

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST MEETING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Transcription By:

eScribers, LLC



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

Neal Fornaciari, Chair/Moderator
J. Ray Kennedy, Co-Chair/Moderator
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner
Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner
Derric Taylor, Commissioner
Pedro Toledo, Commissioner
Russell Yee, Commissioner
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner
Jane Andersen, Commissioner
Alicia Fernández, Commissioner
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner
Trena Turner, Commissioner

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Chuck Davison
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Juan Carlos Dias
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Jennifer Jones
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Brian Chong
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P R O C E E D I N G S

1 August 27, 2021

3:00 p.m.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Good afternoon, California.
3 Welcome, and thank you for tuning into the California
4 Citizens Redistricting Commission Communities of Interest
5 Input Meeting. I am Commissioner Neal Fornaciari, and I
6 will be cochairing today's meeting with Commissioner Ray
7 Kennedy.
8 Kennedy.

9 Today, we are offering one language line in Spanish,
10 so Spanish speakers can listen to the meeting in their
11 native language. Can I please have our interpreter
12 provide our call-in numbers and read the Spanish language
13 line instructions?

14 THE INTERPRETER: Hi, Commissioner.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Hi.

16 THE INTERPRETER: This is the Spanish interpreter.

17 (Spanish spoken)

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Johanna. Now, we will go
20 to Ravi for roll call.

21 MR. SINGH: Thank you, Chair.

22 Commissioner Kennedy?

23 CHAIR 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: Present.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

9 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?

10 (No audible response)

11 Commissioner Vazquez?

12 Commissioner Yee?

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad?

15 (No audible response)

16 Commissioner Akutagawa?

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

20 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: (Spanish spoken).

22 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Fornaciari?

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Here.

24 MR. SINGH: Roll call is complete, Chair.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Ravi.

1 Let's see. Before we begin, we want to acknowledge
2 all those who are being impacted by the Caldor, Dixie,
3 Monument, and McFarland and other wildfires burning
4 throughout California. Know that we are thinking of you,
5 your families, and your communities. We understand that
6 you may not be able to participate today, but encourage
7 you to do so when you can. Your voice and the voice of
8 all Californians is important to ensure fair and
9 representative maps.

10 I will start by sharing a little bit about the
11 Commission. Every ten years, after the federal
12 government publishes updates census information,
13 California must redraw the boundaries of its
14 congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and State
15 Board of Equalization districts, so that the districts
16 correctly reflect the state's population.

17 In 2008, California voters authorized the creation
18 of the Commission when they passed the Voters First Act.
19 They authorized the Commission to draw new district lines
20 for State Senate, State Assembly and State Board of
21 Equalization Districts. In 2010, the congressional
22 Voters First Act added the responsibility of drawing
23 Congressional Districts to the Commission.

24 The fourteen-member Commission is made up of five
25 Republicans, five Democrats, and four not affiliated with

1 either of those two parties. The Commission must draw
2 the district lines in conformity with strict, nonpartisan
3 rules designed to create districts of relatively equal
4 population that will provide fair representation for all
5 Californians.

6 The census redistricting data was released on the
7 week of August 9th. When the official California
8 Redistricting Database is available in late September,
9 the Commission begins drawing maps using six line-drawing
10 criteria, as outlined in the California Constitution.
11 One of these is minimizing the divisions of cities,
12 counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest, to
13 the extent possible.

14 We can obtain the city and county information from
15 those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood and
16 communities of interest information from Californians
17 directly. That's why we have launched these Communities
18 of Interest Input Sessions, to get the valuable
19 information from you directly. We encourage all
20 Californians to participate in this process.

21 If you would rather submit COI input over the
22 internet, you can do so from our website by visiting
23 drawmyCAcommunity.org. That's drawmyCAcommunity.org.
24 Skip the line, go online.

25 Now, I will call on all the commissioners to



1 introduce themselves and to say hello. To see the
2 biographies for all fourteen commissioners and for
3 additional information or to sign up for our emails,
4 please visit our website at www.wedrawthelinesCA.org.
5 That's www.wedrawthelinesCA.org.

6 I'll begin with my cochair, Commissioner Kennedy.

7 CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I'm Ray Kennedy.
8 After fifteen years living in Palm Springs, I moved to
9 Morongo Valley last year. Morongo Valley is a rural
10 Joshua Tree gateway community in Southern San Bernadino
11 County.

12 Today, I'm coming to you live from Torrance, where
13 I'm out at the coast for the weekend. Good to see
14 everyone. Looking forward to hearing about communities
15 up and down the central coast and what makes your
16 community special to you.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Kennedy.

18 Next, we'll go to Commissioner Isra Ahmad.

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair.

20 And hello and welcome to everyone. I am very
21 excited to continue to learn about the coastal
22 communities up along California, and I look forward to a
23 great meeting.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Ahmad.

25 Next, we'll go to Commissioner Akutagawa.



1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Hi, everyone. Welcome,
2 California. I'm Linda Akutagawa, and I'm coming to you
3 from Orange County. Looking forward to hearing what you
4 all have to say. Monterey County is actually a place
5 that I spend an annual amount of time, because my dogs
6 are afraid of fireworks, and Monterey is one of the few
7 places in California that has no fireworks allowed. And
8 so I join, it looks like, an exodus of other dog owners
9 to the Monterey region.

10 So just really looking forward to hearing what you
11 all have to say. I feel like I have an affinity for the
12 area because of that annual pilgrimage we make to
13 Monterey.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Akutagawa.
15 That's -- that's an interesting tidbit of information.
16 Thank you.

17 Commissioner Andersen?

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Good afternoon, California.
19 I'm coming to you from Berkeley, California, which is a
20 little north. And I can't wait to hear about the
21 communities in your area.

22 I've been up and down the coast and also up and down
23 the same -- all these counties inland. And it's -- I
24 can't wait to hear what you're going to say about this
25 wonderful area. Thank you.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Andersen.

2 Next up is Commissioner Fernandez.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: (Spanish spoken).

4 I guess that's my timer. I'm Alicia Fernandez from
5 Yolo County. Welcome, everyone, and thank you for
6 continuing to provide us with more information about your
7 communities.

8 The counties that we'll be talking about today --
9 I've visited every, single one. But again, I haven't
10 visited the entire county, so I'm just looking forward to
11 your continuing input. Thank you.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Fernandez.

13 Next up, we'll go to Commissioner Le Mons.

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Good afternoon, California.
15 I'm Commissioner Le Mons. I'm coming to you today from
16 Rancho Mirage, California. I'm having a little bit of
17 trouble with my video, so hopefully, my voice is soothing
18 and welcoming. And I look forward to hearing from all of
19 you today as you present your communities of interests'
20 input.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Commissioner Le Mons.

22 Next, we'll go to Commissioner Sadhwani.

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thanks, Chair.

24 And yes, Commissioner Le Mons, very soothing and
25 very welcoming.

1 My name is Sara Sadhwani. I am joining you today
2 from Pasadena, California. I have also had the
3 opportunity to travel up and down the coast, and I
4 actually used to work in Ventura County when I was on the
5 faculty at Cal Lutheran University in beautiful Thousand
6 Oaks. So I'm looking forward to hearing a lot more about
7 all of the communities of interest today.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Sadhwani.

9 Next up, Patricia -- not Patricia, Commissioner
10 Sinay.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Patricia or Patricia is fine,
12 Neal, Chair Fornaciari.

13 (Spanish spoken)

14 Hello, everybody in California. I give you -- I
15 welcome you from the southern coast in San Diego. Thank
16 you for participating.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

18 Commissioner Taylor?

19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you, Chair.

20 Good afternoon, everyone. Good afternoon,
21 California. My name is Derric Taylor. As mentioned,
22 I'm joining you from this unincorporated City of
23 Altadena, nestled up against San Gabriel and the Vendugo
24 Mountains, just north of -- just east of Jet Propulsion
25 Laboratories.

1 So please muster up all the COI input you can think
2 of. Give it to us. We can't do our work without you, so
3 we look forward to all the information and keep it
4 coming. Thank you.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Taylor.

6 Next up, we have Commissioner Toledo with his new
7 background. Very nice.

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

9 My name is Pedro Toledo, and I'm from the City of
10 Petaluma, California, out in Wine Country, up in Sonoma
11 County. Looking forward to hearing all about your
12 communities of interest and what makes you unique.

13 Back to you, Chair.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Toledo.

15 Next up, we have Commissioner Turner.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Well, hello, everyone. Thank
17 you, Chair.

18 I'm Commissioner Trena Turner, and I bring you
19 greetings from the beautiful San Joaquin Central Valley.
20 I'm coming to you today from Stockton, excited to hear
21 from you all. I was checking out some of the areas, and
22 have some folks spending some time up in Oxnard, and what
23 have you. So we'll see if any of them are listening in.
24 I'm looking forward to hearing from all Californians
25 today. Thank you.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Turner.

2 I'm not sure Commissioner Vazquez has had a chance
3 to join us yet. Doesn't sound like it. I'm sure she
4 will be joining us soon.

5 Commissioner Yee?

6 COMMISSIONER YEE: Greetings, California, and
7 especially those along the central coast. I'm from Santa
8 Cruz County and in Ventura County. I look forward to
9 hearing from you today. I'm here in my hometown of
10 Oakland, and I have travelled around the central coast
11 many, many times. Many wonderful trips.

12 By the way, went kayak -- sea kayaking in Cambria
13 many years ago and lost my glasses. If anyone has found
14 those, I'd love to get those back. Thank you.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, hopefully, one of the --
16 one of the callers will let you know they found your
17 glasses and will send them to you.

18 And back to me, Commissioner Neal Fornaciari. I'm a
19 native Californian, grew up in Livermore -- or was born
20 in Livermore, grew up in Pleasanton. Spent the past
21 thirty years in the central valley in Tracy in San
22 Joaquin County.

23 Spent an awful lot of time in the central coast.
24 Love it, and look forward to going back. And I really
25 want to commend the central coast for another sellout

1 today. We've got all of our appointments booked. But
2 for those of you who are calling in, just hang in there,
3 and we will get to as -- when we can.

4 So the Commission is active on social media. So
5 please also follow the California Citizens Redistricting
6 Commission. You can find us on Facebook, Instagram,
7 Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, at wedrawthelinesCA. That's
8 at wedrawthelinesCA. Following us on social media is
9 another way to get useful information about redistricting
10 and updates from the California Commission.

11 Before we continue, can I please have our
12 interpreter provide our language line numbers one more
13 time and read the Spanish language line instructions?

14 THE INTERPRETER: Hey, Commissioner. This is the
15 Spanish interpreter. Thank you.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Johanna.

17 This meeting is primarily for communities of
18 interest testimony focused on Monterey, San Benito, San
19 Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz -- I think we missed Santa
20 Barbara -- and Ventura Counties, and surrounding areas.
21 However, anyone in California can call in to provide
22 input. General public comment will take place at the end
23 of the meeting.

24 Although the Commission has divided California up
25 into eleven zones, that in no way is related to or

1 reflective of redistricting lines or boundaries. The
2 Commission created the zones to assist commissioners and
3 staff in their outreach efforts only. This is not an
4 indication of planned boundaries.

5 Today, we are joined by our line drawing team,
6 Haystaq DNA and Q2 Data & Research, LLC, who will be
7 displaying a map of the area that attendees describe.
8 Please start with the area you would like to discuss and
9 be as specific as possible about the boundaries of where
10 your community is located. It is our goal to find the
11 area on the map you would like to discuss prior to your
12 testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood of
13 a large city, please mention it by name.

14 Once we are able to located your area, your timer
15 will begin. Attendees will not be able to share their
16 screen.

17 We are joined by our Spanish interpreters, Margarita
18 and Johanna, and Katy, our comment moderator, who will be
19 introducing attendees when it is their turn to speak.
20 When you join the meeting, please use the raise-hand
21 button at the bottom of your screen to enter the queue.
22 If you have registered for a timeslot, we encourage you
23 to call in during your appointed timeslot.

24 When it is your turn to speak, Katy, our comment
25 moderator, will be identifying you by your assigned

1 unique ID number, and you will be reconnected to the
2 session with the ability to enable your own video and/or
3 audio.

4 Registration is not required to participate in this
5 public input meeting. The public has the option of
6 calling in during the meeting to get in the queue to
7 speak. If you do not have an appointment and wish to
8 call in to provide public input, the number is 877-853-
9 5247. Again, the number to provide input is 877-853-
10 5247. You will need to enter meeting ID number
11 85938045077. This calling information can be -- and
12 access code can -- is also listed on the livestream. You
13 will need to dial this number to give public input.

14 Today, there will be Spanish interpreters available
15 to interpret non-English input at this call-in number.
16 The comment moderator will assign you a speaker order
17 number before you begin speaking, and please make a note
18 of this for future reference. You will be able to use
19 this number to identify your community of interest
20 testimony on our website at a future date, which is
21 today.

22 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time
23 limit for English speakers and a six-minute time limit
24 for those with an interpreter. There will be a warning
25 at thirty seconds and at fifteen seconds remaining.

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

13 While there are no clear rules on how to define a
14 community of interest, we've identified ways for you to
15 describe your community. Begin with your county or city.
16 Mention the street names and significant locations in
17 your neighborhood to help us identify the parameters of
18 your community. What are your shared interests? What
19 brings you together? What is important to your
20 community?

21 Are there nearby areas you want to be in a district
22 with? Are there nearby areas you don't want to be in a
23 district with? Why or why not? Has your community come
24 together to advocate for important services, better
25 schools, roads, or healthcare centers in your

1 neighborhood?

2 We also invite you to use the Communities of
3 Interest Tool to draw a map and describe your community
4 by visiting drawmycacommunity.org. That's
5 drawmycacommunity.org. This website is available in
6 sixteen languages. Skip the line, go online. Submit
7 your COI today. And please encourage at least three
8 other people to do the same.

9 As a reminder, even though we are focusing on
10 specific counties, Californians from anywhere in the
11 state are welcome to provide input.

12 We will now begin the public input session and will
13 start with the people who are registered, then open the
14 phone lines, if there is time before the next session.
15 If you are calling without an appointment, please don't
16 hang up, as you will lose your place in line.

17 I will pass this over to Katy, our comment
18 moderator.

19 MS. MANOFF: Thank you, Chair.

20 Welcome to the public input session. Please --

21 THE INTERPRETER: Sorry.

22 MS. MANOFF: You're all good.

23 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the
24 raise-hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
25 the queue. When it is your turn to speak, I will

1 identify you by your assigned unique ID number from your
2 invite. You will be reconnected to the session with the
3 ability to enable your own video and/or audio. You will
4 then be assigned a speaker order number before you begin
5 speaking. Please make a note of your speaker order
6 number for future reference.

7 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time
8 limit for English speakers and a six-minute time limit
9 for those with an interpreter. There will be a thirty-
10 seconds and fifteen-second warning -- there will be a
11 warning at thirty seconds and fifteen seconds remaining.

12 It is the Commission's goal to find the area on the
13 map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony.
14 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large
15 city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
16 locate your area, your three-minute testimony will begin.
17 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

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

23 At this time, we will have 015, and then up next
24 will be 002. 015, I will be promoting you now.

25 015, your speaker order number is number 1, if

1 you'll please make note of that for future reference. You
2 can now enable your audio and video in the lower-left
3 corner of your screen. If you will please let the mapper
4 know what area you would like to discuss today, the floor
5 is yours.

6 MR. ASHBAUGH: Thank you. The map you have up is
7 fine, and I -- I am John Ashbaugh. I actually addressed
8 your commission back in the 2010 redistricting process,
9 when I was a member of the San Francisco City Counsel.

10 I am a retired educator from the Allen Hancock
11 College history faculty, just as of last May, as a matter
12 of fact. I was the Assembly democratic nominee for the
13 1992 and '94 elections, so I got to know many of the
14 people who represent us then, and have -- have continued
15 to keep in touch with people, both -- on both sides of
16 the isle, Democrats and Republicans.

17 And I don't envy the job you're doing. It's a lot
18 of geography and a lot of politics. But in the end,
19 defining the communities of interest is so important, and
20 I want to speak to those, specifically.

21 At the time I addressed you last in 2010, I -- I had
22 argued for keeping our district boundaries that had been
23 in place, really since 2000, roughly as they were. And I
24 would make the same argument today. Well, I succeeded, I
25 guess, and many of us succeeded in convincing the

1 Commission at that time, that that was our -- our goal.
2 The State Senate that we have representing us, the 17th
3 State Senate, extends up to Santa Cruz and San -- and to
4 Santa Clara, San Benito, and of course, Monterey
5 Counties. The 23rd Congressional District extends down
6 through Santa Barbara to Ventura County, and the 35th
7 Assembly District is really mostly San Luis Obispo, with
8 a piece of northern Santa Barbara County, as well.

9 My major point is the districts we have right now
10 are good for us. The coastal connection, which unites us
11 along this climactic and geographic identity -- and which
12 breaks us, really, from the central valley to the east --
13 we're connected to Monterey County to the north and Santa
14 Barbara County to the -- to the south, both physically
15 and culturally.

16 Professionally, I cross the county lines when I
17 teach at Santa Maria and Hancock College. I was educated
18 at UC Santa Barbara, as well as at UC Santa Cruz, as a
19 matter of fact.

20 Physically, our water supply in San Luis Obispo is
21 located up in Lake Nacimiento, which is actually managed
22 by Monterey County Water District. So our coastal
23 communities, I want to emphasize, should not be seen as
24 kind of ripe for the plucking, the sort of a foster child
25 to be thrown in with any valley district that may lack

1 enough --

2 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

3 MR. ASHBAUGH: -- representation. We want to be
4 identified and connected with the cultural communities
5 with which we are right now. We've not had to share our
6 representation --

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Fifteen seconds.

8 MR. ASHBAUGH: -- with Valley representatives since
9 the days when Bill Thomas represented us, Kevin
10 McCarthy's predecessor in Bakersfield.

11 So I -- I think we -- we have good representatives
12 now, both Republicans and Democrats, who know our area,
13 even if they come from Santa Cruz, in the case of John
14 Leonard (ph.). So did --

15 MR. HERNANDEZ: Time.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

17 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

18 At this time, may I please ask for the Spanish
19 interpreter? We do have -- I -- I believe that I need
20 you to do the site translation of the instructions that I
21 read for the beginning of the session, if I may. Does
22 that make sense? I don't know what that's called on your
23 script.

24 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry. Which instructions are
25 those again?

1 MS. MANOFF: The instructions that I read for the
2 beginning of the session, when they raise their hand and
3 everything. Is that --

4 THE INTERPRETER: Let's see. That would be the --

5 MS. MANOFF: It says welcome --

6 THE INTERPRETER: -- hotline instructions with the
7 *9?

8 MS. MANOFF: No. That's for the call-in. So this
9 would be, welcome to the public input session. Please
10 use the raise-hand button at the bottom of your screen to
11 enter the queue.

12 THE INTERPRETER: Okay.

13 MS. MANOFF: Perfect.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Sorry, one moment.

15 MS. MANOFF: It's okay. I apologize. Do you want
16 to just do it -- do you want me to read it and --

17 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, please.

18 MS. MANOFF: Okay.

19 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

20 MS. MANOFF: I'll do it line-by-line.

21 THE INTERPRETER: Okay.

22 MS. MANOFF: Welcome to the public input session.
23 Please use the raise-hand button at the bottom of your
24 screen to enter the queue. When it is your turn to
25 speak, I will identify you by your assigned unique ID

1 number from your invite. You will be reconnected to the
2 session with the ability to enable your own video and/or
3 audio. You will then be assigned a speaker order number
4 before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your
5 speaker order number for future reference.

6 The Commission will be enforcing a six-minute time
7 limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a
8 warning at thirty seconds and fifteen seconds remaining.

9 It is the Commission's goal to find the area on the
10 map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony.

11 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large
12 city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
13 locate your area, your six-minute testimony will begin.
14 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

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

20 Thank you so much.

21 Right now will be 002, and then up next will be 004.
22 002, I will be promoting you now.

23 002, your speaker order number will be number 2, if
24 you will please make note of that for future reference.
25 And if you will please let the mapper know what area you

1 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

2 MS. MENDOSA: Commissioners, thank you for giving me
3 the opportunity to testify today. My name is Alondra
4 Mendosa (ph.), and I'm a resident of Ventura County. The
5 Oxnard Plain, including the communities of Oxnard, Port
6 Hueneme, and El Rio are an important community of
7 interest in California's central coast, which should be
8 kept together in -- and ideally united as the same
9 districts at the -- as the nearby Santa Clara Valley,
10 including the communities of Santa Paula, Filmore, and
11 Piru.

12 We are in Ventura indigenous working class,
13 immigrant community estimated at approximately 20,000
14 people, primarily Mixtecs, Zapotecs, Orebaces, Odomillas,
15 and Triquis from Mexico. This community is -- is a
16 backbone of California's agriculture, particularly in
17 strawberries, blackberries, and raspberries.

18 The Oxnard plain, including working -- including the
19 community of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and El Rio -- are an
20 important community of interest in California central
21 coast. We are a community of interest because we are
22 another culture, working class, and farm working -- farm
23 worker community facing disparities in housing,
24 education, and access to healthcare, with unique economic
25 needs.

1 We are a community of immigrant families with a much
2 larger share of Latinx residents, immigrant and Spanish
3 and indigenous language speakers -- than the surrounding
4 region. We are an environmental justice community who
5 has been disproportionately impacted by pollution from
6 oil and gas, agricultural chemicals, and groundwater
7 depletion.

8 Thank you for your attention, and have a good night.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

10 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much. And if we could
11 have a Spanish interpreter at this time. 004 has a
12 request for interpretation, and they are right now. I
13 will be promoting you.

14 004, your speaker order number will be number 3. If
15 you will please make note of that for future reference.
16 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area you
17 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

18 MR. DIAS: Hello everyone, and thank you for this
19 opportunity to be able to give my input. My name is Juan
20 Carlos Dias (ph.), and coming to you from the County of
21 Ventura in -- specifically, in the -- in the area of
22 Oxnard, which we include as a community of interest,
23 along with (indiscernible) and the river. And we want
24 these to be together -- united in -- in the State of
25 California.

1 And we do not want to be in the same district as the
2 following.

3 THE INTERPRETER: And the interpreter will ask the
4 caller to please repeat the names of the places they do
5 not want to be in the same district as.

6 MR. DIAS: So we want to be included with the same
7 district as Santa Clara, Santa Paula, and Piru, but we do
8 not want to be grouped in the same district as Camarillo,
9 Malibu, Thousand Oaks, Ojai, because these communities,
10 or these areas, have advantages that are socioeconomic
11 advantages, educational, and services that are of
12 quality.

13 Okay. So we want the lines to be redrawn for the
14 following areas. Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El Rio, Santa
15 Paula, and Piru, because these are communities of
16 interest that share the following in common. The
17 communities this has in common of people who are
18 immigrants, working class, and indigenous in Ventura
19 County, which account for about 2,000 people. And the
20 people are included are the backgrounds of Mexteca,
21 Zapoteco, Purépechas, Otomis, and Triquis from Mexico.
22 And these are the backbone of the agricultural
23 communities that work in the fields of strawberries,
24 blueberries, and -- and raspberries.

25 We are a community that faces disparities in areas

1 of housing, access to quality education, quality
2 healthcare services, and also have socioeconomic
3 disparities. We are a population that is of immigrant
4 families --

5 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

6 MR. DIAS: -- with a great -- a great number of
7 people who are Latin or Latinos, who are Spanish speaking
8 and also indigenous. We are a community that has been
9 facing environmental challenges and disparities that
10 include pollution by petroleum, gas, and agricultural
11 pesticides.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

13 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much. Right now, we will
14 have 001. And then up next after that will be 011. 001,
15 I will be promoting you now.

16 001, your speaker order number will be number 4, if
17 you will please make note of that for future reference.
18 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area you
19 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

20 MS. TERAN: Yeah, thank you so much. Can you hear
21 me?

22 MS. MANOFF: We sure can.

23 MS. TERAN: Okay, great. So I'm going to speak in
24 Spanish, just to let everybody know. Are we ready?

25 AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Just a moment, I want to

1 give you some more time. And please allow time for the
2 interpreter, because they will be doing consecutive
3 interpretation. Please stand by.

4 THE INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter. Will the
5 speaker be speaking Spanish, then repeating their same
6 message in English? Because I -- I heard them speaking,
7 and I don't know what they prefer. If they want to do
8 all Spanish, I can --

9 MS. TERAN: I would --

10 THE INTERPRETER: -- interpret it.

11 MS. TERAN: -- prefer in Spanish.

12 THE INTERPRETER: All in Spanish? Okay.

13 MS. TERAN: Yes, please.

14 AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: We are ready. Go ahead.

15 MS. TERAN: My name is Valeria Teran (ph.), and I am
16 a resident of Ventura County. I have been living here
17 for thirty-eight years, and I am here in -- on behalf of
18 our indigenous community.

19 Our community is unique. We're -- we live in the
20 neighborhoods of Oxnard, in the (Spanish spoken), and we
21 were surrounded by the fields of strawberries. And from
22 far, we would see the mountains of Topatopa that, during
23 the wintertime, they would be covered in snow.

24 I grew up swimming in the Santa Clara river and
25 swimming in the Piru lake. Our life has been filled with

1 beautiful lands, rivers, lakes, and mountains. And now,
2 as an adult, I am fighting for this wonderful earth
3 community. And I am here to make sure that our
4 indigenous and immigrant voices are heard, that the
5 district remain unified, and that the areas in Oxnard and
6 the surrounding areas remain in one district. We should
7 maintain the communities together, such as the
8 communities in Santa Clara, and also the ones out in
9 Santa Paula, Piru, and Fillmore.

10 We do not want to be grouped with the communities
11 like Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Ojai, or Camarillo.
12 Malibu -- and Malibu. These communities have a lot of
13 socioeconomic advantages and a lot of access to
14 opportunities of higher education, opportunities and
15 advantage -- advantages that these communities do not
16 have access to, which is why we're asking for the
17 distribution -- or the redrawing to be inclusive of our
18 community of interest, which include Oxnard, Port
19 Hueneme, El Rio, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.

20 This is why we're a community of interest, because
21 we share a lot of similar things. The majority of our
22 community is immigrant and indigenous, working-class. We
23 are approximately a community of 20,000 people, mainly
24 Mexteco, Zapoteco, Porepati (ph.), Otomi, and Triquis
25 from Mexico. And we're -- we are a community that faces

1 a lot of disparities in accessing safe homes, educational
2 equality, and accessing health --

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

4 MS. TERAN: -- healthcare, simply because of our
5 financial and economic needs.

6 This -- well, to conclude, this is why we really
7 want new lines -- additional lines -- to be created to
8 really reflect our community and the contribution -- take
9 into account the contribution that it has, socially and
10 economically, in the communities of Oxnard. Thank you.

11 MS. MANOFF: Thank you.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: (Spanish spoken).

13 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

14 Right now, we will have 011, and then up next will
15 be 017. 011, I will be promoting you now.

16 011, your speaker order number is number 5, if
17 you'll please make note of that for future reference. You
18 can now enable your audio and video in the lower-left
19 corner of your screen. If you will please let the mapper
20 know what area you would like to discuss today, the floor
21 is yours.

22 MR. DAVISON: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Can
23 you hear me?

24 CHAIR KENNEDY: We sure can.

25 MR. DAVISON: Great. My comments today are

1 concerning Saint Luis Obispo County, where I'm a resident
2 of. And I'm asking you to keep the boundaries the same
3 as currently mapped.

4 My name is Chuck Davison. I am the president and
5 CEO of Visit SLO CAL. Visit SLO CAL is the nonprofit,
6 countywide destination marketing and management
7 organization for San Luis Obispo County, or SLO Cal, as
8 we refer to it. Our focus is to market San Luis Obispo
9 County as a place to visit, live, work, and play, all
10 while maintaining and improving our residents' quality of
11 life.

12 I will say that Cambria is in SLO County, and
13 although I did not find the Commissioner's glasses, we
14 would love to welcome him back to the area for another
15 trip, when he has time.

16 But back to the business of the day. Visit SLO CAL
17 receives no government funding. But we are instead
18 funded by a tourism marketing district assessment on all
19 (indiscernible) across the entire county, a model that
20 was installed by votes of the city councils from our
21 seven local municipalities, along with our County Board
22 of Supervisors. So our region as a county, holistically,
23 is extremely important to us.

24 The hospitality and tourism industry is the second
25 largest economic driver in our county, with a total

1 economic impact of more than 2 billion dollars in fiscal
2 year 2019. Our industry also puts more than 20,000
3 people across the region to work each and every day. One
4 in every seven jobs in our region is dependent on
5 tourism.

6 Because of that, it's extremely important that San
7 Luis Obispo County be kept whole in this process,
8 remaining as one cohesive network, continuing to give the
9 tourism and our hospitality industry and its 20,000-plus
10 workers a unified voice in the political and policy
11 making process. Because of the structure of our rural
12 region, we have residents who live in one community, such
13 as Paso Robles in the north, and they work at another
14 community, such as Pismo Beach in the south.

15 Redistricting and dividing the county into separate
16 regions creates unneeded challenges for the residents and
17 the workers who call San Luis Obispo County home and want
18 to be represented as one district.

19 Lastly, San Luis Obispo County's tourism industry
20 shares consumers and employees with Santa Barbara County.
21 The largest city in Santa Barbara County, Santa Maria,
22 which is the source of employees for our tourism
23 industry, is actually significantly closer to the City of
24 San Luis Obispo, the center of our county, than it is to
25 Santa Barbara.

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

2 MR. DAVISON: Because of the shared economy and
3 ecosystem, it makes sense for the district to remain as
4 is, linking San Luis Obispo County with Santa Barbara
5 County, rather than considering a linking of San Luis
6 Obispo and Monterey, specifically when --

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Fifteen seconds.

8 MR. DAVISON: -- we're talking about our State
9 Assembly seat.

10 Thank you for your time, and I'll hope you'll take
11 these important points into consideration as you finalize
12 your plans.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

14 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 009. And then
15 up next will be 023. 009, I'll be promoting you now.

16 009, your speaker order number will be number 6. If
17 you'll please make note of that for future reference. You
18 can now enable your audio and video in the lower left
19 corner of your screen. If you will please let the mapper
20 know what area you would like to discuss today, the floor
21 is yours.

22 MS. GARCIA: Hello. I will be focusing on Ventura
23 County, specifically Oxnard.

24 AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Thank you. Go ahead,
25 please.

1 MS. GARCIA: My name is Entrapta Ela Garcia (ph.),
2 and I am a resident of Oxnard, California. I have lived
3 here my entire life, all twenty-eight years. I have seen
4 it change and grow. I have seen fields disappear.

5 And I am also speaking on behalf of Planned
6 Parenthood Central Coast's Raíz program here in Oxnard.
7 Raíz's mission is to expand access to quality
8 reproductive healthcare through community, be able to
9 educate and advocate for public policy, especially for
10 Latinx folks.

11 Oxnard is predominantly Latino, Latinx. I believe
12 Oxnard should be kept together, and that includes Port
13 Hueneme, El Rio, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru, and
14 ideally stay united in the same district. Do not group
15 Oxnard with Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Camarillo, Ojai, or
16 Malibu. Because we can't deny that those communities
17 have residents who are socioeconomically more advantaged,
18 and they have access to a different quality of -- of
19 life.

20 How does grouping these communities with Oxnard
21 affect our agricultural working class and farm worker
22 communities? Keeping Oxnard whole allows more
23 opportunities to advocate for folks in the community that
24 face disparities in education and healthcare, and their
25 unique economic needs.

1 I am here to urge fair representation and ensure
2 that the communities that we serve here in Oxnard have a
3 seat at the table. I believe Oxnard should be kept
4 together.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

7 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 023. And then
8 up next will be 008. 023, I will be promoting you now.

9 023, your speaker order number is number 7. If
10 you'll please make note of that for future reference. You
11 can now enable your audio and video in the lower left
12 corner of your screen. If you will please let the mapper
13 know what area you would like to discuss today, the floor
14 is yours.

15 MS. WINN: Thank you. I would like to speak on
16 northern Santa Barbara County, specifically, the City of
17 Santa Maria, please.

18 AV TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: Thank you. Go ahead,
19 please.

20 MS. WINN: Commissioners, thank you for giving me
21 the opportunity to speak to you today. My name is Anna
22 Winn (ph.), and I am a resident of the City of Santa
23 Maria in Santa Barbara County. My family and I have
24 lived in this community for five years. In these five
25 years, we have discovered the cultural richness that

1 exists, thanks to the migrant indigenous communities that
2 also reside here.

3 The people who live in my community have many things
4 in common, such as speaking the Mexteco language and
5 delicious food. The City of Santa Maria is a major
6 community of interest on California's central coast,
7 which should be held together, and ideally united in the
8 same districts as nearby cities, such as Guadalupe, New
9 Cuyama, and Lompoc.

10 This is a community of interest because it is an
11 agricultural, working class, and farm worker community
12 facing disparities in housing, education, and healthcare,
13 with unique economic needs. It is a community of
14 immigrant families with a much higher proportion of
15 Latinx residents, immigrants, and speakers of indigenous
16 languages from Mexico. These migrant families have
17 settled in the areas north of Betteravia Street, south of
18 Donovan Street, east of Blosser Street, and west of
19 Highway 101. Many of these families are essential
20 workers who have been affected by the pandemic and
21 continue to have health problems.

22 When the new districts are drawn, I would like the
23 Commission to hold my community of interest together, so
24 that we can continue to advocate for these issues they
25 face. We don't want to be clustered with Orcutt,

1 Solvang, Buellton, Vandenberg, and the City of Santa
2 Barbara. Those communities have residents who have
3 socioeconomic advantages, and who have access to quality
4 education and services.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

7 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 008. And then
8 up next after that will be 019. 008, I will be promoting
9 you now.

10 008, your speaker order number is number 8. If
11 you'll please make note of that for future reference. And
12 if you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
13 like to discuss, the floor is yours.

14 MS. BILL-DE LA PEÑA: Thank you so much. Good
15 afternoon, Commissioners. I am here to discuss Map E,
16 specifically, the City of Thousand Oaks and Ventura
17 County.

18 I am Claudia Bill-de la Peña, the mayor of the City
19 of Thousand Oaks, representing approximately 127,000
20 residents. Our city is in between L.A. County and Santa
21 Barbara Counties. And as you develop new maps, we ask
22 that Thousand Oaks be kept whole and within the
23 boundaries of Ventura County, as it shares the same
24 common interests in open space, agriculture, wildfire
25 risk, economic development, regional problem solving, as

1 well as public health, especially, since the outbreak of
2 COVID.

3 Thousand Oaks contracts with Ventura County, and we
4 receive many important services from Ventura County
5 government. For example, fire, police, flood control,
6 social services, and of course, public health through
7 test sites for COVID, and also vaccination sites. The
8 City of Thousand Oaks is surrounded by open space and
9 agriculture. In fact, there are 15,000 acres of
10 protected open space within the city's planning area.
11 And we abut the Santa Monica Mountains National
12 Recreation Area, and we actively support wildlife
13 preservation.

14 Also, the city is along the same U.S. 101 corridor,
15 the 101 Freeway, which is also in the San Fernando
16 Valley. But we are vastly different in urbanization,
17 terrain, density, and size, and we're not at all suited
18 for L.A. boundaries at all.

19 As mentioned, Thousand Oaks shares common issues and
20 problem solving with Ventura County in the areas of water
21 resources, air quality, stormwater management, energy
22 conservation, public safety, and public health -- in
23 particular, broadband -- and our support of Naval Base
24 Ventura County. And so keeping our boundaries with
25 Ventura County is essential in collaborating on common

1 solutions. And it is for those very reasons that we ask
2 that we remain whole and that our boundaries not be
3 changed at all in this current process.

4 So thank you all very much for your commitment to
5 this endeavor and to this effort, and we appreciate that
6 very much. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

8 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 019, and then
9 up next after that will be 020.

10 019, I'll be promoting you now. 019, your speaker
11 Order number is Number 9. If you'll please make note of
12 that for future reference. You can now enable your audio
13 and video in the lower-left corner of your screen. If
14 you will please let the mapper know what area you would
15 like to discuss, the floor is yours. You're still on
16 mute. We can see you. There you are.

17 MS. SEARCHER: I'm sorry.

18 MS. MANOFF: Perfect.

19 MS. SEARCHER: My name is Carol Searcher (ph.), and
20 I've been a resident -- I'm talking about Ventura County,
21 specifically Simi Valley, the City of Simi Valley. I've
22 been a resident of Simi Valley for thirty-seven years and
23 have thoroughly enjoyed this small community atmosphere.

24 I believe that District 25 remain -- needs to remain
25 intact with Simi Valley as a whole. Currently, it looks

1 like they're -- we're splitting Simi Valley. And because
2 of the -- our city charter has -- has developed
3 neighborhood councils so that all of the voices of Simi
4 Valley can be heard in city council. Splitting up Simi
5 Valley will take that unification away, and we need to be
6 a whole city and unified as a whole city.

7 Currently, we are in District 25, along with Santa
8 Clarita, Palmdale, Lancaster, and I believe that's a
9 diversified population. There's no reason to split that
10 up. Also, the Reagan Library is part of our Simi Valley
11 culture, and we embrace that, and we would not want that
12 split off. We want to keep our district unified and not
13 split it up into several areas. We would like the -- to
14 be represented as one district.

15 Thank you very much for your time.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

17 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 020, and then
18 up next to be 022.

19 020, I will be promoting you now. 020, your speaker
20 Order number will be Number 10. If you'll please make
21 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
22 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
23 the floor is yours.

24 MR. ZUCKER: Thank you. My name is Lucas Zucker
25 with my baby, Amalia (ph.). Hopefully, she'll let me

1 make my comment.

2 But I'll be talking a little bit about the whole
3 region. I'm the policy director of CAUSE. We're an
4 organization that works to advance social, economic, and
5 environmental justice throughout the Central Coast,
6 including many years of experience in voting rights and
7 redistricting.

8 I'll -- I'll limit some of my comments because we
9 sent in a letter on July 22nd with some data maps on
10 economic and demographic information throughout the
11 region, highlighting three main clusters of communities
12 of interest which are, you know, important to
13 historically underrepresented communities whose voting
14 rights are critical to protect.

15 But I think, big picture, you know, the Central
16 Coast is really a region of vast disparities, you know,
17 between some affluent communities that are known
18 worldwide as tourist destinations and -- and working-
19 class immigrant communities built by farm workers and
20 their children. And so these disparities make it
21 extremely important to carefully draw districts with
22 respect to communities of interest. And -- and with the
23 new census data, I'd like to talk about, you know, some
24 of the voting rights obligations that our region, as well
25 as recommending -- recommendations on how to maximize

1 voting rights.

2 We've got one Voting Rights Act district in our six-
3 county region, which legally must be protected kind of
4 roughly as is, the current 30th Assembly District, which
5 brings together the Salinas Valley, Salinas, Gonzales,
6 Soledad, and King City with Watsonville, Hollister, and
7 Gilroy. So this is a majority CVAP Latino, and -- and so
8 you know, that's -- that's really important to -- to kind
9 of protect.

10 Unfortunately, because of the huge disparities in --
11 in voter eligibility between communities in our region.
12 We have had several areas in our region that are majority
13 Latino but are not majority eligible Latino -- majority
14 Latino eligible voters or -- or -- or CVAP. But we still
15 strongly recommend the commission unite these communities
16 and districts to maximize representation.

17 So we have one area where it's possible to draw a
18 majority Latino Assembly district that's currently split
19 in two. And that's Western Ventura County, including the
20 majority Latino cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa
21 Paula, and Fillmore, which, you know, several the
22 commenters mentioned. You know, these communities share
23 a lot of things in common economically, environmentally,
24 socially. And we believe that this is really critical,
25 protecting these -- these communities of interest.

1 The -- the other important area is -- is this
2 community interest in Western Ventura County can be
3 combined with the community of interest in northern Santa
4 Barbara County that others have mentioned on this -- this
5 hearing to create a majority Latino Senate district
6 stretching from Oxnard to Santa Maria. And so this would
7 include Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and Lompoc with the
8 cities in the COI I mentioned earlier.

9 And so the -- the, you know, Santa Maria and Lompoc
10 valleys share a lot in common with the Oxnard claim in
11 Santa Maria Valley's agricultural communities, low-income
12 communities, majority Latino, facing challenges like
13 pesticides, and water quality, and economic disparities,
14 health, education, and housing, and economy is rooted in
15 agriculture.

16 And so we believe that that Senate district being
17 majority Latino, as well as that Assembly district in
18 western Ventura County being majority Latino are -- are
19 both very important.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

21 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 022, and then
22 up next after that will be 014.

23 022, I be promoting you now. 022, your speaker
24 order number will be Number 11. If you'll please make
25 note of for future reference. And if you'll please let

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

3 MS. GARCIA: Hello. I'll be speaking on the Santa
4 Maria Valley.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead,
6 please.

7 MS. GARCIA: Hi. My name is Rebecca Garcia (ph.),
8 and I'm a resident of Santa Maria and also a policy
9 advocate with CAUSE, the organization that the person
10 before me actually already talked about.

11 But yes, the Santa Maria Valley, including the
12 cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe, are an important
13 community of interest in California's Central Coast and
14 should be kept together, and ideally, united in the same
15 districts as the Lompoc Valley.

16 We're a community of interest because we're an
17 agricultural, working-class, and farmworker community
18 facing disparities in housing, education, and health
19 care, with unique economic needs. We're also a community
20 of immigrant families with a much larger share of Latinx
21 residents, immigrants, and Spanish and indigenous
22 language speakers in the surrounding region. We're also
23 an environmental justice community who've been
24 disproportionately affected by pollution from oil and
25 gas, agricultural chemicals, and groundwater depletion.

1 And along with staying together, we also would not
2 like to be grouped with SLO County in terms of -- of the
3 Assembly map. Currently, being grouped with them hasn't
4 made sense as we don't share similar demographics and
5 priorities. And we would rather be put in with areas
6 like the Five Cities and Nipomo, which are, you know,
7 Southern SLO County in order to ensure that we share the
8 same priorities as communities.

9 But yes, overall, we also would like to see Santa
10 Maria in the same Senate district as Oxnard, as many of
11 the things that I listed that make us a community of
12 interest overlap with Oxnard, as well as large Latino and
13 also farm working communities. By ensuring -- by putting
14 us together, it ensures representation of indigenous
15 communities, farmworkers, and Latino working-class
16 communities. Thank you so much.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I have a question before
18 you go.

19 MS. GARCIA: Um-hum, Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Are you still -- are you
21 still there?

22 MS. GARCIA: I am.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, thank you. You
24 mentioned the Santa Maria Valley. You mentioned Santa
25 Maria and Guadalupe.

1 MS. GARCIA: Um-hum.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is it those two cities, or
3 are there other cities or communities that you would want
4 to include with that?

5 MS. GARCIA: Those two are the priority, I think,
6 within our community. Like, Orcutt is also around
7 and -- and makes sense, but that's why I also named
8 Nipomo. Even though Nipomo is technically in SLO county,
9 in a lot of ways, it's a part of our community of
10 interest. It's closer. And you know, if people need to
11 shop and go to grocery stores, they don't drive to San
12 Luis Obispo; they drive to Santa Maria. So it also makes
13 sense for them to be in our, yeah, community of interest.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, great. Thank you.
15 We appreciate it.

16 MS. GARCIA: Yes, thank you.

17 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 014, and then
18 up next to be 017.

19 014, I will be promoting you now. 014, your speaker
20 order number will be Number 12 if you will please make
21 note of that for future reference. If you will please
22 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
23 the floor is yours.

24 MR. BURCHETT: Good afternoon. We'll be looking at
25 San Luis Obispo County. Commissioners, my name is Brent

1 Burchett. I serve as executive director of the San Luis
2 Obispo County Farm Bureau. We're a voluntary local
3 nonprofit membership organization representing farmers,
4 ranchers, and our local agriculture community.

5 Agriculture is the signature industry of San Luis
6 Obispo County. We have over 4,200 agricultural
7 producers, according to the 2017 USDA Census of Ag, with
8 diverse operations and commodities produced. Our
9 agricultural community is bound together by our love of
10 the land, our passion for raising food for our community,
11 and the challenges we face today as farmers and ranchers
12 in California and -- and the Central Coast region.

13 The most important point we want to make today is to
14 keep San Luis Obispo County whole to -- much as possible.
15 Splitting our county across different Assembly, Senate,
16 or Congressional districts would significantly limit our
17 ability to advocate for our family farmers and ranchers.
18 We fear this would dilute our agricultural community's
19 voice in state and federal government decision making.
20 As a small nonprofit with two staff, having to cover
21 multiple districts would stretch our already limited
22 resources even more so.

23 Also, as SLO County will have to be combined with
24 other counties for the Senatorial and Congressional
25 districts, it is important for the commission to

1 understand that SLO County has more in common, as has
2 been mentioned by other speakers, with northern Santa
3 Barbara County than it does with Monterey County. You
4 can see this in the types of crops grown in the Arroyo
5 Grande-Nipomo area. It's very similar to Santa Maria
6 area, also the scale of the farms that grow them in the
7 coastal and southern regions of SLO County.

8 Our local business and economic development leaders
9 here, we tend to partner more with Santa Barbara County
10 than Monterey County to the north. For example, our
11 local organization known as REACH, a nonprofit
12 organization that advocates for economic opportunities.
13 It's a private-sector-led coalition comprised of public,
14 private, civic, and educational partners across the
15 Central Coast region, which includes about 700,000 people
16 in dozens of cities and towns in SLO in Santa Barbara
17 County. So in terms of our economic development and the
18 way we plan for growth in our community, we really look
19 more to the south than we do the north.

20 That concludes my comments, and I'm available for
21 any questions.

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't think we have any
23 questions, but thank you for joining us.

24 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

25 Right now, we'll go to 017, and then up next will be

1 021.

2 017, your speaker order number is Number 13. If
3 you'll please make note of that for future reference.
4 You can enable your audio and video in the lower-left
5 corner of your screen. If you'll please let the mapper
6 know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is
7 yours.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello. I'll first -- I want
9 to talk about two areas, but the first would be Seaside
10 in the Monterey Peninsula region.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead.

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. So Seaside is a
13 unique place in that it is the largest black community
14 between the Bay Area and L.A. And as a historically
15 black community, we had MLK come and speak back in the
16 '60s. And we have just a ton of -- a ton of churches
17 that represent the black community, which is why MLK
18 found it was a place of interest. And I just want a very
19 quick lesson about the -- the sort of makeup of Monterey
20 County, at least the coastal portion.

21 Because of the former Fort Ord, which is on the
22 eastern edge of the City of Seaside and extends over to
23 Laguna Seca Park, that big green blob, the -- the Army
24 essentially created a caste system with general and flag
25 officers in Carmel office -- other officers, lower

1 ranking officers, in Monterey, Filipino enlisted people
2 in the City of Marina, black enlisted folks in the City
3 of Seaside.

4 And Del Rey Oaks, in the '50s, split from in between
5 Seaside and Monterey to form their own city because
6 Monterey didn't want them, and they didn't want to be
7 joined with the black community. We even have some
8 special road barriers that prevent vehicular traffic
9 between our two cities.

10 So as a member of the city counsel of the City of
11 Seaside, I just wanted to bring to the council's -- I'm
12 sorry, excuse me -- the Commission's attention that the
13 City of Seaside is a unique place that should not be
14 bifurcated in any way, shape, or form, should not be
15 split up, and should be -- should remain as a community
16 of interest. Because even today, with the historic
17 and -- and statewide trends we see of the displacement
18 of -- of the black community, Seaside is unique in that
19 it is still the largest black community between the Bay
20 Area and Los Angeles.

21 I wanted to next focus on -- on Big Sur and the
22 coast of -- southern coast of Monterey County.
23 Currently, that's part of Assembly District 30. And you
24 heard from Speaker 10 earlier about California Voting
25 Rights Act communities throughout Assembly District 30

1 and the Salinas Valley. And I would just share -- if you
2 could just zoom out one level -- perfect. I would share
3 that Big Sur, the Carmel Highlands, Point Lobos, those
4 areas are -- could not be more dissimilar from the
5 agricultural nature of the Salinas Valley and Pajaro
6 Valley, which comprise Assembly District 30.

7 And so for me, seeing Big Sur, Carmel Highlands, the
8 Bixby area, hurricane point and all of these points up --
9 up and down the coast between Morro Bay and -- and
10 Carmel, it does not make sense at all for me to see them
11 as part of an assembly district with King City and Morgan
12 Hill. They're just completely dissimilar areas.

13 And I appreciate that, you know, you've got to draw
14 the line somewhere and you have to balance communities
15 and -- and districts. But in this next iteration of the
16 districting, I think it's more appropriate, if it's
17 feasible, to include the Monterey coastline in its
18 entirety with that of Santa Cruz and -- and North Santa
19 Cruz coast for Assembly District 29.

20 Thank you very much.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

22 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

23 If I could have a Spanish interpreter available, I
24 will be going to 003 next, as they have requested an
25 interpreter.

1 THE INTERPRETER: Hi. This is the interpreter.

2 MS. MANOFF: Hi. One moment.

3 003, your speaker order number will be Number 14.

4 If you will please make note of that for future
5 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
6 area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours, and
7 your interpreter is right here.

8 THE INTERPRETER: (Spanish spoken).

9 MR. ORTIZ: My name is Jorge Paran Ortiz (ph.), and
10 I live here in the County of Ventura in the City of
11 Oxnard. And as the resident of Ventura County here on
12 the plains of Oxnard, and in Port Hueneme, in the river,
13 it's a very important community for us. And we need to
14 remain united and together in the same district with
15 the -- in Santa Clarita, like Santa Paula, Piru,
16 Fillmore, and -- yes, and -- we do not want to be grouped
17 with Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Amarillo, and Malibu, and
18 Ojai. Because they have other advantages, economic and
19 political advantages.

20 We need to be distributed to include our indigenous
21 communities who work out in the fields in areas such as
22 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El Rio, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and
23 Piru. Because we share some very important similarities
24 as far as our culture and the language that we speak, the
25 indigenous language such as Mixteco, Zapoteco, Udepeche

1 (ph.), Otomi, and Plikis (ph.).

2 In the last studies that were conducted in 2015, we
3 are approximately 20,000 indigenous people that work in
4 the fields of vegetables like strawberries, blueberries,
5 raspberries. All of these communities are suffering
6 labor abuse. They're not being paid their full hours.
7 They're not being paid overtime. And the housing is very
8 expensive. This is why we want to be together in the
9 same district, so that we can advocate for better housing
10 conditions, for better conditions for the city, and
11 better opportunities for our children in education, in
12 our schools, in their schools.

13 About two years ago, there was a child in our
14 community who was run over at school. And so we don't
15 even know what district to go and make the -- file a
16 report or a claim at because there's three different
17 districts. That's one of the many different things that
18 we suffer here in our indigenous communities in the
19 County of Ventura.

20 And so we want this district to be united because we
21 want to be able to ask for changes or ask for better
22 changes for our children. Because we live in this
23 district, and we are working people, and we're taxpayers,
24 as well. So that we are a lot more common, we can
25 continue working even harder so that we can continue

1 contributing to this great country.

2 Thank you for hearing me out, and have a great
3 evening. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Gracias.

5 Is Margarita or Johanna available for me?

6 THE INTERPRETER: Commissioner, this is Johanna.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Hi, Johanna. Thank you.
8 Would you do me a favor, please, and please, in Spanish,
9 let the folks in the queue, waiting in the queue, know
10 that we have to take a fifteen-minute break right now,
11 but please wait, and we will be back at 4:45.

12 THE INTERPRETER: Okay.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.

14 And with that, we will start our break and return
15 from break at 4:45.

16 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Very good. Welcome back
18 from our break. Welcome back to today's California
19 Citizens Redistricting Commission's communities of
20 interest input meeting. We also encourage folks to visit
21 the communities of interest input tool to draw map and
22 describe your community. That tool is at
23 drawmycommunity.org.

24 For anyone who has joined us recently, we're
25 offering language lines for Spanish language speakers to

1 listen to the meeting in Spanish, and a separate line for
2 those who wish to provide public comment or public input
3 in Spanish.

4 Could I please have our interpreter provide our
5 language line numbers and the information to provide
6 public input? That would be the full call-in
7 instruction.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Hi, Commissioner. This is the
9 interpreter.

10 (Spanish spoken).

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: (In Spanish) Thank you
12 very much.

13 (In English) I will now pass this over to Katy, our
14 comment moderator, to continue with public input. We
15 will start with people who are registered and then open
16 the phone lines if there is time before the next session.

17 So Katy, take it away.

18 MS. MANOFF: Thank you, Chair.

19 I would also like to ask the Spanish interpreter to
20 join me. If you could please also do the welcome to
21 public input session instructions. If you do not have
22 them, we will do a site translation at this time with me.
23 Do I have a Spanish interpreter available, Margarita or
24 Johanna?

25 Johanna, do you --

1 THE INTERPRETER: This is the Spanish interpreter.

2 MS. MANOFF: Yes. Do you have the script ready for
3 the beginning of the session?

4 THE INTERPRETER: I do.

5 MS. MANOFF: I'll go first, but I just want to make
6 sure you have it. If you don't, we can do it together.

7 THE INTERPRETER: Let me get it. I have it here.
8 I'm just having -- here it is. Found it.

9 MS. MANOFF: All right. I will go first, and then
10 you will go after me.

11 THE INTERPRETER: Yeah. If you want to do the whole
12 thing, I can repeat it after.

13 MS. MANOFF: Perfect.

14 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the
15 raise-hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
16 the queue. When it is your turn to speak, I will
17 identify you by your assigned unique ID number from your
18 invite. You will be reconnected to the session with the
19 ability to enable your own video and/or audio. You will
20 then be assigned a speaker order number before you begin
21 speaking. Please make a note of your speaker Order
22 number for future reference.

23 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time
24 limit for English speakers and a six-minute time limit
25 for those with an interpreter. There will be a warning

1 at thirty seconds and fifteen seconds remaining.

2 It is the Commission's goal to find the area on the
3 map you would like to discuss prior to your testimony.
4 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large
5 city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
6 locate your area, your three-minute testimony will begin.
7 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

8 At the end of your public input or at the end of
9 your time, you will be reconnected in a listen-and-view-
10 only mode. At the beginning of your input, please remind
11 the mapper of what area you would like to see on the
12 screen.

13 THE INTERPRETER: (Spanish spoken). Thank you.

14 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

15 Right now, we will have 021, and up next, we will
16 have 012.

17 021, I will be promoting you now. 021 point --
18 wait. Yeah. 021, your speaker order number will be
19 Number 15. If you'll please make note of that for future
20 reference. You can now enable your audio and video in
21 the lower-left corner of your screen. If you will please
22 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
23 the floor is yours.

24 JACK: Yes, hello. My name is Jack (ph.). I live
25 in Ventura County. If you could zoom in on the east part

1 of Ventura County, that would be Gucci.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead,
3 please.

4 JACK: All right. Well, thank you. I'll be brief
5 with my comments, Commissioners.

6 So my first concern is that I -- I really believe
7 that Simi Valley is a community of interest that should
8 be kept whole, not split up into different districts like
9 it is now. My second point is that small unincorporated
10 communities like Bell Canyon, for example, I believe,
11 should be distributed to Ventura County and not to L.A.
12 County districts.

13 That's all I have. Thanks for -- thanks for your
14 time.

15 MS. MANOFF: 021, were you done with your comment,
16 or did you mute yourself? Oh, he was done. Okay.

17 We will be going to 012, and then up next after that
18 will be 038.

19 012, I will be promoting you now. 012, your speaker
20 order number is Number 16. If you will please make note
21 of that for future reference. If you'll please let the
22 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the
23 floor is yours. You are still on mute. There you are.

24 MR. GONZALEZ: Sorry. I'd like to discuss the San
25 Benito, Monterrey, and Santa Cruz County tri-county area.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead,
2 please.

3 MR. GONZALES: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
4 name is Joe Paul Gonzalez. I'm a resident of the City of
5 Hollister, located in the County of San Benito.

6 San Benito County is the smallest county of the tri-
7 county region that lies east of the Central Coast
8 counties of Monterey and Santa Cruz. On the eastern
9 border of the county lies the Diablo Mountain Range.
10 That is a natural barrier that separates the residents of
11 San Benito County from the -- our distant neighboring
12 counties of Merced and Fresno.

13 And as a consequence of this natural border, we
14 share less in common. Though San Benito County has no
15 coastline property on -- as a western border, its
16 relatively close proximity and the agricultural-based
17 economies that are near the cities of Hollister,
18 Watsonville, and Salinas, and others, are some of the
19 things that bring -- brings our counties' interests
20 together. The Pinnacle National Park has made San Benito
21 County a tourist destination in the tri-county region for
22 both in-state and out-of-state visitors.

23 San Benito County has experienced rapid growth in
24 housing construction to help fill the skilled labor needs
25 of our northern neighbor, Santa Clara County, and the

1 rest of the Silicon Valley. Though, this rapid housing
2 construction growth has done little to stabilize the
3 rapid rise in the housing prices in the region.

4 Because of this close geographic proximity and
5 strong economic relationships that we share, San Benito
6 County residents should be represented in Congress and
7 the State Legislature by officeholders who understand the
8 needs of this region, because they should come from this
9 region. We need representatives that know what it means
10 to deal with our woefully inadequate state and federal
11 highway system that is a traffic bottleneck for residents
12 of leave for work very early and come home very late back
13 to the community every workday.

14 Of equal importance, we need representatives that
15 need to advocate for federal dollars because we have a
16 very low per capita federal grant awards in terms of
17 federal dollars, especially in San Benito County.

18 I would encourage the Commission to consider these
19 factors as you determine how best to draw the boundaries
20 of the Congressional and State Legislative districts.
21 This concludes my comments. Thank you.

22 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

23 Right now, we will have 038, and then up next after
24 that will be 026.

25 038, I will be promoting you now. 038, your speaker

1 order number will be Number 17. If you'll please make
2 note of that for future reference. You can now enable
3 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
4 screen. If you will please let the mapper know what area
5 you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

6 MR. HUERTA: Yes. Good afternoon, Commissioners.
7 I -- I would like to discuss the area of the Salinas
8 Valley, including Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito
9 Counties.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead,
11 please.

12 MR. HUERTA: One second. Yes, good afternoon. My
13 name is Matt Huerta, and I'm a leader in affordable
14 housing and economic development based in Salinas.

15 Myself and a coalition of Latino leaders from the
16 Central Coast will be submitting a letter urging you to
17 keep our communities whole in this redistricting process.
18 As nonprofit leaders, directors of civic, cultural
19 organizations, and elected officials, we collectively
20 speak for thousands of Latinos from throughout our
21 region. We are from Gilroy in Santa Clara County, the
22 Salinas Valley in Monterey County, Watsonville in Santa
23 Cruz County, and San Benito County.

24 Currently, our communities are united in the same
25 Assembly district, and we urge you to maintain these

1 boundaries. We believe our current district ensures
2 accurate representation for our two main communities of
3 interest: our large Latino population, and our shared
4 agricultural economy.

5 In the past, our community enjoyed important
6 protections under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. It
7 is critical that, with the Supreme Court's weakening of
8 important voter protections, this Commission take the
9 necessary steps to maintain our ability to elect
10 candidates of our choice.

11 We believe it is particularly important that you
12 avoid regressing and stripping away our hard-fought civil
13 rights victories. Our four sister cities, all Latino
14 majority cities, according to the 2020 census, Hollister
15 and San Benito are 69 percent Latino, Gilroy is 57
16 percent, Salinas is 80 percent, and Watsonville is 82
17 percent. It is important to keep these vast Latino
18 communities united, even if that means splitting a county
19 boundary.

20 These four cities also share significant economic
21 interests, as agriculture is a main source of jobs.
22 Because of its temperate climate and long growing season,
23 the Salinas Valley has become the salad bowl of the
24 world, producing 70 percent of the nation's lettuce crop
25 annually. As agriculture is deeply dependent upon water,

1 it is vital that our interests be collectively
2 represented at the state and federal levels, as these
3 lawmakers oversee the agencies that regulate water use,
4 access, and quality. Without water, our crops will not
5 grow, and our farms will not employ our residents.

6 It is imperative that our communities remain
7 represented as a united community in the state
8 legislature. Our region has been united in nearly
9 identical district lines for over forty years because we
10 share common transportation corridors, waterways, media
11 markets, community colleges, agricultural interests, and
12 regional county government alliances.

13 Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.
14 Take care.

15 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

16 Right now will be 026, and then up next will be 037.

17 026, I will be promoting you now. 026, your speaker
18 order number will be Number 18. If you'll please make
19 note of that for future reference. You can now enable
20 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
21 screen. If you will please let the mapper know where you
22 would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

23 MS. PEREZ: Hello. Yeah, I would like to speak
24 about the San Benito County, Hollister, City of Hollister
25 area.

1 Good afternoon, Commissioners. Thank you for
2 providing the opportunity to testify today. My name is
3 Richard Perez, Sr. I'm the president of San Benito
4 County LULAC, in affiliation with NALEO Educational Fund.

5 I've lived in the San Benito County area for twenty
6 years. And the City of Hollister, which is an urban
7 area, is bordered by the 101 Freeway to the north and the
8 Diablo Mountain Range to the east. My goal today is to
9 bring to attention my community of interest, which,
10 pervasively, is agricultural farmworkers, skilled labor,
11 blue-collar workers, and long-time elderly residents.

12 When considering redistricting, I would like the
13 commissioners to take into consideration that we have
14 less in common with the San Joaquin Valley than we do
15 with the Monterey County area and the Santa Clara County
16 to our north.

17 Because of the uniqueness of the geographical area,
18 the infrastructure that is connecting both Hollister to
19 the Santa Clara County is vastly underfunded, and it
20 needs to be addressed. It creates a huge problem for our
21 constituents here, who are, a lot of times, struggling to
22 find proper childcare while making those long commutes to
23 the Bay Area.

24 I think it's very important, also, that we share
25 more in common in Assembly district and state district

1 with Monterey and Salinas than we do with Los Banos, who
2 is to our east, and also Fresno. So I would really like
3 to urge the Commission to take a look at these redrawing
4 of lines and hopefully come up with a more equitable
5 balance in resource allocation when it comes to these
6 Assembly and Senate districts.

7 Of course, our -- our Latino population is ever
8 growing. We do share a lot of diversity with the Bay
9 Area, and so our commonalities are more in line with
10 them, I think, in -- in the north, and with Santa Cruz,
11 and with Monterey.

12 So thank you for your time, and I appreciate the
13 opportunity. Thank you.

14 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

15 Right now, we will have 037, and then up next will
16 be 032.

17 037, I will be promoting you now. 037, your speaker
18 order number is Number 19. If you'll please make note of
19 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
20 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the
21 floor is yours.

22 MR. MOORE: Hello. My name is Richard Moore, and I
23 would like to talk about the area in Simi Valley, okay?

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. Go ahead, please.

25 MR. MOORE: Okay, so I'm a retired teacher, and I

1 was also an engineer. Now, I'm at Twitter.

2 And I've noticed, living here in Simi Valley, that
3 this is a very similar geographic area. It's also
4 geologically similar, but it was carved out by a river.
5 Okay, and so we still have an east-west river. And it's
6 a small community, but we have a single community college
7 district, and we have a single unified school district.

8 So we have a parks and recs department that covers
9 the entire city. The last time they did redistricting,
10 they tried to bust us up. We are a strong and cohesive
11 group. Please do not divide us up. This is a mistake.
12 So I enjoy Simi Valley. It's great. The name comes
13 from -- it's an Indian word. It means changing weather.
14 Simi is just a shortened version of it. And the last
15 time we did this, we -- we got messed up. So I don't
16 want to see that happen again.

17 And there's a reason people leave the state. Our
18 governor is a great one for getting people to move out of
19 here. But we want to keep them here, and we want their
20 businesses to grow. We don't want to ask for handouts.
21 We don't want to shut down everybody. We want businesses
22 to survive.

23 Keep us together. Let us stay as a cohesive group
24 because we are a strong group. We're very united, and
25 actually we should have stayed with Moorpark, as well.

1 We're -- we're sharing the same community college
2 district. So I really want to see Simi Valley stay
3 together, and I'd like to see Simi Valley and Moorpark
4 also stay together.

5 So I appreciate your time. Thank you very much.

6 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

7 Up next, we will have 032, or right now we have 032,
8 and then up next to be 028.

9 032, I will be promoting you now. 032, your speaker
10 order number will be Number 20. If you'll please make
11 note of that for future reference. If you'll let the --
12 if you'd please let the -- please let the mapper know
13 what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

14 MS. JONES: Hi, Simi Valley, please.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead.

16 MS. JONES: My name is Jennifer Jones, and I live in
17 Simi Valley, and I've called in a few times. And I want
18 to thank you guys very much for being patient and
19 listening to me. One thing I was kind of -- and now that
20 the numbers are out, thank you very much for providing
21 that information to us.

22 I want to keep Simi Valley whole. I know that we
23 have a little sliver of Simi Valley that's in the 26th
24 District, and so I think it would be beneficial to keep
25 Simi Valley in one district. And I would hope that we

1 can keep Simi Valley in the 25th and then add that little
2 sliver.

3 A lot of people don't know our Simi Valley Police
4 Department does go over and help other agencies, such as
5 the L.A. County Sheriff's Department in regards to a
6 major drug bust. They also help out LAPD with major drug
7 busts. Whenever there's a fire that happens in Santa
8 Clarita, some of our fire trucks go out there and help
9 out, you know. In Santa Clarita, in Simi Valley, we are
10 prone to fires, so it's always good to have everybody
11 working together cohesively. And then, also, you know,
12 the Porter Ranch gas leak, you know, we had some of our
13 agencies go over and help out as well. So we kind of all
14 work really well together.

15 And those are all in the 25th. And I'm just really
16 hoping that we can have the last little sliver of Simi
17 Valley in -- that's in the 26th, put it in the 25th and
18 keep the Simi Valley in the 25th. And thank you very
19 much for your time and listening to me.

20 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

21 Right now, we will have 028, and then up next will
22 be 030.

23 028, I will be promoting you now. 028, your speaker
24 order number is Number 21. If you'll please make note of
25 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the

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

3 MR. SAMPSON: San Luis Obispo, primarily Cambria.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Go ahead,
5 please.

6 MR. SAMPSON: My name is Ron Sampson. I live in
7 Lodge Hill in the community of Cambria.

8 Cambria is a small unincorporated town that's about
9 6400 people that's located about thirty-five miles north
10 of San Luis Obispo, which has a population of about
11 47,000. Cambria is a rural area which much -- with much
12 wildlife, such as deer, raccoons, bobcats, mountain
13 lions, even the occasional bear, and much more.

14 It is home to many retirees and other people who
15 have moved to the area from Los Angeles, San Francisco,
16 Bakersfield, Fresno, and other urban areas around the
17 state. We have no big box stores, no big supermarkets,
18 one main street, a lot of restaurants, gift shops. It's
19 just a small town. It's mainly a tourist area as there
20 are nearby areas of Harmony and San Simeon. We are near
21 Hearst Castles, one of the most visited state parks in
22 California, as well as the Big Sur Coast, and Monterey
23 National Bay Marine Sanctuary, the south end of which is
24 located in the middle of Cambria.

25 The people in Cambria we care about the environment

1 and the quality of life. The retirement and tourist
2 areas of Cambria and its surroundings to the north and
3 south are all similar, while the people on the lands to
4 the each -- east of San Luis Obispo and Kern County line
5 are actually totally different.

6 Bakersfield is urban, fast paced, lots of big box
7 national chain stores, as well as manufacturing and oil.
8 Cambria is more laid back, retired, rural, and tourist
9 oriented. We are grateful to be in the same district as
10 other small coastal communities like San Simeon, Harmony,
11 Cayucos, Morro Bay, and Ragged Point, and would like it
12 to remain the way it is, California Assembly District 35,
13 State Senate District 17, and Congressional District 24.
14 I believe we should not change what is not broken, in our
15 opinion.

16 Thank you for your time and consideration in
17 striving to keep our political system fair for all.

18 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

19 If I could please ask for a Spanish interpreter.

20 Hi, Margarita.

21 At this time, we will be going to 030.

22 I will be promoting you now. 030, your speaker
23 order number will be Number 22. If you will please make
24 note of that for future reference. And if you will
25 please let the mapper know what area you would like to

1 discuss, the floor is yours.

2 MR. LOZANO: Good afternoon, Commissioners, and
3 thank you for giving me the opportunity to be able to
4 give my comments and to speak.

5 My name is Francisco Lozano and I'm part of the
6 organization, NICO (ph.). I've been living in this
7 community for over thirty years, in the valley, in the
8 City of Santa Maria, in the County of Santa Barbara.

9 I live here with my family. I have two children.
10 My eldest child, my son, he attends UC Merced. My
11 daughter attends elementary school at Bonita School,
12 which is by the 166, which is surrounded by agricultural
13 fields, which have pesticides.

14 I've also been active in the community for over
15 fifteen years. I've been a volunteer, and I've worked in
16 the fields, and I've also worked doing gardening work.
17 And I've needed to work two jobs in order to be able to
18 pay for my rent and to be able to put food on the table
19 for my family.

20 My community is located on Broadway and Yolo on the
21 east, and also Morrison Street on the east, and Valley,
22 which is on the west, and also --

23 THE INTERPRETER: Oh, it's -- I'm sorry. The
24 interpreter made a mistake. It's Alvin on the west and
25 east, west and -- running west and east.

1 MR. LOZANO: And we are a community of working --
2 we're a hardworking class that works in the fields in the
3 agriculture field. And we have a great need -- there is
4 a shortage of housing, and also, the housing available is
5 of high cost.

6 THE INTERPRETER: Just a moment. The interpreter
7 needs to clarify a term with the speaker.

8 MR. LOZANO: Okay, so the living situation is out of
9 our reach for the area because of the income level that
10 we are able to earn. And I'm talking about the minimum
11 wage. And also, our schooling, our schools are
12 overpopulated, and there are difficulties with schooling
13 for children -- which I'm referring to the pandemic
14 because of lack of internet access and then also because
15 of the need to stay at home --

16 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

17 MR. LOZANO: -- for our children we have needed
18 to -- the mothers have needed to stay home for the
19 children to be able to get their education, which
20 decreases the amount of income available to the family.

21 MR. HERNANDEZ: Fifteen seconds.

22 MR. LOZANO: Also the healthcare services are not at
23 our reach because the --

24 THE INTERPRETER: And I'm sorry. The interpreter
25 needed to ask for a repetition. I apologize.

1 MR. HERNANDEZ: Just a moment.

2 030, please unmute and we had some questions for
3 you.

4 MR. LOZANO: The healthcare services are not at as
5 available for the agricultural workers who are essential
6 workers.

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Chair Kennedy, do you have any
8 additional questions? Thank you, Chair.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sorry. Sorry. Yes. Could we
10 ask for street boundaries?

11 THE INTERPRETER: New Love Street? New Love?

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: It's there on the left. It's --
13 yeah. Just at the top of the screen towards the right
14 just to the west of 135 it says New Love Drive.

15 MR. LOZANO: New Morrison?

16 THE INTERPRETER: New Morrison? And Morrison?

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. (Speaking Spanish)?

18 THE INTERPRETER: Valley -- Valley Street.

19 MR. LOZANO: Bunny, like bunny rabbit.

20 THE INTERPRETER: Oh, Bunny, I'm sorry. Bunny.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: (Speaking Spanish)?

22 MR. LOZANO: Alvin. Alvin.

23 THE INTERPRETER: Alvin.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Alvin. (Speaking Spanish).

25 MR. LOZANO: I'm here.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: (Speaking Spanish).

2 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.

3 MS. MANOFF: And if the Spanish interpreter would
4 stay with us.

5 At this time, we will be going to 030 -- or I'm
6 sorry, 031.

7 Do I have a Spanish interpreter available still?
8 There we are. Okay.

9 THE INTERPRETER: This is the interpreter. Go
10 ahead.

11 MS. MANOFF: Perfect.

12 031, I will be promoting you now. 031, your speaker
13 order number will be number 23 if you will please make
14 note of that for future reference. And if you will
15 please that the map or know of what area you would like
16 to discuss, the floor is yours.

17 MS. GONZALEZ: In Ventura County, please. Good
18 afternoon, commissioners. My name is Marilou Gonzalez.
19 And I am the resident of the city of Oxnard in the
20 Ventura County. And the City of Oxnard has important
21 communities of interest, specifically Port Hueneme and in
22 Rio that are important communities of interest to us. We
23 should maintain -- we should stay together and united in
24 the same district with similar cities in the valley such
25 as Santa Clara, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru. We ask

1 that you incorporate the cities that we -- that have
2 shared similar interests such as Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El
3 Rio, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru because we are a
4 community of interest that shares the following. We are
5 a working class in the county of Ventura that's made up
6 of approximately 20,000 people who are mainly Mixtecos,
7 Zapotec, Colevecha (ph.), Otomi, and Pliki from Mexico.
8 This community is the spine of the State of California in
9 agriculture.

10 We are a community that faces challenges in access
11 to housing, equitable education, inequalities in access
12 to health, and with unique economic needs. We are a big
13 community of a family that is mainly Latino, immigrant,
14 Spanish-speaking, and speakers of other indigenous
15 languages and other communities. We are a community that
16 faces -- has been impacted disproportionately in their
17 environment because of petroleum, gas, chemicals,
18 pesticides, and the lack of subterranean water -- or
19 underground water. This is why I would like for the new
20 lines to really reflect our community that contributes
21 and makes up the social, economic, and cultural part of
22 Ventura. Being with the community of Thousand Oaks,
23 Moorpark, Camarillo, Ojai, and Malibu would not be the
24 best option because these residents have certain social,
25 economic, and political advantages.

1 And although I really don't understand why we want
2 to be divided, we will need each other at least at one
3 point. And in God's eyes, we're basically all the same.
4 And so thank you for your attention. You are those --
5 you are the ones who will decide our future so thank you.

6 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

7 If I can keep an interpreter, I will be going to
8 caller 5355 unique ID 029.

9 If you will please follow the prompts to unmute at
10 this time by pressing star six on your telephone keypad.
11 Caller 5355, you are unmuted. Your speaker order number
12 will be number 24 if you will please make note of that
13 for future reference. And if you will let the mapper
14 know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is
15 yours.

16 MR. SOLAZO: Yes, the city of Oxnard. Yes, my name
17 is Juvenal Solon Solazo (ph.). And I am a member of the
18 Proyecto -- I am part of Proyecto Mixteco Indigena, or
19 simply the acronym is MICOP. I've been living in the
20 county of Ventura for approximately close to twenty
21 years. The cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and El Rio
22 are very, very important cities to us here in the coast.
23 And I also wanted to add the cities of Santa Paula,
24 Fillmore, and Piru. These are very important cities to
25 us because we share a lot of things in common such as our

1 culture, our language, and well, most importantly, our
2 work. Ventura County is home to approximately 20,000
3 indigenous people. The majority of them are Mixtecos.
4 And again, the majority of them work in agriculture.

5 The county of Ventura reaches each year
6 approximately to about 2.5 billion dollars in
7 agriculture. And that's thanks to all of the work of all
8 of these people who live in the cities that I've
9 mentioned. And so for me, an ideal district would
10 include the cities of -- and I'll repeat them again,
11 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El Rio, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and
12 Piru -- since we share a lot of things in common. We do
13 not share the same common themes with cities such as
14 Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Camarillo, Ojai, and Malibu.
15 And we do not share the same things, especially in
16 regards to the economic part. They have more access to
17 good health, to a better economy, to politics.
18 Specifically, their representatives will always take them
19 more into account or into consideration.

20 That is why today's comment I wanted to mention --
21 or to ask for it to be taken into account when the next
22 redistricting is done to include all of the cities that
23 I've already mentioned. And that's the end of my
24 comment. Thank you.

25 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

1 Right now we will go to 047. And then up next will
2 be 035.

3 047, I will be promoting you now. 047, your speaker
4 order number will be number 25 if you'll please make note
5 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let
6 the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the
7 floor is yours.

8 MS. PATSY: Hi. Thank you. I'd like to discuss the
9 areas of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and El Rio.

10 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

11 MS. PATSY: My name is Matty Patsy (ph.), and I'm a
12 resident of Ventura County. I have lived here for more
13 than fifteen years. This is the community I grew up in.
14 And throughout my time here, I have grown to care for it
15 a lot. The Oxnard Plain, including the communities of
16 Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and El Rio is an important
17 community of interest in California's central coast,
18 which should be kept together and ideally united in the
19 same districts as the nearby Santa Clara Valley,
20 including the communities of Santa Paula, Fillmore, and
21 Piru.

22 I want to identify the Oxnard Plain, which again
23 includes Oxnard, Port Hueneme, an El Rio because these
24 three regions share many characteristics and traits.
25 These regions are made up primarily by agricultural

1 business, working class people, and the farmworker
2 community. These characteristics are not shared to
3 regions beyond Oxnard, Port Heuneme, and El Rio.

4 For example, those -- Thousand Oaks does not share
5 the characteristic of being an agricultural or a
6 farmworker community, which is why I am advocating for
7 only Oxnard, Port Heuneme, and El Rio to be identified as
8 one community of interest. There are three -- these
9 three regions also share similar disparities and unique
10 economic needs, such as housing, education, and
11 healthcare. Most of the members in these communities are
12 part of the immigrant family, part of immigrant families,
13 Latinx, or Spanish speaking. These communities have very
14 strong ties with each other, which only underscores why
15 all three regions should be put together and identified
16 as one community of interest. This concludes my comment.
17 Thank you.

18 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

19 Right now we will go to 035. And then up next after
20 that will be 033.

21 035, I will be promoting you now. 035, your speaker
22 order number will be number 26, if you'll please make
23 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
24 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
25 the floor is yours.

1 MS. BRIDGEWATER: Hi, my name is Tamika Bridgewater
2 (ph.). And I am calling about the -- about Simi Valley.
3 First, I would like to thank you guys so much. I know
4 this has been a lot of hard work. And despite how many
5 times you give us the same instructions, we don't listen
6 or don't remember. And I also want to say to all of
7 those who work in agriculture -- and I hear the people,
8 even though we may not be in the same city, to me, we are
9 the same community. And I hear -- I hear their hearts.
10 And I just want to say that we love you guys. We know
11 that if it's not for you, we don't eat. We -- I mean, we
12 totally get it. And we appreciate you guys. And we
13 don't want you to suffer alone. We will come and stand
14 with you when you need us to.

15 I'm calling because Simi Valley is a little bit
16 broken. We've got this one little, small sliver that's
17 in District 26. And then I don't know how they're
18 proposing to break up the areas, but Simi Valley,
19 Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, we do have a lot in common. But
20 most important for us is that we would -- our city would
21 like to be in one district. We would like to be in
22 District 25. And even though Santa Clarita is far away
23 from us geographically, somehow, it works. Somehow, we
24 work together and we still have community with them. But
25 it's just so important that Simi Valley stay in District

1 25 but all of us in District 25.

2 We work really hard in our community to have the
3 type of community that we have. I personally attend city
4 council meetings, planning commission meetings. There is
5 a monthly meeting that the chamber holds and you get to
6 find out what's being built in your area, what's the
7 rental for like industrial buildings and all kinds of
8 things about the community. And just like everyone else,
9 yes, the prices for housing is high, but we do have some
10 lower -- we do have some affordable housing going in that
11 we have --

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

13 MS. BRIDGEWATER: -- that we have fought for for
14 those who can't afford it. And we're all going through
15 the same thing. Everybody's got to work. And we're just
16 we're all there. But Simi Valley needs to stay 25 --

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: Fifteen seconds.

18 MS. BRIDGEWATER: -- and all of the Simi Valley.
19 Thank you.

20 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

21 Right now we will have 033. And then up next after
22 that will be 051.

23 033, I will be promoting you now. 033, your speaker
24 order number be number 27 if you'll please make note of
25 that for future reference. You can now enable your audio

1 and video in the lower left corner of your screen. If
2 you will please let the mapper know what area you would
3 like to discuss, the floor is yours.

4 DAPHNE: Yes. My name is Daphne. And I would like
5 to speak about Simi Valley.

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

7 DAPHNE: Simi Valley has a sliver that is in the
8 26th District. I would like Simi Valley to be whole and
9 all of Simi Valley to be in the 25th District. I thank
10 you so much for listening to my input and wish you a
11 fantastic day. And that's my comment.

12 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

13 At this time, we will be going to 051. And then up
14 next after that would be 049.

15 051, I will be promoting you now. 051, your speaker
16 order number will be number 28 if you will please make
17 note of that for future reference. If you will please
18 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
19 the floor is yours.

20 MS. ABUSHANAB: Hi. I'd like to discuss Santa
21 Barbara County and the City of Santa Maria in North
22 County.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes. Thank you. Go ahead,
24 please.

25 MS. ABUSHANAB: Hi. Good evening. My name is Nadia

1 Abushanab, and I am a resident of Santa Barbara County.
2 and I work for a nonprofit organization called Santa
3 Barbara County Action Network. And we advocate
4 environmental and social justice within The County. And
5 I'd like to request that the Santa Maria Valley,
6 including the cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe, be
7 considered as a community of interest in California's
8 Central Coast. And it should be kept together and
9 ideally united in the same districts as the Lompoc
10 Valley.

11 And this is a community of interest because we are
12 an agricultural, working class, and farmworker community
13 facing disparities in housing, education, and healthcare
14 with unique economic needs that are distinct from the
15 surrounding areas. We are a community of immigrant
16 families, but with a much larger share of Latinx
17 residents, immigrants, and Spanish and indigenous
18 language speakers than the surrounding region. And
19 lastly, we are an environmental justice community who has
20 been disproportionately impacted by pollution from oil
21 and gas, agricultural chemicals, and groundwater
22 depletion and continue to fight these issues with
23 upcoming projects in the area. That's all of my
24 comments. Thank you so much.

25 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

1 Right now, we will have 049. And --

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Hold on.

3 MS. MANOFF: Oh.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sorry --

5 MS. MANOFF: No, that's --

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- Katy.

7 MS. MANOFF: -- okay.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Can we get her back?

9 MS. MANOFF: Absolutely.

10 MR. HERNANDEZ: 051, if you could, please --

11 MS. ABUSHANAB: Hello.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: -- unmute. Hi there. The chair had
13 some questions for you.

14 MS. ABUSHANAB: Sure.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Hi. Can you just give us a
16 little more information on what you're referring to when
17 you're speaking about the Lompoc Valley?

18 MS. ABUSHANAB: Sure. So that would be, I guess,
19 the Santa Ynez Valley.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And what towns or communities
21 does that include?

22 MS. ABUSHANAB: That would be Lompoc and Los Alamos
23 and Garey and Sisquoc as well.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Thank you so
25 much.

1 MS. ABUSHANAB: Thank you.

2 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

3 And right now we will have 049. And then up next
4 will be 033.

5 049, I will be promoting you now. 049, your speaker
6 order number will be number 29 if you'll please make note
7 of that for future reference. You can now enable your
8 audio and video in the lower left corner of your screen.
9 If you will please let the mapper know what area you
10 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

11 MS. MURTI: Hi. Yes, thank you. I would also like
12 to talk about the Central Coast, particularly in North
13 Santa Barbara County and the Santa Maria Valley. Hello.
14 My name is Lata Murti, and I'm a resident of Santa Maria.
15 The Santa Maria Valley, as you've heard, including the
16 cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe together form an
17 important community of interest in California's central
18 coast. Santa Maria and Guadalupe should be kept together
19 and ideally included in the same district as the Lompoc
20 Valley, as was just discussed before.

21 We are a community of interest for three reasons.
22 Number one, we are an agricultural, working class, and
23 farmworker community. We face disparities in housing,
24 education, and healthcare and experience unique economic
25 needs. We are a community of immigrant families with a

1 much larger share of Latinx residents, immigrants, and
2 Spanish and indigenous language speakers than the
3 surrounding region. That's reason number two. And
4 reason number three, we are an environmental justice
5 community who has been disproportionately impacted by
6 pollution from oil and gas, agricultural chemicals, and
7 groundwater depletion.

8 Talking more generally about the Central Coast, I
9 would also like to see Santa Maria included in the same
10 Senate district as Oxnard in Ventura County. These
11 cities have a lot in common, namely large Latino farm
12 working communities. And having Santa Maria and Oxnard
13 in the same district ensures the representation of
14 indigenous communities, farmworkers, and Latino working
15 class communities.

16 Lastly, looking north to San Luis Obispo County, the
17 Central Coast current state assemblyman is Jordan
18 Cunningham and his priority has been San Luis Obispo
19 County, not Santa Maria. And I feel that we need to be
20 in a district where -- we being those of us in Santa
21 Maria -- need to be in a district where we share similar
22 demographics and priorities with other cities. So I'm
23 asking that the five cities in South San Luis Obispo
24 County and Nipomo also in southern San Luis Obispo be put
25 together with Santa Maria and the rest of Santa Barbara

1 County --

2 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds, ma'am.

3 MS. MURTI: -- to make a majority progressive people
4 of color district. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Could you name the five cities
6 that you're referring to?

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Just a moment, Chair.

8 049, if you could please unmute. The Chair had some
9 questions for you.

10 MS. MURTI: The five cities are there in that's the
11 Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, and Oceana area right there.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. So -- but five cities,
13 which five are those?

14 MS. MURTI: Yes. I don't live right in that area.
15 So I know those are three of them. And let me tell you
16 the others. Okay. Pismo Beach, Grover Beach, Arroyo
17 Grande, Oceano, and Halcyon, which is the area from Pismo
18 Beach to Oceana.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Thank you so
20 much.

21 MS. MURTI: Thank you.

22 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have 027. And then
23 up next after that will be 024.

24 027, I will be promoting you now. 027, your speaker
25 order number will be number 30 if you'll please make note

1 of that for future reference. You can now enable your
2 audio and video in the lower left corner of your screen.
3 If you will please let the mapper know what area you
4 would like to discuss, the floor is yours. Hello. You
5 are unmuted. We cannot hear you. But you are unmuted.
6 If you could check your microphone settings in the lower
7 left corner of your screen. Think I hear you. Can you
8 hear us? Unique ID 027, you are unmuted. If you could
9 check your audio settings real quick. Check your
10 microphone settings. 027, you have now muted yourself.
11 You are now unmuted again. It would appear you are
12 having some audio issues. I will go ahead and come back
13 to you.

14 At this time, we will go to 02 -- oh, one moment.
15 Oh. At this time we will be going to 024.

16 I will be promoting you now. 024, your speaker
17 order number will be number 31 if you would please make
18 note of that for future reference. You can now enable
19 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
20 screen. If you will please let the mapper know what area
21 you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

22 MR. MEYER: Good evening. Thank you for this
23 opportunity. My name is Jeremy Meyer. I live in Oxnard,
24 California. And I've lived here for twenty-three years.
25 And I work here serving the traveling resources up in

1 Ventura County, which serves the entirety of Ventura
2 County in early childhood education, childcare-related
3 resources and support. I also serve on the board for
4 CAUSE, the Central Coast Alliance United for Sustainable
5 Economy. So my interests goes throughout the entire
6 Central Coast region.

7 I guess first, I'd like to talk with you about the
8 importance of keeping the Oxnard, El Rio, Port Hueneme
9 area connected in its own district. Those areas have
10 great common interests, common economic challenges,
11 common demographic connections. And so to be able to
12 support the communities of immigrants and Indigenous
13 farmworkers and other in the Bipoc demographic region,
14 keeping those communities together would further that.
15 Splitting Oxnard does dilute the ability of this
16 historically disadvantaged and exploited community from
17 being able to maintain a voice for itself so that the
18 opportunity to connect the parts of Oxnard with the
19 remainder would be beneficial. I do understand there are
20 some challenges related to that depending on the district
21 we're talking about.

22 And my other interest is in what was also mentioned
23 by some previous speakers, the area of Santa Maria and
24 Guadalupe in the northern Santa Barbara County. Those
25 areas have a similar population of farm working families,

1 immigrant families, indigenous people that have been
2 historically disadvantaged, exploited, and disempowered
3 through gerrymandering. And so this is a great
4 opportunity here to place a real keen eye --

5 MR. HERNANDEZ: Twenty seconds.

6 MR. MEYER: -- on how do we support a community that
7 brings together the communities of Guadalupe, Santa
8 Maria, and --

9 MR. HERNANDEZ: Ten seconds.

10 MR. MEYER: -- so that they don't get diluted by
11 communities that don't share those similar demographics
12 and interests. So that's a really important priority --

13 MR. HERNANDEZ: Time.

14 MR. MEYER: -- for us. Oh, seems like there's some
15 challenge with connection.

16 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much. Right now, we will
17 do 025. And then up next after that we will go back to
18 027.

19 025, I will be promoting you now. 025, your speaker
20 order number will be number 32 if you'll please make note
21 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let
22 the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the
23 floor is yours.

24 MS. CARDO: Thank you. My name's Jenny Cardo (ph.).
25 And thank you, Commissioners, for your time, your

1 dedication, and trying to do what is best for us. I
2 would like to discuss San Luis Obispo County.

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Go ahead.

4 MS. CARDO: I am -- okay. I'm actually a resident
5 of Nipomo that has been brought into actual just recent
6 conversation. I actually happen to work for the Office
7 of Education. And COVID was an eye opener for us. And
8 I'll tie that in to the recent request of resolution from
9 our Board of Supervisors signed by Lynn Compton and
10 Supervisors John Peschong, Bruce Gibson, and Dawn Ortiz-
11 Legg that was sent to your committee back July 13th where
12 they're requesting that San Luis Obispo be kept as a
13 whole. I may not agree with all their politics, but on
14 this one, I do agree.

15 Back to the COVID. Our Office of Education actually
16 provided support and does provide continued support to
17 the Office of Emergency Services. San Luis Obispo is a
18 very tight-knit community county. Mr. Sampson earlier
19 spoke about the retirees and Cambria. That is something
20 that we respect and we gratefully appreciate.

21 His mention of Kern County bringing in the
22 superstores and everything, that's an actual fear of many
23 of the San Luis Obispo County residents. We are built on
24 agriculture. We are built on education. The services,
25 resources are overstretched already for Kern County and

1 from Santa Barbara County. When we were mobilized for
2 the COVID, we took our numbers. We were able to tightly
3 and quickly assist all our districts, Lucia Mar, San
4 Miguel, Pleasant Valley, Shandon. Do many of you know
5 where they are demographically? I ask you that. They
6 are remote. They are small. But they know exactly how
7 long it is of a drive to go talk to our superintendent.

8 If I have a special needs parent that is not
9 believing that their child's IEP, which is an individual
10 education plan, is being served well, how long will they
11 have to drive to get to Kern? What if they don't have
12 the means? We only have one bus transportation and that
13 suits our needs of the retirees, of our summer youth that
14 get to travel to the beach for free. We invest in our
15 students. We invest in our retirees. We invest in our
16 community. We need to stay --

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

18 MS. CARDO: --whole. We ask you as you consider
19 this, that you consider leaving San Luis Obispo as a
20 whole entity on its own. Law enforcement is already --

21 MR. HERNANDEZ: Fifteen seconds.

22 MS. CARDO: -- tight as it is. They would not be
23 able to respond from any other place in the county to our
24 needs as quickly as we would need them, not like our own
25 sheriff's department can. I thank you for your time.

1 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

2 At this time, we'll be going back to 027. Going to
3 do the allow to talk audio only option at this time.

4 MR. ROJAS: Hello.

5 MS. MANOFF: There you are. We can hear you.

6 MR. ROJAS: All righty.

7 MS. MANOFF: All right. Your speaker order number
8 is still going to be number 29 -- or wait. Nope. Hold
9 on one moment. 027 -- 30, it will still be 30, if you'll
10 please make note of that for future reference. And if
11 you'll please let the mapper know what are you would like
12 to discuss, the floor is yours.

13 MR. ROJAS: All righty. My name is Dylan Hernandez
14 Rojas. I'm calling from -- about Ventura County, more
15 specifically Oxnard. I have lived in the community for
16 about twelve years. And I want to urge this Commission
17 to keep the community of Oxford together. Oxnard is a
18 majority people of color, agricultural community with
19 mostly immigrants and working class families. We have
20 similarities to communities in western Ventura County
21 like Port Heuneme, El Rio, Santa Paula, and Fillmore.
22 But we vary from much more affluent communities like
23 Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley.

24 Although our city's economic interests might be
25 similar, the ways in which we allocate resources to help

1 our citizens are very different. I especially urge you
2 to keep in mind that ripping Oxnard apart and grouping it
3 with wealthier areas only eliminates the already limited
4 power Latino voters have been given. This
5 disproportionate distribution of power heavily affects
6 the working families of Oxnard and our immigrant workers,
7 who throughout this pandemic have continued to work
8 despite the dangerous conditions.

9 Oxnard is a vibrant and populated area with people
10 from all walks of life. Keeping this area together is
11 vital in maintaining the voting rights, political
12 representation for our residents. I thank you for your
13 time and hope that you do right by the people of
14 California. Thank you.

15 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

16 At this time, I'd like to invite those that have
17 called in to please press star nine to raise your hand
18 indicating you wish to comment.

19 At this time, we have caller with the last four 6397
20 that has raised their hand.

21 And again, for those that have chosen to call in
22 this evening, if you will please press star nine on your
23 telephone keypad, this will raise your hand indicating
24 you wish to give comment this evening.

25 At this time, we have caller with the last four



1 6397. And then up next after that will be caller 2981.
2 If you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this
3 time, caller 6397. Caller -- hi. Caller 6397, your
4 speaker order number will be number 33 if you will please
5 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
6 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
7 discuss, the floor is yours.

8 MR. MESSACRE: Thank you very much. My name is
9 Colin Messacre. I'll be speaking about the Oxford Plain.

10 MR. HERNANDEZ: Caller 6397, could you please speak
11 closer to your microphone? We can barely hear you.

12 MR. MESSACRE: I apologize. Hi. My name's Colin
13 Massacre. I'd like to speak on the Oxnard Plain area.
14 And I'd like to echo the comments of the previous caller.
15 Oxnard and El Rio and Port Heuneme are a unique area and
16 we share a lot of common interest and dividing us, it
17 really hurts our community. We've been
18 disproportionately affected by pollution from oil and gas
19 and agricultural runoff and groundwater depletion. And I
20 urge the Committee to keep Oxnard and Port Heuneme and El
21 Rio together. We're a solid part of the community and we
22 really shouldn't be divided. Thank you.

23 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

24 And up next, we will have caller 2981. If you will
25 please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller

1 2981, your speaker order number will be number 34 if you
2 will please make note of that for future reference. And
3 if you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
4 like to discuss, the floor is yours.

5 MS. MORAN: Yes. Thank you so much. Good
6 afternoon. My name is Bodis Moran (ph.). And I'm here
7 to speak on Ventura County, specifically the City of
8 Oxnard, like your previous two speakers. And so yeah,
9 I'm also advocating for the Oxnard Plain to be kept
10 together, especially the communities of Oxnard, Port
11 Heuneme, and Del Rio as an important community of
12 interest in the Central Coast. Especially as we are a
13 largely migrant community and largely Latina and
14 indigenous community here.

15 My family migrated to Oxnard from Mexico and I was
16 very young, I was in elementary school. And I barely --
17 I vaguely remember the adults in our community being
18 concerned about us adapting to the culture and learning
19 to speak English. But to be entirely honest, I was
20 not -- I did not feel too out of place as my peers also
21 came from migrant families, also spoke Spanish, and also
22 had parents who worked in the fields. So once more, I
23 urge that the Oxnard Plain be kept together.

24 Ideally, we should be united with the same district,
25 those nearby in the Santa Clara Valley, including

1 communities of Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru. And then
2 the assembly Oxnard should be kept part of a majority
3 Latino district in western Ventura County. Again, we are
4 a largely agricultural, working class, and farmworker
5 community. We face disparities every day in housing,
6 education, healthcare, and have unique economic needs.
7 And we are an environmental justice community who has
8 been largely disproportionately impacted by pollution
9 from wide variety of places including oil, gas,
10 agricultural chemicals, and groundwater depletion. And
11 so yeah, thank you so much for your time. And yes, thank
12 you so much.

13 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

14 And right now we have caller 5876, if you will
15 please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller
16 5876, your speaker order number will be number 35 if you
17 will please make note of that for future reference. And
18 if you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
19 like to discuss, the floor is yours.

20 ILSA: Hello. My name's Ilsa. And I'm from Oxnard.
21 I have lived in the community for seventeen years now.
22 And I'm here today to address the commission to keep my
23 community of interest together. My community is very
24 unique just because we are members of underrepresented
25 community members. Our community is filled with

1 underrepresented members who deserve to be heard. I
2 drive by factories and farm workers every day, even when
3 I'm dropping off my siblings to school on De Salas Road
4 (ph.) and Dunkirk Drive, it's all surrounded by field
5 workers.

6 Oxnard is the majority of people of color
7 agricultural community with mostly immigrants and working
8 class families. We have similarities to communities in
9 western Ventura County like Port Heuneme, El Rio, Santa
10 Paula, and Fillmore. We're very different from wealthier
11 and whiter communities in eastern Ventura like Thousand
12 Oaks or Simi Valley. Oxnard should be cut together in
13 the same district to protect our voting rights and
14 political representation, especially in districts that
15 are majority of people of color. Thank you for your
16 time.

17 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

18 And Chair, at this time, we are up against a break.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Very good. Thank you so much,
20 everyone. We will take our break now and resume at 6:30.

21 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome back to the California
23 Citizens Redistricting Commission Community of Interest
24 Input Meeting. For anyone who has joined us recently, we
25 are offering a language line for Spanish speakers to

1 listen to the meeting in their native language and a
2 separate line for those who wish to provide public
3 comment or public input.

4 Could I please have one of our interpreters provide
5 our language line numbers and the information to provide
6 public input? I guess it says to read the full call-in
7 instructions. Thanks, Johanna.

8 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you, Chair.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

10 This session is specifically dedicated to those that
11 did not have an appointment. However, if you had an
12 appointment and were unable to call during your time
13 block, we encourage you to call in now. As a reminder,
14 even though we are focusing on specific counties,
15 Californians from anywhere in the state are welcome to
16 provide input. We will continue to take public input at
17 this time and also invite public comment at this time.

18 The phone line for public input and public comment
19 will close at 7 p.m. We will get to all the callers who
20 were in the queue at that time to include going beyond 7
21 p.m. if needed.

22 At this point, I will pass it over to Katy, our
23 comment moderator.

24 MS. MANOFF: Thank you, Chair.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Katy.

1 MS. MANOFF: In order to maximize transparency and
2 public participation in our process, the Commissioners
3 will be taking community of interest input and general
4 public comment for items not on the agenda by phone at
5 this time.

6 To call in, dial the telephone number provided on
7 the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,
8 enter the meeting ID number provided on the livestream
9 feed. It is 859 3804 5077 for this meeting. When
10 prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the
11 pound key.

12 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a
13 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
14 star nine. This will raise your hand for the moderator.
15 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message
16 that says the host would like you to talk and press star
17 six to speak. If you would like to give your name,
18 please state and spell it for the record. You are not
19 required to provide your name to give public comment.

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

25 And at this time, we will go to caller 0288. And

1 then up next after that will be caller 8327.

2 Caller 0288, if you will please follow the prompts
3 to unmute at this time. Caller 0288, your speaker order
4 number will be 36 if you'll please make note of that for
5 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
6 know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is
7 yours.

8 MR. VASQUEZ: Hello. My name is Jose Vazquez (ph.).
9 And I'll be talking about the Oxnard Plain area in
10 Ventura County.

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you. Go ahead.

12 MR. VASQUEZ: Okay. I've been a resident of Ventura
13 County for nearly twenty years now. Today, I am here to
14 speak on behalf of my neighbors of the Oxnard Plain and
15 request that the Commission keep my community of interest
16 together. This includes the communities of Oxnard, Port
17 Heuneme, and El Rio, an important community of interest
18 in California's Central Coast, which should be kept
19 together and ideally united in the same districts as the
20 nearby Santa Clara Valley, including the communities of
21 Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.

22 If you were to walk through our streets, like I have
23 for most of my upbringing, you'd quickly note that the
24 streets are walked by farmworkers, people of color, and
25 working class folks facing housing, education, and

1 healthcare disparities with unique economic needs. We
2 are not like the wealthier and whiter communities in
3 eastern Ventura County like Thousand Oaks or Simi Valley.
4 Oxnard shares more similarities with the communities of
5 Port Heuneme, El Rio, Santa Paula, and Fillmore as a
6 community of immigrant families composed of Latinx
7 residents and Spanish and indigenous language speakers
8 such as Mixteco and Zapotec. As communities we serve
9 cultures, languages, and similar experiences of equity
10 due to our socioeconomic status. Therefore, I ask you to
11 keep our communities together so they can be represented
12 appropriately. Thank you for your time.

13 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

14 At this time --

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

16 MS. MANOFF: -- at this time, we'll be going to
17 caller 8327. And up next after that will be caller 8532.

18 And again, I'd like to invite those that have called
19 in to please press star nine to raise your hand
20 indicating your wish to give comment.

21 MS. MANOFF: comment. Caller 8327. If you will
22 please follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller
23 with the last four 8327, if you will please press star
24 six on your telephone keypad at this time. There you go.

25 Your speaker order number is going to be --



1 MR. ESPINOSA: Sorry about that.

2 MS. MANOFF: Oh, no, that's okay. Your speaker
3 order number is number 37. If you will please make note
4 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let
5 the mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the
6 floor is yours.

7 MR. ESPINOSA: Sure. My name is Victor Espinosa.
8 My last name is spelled E-S-P-I-N-O-S-A. And I'm going
9 to be talking about the communities of Santa Paula,
10 Fillmore, and Oxnard.

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

12 MR. ESPINOSA: So -- okay. Thanks.

13 I grew up in the city of Santa Paula. It's situated
14 along the Santa Clara River. And the communities that I
15 represent include Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru, which
16 are collectively known as the Santa Clara River Valley.
17 Our communities include generations of migrant farm
18 workers, and we're comprised overwhelmingly of people of
19 color, Latinx, and ethnic Mexicans. And many community
20 members are recent immigrants from Mexico and speak
21 indigenous languages such as Mixteco and Zapotec.

22 Migrant workers are often employed in the local
23 agricultural industry and earn very low wages. We face
24 many challenges, including poverty, disparities in health
25 and education, and lack of well-paying and

1 environmentally sustainable jobs.

2 Our community has a shared interest in fair
3 representation and equitable resource allocation and in
4 free and accessible education, healthcare, and housing.

5 We'd like to be included in our district with
6 Oxnard, El Rio, and Port Hueneme. We share similar
7 demographics and community interests and challenges as we
8 do in the Santa Clara River Valley. And we do not want
9 to be included with East County, which includes Simi
10 Valley, Thousand Oaks, Oak Park, and Westlake Village.

11 We are vulnerable to environmental racism through
12 oil extraction, toxic waste dumping, air particulates and
13 pesticide use near schools and neighborhoods. In 2014, a
14 toxic chemical waste dump exploded in Santa Paula, right
15 next to the Santa Clara River and within one mile of a
16 school.

17 In 2018, an energy company attempted to place a gas-
18 fired power plant on almost the exact site of the
19 chemical explosion that occurred in 2014 in a flood area
20 and next to the Santa Clara River.

21 In the coming years, we will be particularly
22 vulnerable to environmental crisis and economic
23 restructuring that favors the very wealthy, and our well-
24 being as a community is at stake in redistricting.

25 Thank you so much.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

2 MS. MANOFF: Right now, we will have caller 8532.

3 And then up next after that will be caller 7456.

4 Caller 8532, if you will please follow the prompts
5 to unmute at this time by pressing star six on your
6 telephone keypad. Caller 8532, your speaker order number
7 will be number 38. If you will, please make note of that
8 for future reference. And if you will, please let the
9 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. The
10 floor is yours.

11 MR. CHONG: Thank you. I would like to discuss The
12 City of Moorpark in Ventura County.

13 Good afternoon, Commissioners, or good evening.
14 Thank you for the additional opportunities to provide
15 input. My name is Brian Chong. I serve as the assistant
16 to the city manager for the City of Moorpark. I'm here
17 to speak officially on behalf of the city.

18 As I described at last month's meeting, our two
19 primary comments as you work to identify communities of
20 interests, are one, do not split up Moorpark, and two,
21 Moorpark belongs with Ventura County.

22 It is on this latter point that I wish to provide
23 additional insight, given that some speakers previously
24 have suggested that Moorpark shares ties with the Santa
25 Clarita, which I do want to point out is separate from

1 the Santa Clara Valley that many speakers from our
2 neighboring communities in Oxnard have referenced this
3 evening.

4 While I have nothing but compliments to share about
5 the Santa Clarita Valley or its representation in
6 Sacramento and Washington, DC, the reality is that
7 Moorpark and Santa Clarita do not share geographic or
8 local legislative interests. In fact, if I were to drive
9 from Moorpark City Hall to Santa Clarita City Hall, I'd
10 have to travel thirty-nine miles within the L.A. urban
11 metro area, across congressional district boundaries six
12 times, and travel through four congressional district,
13 California's 25th, 26th, 29th, and 30th District.

14 I realize there is no official legal definition of
15 gerrymandering, but I'd be willing to bet that this sort
16 of hypothetical district might just find itself next to a
17 dictionary definition one day.

18 On behalf of the City of Moorpark, I again
19 respectfully request that the Commission recognize two
20 things as our community of interest. First, Moorpark
21 should be entirely in one district. And second,
22 Moorpark's community of interest remains today what it
23 was ten years ago in Ventura County.

24 Thank you for your time.

25 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

1 At this time, we will have caller 7456. And then up
2 next after that will be caller 4366.

3 Caller 7456, if you will please follow the prompts
4 to unmute at this time by pressing star six on your
5 telephone keypad. Caller 7456, your speaker order number
6 will be number 39. If you'll please make note of that
7 for future reference. And if you'll please let the
8 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the
9 floor is yours.

10 MS. NAVARRO: Yes, I would like to discuss Oxnard,
11 please.

12 And my name is Maria Navarro. I am a resident of
13 actually Port Hueneme, and I would like to talk today
14 about just the unity community -- I know a lot of
15 speakers have been talking about the Oxnard Plains, about
16 the unity between Oxnard, the Santa Clara Valley with
17 Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru, and I'm just adding on
18 to these comments. We're talking specifically about the
19 necessity of keeping Port Hueneme and Oxnard together.

20 When I was nine years old, I immigrated from
21 Colombia to this country, and I immigrated right into
22 South Oxnard.

23 Now, South Oxnard and Port Hueneme are separated
24 literally by a street. And a lot of our kids in our
25 communities, we are actually going to the same schools.

1 We share the same parks. We share the same clinics, the
2 same healthcare system, and just in general, the same
3 things. So the fact that Port Hueneme and Oxnard to be
4 kept together as a unit is very, very important.

5 In general, I think that right now the division is
6 somewhat interesting. So from a personal anecdote, I
7 went to Oxnard High School. Now, I live in Port Hueneme,
8 yet I still attended Oxnard High School because that was
9 the district line. Having said that, all the kids from
10 Oxnard High School, pretty much all of them, are
11 represented by another assembly member, whereas all the
12 kids who went to -- who lived only like a street down
13 from me, who went to Hueneme High School, they went --
14 they're represented by another assembly member.

15 So we just want to have more clarity, first of all,
16 on who represents us. Also, on just keeping us together
17 and raising our voice as a community who is mostly
18 immigrant, who is mostly people of color, who -- and who
19 is mostly, you know, Spanish speaking. And I think that
20 keeping Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and then combining our --
21 that community -- (indiscernible) community with El Rio,
22 Santa Paula, Fillmore would be instrumental for our
23 democracy.

24 Thank you so much.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

1 MS. MANOFF: And right now we will be going to
2 caller 4366. And then up next after that will be caller
3 8176.

4 And I would like to invite those that have called in
5 this evening to press star nine to raise their hand if
6 they wish to give comment.

7 Caller 4366, if you will please follow the prompts
8 to unmute at this time by pressing star six on your
9 telephone keypad. Caller 4366, your speaker order number
10 will be number 40. If you will please make note of that
11 for future reference. And if you will, please let the
12 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. The
13 floor is yours.

14 MR. GONZALES: Thank you. I'm here to discuss the
15 Oxnard Plain. My name is Andrew Gonzales (ph.), and I'm
16 a resident of Ventura County. I live in the town of
17 Fillmore, and I've been working within the community of
18 Oxnard for the past four years.

19 I'm calling today to state that the Oxnard Plain,
20 which includes the communities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme,
21 and El Rio is an important community of interest in
22 California's Central Coast and that it should be kept
23 together and ideally united in the same district as the
24 nearby Santa Clara River Valley, which is where I live,
25 which includes Santa Paula and also Piru.

1 Oxnard Plain and Santa Clara River Valley share
2 similar regional identity, struggles, and population
3 makeup. They both comprise mostly of agricultural
4 communities, rural areas where the population consists of
5 the working class and farmworkers, as well as having a
6 large population of immigrant founding families who speak
7 Spanish and indigenous languages.

8 Our community is also partially impacted by
9 pollution from oil and gas, agricultural chemicals,
10 groundwater depletion, which means that our needs are
11 similar in scope. I also believe that the more affluent
12 communities, like Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks, should
13 not be grouped together with Oxnard, as their population
14 and community needs differ vastly from ours.

15 Thank you so much.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

17 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

18 Right now, we will be going to caller 8176. And
19 then up next, after that will be caller 5430. Caller
20 8176, if you will, please follow the prompts to unmute at
21 this time by pressing star six on your telephone keypad.
22 Caller 8176, your speaker order number will be number 41.
23 If you will, please make note of that for future
24 reference. And if you are ready, please let the mapper
25 know what area you would like to discuss. The floor is

1 yours.

2 MS. MARTINEZ: Thank you. Yeah. I will be talking
3 about Ventura County.

4 So good evening, Commission. My name is Jennifer
5 Martinez. I am a community member of Oxnard. I've been
6 living there my whole life for these past twenty years.
7 And Oxnard Plain, including communities of Oxnard, Port
8 Hueneme, and El Rio is an important community of interest
9 in California's central coast, which should be kept
10 together and ideally united with the same districts as
11 nearby, like Santa Clara Valley, including the
12 communities of Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.

13 We should be kept together and ideally united in the
14 same districts as these because we have -- we are a
15 community of interests. We are an agricultural, working
16 class, and farmworker community facing disparities in
17 housing, education, and healthcare with unique economic
18 needs, especially during these times of COVID.

19 We've seen the -- we are a community of immigrant
20 families with a much larger share of Latinx residents,
21 immigrants, and Spanish and indigenous language. Like
22 myself and my family, we speak (indiscernible), and we
23 feel comfortable around our community knowing that
24 there's other indigenous folks, the other dialects as
25 well.

1 But it doesn't feel comfortable that surrounding
2 areas like Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, and Camarillo or
3 Malibu. These have residents who are socio economically
4 advantage and have access to quality education and
5 services, unlike we do.

6 We should be kept together with communities like
7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Piru, Port Hueneme, Oxnard, and El
8 Rio, and ideally unite in the same district to ensure
9 that we all feel comfortable and have an advantage.

10 (Indiscernible) should be kept together in the same
11 district to protect our voting rights and political
12 representation, especially in districts that are majority
13 people of color.

14 Thank you for your time.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

16 MS. MANOFF: And at this time, we'll be going to
17 call her 5430. And then up next, after that, will be
18 caller 3565.

19 Caller 5430, if you will, please follow the prompts
20 to unmute at this time by pressing star six on your
21 telephone keypad. Caller 5430, your speaker order number
22 be number 42. If you'll please make note of that for
23 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
24 know what area you would like to discuss. The floor is
25 yours.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi, everyone. My name is
2 (indiscernible), and I am going to be speaking today
3 about Ventura County.

4 I am calling to talk about the Oxnard Plain
5 specifically, including communities of Oxnard, Port
6 Hueneme, and El Rio. And I just wanted to let the
7 Commission know that I think it's very important that
8 these communities are kept together and also kept
9 together with communities like in the Santa Clara Valley,
10 including Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.

11 These communities share very similar identities,
12 struggles, and backgrounds, and I think all of them need
13 to be acknowledged when making decisions like this.
14 These communities need to fully be represented, and
15 together are given more -- are given more support when
16 their identities are acknowledged.

17 We're an agriculture -- these communities are
18 strongly agricultural, working class, and farmworker
19 communities that, like I said, share similar struggles
20 and similar social, economic, and racial struggles that
21 need to be acknowledged.

22 So again, I just want to say that -- that I think
23 this community should be kept together.

24 Thank you.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

1 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

2 And at this time, we will be going to caller 3565.

3 If you will, please follow the prompts to unmute at this
4 time by pressing star six on your telephone keypad.

5 Caller 3565, if you wish to give comment this evening,

6 please press star six on your telephone keypad. Caller

7 3565, your speaker order number will be number 43. If

8 you'll please make note of that for future reference. If

9 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would

10 like to discuss. The floor is yours.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello. (Indiscernible) --

12 MS. MANOFF: (Indiscernible).

13 Margarita? Thank you.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

15 (Indiscernible).

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

17 THE INTERPRETER: (Indiscernible).

18 MR. ALONSO: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is

19 Ezekiel Alonso (ph.), and I am calling from the County of

20 Ventura. I've been here for more than thirty-six years,

21 specifically in Santa Paula, California.

22 I would like for the following to be included

23 together, which is Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Clara,

24 Santa Paula, and Fillmore as well.

25 We would like to be together mainly because we share

1 the same type of economy. We are fieldworkers, and I
2 don't think it would be fair if we were grouped together
3 with Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, because they have a
4 higher economy than we do. We're more of the middle
5 class.

6 We should be grouped together, as I mentioned, with
7 Santa Paula, Fillmore, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El Rio
8 because we share the same cultural background and we are
9 of Mexican descent.

10 So as I mentioned, we should not be grouped together
11 with Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Ojai, and Malibu because
12 those have higher educational quality, clinics.

13 The other districts are very different from our
14 district. The other districts are not the same, as far
15 as the educational quality that is offered in Oxnard,
16 Rio, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Fillmore, which our
17 schools need greater protection and greater security.

18 And you know, I don't know if any of you from the
19 government have walked out of town, which is really quite
20 destroyed, and it's really not fair. And we're made up
21 of indigenous groups that include (indiscernible),
22 Mixteco, (indiscernible), (indiscernible), and others.
23 And we are working class who have low wages in our
24 economy or our economic status is lower.

25 And our communities are affected in housing, equity,

1 and education, and we would like for the systems to be
2 improved because our workers who work on a day-to-day
3 basis also noticed --

4 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thirty seconds.

5 MR. ALONSO: -- that there was a greater risk taken
6 by workers during the pandemic because we're risking
7 ourselves so during this work to be able to put food on
8 the table for people.

9 And we're also quite affected in the environment by
10 pesticides, petroleum, gas, and chemicals that are in the
11 fields which affect us.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: We have reached the end of the time.

13 Chair, do you have any additional questions for the
14 caller, please?

15 THE INTERPRETER: (Indiscernible).

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I do not have any additional
17 questions for the caller.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you so much.

19 THE INTERPRETER: (Indiscernible).

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you calling.

21 I just want to remind everyone that the -- it's 7
22 o'clock, so the phone lines are closed, but those who are
23 in the queue and wanting to provide input, we will stay
24 to hear your input.

25 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much, Chair.

1 For those that have called in, if you wish to give
2 comment this evening, please press star nine on your
3 telephone keypad.

4 At this time, we will be going to caller 1326. If
5 you will, please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
6 star six. Caller 1326, your speaker order number will be
7 number 44. If you will, please make note of that for
8 future reference. And if you will, please let the mapper
9 know what area you would like to discuss. The floor is
10 yours. Can you hear me?

11 MS. GALLAGHER: Yes.

12 MS. MANOFF: The floor is yours.

13 MS. GALLAGHER: Hello?

14 MS. MANOFF: Hello.

15 MS. GALLAGHER: Hi.

16 MS. MANOFF: Hi. It's your turn to give public
17 comment.

18 MS. GALLAGHER: Oh, my goodness. Okay. My name is
19 Claire Gallagher (ph.), and I'm from District 25 in Simi
20 Valley. And I am just concerned about the redistricting
21 splitting Simi Valley. We would like to see it all part
22 of District 25. It doesn't make much sense to split up a
23 community. We should all have the same representative
24 representing us.

25 So that was my main comment. I'm just concerned

1 that we can keep District 25 altogether and include all
2 of Simi Valley, even extended to Moorpark if necessary.

3 So that's really all I had to say. Did you need any
4 more information from me?

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: No, that's it. Thank you. We
6 appreciate you calling in.

7 MS. GALLAGHER: Okay. Thank you.

8 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

9 And we do have one last caller this evening. Caller
10 with the last four, 4938, if you will, please follow the
11 prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star six on
12 your telephone keypad. Caller with the last four 4938,
13 if you wish to give comment this evening, please press
14 star six on your telephone keypad as you are our last
15 wonderful caller this evening.

16 Margarita, would you mind -- or Johanna, would you
17 mind just giving the instructions to press star six to
18 unmute?

19 THE INTERPRETER: Yes. This is Johanna.

20 (indiscernible).

21 MS. MANOFF: Thank you so much.

22 THE INTERPRETER: You're welcome.

23 MS. MANOFF: Well, Chair, I am going to lean towards
24 they are just choosing to listen.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. While we're waiting to see

1 if they decide to provide comment, I have a last few
2 things to read.

3 I want to thank everyone for joining our community
4 of interest input meeting today. Next week, we have
5 three Community of Interest Input Meetings. The first is
6 on Monday, August 30th at 4 p.m., focusing on Riverside
7 and San Bernardino counties and their surrounding areas.
8 And we will have a Spanish listening line and Spanish
9 interpreter available.

10 The second meeting is on September 1st at 4 p.m.,
11 focusing on Orange County and surrounding areas. We will
12 have Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese listening lines and
13 interpreters available.

14 We have another meeting on Thursday, September 2nd
15 at 3 p.m., focusing on San Diego and Imperial Counties
16 and their surrounding areas. We will have a Spanish
17 listening line and Spanish interpreter available.

18 Registration for each meeting closes two calendar
19 days before at 5 p.m. The next commission business
20 meeting will be on August 31st at 9:30 a.m.

21 Callers at the community of interest meetings are
22 not limited to the specifically mentioned counties. You
23 can visit the meetings page at our website to see a list
24 of additional upcoming community of interest meetings at
25 www.wedrawthelinesCA.org/meetings. That's

1 www.wedrawthelinesCA.org/meetings.

2 Okay. I see that our caller is no longer with us.

3 MS. MANOFF: Yes, Chair.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Before I adjourn, I was remiss
5 last time I was chair, so I apologize for that. I want
6 to -- I have a number of people I want to thank.

7 I want to thank Katie, first of all, for her hard
8 work. Margarita and Johanna, they got a workout today.
9 And thank you so much. Kristian, who runs the show,
10 thank you so much for all your hard work.

11 I also want to thank our ASL interpreters, the
12 captioners, the court reporters. And I want to thank the
13 commission staff who organized this, keep us on track,
14 get the scripts together, really do the outreach and keep
15 the show going. So thank you to the commission staff.

16 And then last but not least, I want to thank the
17 people of California, all of you who called in and are
18 helping us with our task. We really, really appreciate
19 you taking the time to call in, give us your input. And
20 we will view it all, take it all in, and use it as we're
21 beginning to draw maps later next month. So thank you
22 all. And I will adjourn this meeting.

23 (Whereupon, the Communities Of Interest Meeting
24 adjourned.)

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, of the videoconference recording of the proceedings provided by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Lisa Ann Lopez
LISA ANN LOPEZ

October 12, 2022
DATE

