

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Transcription By:
eScribers, LLC



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

Isra Ahmad, Chair
Neal Fornaciari, Vice-Chair
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner
Jane Andersen, Commissioner
J. Kennedy, Commissioner
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner
Derric Taylor, Commissioner
Trena Turner, Commissioner
Pedro Toledo, Commissioner
Angela Vazquez, Commissioner
Russell Yee, Commissioner

STAFF

Alvaro Hernandez, Executive Director
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director
Katy Manoff, Comment Moderator

ALSO PRESENT

Spanish Interpreter Johanna
Spanish Interpreter Jose Reyes

LINE DRAWING TEAM

HaystaqDNA
Q2 Data & Research, LLC

PUBLIC COMMENT

Glenn Morris, CEO, Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce
Stuart Waldman, President, Valley Industry & Commerce
Association
Sandra Cattell, Santa Clarita Sierra Club
Jaqueline Vu
Brandon Tang
Kayla
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
Candace Burroughs
Ray
Addie Hicks
Eric Payne, Executive Director, The Central Valley Urban
Institute
Sheila Allen, Executive Director, Yolo Healthy Aging
Alliance
Leana
Eduardo Antunez, Biola Community Services District
Unidentified speaker

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P R O C E E D I N G S

September 9, 2021 3:00 p.m.

CHAIR AHMAD: Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome, and thank you for tuning in to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Community of Interest Input Meeting. My name is Commissioner Isra Ahmad, and I will be co-chairing today's meeting with Commissioner Fornaciari.

Today, we are offering one language line in Spanish, so Spanish language speakers can listen to the meeting in their native language.

Could I please have our interpreter provide our call-in numbers. Would the Spanish interpreter please read the Spanish language line instructions.

INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Thank you, Chair. This is the Spanish interpreter.

(Spanish interpretation provided)

INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Thank you, Chair.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you so much.

Now, we will go over to Alvaro for roll call.

DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Is my mic on? Ah, there we go. Thank you.

Good afternoon, Chair. I will go ahead and begin the roll call.

Commissioner Akutagawa.

1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

2 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

4 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fernandez.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Present.

6 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

8 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

10 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons.

11 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

12 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani.

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

14 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

16 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

17 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

18 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo.

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Present.

20 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

21 Commissioner Vasquez.

22 Commissioner Yee.

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

24 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And Commissioner Ahmad.

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

1 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Roll call is complete, Chair.

2 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you so much.

3 I will start by sharing a little bit about the
4 Commission. Every ten years, after the Federal
5 Government publishes updated census information,
6 California must redraw the boundaries of its
7 Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and State
8 Board of Equalization districts, so that the districts
9 correctly reflect the State's population.

10 In 2008, California voters authorized the creation
11 of the Commission when they passed the Voters FIRST Act.
12 It authorized the Commission to draw the new district
13 lines for State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board
14 of Equalization districts.

15 In 2010, the Congressional Voters FIRST Act added
16 the responsibility of drawing congressional districts to
17 the Commission. The fourteen-member Commission is made
18 up of five Republicans, five Democrats, and four not
19 affiliated with either of those two parties. The
20 Commission must draw the district lines in conformity
21 with strict, nonpartisan rules, designed to create
22 districts of relatively equal population that will
23 provide fair representation for all Californians.

24 The census redistricting data was released the week
25 of August 9th. When the official California

1 redistricting database is available later this month, the
2 Commission will begin drawing maps using six line-drawing
3 criteria as outlined in the California Constitution. One
4 of these is minimizing the division of cities, counties,
5 neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent
6 possible.

7 We can obtain the city and county information from
8 those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood and
9 communities of interest information from Californians
10 directly. That's why we have launched these communities
11 of interest input sessions, to get that valuable
12 information from you directly. We encourage all
13 Californians to participate in this process.

14 If you would rather submit your community of
15 interest input over the internet, you can do so from our
16 website, or by visiting drawmycommunity.org. Skip the
17 line, go online.

18 Now, I will call on all Commissioners to introduce
19 themselves and to say hello. To see the biographies of
20 all fourteen Commissioners for additional information, or
21 to sign up for our emails, please visit our website at
22 wedrawthelinesca.org.

23 I'll begin with my Co-Chair, Commissioner
24 Fornaciari.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.



1 I'm Neal Fornaciari. I'm coming to you from Tracy,
2 California, in San Joaquin County. And I would like to
3 welcome all of California to join us this afternoon and
4 provide your input on what you think is important about
5 redistricting. We really value your input and looking
6 forward to hearing more. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you.

8 Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Hello California. Welcome,
10 and we're looking forward to hearing all of your input.
11 For those of you who are listening in, it's not too late
12 for you to call and join us, and tell us about your
13 communities, your nuance, what you tell us will help us
14 draw better maps. And we very much want to hear from
15 you. And we appreciate all who have called and who are
16 calling in, hopefully soon. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you.

18 Commissioner Andersen.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Hello California. And I'm
20 coming to you from Berkeley, California. I really look
21 forward to hearing about your communities of interest
22 today all across this wonderful state of ours. Thank
23 you.

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Fernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: (In Spanish, not

1 translated) Good afternoon, California. I'm Alicia
2 Fernandez from Yolo County. I'm looking forward to all
3 of the input. And as our lessons-learned subcommittees
4 always say, keep them coming.

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Kennedy.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.

7 I'm Ray Kennedy. I'm joining today's meeting from
8 my home in Morongo Valley, home of the rural Joshua Tree
9 Gateway Communities in the desert of southern San
10 Bernadino County. I really want to invite Californians
11 to help us understand their communities.

12 We'll have plenty of time later on to talk about
13 districts. But what we're trying to do now is to
14 understand communities throughout California. So please
15 feel free to call and tell us about what makes your
16 community special to you. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Le Mons.

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Good afternoon, California.
19 Thank you, Chair.

20 I'm looking forward to hearing community input today
21 as we are winding down our community of input meetings.
22 We've learned tons as we have been working over this over
23 the last several months, and look forward to hearing
24 more.

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Sadhwani.

1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Chair.

2 My name is Sara Sadhwani. I'm calling in today from
3 Claremont, California. And I'm looking forward to
4 hearing more communities of interest testimony. Thank
5 you so much.

6 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Sinay.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: (In Spanish, not translated)
8 Good afternoon, California. We're really excited that
9 you're spending your afternoon with us and sharing your
10 communities. I'm serving you from San Diego.

11 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Taylor.

12 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon, California.
13 Good afternoon, everyone. I hope that everyone is well.
14 I'm Commissioner Derric Taylor, joining you from Los
15 Angeles. Keep the communities of interest input coming.
16 That's the purpose of our Commission, and without you,
17 our work is not possible. So please, please, please,
18 keep the information and the input coming. Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Toledo.

20 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you, Chair.

21 My name is Pedro Toledo, and I'm coming to you from
22 Petaluma, California, up in the north Bay -- San
23 Francisco North Bay near -- or in the wine country. I'm
24 looking forward to hearing all about your communities of
25 interest, and continuing to learn more and more about all

1 communities across California.

2 Back to you, Chair.

3 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Turner.

4 Commissioner Vazquez.

5 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Good afternoon, California.

6 I'm very excited to be here from Los Angeles, California.

7 Looking forward to hearing from everyone across the state

8 today. It's a big day for California, and a big day for

9 redistricting.

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Commissioner Yee.

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Hello California. I'm Russel

12 Yee, here in my hometown of Oakland. And the most

13 important thing to say today is, Happy Birthday,

14 California. Today is Admission Day. You're 171. Still

15 a very young state. And certainly with your input and

16 help in this redistricting, we're going to help -- you're

17 going to help us make the state even more golden. So

18 Happy Birthday to us all.

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: And myself, Commissioner Ahmad.

20 I'm from the Bay Area. I am once again very excited to

21 hear all of the community of interest input from

22 throughout the state, and I look forward to a great

23 meeting.

24 I just also want to remind folks that we are active

25 on social media. So please follow us, the California

1 Citizens Redistricting Commission, on social media. You
2 can find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn,
3 and YouTube at wedrawthelinesca. Following us on social
4 media is another way to get useful information about
5 redistricting and updates from the Commission.

6 Before we continue, could I please have our Spanish
7 interpreter provide the language line numbers one more
8 time.

9 INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Thank you, Chair. This is the
10 Spanish interpreter.

11 (Spanish interpretation provided)

12 INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you so much.

14 And while we wait for folks to get queued up, I just
15 wanted to go over a few housekeeping items.

16 This meeting is for communities of interest
17 testimony focused on the whole State of California. We
18 will also be taking general public comment at the end of
19 the meeting.

20 Although the Commission has divided up California
21 into eleven zones, that is in no way related to, or
22 reflective of, redistricting lines or boundaries. The
23 Commission created the zones to assist Commissioners and
24 our team in our outreach efforts only, not as an
25 indication of planned boundaries.

1 Today, we are also joined by our Line Drawing Team,
2 HaystaqDNA and Q2 Data & Research, who will be displaying
3 a map of the area that attendees describe. Please start
4 with the area you would like to discuss, and be as
5 specific as possible about the boundaries of where your
6 community is located. It is our goal to find the area on
7 the map you would like to discuss prior to your
8 testimony.

9 If you are within a specific neighborhood of a large
10 city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
11 locate your area, your timer will begin. Attendees will
12 not be able to share their screen.

13 We are also joined by our Spanish interpreters, and
14 Katy, our Comment Moderator, who will be introducing
15 attendees when it is their turn to speak.

16 When you join the meeting, please use the Raise Hand
17 button at the bottom of your screen to enter the queue.
18 If you have registered for a timeslot, we encourage you
19 to call in during your appointment timeslot. When it is
20 your turn to speak, Katy, our Comment Moderator, will be
21 identifying you by your unique assigned ID number. You
22 will be reconnected to the session with the ability to
23 enable your own video and/or audio.

24 Again, a reminder that registration is not required
25 to participate in this public input meeting. The public



1 has the option of calling in during this meeting to get
2 in the queue to speak. If you do not have an appointment
3 and wish to call in to provide public input, the phone
4 number to call is 877-853-5247. Again, the number to
5 call to provide input is 877-853-5247.

6 You will also need to enter a meeting ID number.
7 That meeting ID number is 85028944968. All of this call-
8 in information and the access code is also listed on the
9 livestream landing page. You will need to dial this
10 number in order to give public input.

11 Today, we will be providing Spanish interpreters
12 available to interpret non-English input at this call-in
13 number.

14 The Comment Moderator will assign you a speaker
15 order number before you begin speaking, and please make a
16 note of this number for future reference. You will be
17 able to use this number to identify your COI testimony,
18 your community of interest testimony, on our website.

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

23 At the beginning of your input you will see a map on
24 the screen. Please remind the mapper what area you would
25 like to see on the screen, and be as specific as possible

1 about the boundaries of where your community is located.

2 If, at the conclusion of the meeting, there is still
3 a need to allow for members of the public in the queue to
4 speak, we will continue this community of interest input
5 meeting at a new date and time, and will attempt to
6 schedule the remaining members of the public to speak for
7 the allotted three minutes.

8 Please monitor the website as we expect to post a
9 continuation of this agenda within twenty-four hours, if
10 need be.

11 Now, a quick reminder about communities of interest.
12 While there are no clear rules on how to define a
13 community of interest, we've identified ways for you to
14 describe your community. You can begin with your county
15 or city. You can mention the street names and
16 significant locations in your neighborhood to help us
17 identify the parameters of your community. You can talk
18 about what your community's shared interests are, and
19 what brings you together.

20 You can also talk about what's important to your
21 community. Are there areas nearby that you would like to
22 be in a district with? Are there other nearby areas that
23 you don't want to be in a district with? Why or why not?

24 You can also talk about how your community has come
25 together to advocate for important services such as



1 better schools, roads, or health centers in your
2 neighborhood.

3 We also invite you to use the communities of
4 interest tool to draw a map and describe your community.
5 You may do so by visiting drawmycacomunity.org. This
6 website is available in sixteen different languages.
7 Skip the line, and go online. Submit your COI input
8 today. And please encourage at least three other people
9 to do the same.

10 As a reminder, even though we are focusing on the
11 whole state, Californians are welcome to provide their
12 input from anywhere across the state, and/or submit their
13 input through the community of interest input tool.

14 We will now begin the public input sessions, and
15 we'll start with people who are registered, and then open
16 the phone lines if there is time before the next session.

17 If you are calling without an appointment, please do
18 not hang up, as you will lose your place in line.

19 I will now pass this over to Katy, our Comment
20 Moderator.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

22 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the
23 Raise Hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
24 the comment queue. When it is your turn to speak, I will
25 identify you by your assigned unique ID number from your

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

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

10 The Commission's goal is to find the area on the map
11 you would like to discuss prior to your testimony. If
12 you're within a specific neighborhood of a large city,
13 please mention it by name. Once we are able to locate
14 your area, your three or six-minute testimony will begin.

15 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.
16 At the end of your public input, or at the end of your
17 time, you will be reconnected in a listen and view-only
18 mode. At the beginning of your input, please remind the
19 mapper of what area you would like to see on the screen.

20 At this time, we will begin with 0-0-3. And then,
21 up next after that will be 0-0-8.

22 0-0-3, I will be promoting you now. 0-0-3, your
23 speaker order number will be number 1. If you will
24 please make note of that for future reference. And if
25 you will please let the mapper know what area you would

1 like to discuss. The floor is yours.

2 SPEAKER 0-0-3: Good afternoon, Commissioners. I'm
3 addressing the area currently defined as Assembly
4 District 35, the County of San Luis Obispo, and the
5 northern portion of Santa Barbara County, to include
6 Santa Maria, the city of Guadalupe, and the surrounding
7 areas.

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

9 SPEAKER 0-0-3: Thank you. My name is Glen Morris.
10 I serve as the CEO of the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of
11 Commerce, an economic development organization.

12 Our interest today is to encourage the Commission to
13 retain as much as possible the current boundaries of the
14 35th Assembly District as they exist today. This region,
15 the northern Santa Barbara County, and San Luis Obispo
16 County areas share significant economic, employment,
17 cultural, educational, and recreational overlap. We
18 share employees, we share our markets, we share
19 recreational areas, we share university and community
20 college districts.

21 This region has recently engaged in significant and
22 formalized collaboration and coordination between
23 communities, regardless of county lines, to better serve
24 our local residents. And we believe that by keeping this
25 area as a single assembly district to the extent

1 possible, that we can continue to facilitate that shared
2 future.

3 Thank you for your service, and we appreciate your
4 efforts. We turn the time back to you now. Thank you.

5 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

6 And right now we will have 0-0-8. And then, up next
7 after that will be 0-0-1.

8 0-0-8, I will be promoting you now. 0-0-8, your
9 speaker order number will be number 2. If you will
10 please make note of that for future reference. You can
11 now enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner
12 of your screen. If you will please let the mapper know
13 what area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

14 SPEAKER 0-0-8: Sure. The San Fernando Valley.

15 MR. MANOFF: Thank you, go ahead please.

16 SPEAKER 0-0-8: Sure, thank you.

17 My name is Stuart Waldman. I am President of the
18 Valley Industry & Commerce Association. I'm also
19 representing the San Fernando Valley Redistricting
20 Coalition made up of neighborhood councils, homeowners'
21 groups, chambers of commerce, and other groups that are
22 working together to ensure that the San Fernando Valley
23 has fair and adequate representation.

24 The San Fernando Valley is bounded by the Santa
25 Susana Mountains to the north, Mulholland Drive to the

1 south, and the San Gabriel Mountains to the east. The
2 Valley is a distinct area that cannot simply be
3 piecemealed into majority districts there in other
4 locations. In fact, the San Fernando Valley, someone did
5 a survey when, and you're showing the mountains, which
6 aren't necessarily part of the Valley, but we're more of
7 the green part.

8 When, in fact, someone did a survey, showing that
9 when the San Fernando Valley was represented by districts
10 that were less than 50 percent of the San Fernando
11 Valley, those elected officials did not have district
12 offices in the San Fernando Valley. They had district
13 offices out of the Valley.

14 We are asking that the communities that you are
15 looking at right now, that stretch from Calabasas all the
16 way to Glendale, be put in their own districts within the
17 Valley. That they are wholly contained within the San
18 Fernando Valley, that they do not go south of Mulholland,
19 that you keep the communities as whole as you possibly
20 can.

21 When our area is cut up, it causes problems with our
22 elected officials. We have almost 2 million people.
23 We're an area the size of Chicago. We have shared
24 interests from the freeways, from traffic, to the heat,
25 to the use of water that other areas don't necessary --

1 necessarily have.

2 And in fact, many of you may remember, in the early
3 2000s, the San Fernando Valley was so fed up with the
4 lack of representation in the city of Los Angeles, that
5 the San Fernando Valley put on the ballot a measure to
6 secede from the City of Los Angeles. Now, that failed in
7 the city, and -- but it did pass in the San Fernando
8 Valley. But that is a representation of the fact that we
9 did not feel that we were being adequately represented by
10 our elected officials.

11 So we ask, that much like the districts are now that
12 we currently have, that our districts are wholly
13 contained within the San Fernando Valley as you can best
14 do that.

15 We appreciate the last redistricting. It took
16 districts that had 34 percent of the Valley, 42 percent
17 of the Valley, 15 percent of the Valley, and it made
18 districts that were wholly contained within the Valley.
19 So we hope that you'll do the same again.

20 And I want to thank you for your time. We also have
21 a report coming out by Cal State Northridge next week.

22 MR. MANOFF: Time.

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

24 And right now, we will have 0-0-1, and then up next
25 after that will be 0-1-2.

1 0-0-1, I will be promoting you now. 0-0-1, your
2 speaker order number will be number 3. If you'll please
3 make note of that for future reference. You can now
4 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
5 your screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what
6 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

7 SPEAKER 0-0-1: Thank you very much. I'm Sandra
8 Cattell with the Sierra Club -- Santa Clarita Sierra
9 Club. My area is the norther part of L.A. County. I am
10 in Santa Clarita, and I'm going to be addressing
11 Congressional District 25, Assembly District 38 and 36.

12 We would like to see those areas stay in the north
13 L.A. County, with the county line to the north, the
14 county line to the east, the county line to the west, and
15 the San Gabriel Mountains and the Santa Susana Mountains
16 to the south. It would also include cities of Santa
17 Clarita, Agua Dulce, Castaic, unincorporated areas of the
18 County of L.A., and go out to Antelope Valley, including
19 Lancaster and Palmdale, and a few other areas off to the
20 east.

21 The reason we're doing that is, we feel we needed an
22 area that is geographically continuous and compact, and
23 centered around communities of interest. We would like
24 our boundaries drawn so we are all in L.A. County. Right
25 now we have a very small sliver of Ventura County added

1 into some of our districts. Our area has shared services
2 like emergency, fire, and sheriff. A shared sanitation
3 district. We share our watershed. The Santa Clarita
4 River and tributaries on the north side of the San
5 Gabriels.

6 We are communities that are similarly ethnically
7 diverse communities. We have shared lifestyles, kind of
8 a mix of a suburban and rural equestrian area. We like
9 our recreation in the Angeles Forest including trails.
10 We enjoy camping, hiking, bicycling, and horseback
11 riding. We share the nature education of three county
12 nature centers. And we also have connections with work,
13 both employers and employees. And we are all serviced by
14 the same Antelope Valley Metrolink lines and coordinated
15 bus lines in between the communities.

16 We would like to see Congressional District 25 be
17 within this area, and Assembly District 38 to be on the
18 west side, and Assembly District 36 to be on the east
19 side, depending on how the population says we should draw
20 the lines, and our Senate District -- our State Senate
21 District to include those two Assembly Districts.

22 Thank you very much for this opportunity.

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

24 Right now we will have 0-1-2. And then, up next up
25 after that will be 0-0-6.

1 0-1-2, I will be promoting you now. 0-1-2, your
2 speaker order number will be number 4. If you'll please
3 make note of that for future reference. You can now
4 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
5 your screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what
6 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

7 SPEAKER 0-1-2: Hi, I'm here to talk about the
8 northwest Orange County and the cities along the Highway
9 39 corridor.

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

11 SPEAKER 0-1-2: Hi, my name is Jaqueline Vu (ph.).
12 Highway 39 is not only the major thoroughfare connecting
13 the cities, but it also houses major hospitality,
14 industry employers, including Knott's Berry Farm,
15 Adventure City, Medieval Times, and others.

16 Many workers and families use Highway 39 to get to
17 businesses, as well as Disneyland, which is right around
18 the corner. These cities on the northwest side of Orange
19 County, some border on Los Angeles County, but these
20 cities all look to Orange County Government to deal with
21 homelessness, healthcare, transportation, and other
22 issues, not L.A. County.

23 They're an ethnically diverse working-class people,
24 and many have hospitality industry ties. One -- one part
25 of Fullerton doesn't fit with the rest, and that's the

1 north central part of Fullerton. The folks who live in
2 Fullerton County District 2 are far more affluent than
3 those who live in other cities I discussed. Obviously,
4 they also look to Orange County Government for their
5 economy in terms of (audio interference). Transportation
6 concerns are quite different from others.

7 Thank you.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

9 And right now, we will have 0-0-6. And then, up
10 next after that will be 0-0-9.

11 0-0-6, I will be promoting you now. 0-0-6, your
12 speaker order number will be number 5. If you'll please
13 make note of that for future reference. You can now
14 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
15 your screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what
16 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

17 SPEAKER 0-0-6: Hello. My name is Brandon Tang
18 (ph.), and I'm here to talk about the Hacienda Heights
19 area. If you could please zoom in on that.

20 So just to give a little bit of background.
21 Hacienda Heights is a community within the west San
22 Gabriel Valley area. And it's a pretty diverse
23 community, which means more Hispanics than White or
24 Asian. And our school districts are with the Hacienda
25 and La Puente Unified School District, which also serves

1 La Puente, west La Puente, Industry Hills, and Valinda.

2 And these are the same communities that share
3 District 4, the San Gabriel Water Company district. And
4 they also share the same stretch of Highway 60 corridor.

5 And these few cities are also with other communities
6 within the San Gabriel Valley Council or governments.

7 The Mount San Antonio College district also includes
8 Baldwin Park, Covina, Hacienda Heights, City of Industry,
9 Irwindale, La Puente, La Verne, San Dimas, Valinda,
10 Walnut, and West Covina. These communities should belong
11 together along with others in the west San Gabriel
12 Valley.

13 We typically look to L.A. County to help our
14 homeless or other -- for other, like public
15 transportation. Yet, for some reason the 2011
16 Redistricting Commission connected Hacienda Heights with
17 Orange County in some districts, and that can take about
18 two and a half hours roughly, to travel from Hacienda
19 Heights to some parts of Orange County in public
20 transportation, which can add up to a five-hour round
21 trip to visit the electoral official with offices in
22 Orange County, if one doesn't own a car.

23 I'm sure you can all imagine that's not exactly the
24 most pleasant way to spend your day, and I honestly
25 believe that's not quite right. All in all, Hacienda

1 Heights is a wonderful place to live, and I wish to keep
2 us with our neighbors in La Puente and Whittier, and
3 don't get us lost in a district dominated by Orange
4 County voters.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

7 And right now we will have 0-0-9, and then up next
8 after that will be 0-0-2.

9 0-0-9, I will be promoting you now. 0-0-9, your
10 speaker order number will be number 6. If you'll please
11 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
12 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
13 discuss. The floor is yours.

14 SPEAKER 0-0-9: Perfect. My name is Kayla (ph.),
15 and I am calling with the Valley Industry & Commerce
16 Association. We're looking at the San Fernando Valley.

17 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead.

18 SPEAKER 0-0-9: Perfect. So as I said, I'm calling
19 with the Valley Industry & Commerce Association. And I'm
20 also representing the San Fernando Valley Redistricting
21 Coalition, made up of neighborhood councils, homeowners,
22 and residents' groups, and business groups. And I just
23 wanted to chat about the San Fernando Valley.

24 So the Voters FIRST Act calls for all districts to
25 be designed as geographically contiguous and respectful

1 of political boundaries. And the San Fernando Valley is
2 exactly such an area. The distinct cities of Burbank,
3 Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden Hills, and San Fernando must
4 be respected as unique communities that share only one
5 common identity, the San Fernando Valley residency.

6 Communities in the cities of the Valley must be kept
7 together as compact and contiguous districts that
8 recognize geographic features and natural boundaries.

9 The San Fernando Valley is a thriving community of
10 over 40,000 businesses, ranging in size from small
11 storefronts to multi-million-dollar corporations. Too
12 often our commercial interests have fallen victim to the
13 wins of surrounding areas. And although we share ties
14 with the city of Los Angeles, the business community of
15 the Valley maintains distinctly different interest due to
16 operations across the five Valley cities: San Fernando,
17 Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Burbank, and Glendale.

18 The city of Los Angeles is made up of geographically
19 designated communities. These communities within the
20 city are not always recognized, and their interests are
21 not always preserved. In the San Fernando Valley alone
22 there are 34 communities. We urge the Commission to
23 purchase those legally recognized boundaries for
24 inclusion in the mapping software, to keep consistent
25 with the County and the city of Los Angeles.

1 While we appreciate the neighborhood councils in
2 L.A., their lines are self-drawn, divide communities, and
3 are often disputed. All recognized communities should be
4 kept together as part of compact and contiguous
5 districts.

6 Thank you so much.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 And right now, we will have 0-0-2. And then, up
9 next after that will be 0-0-4.

10 0-0-2, I'll be promoting you now. 0-0-2, your
11 speaker order number will be number 7. If you'll please
12 make note of that for future reference. You can now
13 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
14 your screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what
15 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

16 Unique ID 0-0-2, C. Burroughs (ph.).

17 SPEAKER 0-0-2: This is Candace.

18 COMMENT MODERATOR: Hi.

19 SPEAKER 0-0-2: Hi. I'm sorry. I didn't realize
20 that was my number.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: That's okay. Your speaker order
22 number is number 7. If you'll please make note of that
23 for future reference. And then, the floor is yours.

24 SPEAKER 0-0-2: Thank you so much.

25 COMMENT MODERATOR: You're welcome.

1 SPEAKER 0-0-2: My name is Candace Burroughs, and
2 I'm a coastal resident in south Orange County, and I'm
3 here to discuss the issues involved with keeping one
4 unique State Senator, and perhaps our Assembly people
5 along the coast.

6 Our districts currently now work fairly well. And
7 they have two cities. Newport and Laguna have a lot of
8 synergies. And they both have world class resorts, world
9 class tourism, and we have workers that live inland. So
10 it's very important that the needs of these districts
11 here are met, and where we have the opportunity to work
12 with one similar elected official.

13 We need transportation for the people who are the
14 workers, who live inland. And there are opportunities
15 for us to use the airports to get our people to the
16 tourist districts. We need our coastal areas to be clean
17 and healthy. And all of these things have a direct
18 impact on those people who either visit or work in the
19 area. So it's very important that we have one person
20 that understands these issues.

21 Our closest affinity for Laguna, which where I have
22 been pretty much since the early 1970s, is Newport Beach.
23 So the affinity of keeping Laguna and Newport together is
24 highly recommended. We have the coastal Highway 1 that
25 is our main thoroughfare. And those issues, as far as

1 traffic and safety goes, are all very similar. We have a
2 strong opportunity to encourage people to keep our
3 beaches clean and safe. And the recreational areas are
4 what ties us together, and keep us having the opportunity
5 along the coast to employ lots of people that are inland
6 and can afford to live in those beautiful homes.

7 And so I encourage you to, if at all possible, keep
8 these two cities unified as much as possible for the
9 state representatives in the area.

10 I thank you for your time, and thank you for what
11 you're doing.

12 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

13 And right now we will have 0-0-4. And then, up next
14 after that will be caller 2-2-2-0.

15 I'd like to invite those that have called in to
16 please press star 9 on their telephone keypad. This will
17 raise your hand going forward.

18 Unique ID 0-0-4, I will be promoting you now.
19 Unique ID 0-0-4, there appears to be some connectivity
20 issues. We're going to do the audio-only option at this
21 time. Unique ID 0-0-4, if you will please unmute. There
22 should be a prompt to the middle of your screen, asking
23 you to do that. Unique ID 0-0-4, Kajon 100 (ph.) is what
24 I have. A Ms. Addie Hicks (ph.), unique ID 0-0-4. Addie
25 Hicks. Do you wish to give comment at this time? Well,

1 we will come back to 0-0-4.

2 And we will go to the callers. Right now we will
3 have caller 2-8-7-2, and then up next -- oh, I apologize.
4 Right now, we will have caller 2-2-2-0, and then up next
5 after that will be caller 2-8-7-2.

6 Caller 2-2-2-0, if you will please follow the
7 prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star 6.
8 Caller 2-2-2-0, your speaker order number will be number
9 8. If you'll please make note of that for future
10 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
11 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

12 SPEAKER 2-2-2-0: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
13 name is Ray. I'm here to talk about the central coast,
14 specifically, the northern Santa Barbara and San Luis
15 Obispo County.

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

17 SPEAKER 2-2-2-0: I'm a 59-year-old resident of the
18 central coast Santa Maria, and I ask that you keep Santa
19 Barbara County and northern Santa Barbara County, and San
20 Luis Obispo County connected in State Assembly, State
21 Senate, and Congressional Districts. I'd also like to
22 echo what your first speaker had to say, Glenn Morris,
23 with the city of Santa Maria Chamber of Commerce.

24 Our local community in Santa Maria and Santa Ynez
25 Valleys, Santa Maria, Orcutt, Solvang, Buellton, and Los

1 Olivos have far more in common with our neighbors in San
2 Luis Obispo County than we do with the southern Santa
3 Barbara County residents. We're so different that we've
4 had, in fact, had several attempts to split our county
5 over the last few decades.

6 Contrasting that against our neighbors to the north,
7 which is San Luis Obispo County, we are a working-class
8 community. Northern Santa Barbara County's economy, like
9 San Luis Obispo County's economy, is based on agriculture
10 and energy primarily. A reasonable workforce travels
11 back and forth across county lines constantly to shop, go
12 to school, to access healthcare. Our county governments
13 even work closely together.

14 When Governor Newsom looped San Luis Obispo, Santa
15 Barbara, and Ventura Counties together in a mega southern
16 California region during the heights of the last COVID
17 surge, the three counties worked together in an effort to
18 delink the central coast from southern California.

19 In closing, I'd like to ask that you continue to
20 keep Santa Barbara County linked together with San Luis
21 Obispo County, so that our communities may continue to
22 work to move the central coast forward.

23 Thank you, Commissioners. I appreciate your time
24 and efforts.

25 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

1 And right now, we will have caller 2-8-7-2. And
2 then, up next after that will be caller 0-0-6-0.

3 Caller 2-8-7-2, if you'll please follow the prompts
4 to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 2-8-7-
5 2, your speaker order number will be number 9. If you'll
6 please make note of that for future reference. And if
7 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
8 like to discuss. The floor is yours.

9 SPEAKER 2-8-7-2: Yeah, this is 2-8-7-2. Can you
10 hear me?

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

12 SPEAKER 2-8-7-2: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
13 name is Lionel Largaespada, Benicia City Council Member.
14 And I'm here to talk briefly about the northern Bay Area
15 on behalf of our constituents. We respectfully request
16 that the Commission keep Napa and Solano Counties within
17 the same Congressional District. The district is
18 currently represented by Congressman Mike Thompson. We
19 are CD-5.

20 Over the past 10 years the Tri-City area in
21 particular, the communities of American Canyon, Vallejo,
22 and Benicia, have established strong ties and a long-term
23 relationship, which is all shared between the counties.
24 We have been well represented. And through the
25 cooperation between our communities and our local

1 representative, we've been able to provide a number of
2 services and so forth. We have shared programs. And we
3 believe that keeping Napa and Solano in the same
4 Congressional District will continue to provide the
5 services and support that this area has benefited from.

6 Again, I urge the Commission to please keep Napa and
7 Solano Counties within the same Congressional District.
8 Thank you.

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

10 And right now we have caller 0-0-6-0. And then, up
11 next after that, we will see if we can get in touch with
12 0-0-4 again.

13 0-0-6-0, if you will please follow the prompts to
14 unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller with the
15 last four 0-0-6-0, if you wish to give community of
16 interest input at this time, please press star 6 to
17 unmute your telephone.

18 All right. Well, we will go ahead and try 0-0-4 one
19 more time and see where we are with that.

20 We'll come back to 0-0-6 (sic). If you do wish to
21 give comment, please press star 9. This will raise your
22 hand.

23 And 0-0-4, go ahead and do the audio-only option at
24 this time. And if you wish to give comment at this time,
25 it was Ms. Addie Hicks, unique ID 0-0-4 -- oh, there you

1 are.

2 SPEAKER 0-0-4: Hello. My apologies. I had to step
3 away. I sent a message in the chat. Maybe that didn't
4 reach you.

5 COMMENT MODERATOR: That's okay. I'm glad you're
6 here now, we all are. Your speaker order number is going
7 to be, if you'll just one moment, number 10. If you'll
8 please make note of that for future reference. And if
9 you'll please --

10 SPEAKER 0-0-4: Yes. My comments are in reference
11 to Congressional District 43. That includes parts of the
12 cities of Inglewood, Torrance, Lawndale, Lomita, and
13 Hawthorne.

14 It contains a high percentage of people of color,
15 and we need to continue to be able to select
16 representatives of choice for us that represents our
17 interest.

18 And some of our interest includes bills dealing with
19 police accountability and reforms, such as the George
20 Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021. The number of
21 incidents that have affected people of color in an
22 unfortunate way has just skyrocketed and been terrible.
23 And so we need to have representatives that are concerned
24 about that and push legislation to address those issues.

25 Other concerns for that community is restoring

1 federal protections for voting rights nationwide, so that
2 states can't individually enact legislation to suppress
3 the vote. And such legislation that addresses that issue
4 is the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2021.
5 We would like to be able to continue to choose
6 representatives that support that type of legislation.

7 Another concern is climate change. The frequency
8 and severity of droughts, excessive heat, and fires that
9 have escalated in recent years are the result of climate
10 change issues. And we want to continue to be able to
11 choose a representative that supports legislation that
12 addresses those issues.

13 And the onslaught of two different worlds that exist
14 as far as reality in this information, we need to have a
15 representative that speaks truth to power, and addresses
16 and holds their colleagues accountable for information
17 that does not align with the truth.

18 So the existing boundaries of Congressional District
19 43 has had representation that represents the people
20 within those boundaries. And we request this to maintain
21 those existing boundaries for that Congressional District
22 43.

23 Thank you.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

25 And at this time, Chair, we do not have any raised

1 hands.

2 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Great. Thank you so much,
3 Katy.

4 May I ask our Spanish interpreter to please read the
5 site translation of full call-in instructions, please?

6 INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Hi, Chair. This is the
7 Spanish interpreter.

8 (Spanish interpretation provided)

9 INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you so much.

11 And Katy, may I ask if we can have those same
12 instructions, the full call-in instructions, read in
13 English?

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: Of course.

15 In order to maximize transparency and public
16 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
17 taking community of interest input by phone. To call in,
18 dial the telephone number provided on the livestream
19 feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the
20 meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is
21 85028944968 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a
22 participant ID, simply press the pound key.

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

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

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

11 And we do not have any callers at this time, Chair.

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Great. Thank you so much.

13 And just a reminder to everyone, to please remember
14 to visit our website at wedrawthelinesca.org. You can
15 also sign up at our website for our emails to learn more
16 about the Commission meetings, updates, and
17 announcements. And please also connect with us on social
18 media. We are on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn,
19 and YouTube at wedrawthelinesca.

20 With that, is it possible for us to play the twenty-
21 minute informational video about the Commission, and then
22 return from that twenty-minute video to see if we have
23 any additional callers in the queue?

24 (Media played)

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Welcome back from that very

1 informative video. I will pass this back over to Katy to
2 see if there are any callers in the queue.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

4 I would like to invite those that have called in to
5 please press star 9 on their telephone keypad. This will
6 raise your hand, indicating you wish to give comment at
7 this time.

8 May I please have an interpreter? May I please have
9 a Spanish interpreter?

10 Hi Johanna. Could you please just repeat the
11 instructions to raise the hand of star 9?

12 INTERPRETER JOHANNA: Um-hum.

13 (Spanish interpretation provided)

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

15 And again, for those who have called in, you can
16 press star 9. If you'll please press star 9, this will
17 raise your hand, indicating that you wish to give comment
18 this evening.

19 Other than that, Chair, we do not have any raised
20 hands. Oh, see, it just took me saying that.

21 Caller 7-6-4-4, if you'll please follow the prompts
22 to unmute at this time by pressing star 6. Caller 7-6-4-
23 4, do you need an interpreter this evening?

24 SPEAKER 7-6-4-4: No, I do not.

25 COMMENT MODERATOR: Wonderful. Your speaker order

1 number will be number 11. If you'll please make note of
2 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
3 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. The
4 floor is yours.

5 SPEAKER 7-6-4-4: Yes. I would like to discuss the
6 city of Fresno. My name is Eric Payne. I'm the
7 Executive Director of The Central Valley Urban Institute,
8 where we represent the voices of low-income residents
9 throughout the Central Valley. Some of our most
10 disproportionately impacted residents from BIPOC
11 communities, to ensure that they have a seat at the table
12 because oftentimes they are on the margins of the
13 decision-making process, and so we believe in
14 representative government.

15 Some of my comments I'd like to center around
16 really, that Clovis should not be with the city of
17 Fresno. And that also looking at Fresno -- west Fresno,
18 which is a historical black community, does not have
19 much, if not nothing, in common with the city of Kerman,
20 and some of the outer lying communities in the county.

21 Then I'd like to offer a little bit of clarity with
22 our neighboring community, Madera, Madera County, and
23 looking at those historical black communities within the
24 region, and keeping them together, which are Chowchilla,
25 Atwater, and Fairmead.

1 And that will conclude my comments.

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 And at this time, Chair, we do not have anyone else
4 in the queue.

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you so much, Katy.

6 And I would just like to remind folks that there are
7 numerous ways that people can provide their public input
8 to the Commission. And although this is our second to
9 last live communities of interest input meeting, we are
10 still taking community of interest input. So I'll just
11 list out a few ways that folks can send in their input to
12 the Commission.

13 One would be the community of interest public input
14 meetings, so that's this meeting. So we have another one
15 tomorrow, starting at 3:00 p.m. You can visit
16 wedrawthelinesca.org for more information about the
17 remaining public input meetings.

18 You can go visit the community of interest mapping
19 tool, and that can be found at drawmycommunity.org.
20 And this tool is available in sixteen different
21 languages. This tool will allow you to draw your
22 community of interest geographically on a map, and submit
23 any additional written testimony directly to the
24 Commission.

25 You can email us at votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov.



1 You can also send us a snail mail to our
2 headquarters up in Sacramento, so that would be at
3 California Citizens Redistricting Commission, 721 Capitol
4 Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, California 95814.

5 We do have one final statewide meeting tomorrow,
6 Friday, September 10th, at 3:00 p.m. We will also have a
7 Spanish listening line and Spanish interpreters available
8 for tomorrow's meeting.

9 And just a reminder, that even if you have not had a
10 chance to register for either today's community of
11 interest input meeting or tomorrow's meeting, you may
12 still provide your input by calling us directly. And
13 that information can be found on our website.

14 With that, let's just stand at ease for a couple of
15 minutes to give folks time to dial in right before we
16 have to take our mandatory break at 4:30.

17 (Pause)

18 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: All right. Since we don't have
19 any callers in the queue as of yet, we do have a whole
20 other community of interest input session after our
21 mandatory break, in which Commissioner Fornaciari will be
22 leading the way.

23 So with that, let's head to break, and return at
24 4:45. Enjoy your break.

25 (Break)

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Good afternoon, California
2 and welcome back to the California Citizens Redistricting
3 Commission Community of Interest Input Meeting.

4 We also encourage you to visit the communities of
5 interest tool to draw a map and describe your community
6 by visiting drawmycommunity.org; that's
7 drawmycommunity.org.

8 For anyone who has joined us recently, we are
9 offering a language line for Spanish language speakers to
10 listen to the meeting in their native language, and a
11 separate line, for those who wish to provide comment or
12 public input. Could I ask our Spanish interpreter to
13 please read the site translation and the full call-in
14 instructions?

15 INTERPRETER REYES: Good afternoon, Commissioner.
16 Yes, sir, it'll be my pleasure.

17 (Spanish interpretation provided)

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

19 At this point, I will pass it over to Katy, our
20 Comment Moderator, to continue with the public input.

21 We will start with people who are registered, and
22 then open the phone lines, if there is time before the
23 end of the next session.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

25 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the

1 Raise Hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
2 the comment queue. When it is your turn to speak, I will
3 identify you by your assigned unique ID number from your
4 invite. You will be reconnected to the session with the
5 ability to enable your own video and/or audio. You will
6 then be assigned a speaker order number before you begin
7 speaking. Please make a note of your speaker order
8 number for future reference.

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

13 The Commission's goal is to find the area on the map
14 you would like to discuss prior to your testimony. If
15 you're within a specific neighborhood of a large city,
16 please mention it by name. Once we are able to locate
17 your area, your three or six-minute testimony will begin.

18 Attendees will not be able to share their screen.
19 At the end of your public input, or at the end of your
20 time, you will be reconnected in a listen and view-only
21 mode. At the beginning of your input, please remind the
22 mapper of what area you would like to see on the screen.

23 And at this time we will have -- we will start with
24 0-1-4. And then, we will go to 0-1-3.

25 0-1-4, I will be promoting you now. 0-1-4, your

1 speaker order number will be number 12. If you'll please
2 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
3 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
4 discuss. The floor is yours.

5 SPEAKER 0-1-4: Do I go first?

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: You do. It sounds like you're
7 going to -- your speakers are --

8 MR. MANOFF: You may want to turn off your speakers
9 or turn them down.

10 SPEAKER 0-1-4: All right, is it better now?

11 MR. MANOFF: That's much better. Thank you so much.

12 SPEAKER 0-1-4: Okay. Thank you.

13 Hello, thank you very much for this opportunity. My
14 name is Sheila Allen, and I would like to speak regarding
15 Yolo County, there next to Sacramento. Thank you.
16 That's us.

17 So I'm Sheila Allen, and I'm the Executive Director
18 of the Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance. We serve older
19 adults in all of Yolo County through education,
20 collaboration, and advocacy.

21 I appreciate this opportunity to talk to you about
22 the importance of, when at all possible, to keep Yolo
23 County whole when redrawing the lines.

24 Ten years ago, when they redrew the lines, they took
25 west Sacramento out of Yolo County and added in both for

1 State Assembly and Senate, and also for Congress, so that
2 they have separate representatives than the rest of our
3 county.

4 Over the last ten years, this has increased the
5 difficulty for advocates to try to both contact and
6 maintain great relationships with our elected officials.
7 And truthfully, when we met with some elected officials,
8 they did not realize that a small chunk of Yolo County
9 was in their area, which I think is very problematic.

10 Many programs and services, especially for older
11 adults and persons with disabilities, are County-based
12 and County-implemented. So if at all possible, we would
13 love to welcome back west Sacramento into the district
14 with the remaining parts of Yolo County. So I do hope
15 that when you are drawing the lines, you will consider
16 making Yolo County whole again.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you for your input.

19 COMMENT MODERATOR: And up next will be 0-1-3. I
20 will be promoting you now.

21 0-1-3, your speaker order number will be number 13.
22 If you'll please make note of that for future reference.
23 You can now enable to your audio and video in the lower-
24 left corner of your screen. If you'll please let the
25 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. The

1 floor is yours.

2 SPEAKER 0-1-3: Yes. I will be discussing northern
3 Alameda County, and also the city of Richmond.

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

5 SPEAKER 0-1-3: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
6 Thank you for the work that you're doing, and for your
7 time in hosting these public input meetings. It is
8 crucial for our democracy that people can have
9 (indiscernible) on the redistricting process that affects
10 us all. And I again thank you for ensuring that this
11 happens.

12 My name is Leana (ph.). I'm a rising college junior
13 in the University of California system, and a graduate of
14 the Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center. The Freedom
15 Center is an independent nonprofit organization that
16 promotes youth civic engagement and community organizing
17 throughout the Bay Area, and statewide. The Freedom
18 Center has a long history of outreach and advocacy
19 throughout the east Bay Area, and we are overjoyed to
20 have the opportunity to advocate for our communities
21 during this redistricting cycle.

22 This summer, I led a team of Freedom Center students
23 in researching communities of interest in Congressional
24 District 13, and neighboring cities and Districts 11 and
25 15. With consistently higher than average school

1 diversity ratings, high numbers of ethnic and cultural
2 businesses, especially among the African American
3 community, and the widest variety of religious
4 institutions we discovered, D-13 perfectly exemplifies
5 California's vast array of culture.

6 Of all the neighboring cities that we studied, we
7 found that Richmond has the most in common with District
8 13. Specifically, the 94804 ZIP Code in Richmond has a
9 large concentration of cultural businesses and community
10 centers, resembling areas in D-13. If expansion becomes
11 necessary, we would want to extend into Richmond.

12 However, since expansion into Richmond may require
13 our district to extend into El Cerrito and Kensington as
14 well, we would prefer to maintain D-13's current
15 boundaries, as those two cities do not share many of our
16 communities of interest.

17 I have lived in Oakland my entire life. From
18 attending schools in Oakland and San Leandro, shopping in
19 Piedmont, Alameda, and Emeryville, attending summer in
20 extracurricular programs in Berkeley, and driving down
21 Solano Ave with my family in Albany, I've spent years
22 witnessing all that D-13 has to offer.

23 I also spent a lot of time in our neighboring D-11
24 and D-15 cities. I visited family and friends in El
25 Cerrito and Orinda, supported black businesses in San

1 Pablo, shopped in Richmond and Hayward.

2 With that said, I have never felt the same sense of
3 inclusion, acceptance, diversity, and unity anywhere
4 outside of Congressional District 13.

5 I humbly ask you to please keep the needs of our
6 diverse communities, and to protect our communities of
7 interest by not splitting up the 13th Congressional
8 District.

9 Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you for your
11 leadership, your advocacy, and your participation in the
12 process. We appreciate it.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was everyone in our
14 queue at this time, Chair.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you for
16 that. Katy, could I ask you to read the long form
17 instructions, please?

18 COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. And we're doing
19 community of interest input right now?

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: For the time being, yeah.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: All right.

22 In order to maximize transparency and public
23 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
24 taking community of interest input by phone. To call in,
25 dial the telephone number provided on the livestream

1 feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the
2 meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is
3 85028944968 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a
4 participant ID, simply press the pound key.

5 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a
6 queue. To indicate your wish to comment, please press
7 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

8 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
9 message that says, the host would like you to talk, and
10 to press star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your
11 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are
12 not required to provide your name to give public comment.

13 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
14 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
15 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for
16 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please, turn
17 down the livestream volume.

18 And we do not have any callers in the queue at this
19 time, Chair.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, let's see.
21 You know, I'll throw it out to my fellow Commissioners,
22 if they have anything they'd like to share, any
23 observations, and this is our ultimate input meeting.
24 Any lessons learned, any -- just really things that stand
25 out for you that you'd like to share? It's really been

1 an interesting journey to learn a lot about the different
2 areas of California.

3 Commissioner Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just keep going back to
5 yesterday's session, where the different Asian
6 communities of L.A. gave us a tour of Los Angeles. And I
7 just really wanted to hop on a bus and go with them and
8 stop, and have meals in each of the different locations
9 or -- yeah, for tea or something. But it was just -- it
10 was just a lovely visual journey, and I've just been
11 thinking about it all day. So I wanted to share that.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I think that's a
13 great point. You know, when we first started this
14 journey, we heard from a number of the previous
15 Commissioners, and they shared that, you know, the
16 Commission would go out and have meals at various
17 restaurants and various communities, you know, and it was
18 really impactful for them. It's just unfortunate that
19 we're where we are, the COVID and the like, and haven't
20 had a chance to do that.

21 Commissioner Kennedy.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Along those lines, funny you
23 should mention it, if and when we do have a full in-
24 person meeting, or as close to a full in-person meeting
25 in Sacramento as possible, it occurred to me yesterday, I

1 guess that, you know, I drove up last year for the first
2 meeting of the first eight, and I drove up the 99 and
3 back down Interstate 5.

4 So I'm thinking of another road trip up 395, cut
5 across at Yosemite because I think the fires would
6 preclude me from cutting across further north to get to
7 Sacramento. And then from Sacramento down through San
8 Jose to Santa Cruz, and then through Watsonville and
9 Salinas down the 101.

10 So if any other southern California Commissioners
11 are interested, let's chat. We can have plenty of meals
12 along the way.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's a -- that would be
14 quite a road trip. And in fact, just last night I was
15 talking to Commissioner Fernandez, and I mentioned to her
16 that I thought of doing basically the opposite of that
17 road trip, to come down to southern California and stop
18 by and see you.

19 So I have Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner
20 Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeh, that's so funny. We
22 were just talking about that yesterday, road trips.
23 Because you always, when you're going from place A to
24 place B, you always want to take the quickest, fastest
25 route, right? So maybe the quickest, fastest route isn't

1 necessarily the best route to take in order to get to
2 know California.

3 And I think what I've learned most so far is, even
4 though I think I know Yolo County and Sacramento, I don't
5 know Yolo County and Sacramento. So I'm just so grateful
6 for everyone that's called in, written in, phoned in to
7 educate all of us on all the different areas in
8 California. So thank you so much.

9 And I do have a list of places I'm going to visit in
10 my immediate two-hour zone, so thank you so much.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was just going to say to
13 Commissioner Kennedy, let's get park passes and stretch
14 our legs. Yes, stop at different state and national
15 parks, and stretch our legs.

16 I learned from doing a road trip with two young boys
17 that was very necessary.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: All right. Well, and just
19 following up, Commissioner Fernandez. When I was driving
20 back down Interstate 5 and got off before to Grapevine,
21 cutting over to Lancaster and Palmdale.

22 You know, it wasn't a lot of time that I spent in
23 the Antelope Valley, but I certainly was able to
24 understand the Antelope Valley input much better having
25 gone through the Antelope Valley on my way back from

1 Sacramento, cutting across from Interstate 5, you know,
2 all the way through Lancaster and Palmdale, and the
3 Victor Valley to Lucerne Valley, to Yucca Valley.

4 So yeah, I see a lot of value in even those sorts of
5 experiences.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I was -- I had to
7 take a lot of trips to Phoenix with my son going to
8 school there. A lot of road trips to Phoenix. And you
9 know, every time I drove through the Coachella Valley, I
10 thought to myself, I need to get off and see what's going
11 on. I want to go down and see the Salton Sea. I want to
12 go and see all this. And I just -- I never got off the
13 road. And I really regret it at this point, because it
14 would make the, you know, make the input we're getting
15 right now a lot more real.

16 Anybody else?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

18 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Commissioner Taylor.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, I'm sorry. Oh,
20 Commissioner Taylor. My apologies.

21 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No problem, Commissioner
22 Fornaciari. I know it's hard to see that hand sometimes.

23 I just would have to concur with the other
24 Commissioners. The input has been quite an education.
25 And I know, as I traveled up north and visited some of

1 the colleges, it was nice to sort of be more familiar
2 with the areas that people were describing. I think that
3 we slowed it down and we were able to look. I was
4 getting my family to get involved with the different
5 counties and cities we now are in, and relating that to
6 some of the feedback that they -- input that they heard
7 while they were eavesdropping on some of our meetings.
8 So it's been an education.

9 And to sort of piggyback on what Commissioner
10 Kennedy just said, even the places that I've been, like
11 Palmdale, Lancaster, places that I frequent in traveling
12 around the area that I might consider myself somewhat of
13 an expert in, has brought a whole new light -- a whole
14 new perspective of those areas and those communities, and
15 those concerns.

16 So no matter what, this has been quite the
17 education. And I think we all the better for it. And I
18 wrote it in my application. I do learn so much from
19 communities by the food and the culture. We can find so
20 much culture in there. So I do try to have a meal in all
21 these communities, to try to get an idea -- to get a
22 grasp of that -- of the love of that area, of that
23 community. So it's been quite an education, I think,
24 thus far.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks Commissioner

1 Taylor.

2 Commissioner Andersen.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I love to go taking
4 the road less traveled, because you always see exciting,
5 interesting things that you've never seen before.

6 My only regret is that I wish we'd heard from more
7 areas. Because there are so many areas that we'd heard
8 about, which are wonderful and interesting. And I'm
9 thinking, rats, we didn't hear about that area. What
10 about this area?

11 Now I hope that people might still continue to send
12 in their information, because it's a great state. And
13 there's, you know, I'd love to do any of those road
14 trips. They would be a ton of fun. Going up to -- I
15 tell you, if you're going into the back side of Yosemite
16 from 395 though, you have to have a really good engine
17 going up that hill.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, maybe I'd need to
19 get a new car.

20 Let's see. Anyone else? We have no one in the
21 queue. We haven't enticed any callers to call in.

22 All right. Well, at this point, Katy, can I call
23 you back?

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And if you'd read the

1 instructions for public input and general public comment.

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, chair.

3 In order to maximize transparency and public
4 participation in our process, the Commissioners will now
5 be taking community of interest input and general public
6 comment for items not on the agenda at this time.

7 To call in, dial the telephone number provided on
8 the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,
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16 message that says, the host would like you to talk, and
17 to press star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your
18 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are
19 not 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 again, for those that have just called in,

1 please press star 9 on your telephone keypad, indicating
2 you wish to give comment.

3 And caller 0-0-6-0, you have joined us, and you have
4 raised your hand. If you will now, please follow the
5 prompts to unmute at this time by pressing star 6.

6 Caller 0-0-6-0, your speaker order number will be
7 number 14. If you'll please make note of that for future
8 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
9 area you would like discussed. The floor is yours.

10 Caller 0-0-6-0, can you hear me? You are unmuted.

11 Can you hear me?

12 SPEAKER 0-0-6-0: Yeah, hello?

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, hello.

14 SPEAKER 0-0-6-0: Sorry about that. I was having
15 trouble here.

16 COMMENT MODERATOR: No, that's okay. Your speaker
17 order number is number 14. And the floor is yours.

18 SPEAKER 0-0-6-0: All right. So I'm calling in from
19 Biola, California, an unincorporated community in Fresno
20 County. It is the 16th -- it's in the 16th Congressional
21 District -- Congress District. You know, we're a
22 severely disadvantaged community out here in the county.

23 My name is Eduardo Antunez. And you know, I
24 represent the Biola Community Service District. Our
25 problems here in the community would be more like safety

1 and water issues, as most of California has water issues.
2 You know, we're kind of far from any mountains. We're
3 very lucky to live by a river. So you know, we account
4 that to our recharge that it helps us out, and we're
5 happy with the water here.

6 Our community is very involved in pretty much
7 anything that we try to do. And I mean, we fill up rooms
8 for CDBG meetings. We'll, you know, make petitions.
9 People will show up with their kids, with their
10 grandparents with their -- everybody will show up. And
11 it's just pretty amazing to see.

12 The redistricting of Biola, I'm not sure. I mean,
13 we're happy with what we have now. We get pretty good
14 representation. And you know, we're happy with all the
15 help that we get from -- either from the county, from the
16 state, and the federal level.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, thank you so much.
19 We appreciate your participation and your input.

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: That was all of our callers at
21 this time, Chair.

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Caller, are you
23 still there?

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: He is, one moment, Chair.

25 If you'll please press star 6 again. Caller 0-0-6-

1 0, I believe you said your name was Eduardo. If you will
2 please press star 6. The Chair has a couple of questions
3 for you. There you are.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Hi. Thanks for -- thanks
5 for coming back.

6 Can I have the mapper zoom back in, please?

7 Are there communities that you would want to be in
8 the district with? Can you hear me?

9 SPEAKER 0-0-6-0: Yeah, hello?

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, hi. How you're
11 doing? I had a question for you. I was wondering, are
12 there some specific communities you'd like to be in a
13 district with?

14 SPEAKER 0-0-6-0: You know, our community is
15 about -- it's in a weird place. I mean, we're seven
16 miles away from the city of Fresno. We're five miles
17 away from the city of Kerman, and we're about 10 miles
18 away from the city of Madera. So we're right in the
19 middle.

20 We're right on the county line, which is the river
21 for us, San Joaquin River. And you know, pretty much
22 there is no other communities close to us. And you know,
23 we're unincorporated. We're just a severely
24 disadvantaged community that, you know, tries their best.

25 And I mean, we wish we could be joining forces with

1 other people close by, but there isn't anything to join
2 with, you know. So we just work as best as we can with
3 our county representatives and our, you know, our
4 partners which would be Kerman and the County.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Very good. Well, we
6 appreciate your input. Thank you so much.

7 SPEAKER 0-0-6-0: You're welcome. Thank you.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: I'd like to invite those that
9 have just called in. If they wish to give comment,
10 please press star 9.

11 As for caller 2-2-8-8, if you'll please follow the
12 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6, if you wish to give
13 comment.

14 I apologize. If you'll press star 6 one more time,
15 I clicked the wrong square. Thank you so much. I
16 apologize for that.

17 Your speaker order number will be number 15. If
18 you'll please make note of that. And if you'll please
19 let the mapper know of any area you would like to
20 discuss. The floor is yours.

21 SPEAKER 2-2-8-8: Do I speak now?

22 COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely.

23 SPEAKER 2-2-8-8: Okay. Yes. I'm very much in
24 favor of west Sacramento be added back into Yolo County.
25 I am a resident of west Sacramento, and I feel that the

1 services that are provided by Yolo County, and the
2 relationships are extremely strong. And by working
3 together we have a network in the county that has many,
4 many great connections for a number of kinds of resources
5 and support. So I'm very much in favor of being added
6 back into west -- into Yolo County.

7 Hello?

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is that -- okay, is that
9 it?

10 SPEAKER 2-2-8-8: Yes, unless you have some
11 questions. I'm concerned that with we are not in Yolo
12 County, that we would be marginalized, and our voices
13 wouldn't be heard as strong. Right now, we have very,
14 very strong partnerships with the other cities in Yolo
15 County, both in terms of businesses and -- but I'm mostly
16 involved in nonprofits.

17 So our collaboration and coordination is extremely
18 strong here, great networks here, and I would be very
19 disappointed to have it go away.

20 Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you very much for
22 your input. We appreciate it.

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our callers
24 at this time, Chair.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good.

1 Well, let's see. I'll check with my fellow
2 Commissioners again to see if anyone else has any other
3 comments or input they would like to make at this point.

4 So I think what I'll do, is ask to go to a five-
5 minute video, Kristian, if we can; give folks an
6 opportunity to call in, and when we get back we'll see if
7 we have any callers, and then decide from there where
8 we're going to go.

9 (Media played)

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, welcome back, and
11 thank you all, those who have joined us for this meeting
12 today. Where am I? Sorry.

13 We want to thank you all for joining our community
14 of interest input meeting today. We have one final
15 statewide meeting tomorrow, Friday, September 10th at
16 3:00 p.m. We'll have a Spanish listening line and
17 Spanish interpreters. Registration for that meeting is
18 already closed, but anyone is welcome to call in and
19 provide input.

20 You can visit the meeting page at our website to see
21 a list of additional upcoming Commission meetings at
22 www.wedrawthelinesca.org/meetings. That's
23 www.wedrawthelinesca.org/meetings.

24 So I see we have no callers in the queue at this
25 point.

1 So I want to thank everyone. While we're only
2 having one more public input meeting, which is tomorrow,
3 anyone still has the opportunity to go online and provide
4 public input at drawmycommunity.org, or you can visit
5 our homepage at wedrawthelinesca.org, and provide input
6 via phone, via mail, or email.

7 So thanks everyone for joining us. And I will
8 adjourn this meeting at this point.

9 (Whereupon, the Communities of Interest CRC
10 Meeting adjourned.)

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