Rosemead, and South San Gabriel, one possibility would be
10 for these communities to be in CD 210. In exchange,
11 areas that are in the Kern CD 210 could be transferred to
12 the CD, I believe, it's CORINA (ph.) district, but
13 I'll -- I'll try to send the -- the info in writing --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- within the next day or
16 two. Thank you so much and have a good evening.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
18 right now we will have caller 8571. And up next after
19 that will be caller 9835. Caller 8571, if you'll please
20 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
21 floor is yours.

22 MR. BOWMAN: Commissioners, my name is Chris Bowman
23 (ph.). Can you hear me?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

25 MR. BOWMAN: Hello? Okay. Great.



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Hello.

2 MR. BOWMAN: I served in the same capacity that you
3 did in 1995 in San Francisco when we drew the district
4 lines for supervisorial districts which have been in
5 place since 2000, so I don't envy your task. I've been
6 looking through the public comment section, over 32,000
7 individual public comments. That's a lot to go through.

8 I submitted a twenty-three district -- Assembly
9 district plan which covers thirty-four counties from
10 north of San Joaquin and Tuolumne County all the way to
11 the Oregon border. And the twenty-three districts are
12 completely contained within those thirty-four counties
13 with the exception of the eastern communities of Contra
14 Costa County which are next to San Joaquin County. You
15 can -- at 32167, that's the comment number on your
16 website.

17 Unfortunately, I was not able to get the maps. I
18 submitted the maps on the 24th through the statewide
19 database but was not able to wed my comments with the
20 maps, so hopefully, the staff will be able to let you see
21 the plan. It addresses a number of the issues that
22 you've been dealing with and wrestling with, including
23 the issue about what to do with Tahoe and --

24 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

25 MR. BOWMAN: -- and the central Sierra. You can



1 add -- in my district, you -- there's enough room to add
2 Inyo and Mono to it. I don't know why you would want to
3 do it because the highway's -- the overpass -- or rather
4 the --

5 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

6 MR. BOWMAN: -- pass is closed sometimes six to
7 eight months. But please take a look at my plan. It's
8 32167. Ask the staff to show you the maps. I think
9 you'll like what you see. Thank you very much.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
11 right now we have caller 9835. And up next after that
12 will be caller 3018. Caller 9835, if you'll please
13 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
14 floor is yours.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. Thank you for taking my
16 call and thank you for the work you're doing. I
17 apologize for any ambient noise. I'm fighting my commute
18 on the 5 South right now, as I'm sure many people are. I
19 wanted to call -- I know we're working on Assembly lines
20 this week, but ahead of congressional lines next week,
21 which I think is -- is the plan, I wanted to talk about
22 Orange County and the City of Irvine.

23 Irvine's the second largest city in the county and
24 it-- all the various neighborhoods are all very similar
25 to each other unlike some other cities it's size. I'm

1 asking the Commission to consider keeping Irvine
2 contiguous in the congressional lines instead of
3 splitting it up amongst multiple lines. That's all I've
4 got. Thank you so much. I hope you guys have a great
5 evening.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
7 right now we've got three -- caller 3018. And up next
8 after that will be caller 2003. Caller 3018, if you'll
9 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

10 And one more time, caller 3018, if you'll please
11 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. I do
12 apologize, caller 3018. There appears to be some type of
13 connectivity issue for you at the moment, but I will come
14 back to you.

15 And right now, we'll go to caller 2003. And up next
16 after that will be call-in user 1. Caller 2003, if
17 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
18 star 6.

19 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Good evening.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

21 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you. Good
22 evening, Commissioner and public. My name is Sarissa
23 (ph.), and I live in the San Fernando Valley. I'm
24 disappointed to see that we still don't have our own
25 respective VRA districts here in San Fernando. Numerous

1 people have called to ask for us -- our own pair of
2 majority Latino VRA districts to equitably represent our
3 community here. We need you to focus on this matter and
4 not jeopardize our community of interest.

5 Other groups like VICA have called in the past to
6 ask you all to make these districts for us and keep the
7 San Fernando Valley together when making these maps. It
8 makes sense for us, and I know I'm not the only one who
9 feels this way. Commissioners, please listen to all of
10 the Latinos speaking to you when we ask you to create
11 these VRA districts for the Valley. Thank you for your
12 time and have a wonderful evening.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 right now we will have caller -- call-in user 1. And up
15 next after that will be caller 3422. Call-in user 1, if
16 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
17 star 6. The floor is yours.

18 MS. ZALIS: Hi, Commissioners. My name is Kelly
19 Zalis (ph.). I'm from Newberry Springs, which is in the
20 San Bernardino County High Desert. I just want to say
21 that I was really frustrated today watching you guys
22 split up the High Desert. I'm concerned that this a
23 pattern, and it really seems like you have consistently
24 been using rural areas in our county as population grabs
25 for Los Angeles County, areas like Alta Loma, Lake

1 Arrowhead, Wrightwood, and now the High Desert are being
2 drawn into Los Angeles districts that we have to drive
3 outside the district to get the population bases.

4 I just want to respectfully remind the Commissioner
5 that you are not the LA County Redistricting Commission.
6 You are supposed to work for the whole state, and our
7 region is one of the fastest growing in the state. Our
8 voices should be growing and not be sacrificed for LA
9 County. Please work to give the Inland Empire and rural
10 counties like mine a voice and thank you for your work.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
12 right now we will have caller 3422. And up next after
13 that will be caller 6058. I'd like to invite those that
14 have called in and not spoke this evening to please press
15 star 9 to raise your hand in case you wish to give
16 comment. And now we'll got to caller 3422. If you'll
17 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
18 The floor is yours.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. Good evening. Can you
20 hear me?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Perfect. Good evening. I
23 definitely have -- have been listening in to the
24 conversation. I was listening the conversation around
25 the Coachella Valley last night. Here's the deal. You

1 are drawing an artificial line splitting the Latino
2 community. You are artificially splitting Indio, which
3 is sixty-nine percent Latino, from Thousand Palms and
4 Cathedral City, which are fifty-nine percent Latino.

5 You are artificially deciding the community
6 protected under the Voting Rights Act should have their
7 vote diluted. You're artificially deciding which cities
8 are part of the Latino community versus listening to the
9 Latino community itself. You are artificially deciding
10 the rights of the wealthy and that they should be placed
11 ahead of those of the -- of the vulnerable. The whole
12 point of the VRA is to give those communities like mine
13 the strongest opportunity to vote in those who represent
14 our interests. Do not lose sight of the course. Thank
15 you.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
17 right now we will have caller 6058. And up next after
18 that will be caller 3018 as a retry. Caller 6058, if
19 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
20 star 6, the floor is yours.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello? Yes. I live in the
22 City of Cypress for over twenty-five years, and I'm
23 speaking on behalf of many residents of Cypress. The
24 City of Cypress has a strong connection with the cities
25 of Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Rossmoor, and we are like

1 sister cities where we share many common interests, we
2 shop at each other's cities, attend each other's
3 festivals and churches, sports activities. The cities re
4 so intertwined we don't know where one -- one ends and
5 the other one starts. Los Alamitos cross over with
6 Cypress or many Cypress kids go to Los Alamitos school
7 and vice versa.

8 So I'm asking if you to please keep the City of
9 Cypress together with its sister cities and community of
10 interest, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Rossmoor, as well as
11 Huntington Beach. I'm also requesting the Commissioners
12 to please not break the county line between Orange and LA
13 County and keep Long Beach and Orange County separate.
14 They are way too different and one has nothing in common
15 with each other, and they don't belong in the same
16 district. Mingling them together will -- will be
17 detrimental to Orange County and Long Beach. Thank you.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
19 right now we will have caller four -- oh, I apologize.
20 We have caller 3018 mas a retry. And up next after that
21 will be caller 4379. Caller 3018, if you'll please
22 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
23 floor is yours.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. Good evening,
25 Commissioners. Thank you, all, for let me speak on the



1 issue of San Fernando Valley's VRA districts. I've heard
2 numerous people and groups call in before asking you all
3 to give the San Fernando Valley two majority Latino
4 Assembly districts and I'm still waiting to see them.
5 What am I missing?

6 I don't understand why the Antelope Valley's
7 Assembly districts have been rearranged, for example,
8 while the San Fernando Valley still does not have
9 equitable representation for Latinos. Latinos here are a
10 huge community of interest and we long to see proper
11 representation. Please listen us and keep the San
12 Fernando Valley whole while creating two VRA districts
13 like the one that (indiscernible) brought forth to you
14 all. Thank you, Commissioners, for your time and please
15 do this for the Valley.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
17 right now we will have caller 4379. And up next after
18 that will be caller 5552. Caller 4379, if you'll please
19 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
20 floor is yours.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. I'm a resident of LA
22 County, and I am concerned that the Commission will try
23 to link more of our county with our neighbors to the
24 south in Orange County. I've lived in LA for years, and
25 I can tell you that our lifestyles differ tremendously,

1 so please keep Long Beach with the rest of LA and out of
2 OC. Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
4 right now we will have caller 5552. And up next after
5 that will be caller 3241. Caller 5552, if you'll please
6 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
7 floor is yours.

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hello. Good evening.
9 My name is Griffin (ph.) and I am calling in regards
10 requesting that we keep Irvine whole and separated from
11 the coastal region of Orange County. Irvine is better
12 suited to stay in the inland part of Orange County as it
13 has very different needs than places like Newport Beach.
14 The economies are not connected at all. These connect --
15 these communities should be able to keep their autonomy.
16 Combining them together will put both regions at a
17 disservice. Thank you for listening and have a nice
18 night.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
20 right now we will have caller 3241. And up next after
21 that will be caller 5410. Caller 3241, if you'll please
22 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
23 floor is yours.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi there. I -- I've
25 called -- I've been listening to this Commission for a

1 while now today, and I'm hearing the same thing that I'm
2 concerned about is that Orange County might be looped in
3 with Long Beach in the coastal district and that doesn't
4 make any sense. And then we've seen consensus so far of
5 people calling from Long Beach worried that OC would
6 drown out their voices when we're concerned about the
7 exact opposite happening.

8 So with that consensus, you know these communities
9 are completely incompatible to be looped in together, and
10 so keeping LA and Orange County separate is the best
11 decision you can make because it just makes sense, you
12 know? Why loop in two areas that have almost nothing in
13 common together? So that's -- that's what I wanted to
14 say is that these communities are incompatible and
15 there's just mutual consensus on both sides of the aisle,
16 LA and Orange, on this issue.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
18 right now we will have caller 5410. And up next after
19 that will be caller 2931. Caller 5410, if you'll please
20 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
21 floor is yours.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. I was just calling to --
23 just as a reminder to point out to the Commissioners that
24 the negative comments you've been hearing about
25 Stanislaus County and -- and the Modesto area tonight



1 are -- they're really focused on the congressional map,
2 and these negative comments are not focused on tonight's
3 focus, which is the State Assembly and -- and the Senate
4 maps.

5 The -- you know, really, the Assembly maps are --
6 are fine just the way they are. You guys have listened
7 to us. You've heard the people of Stanislaus and San
8 Joaquin, and you've heard our needs and our request
9 for -- for the Assembly maps, and the lines that you have
10 currently, they -- they provide us with the appropriate
11 representation for our community. And I know that you
12 guys have worked really hard on these maps, and -- and
13 you -- I really feel like you've done a great job.

14 So please keep the map you have and leave Stanislaus
15 and -- and San Joaquin Assembly drafts just the way they
16 are. I really feel that, you know, we often get
17 overlooked here in the Central Valley, but with these
18 State Assembly maps, they actually make me feel like our
19 community has actually been heard and -- and that means a
20 lot. So I just wanted to thank you all for -- for your
21 hard work and your late nights and thank you for hearing
22 me out.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
24 right now we will have caller 2931. And up next after
25 that will be caller 9805. Caller 2931, if you'll please

1 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
2 floor is yours.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello, Commissioner. I
4 haven't called before and I have new information that I
5 want to share. I want to bring to your attention on
6 Orange County (indiscernible) article yesterday that
7 talking about redistrict and have (indiscernible) from
8 residential the suggestion from the community.
9 (Indiscernible) article (indiscernible) up Little Saigon
10 do (indiscernible) Huntington Beach to be considered part
11 of their community.

12 You have done this with the Senator district but not
13 the Assembly and congressional. We are asking again --
14 again, we are asking to -- you to include in either on at
15 least half of north Huntington Beach, entire city of
16 Huntington Beach into our community. For Assembly,
17 remove (indiscernible) and (indiscernible) Euclid Street
18 and up on part of Huntington Beach if part up north
19 (indiscernible) Avenue and Huntington Beach
20 (indiscernible) and up on a part of Huntington Beach
21 (indiscernible) Avenue and Huntington Beach. Little
22 Saigon need to include following city: Huntington Beach,
23 Westminster, Midway City, Los Alamitos, Rossmoor, Seal
24 Beach, and part of Garden Grove. Thank you for all your
25 time helping with giving Little Saigon two

1 representatives for the next decade and thank you for
2 your hard work on congressional and have a good night.
3 Thank you.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
5 right now we will have caller 90 -- 9805. And up next
6 after that will be caller 5816. Caller 9805, if you'll
7 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
8 The floor is yours.

9 MR. DODVAN: Good evening. Can you hear me?

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

11 MR. DODVAN: Thank you very much, Commissioner,
12 again, for taking my call. My name is Bobat Dodvan
13 (ph.). I live in Woodland Hills, California for last
14 thirty-seven years. That is in San Fernando Valley. I
15 would like to ask to please consider the proposal
16 submitted by the Valley Industry and Commerce
17 Association, VICA, for Congress.

18 Right now, my own congressional district has Santa
19 Monica in it. That is just amazing. That's way on the
20 other side of the mountain. That should not be there.
21 The VICA map puts Santa Monica back into coastline
22 district and Venice. Also, it puts ninety-two percent of
23 the population of my district -- the Malibu, San Fernando
24 district, North Mulholland Drive in San Fernando Valley.
25 It keeps also the Northridge together and also unites

1 West Hollywood with the West Side council -- council of
2 the government.

3 The VICA plan, that is again Valley Industry and
4 Commerce Association plan, is a balanced shift that
5 solves the remaining problem of our full district all at
6 once. I would like to thank you again, and I would like
7 to ask of you to check out the VICA plan. Thank you.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
9 right now we will have caller 5816. And up next after
10 that will be caller 8037. And those are my last two
11 hands for the evening. For those that have not spoke
12 this evening, if you please press star 9, this will raise
13 your hand indicating you wish to give comment. Everyone
14 will get a chance to speak but it makes it a little
15 easier to manage. Please press star 9 if you wish to
16 give comment and have not spoke. Caller 5816, if you'll
17 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
18 The floor is yours.

19 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Thank you. And thank
20 you, Commissioners. My name is JT. I'm a resident of
21 Laguna Niguel and I have been for about twenty years. I
22 lived in Orange County for the last thirty-five years.
23 I'm calling to voice my displeasure of having Irvine
24 added to our current district and express my agreement
25 with the Councilman from Irvine in that the Irvine has

1 little in common with the Orange Coney -- Orange County
2 coast cities and would dilute the issues of both those
3 communities.

4 I've had the privilege of helping underprivileged
5 families and seniors throughout Orange County through a
6 couple of program, volunteer programs, and I've seen the
7 services that -- that they provide, and firsthand,
8 they're extremely different. The needs of the coastal
9 and the needs of the inland communities are markedly
10 different.

11 There's also been testimony throughout this
12 Commission and this hearing about keeping Irvine whole.
13 I'm in complete agreement with keeping Irvine whole. The
14 only that is accessible is if Irvine is made the focal
15 city of -- in the district that does not involve those
16 coastal cities. The coastal cities have common issues,
17 common problems, common habitats of interest, and we
18 would like to keep those respected and considered when --
19 when redistricting.

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: So thank you very much
22 and please keep the -- the coastal cities in -- together.
23 Thank you. Bye.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
25 right now we will have caller 8037. And up next after

1 that will be caller 6789. Caller 8037, if you'll please
2 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
3 floor is yours.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. I'm calling about the
5 SEALBREA district and the coastal Orange County district.
6 At one point, the Commission discussed how it was
7 important to keep these districts compact yet the
8 SEALBREA district is quite the opposite. I think it
9 would make sense to build an actually compact district
10 that includes Seal Beach, Los Alamitos, Rossmoor, Little
11 Saigon, and Huntington Beach. There's really no reason
12 to separate these neighboring cities and keeping them --
13 keeping them together would really better empower the
14 Vietnamese voters in these cities. I think the
15 Commission should focus on this change in the next map.
16 Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
18 right now we will have caller 6789. And up next after
19 that will be caller 0247. Caller 6789, if you'll please
20 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
21 floor is yours.

22 MR. TRAN: Good evening, Commissioners. My name is
23 Vincent Tran. I'm a resident of Palm Valley, and I'm
24 part of VietRISE, a nonprofit organization based in
25 Garden Grove. So we implore you to keep West Santa Ana

1 west of the Santa Ana River with the neighboring Little
2 Saigon cities of Westminster, Garden Grove, and Fountain
3 Valley in both the congressional and State draft maps
4 similar to the layout of the Assembly draft map.

5 There's a large concentration of Vietnamese living
6 is West Santa Ana for a predominantly mobile home
7 residents, seniors, and low income. The large
8 concentration of mobile homes within West Santa Ana
9 should be keep together with Westminster and Garden Grove
10 which also has a large concentration of mobile home parks
11 that are predominantly occupied by Vietnamese residents,
12 and the fac -- fracturing of these communities into
13 different districts would further weaken their voices and
14 potentially result in the displacement of low-income
15 senior Vietnamese refugee residents.

16 In addition, keeping these cities together also
17 respects the historical growth of Little Saigon whose
18 origin lies in, you know, West Santa Ana and later moved
19 onto Garden Grove and Westminster and Fountain Valley.
20 West Santa Ana continues to be an important gathering
21 place for the Vietnamese community due to a large
22 concentration of Vietnamese churches and temples, many of
23 which were built in the early stages of the development
24 of Little Saigon, and -- and over the past few months
25 there have been many maps --

1 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2 MR. TRAN: -- submitted by the community which shows
3 the Commission can comply with the federal Voting Rights
4 Act in Los Angeles and Orange County while also keeping
5 our communities of interest whole. So please use this
6 map as a roadmap to achieving the balance.

7 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

8 MR. TRAN: One last thing to note is, you know, we
9 don't have any common -- shared interest with Huntington
10 Beach and Newport Beach and Seal Beach, so please keep
11 Little Saigon separate from those coastal cities. Thank
12 you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
14 right now we will have caller 0247. And up next after
15 that will be caller 3434. Caller 0247, if you'll please
16 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The
17 floor is yours.

18 MR. DE LEON: Hello. Good evening. My name is
19 Manny De Leon. I'm a resident of Irvine, a UC alumni,
20 and a community organizer with the Orange County Asian
21 Pacific Islander Community Alliance, OCAPICA for short,
22 an organization based in Orange County dedicated to
23 centering and uplifting the needs of the AAPI community
24 in Irvine. I'm also personally organizing with the
25 overlooked but significant population of Filipino-



1 Americans in and around Irvine.

2 I'm here tonight to comment on yesterday's
3 discussion about breaking up communities of interest in
4 Orange County. Irvine is one of the fastest growing
5 cities in the state which has been fueled by ongoing
6 growth by its immigrant communities. With a growing
7 number of Asian American Pacific Islander and AMEMSA
8 residents, the City of Irvine has similar communities to
9 the City of Tustin and also how to an emerging low-income
10 population with needs similar to those of the Latinx
11 communities in Costa Mesa.

12 And the proposed draft Assembly map addresses and
13 respects these communities of interest and we ask to
14 please not break them up. Numerous maps submitted by the
15 community have demonstrated that the Commission can
16 comply with the federal Voting Rights Act in Los Angeles
17 and Orange Counties while keep key communities of
18 interest like Irvine and Costa Mesa together. Please
19 consider integrating the aspects of the -- of the
20 submitted maps to comply with the VRA with centering the
21 voices and needs of our communities. Again, thank you so
22 much for all the work you've done and good night.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
24 right now we're going to caller 3434. And then up next
25 after that will be caller 4852. Caller 3434, if you'll

1 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.

2 The floor is yours.

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Hello, ma'am. Can you
4 hear me?

5 PUBLIC PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

6 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: Yes. Okay. Thank you.
7 So hello. How -- okay. So my name is Gino. I live in
8 Simi Valley, and I'm calling you to please keep Simi
9 Valley in the same district as Santa Clarita when making
10 these next legislative maps. A lot of people have called
11 asking for us not to be with Santa Clarita because we're
12 in separate counties. I even heard a previous caller
13 talk about how it was white people controlling
14 indigenous, black, and Hispanic communities when, in
15 fact, that is not true.

16 Simi Valley actually has a very diverse community,
17 way might -- way more diverse than any of the other
18 communities in Ventura County and way more similar to the
19 demographics of Palmdale, Lancaster, and Santa Clarita.
20 Simi Valley actually has a twenty-eight percent Hispanic
21 population compared to other cities like Calabasas which
22 only has eight percent Hispanic population. So what he
23 said is just flat-out wrong and Simi Valley deserves to
24 be with the other diverse groups in the Antelope Valley
25 and Santa Clarita region.

1 Also, we don't have a lot of -- in common with
2 Agoura Hills, Calabasas, and Malibu. Even though those
3 happen to be in LA County, it doesn't make sense because
4 they're on that -- we -- we aren't near them. We're on
5 the outskirts of the City --

6 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: -- of Los Angeles, and
8 we are not one of these coastal communities. So my case
9 to you is to please keep Simi Valley and Santa Clarita in
10 the same district and not to put us with these other
11 communities on the coastline. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
13 at this time, I'd like to give caller 4852 an opportunity
14 to speak. Please follow the prompts to unmute by
15 pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi, Commissioners. I'm -- I
17 live in north San Fernando Valley, and I'm the president
18 of Global Punjabi Forum, and I am part of the large Sikh
19 community in San Fernando Valley. We have four Gurdwara
20 and one temple here. The San Fernando Valley should be
21 majority Valley district. You have mostly done that
22 already, so I wish to say thank you. In fact, you draw
23 three good majority Valley district.

24 One district contains Burbank and Glendale. One
25 district contain east Valley, east San Fernando Valley.

1 And the third district contain Valley west and some San
2 Fernando Valley. And if you can correct one thing,
3 please do not put Santa Monica in San Fernando Valley --
4 with the San Fernando Valley. Santa Monica by the ocean
5 should be district with the ocean community. The San
6 Fernando Valley -- sorry Valley Industry -- Industry and
7 Commercial Association has a plan to contain Santa Monica
8 with the coast --

9 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- and keep (indiscernible)
11 with the San Fernando Valley. Please keep San Fernando
12 Valley from the -- separate from the Santa Monica --
13 completely separate. This is very --

14 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- important. Thank you.
16 Thank you much, please. Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And
18 Chair, at this time, that was our last caller.

19 CHAIR TOLEDO: Thank you so much, Katy, for --

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're welcome.

21 CHAIR TOLEDO: -- for everything you do, and
22 Kristian and all staff, and the public, of course, for
23 keeping us -- for providing the -- the feedback and the
24 guidance that you have provided, the testimony.

25 We will continue tomorrow at 11 a.m. We'll be



1 continuing on in our visualizations and moving -- moving
2 north. I -- we will have some visualizations back from
3 our line drawers, and we are focused -- we will be
4 looking at those and reviewing those as we continue to
5 move on through our maps. So we will look forward to
6 seeing you all tomorrow, 11:00. And thank you and have a
7 good evening.

8 (Whereupon, the Review Public Input/Line
9 Drawing Meeting meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of December, 2021.



CLAUDINE METOYER,
Court Reporter

