

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

721 Capitol Mall, Second Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021

3:00 P.M.

Reported by:

Peter Petty

APPEARANCES

Commissioners Present:

Isra Ahmad, Co-Chair
Derric H. Taylor, Co-Chair
Linda Akutagawa
Jane Andersen
Alicia Fernandez
J. Ray Kennedy
Antonio Le Mons
Sara Sadhwani
Patricia Sinay
Pedro Toledo
Russell Yee

Staff Present:

Anthony Pane
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach
Sulma Hernandez

Technical Contractors:

Public Comment Moderator
Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director
Interpreters

Also Present

Mappers:

Karin MacDonald

Public Comment:

1. Rosa Rodriguez
2. Stuart Waldman
3. Marjorie Haslick
4. John Carlo Rubio

Public Comment (Cont'd.)

5. Speaker Number 5
6. Trace Camacho
7. Speaker Number 7
8. Speaker Number 8
9. Robert L. Duarte, Jr.
10. Mary Ellen Mitchell
11. Austin Metoyer
12. Justin Lawson
13. Lori Elgayar
14. Erick Verduzco-Vega
15. Alvaro Castillo
16. Speaker Number 16
17. Justin Morgan
18. Milton Arcos
19. John Thomas
20. Doug Otto
21. Aaron Fletcher
22. Irma Archuleta
23. Dede Rossi
24. Damon Cognalotti
25. Sam Uretsky
26. Derek Pakiz
27. Scott Stratton

Public Comment (Cont'd.)

28. Speaker Number 28
29. Jenna Sikeniyas
30. Jennifer Jones
31. Karissa Selvester
32. Stephen Ellis
33. Norm Cauntay
34. Speaker Number 34
35. Ronald C. Nelson
36. Kathleen Lubin
37. Reggie Myles
38. Speaker Number 38
39. Fabian Wesson
40. Margarita Martinez
41. James Francis Lindle
42. Carlos Amador
43. Al Silke
44. Beth Lynch
45. Renee Grace Rodriguez
46. Catherine Catersfield
47. Joella Valdez
48. Jesus Ramon Villalobos-Salud
49. Speaker Number 49
50. Speaker Number 50

Public Comment (Cont'd.)

51. Jacqueline Cortina
52. Charles Song
53. Speaker Number 53
54. Maria Morales
55. Eric Osmorano
56. Lawanda Monroe
57. Hina Ahmad
58. Gloria Olmos
59. Kim Olson
60. Masis Hagobian
61. Emi Amador
62. Reverend Frank Oliver
63. Gulbarg Singh
64. Raquel Getz
65. James Grids
66. Sage Rafferty

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* Note: The Commission may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment period that is not already on the agenda, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting. [Gov. Code Sections 11125, 1125.7(a)]

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Thursday, August 12, 2021 3:00 o'clock p.m.

CO-CHAIR AHMAD (via Zoom): Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome, and thank you for tuning in to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Communities of Interest Input Meeting. My name is Commissioner Isra Ahmad, and I will be co-chairing today's meeting with Commissioner Derric Taylor.

Today we are offering four language lines in the following languages, Spanish, Farsi, Armenian and Khmer, so language speakers can listen to the meeting in their native language.

Could I please have our interpreters provide our call-in numbers. Let's start with the Spanish Interpreter. Would you please read the Spanish language line instructions?

SPANISH INTERPRETER: Hi. Yes, this is the Spanish Interpreter.

[Instructions read in Spanish]

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

Can I have the Farsi Interpreter read the Farsi language line instructions?

FARSI INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in Farsi]

CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you.

Can I have the Armenian Interpreter read the

1 Armenian language line instructions?

2 MR. MANOFF (via Zoom): Could the Armenian
3 Interpreter please unmute in Zoom?

4 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: All right. We can come back to
5 the Armenian language line instructions.

6 Can I have the Khmer Interpreter read the Khmer
7 language line instructions?

8 KHMER INTERPRETER: Yes, Madame Chair.

9 [Instructions read in Khmer]

10 Thank you, Madame Chair.

11 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

12 Can I have the Armenian Interpreter read the
13 Armenian language line instructions, please?

14 ARMENIAN INTERPRETER: Yes.

15 [Instructions read in Armenian]

16 Thank you.

17 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, and thank you to all
18 of our Interpreters.

19 Now we will go to Ravi for roll call.

20 MR. SINGH (via Zoom): Thank you, Chair. I would
21 like to say, such beautiful languages before I start the
22 roll.

23 Commissioner Akutagawa?

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA (via Zoom): Here.

25 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN (via Zoom): Here.

2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ (via Zoom): Presente.

4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

5 Commissioner Kennedy?

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY (via Zoom): Here.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

8 Commissioner Sadhwani?

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI (via Zoom): Here.

10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY (via Zoom): Presente.

12 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

13 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR (via Zoom): Presente.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo?

15 Commissioner Turner?

16 Commissioner Vazquez?

17 Commissioner Yee?

18 COMMISSIONER YEE (via Zoom): Here.

19 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Ahmad?

20 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: You have a -- roll call is complete.

22 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Ravi.

23 So, I will start by sharing a little bit about

24 the Commission. Every 10 years after the Federal

25 Government publishes updated Census information, California

1 must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State
2 Senate, State Assembly and State Board of Equalization
3 Districts, so that the districts correctly reflect the
4 State's population.

5 In 2008, California voters authorized the
6 creation of the Commission when they passed the Voters
7 First Act. It authorized the Commission to draw the new
8 district lines for State Senate, State Assembly and State
9 Board of Equalization Districts. In 2010, the
10 Congressional Voters First Act added the responsibility of
11 drawing Congressional Districts to the Commission.

12 The 14-member Commission is made up of five
13 Republicans, five Democrats, and four not affiliated with
14 either of those two parties. The Commission must draw the
15 district lines in conformity with strict, nonpartisan rules
16 designed to create districts of relatively equal population
17 that will provide fair representation for all Californians.

18 Today, the Census redistricting data was
19 released. When the Official California Redistricting
20 Database is available in late September, the Commission
21 will begin drawing maps using six line-drawing criteria as
22 outlined in the California Constitution. One of these is
23 minimizing the division of counties, cities, neighborhoods
24 and community of interest to the extent possible.

25 We can obtain the city and county information

1 from those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood and
2 communities-of-interest information from Californians
3 directly. That's why we have launched these Communities of
4 Interest Input sessions, to get that valuable information
5 from you directly. We encourage all Californians to
6 participate in this process.

7 If you would rather submit community-of-interest
8 input over the internet, you can do so from our website, or
9 by visiting drawmyCAcommunity.org. Skip the line and go
10 on-line.

11 Now I will call on the Commissioners to introduce
12 themselves and to say hello. To see the biographies of all
13 14 Commissioners, for additional information, or to sign up
14 for our e-mails, please visit our website at
15 wedrawthelinesCA.org. Please also follow the California
16 Citizens Redistricting Commission on social media. You can
17 find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and
18 YouTube at wedrawthelinesCA. There you will find a lot of
19 useful information about redistricting and updates from the
20 California Redistricting Commission.

21 We will begin with my Co-Chair, Commissioner
22 Taylor.

23 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Good afternoon,
24 Californians. My name is Derric Taylor, and although I am
25 up north in Dixon, California, I am a southern -- native

1 Southern California kid, born and raised in Los Angeles,
2 raised in San Gabriel Valley. L.A. County is definitely
3 home. I look forward to all the input from our
4 neighborhoods, and anxiously await, especially given that
5 we have Census information, anxiously await all of your
6 public input.

7 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

8 Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Hi, California. It's
10 great to be back here in L.A. to listen to all of your
11 communities of input. Born and raised in L.A. County, but
12 now living in Orange County. So, I did move south behind
13 the orange curtain. But really looking to hearing from all
14 of the different regions of the L.A. area, from the east
15 side to the west side, down to the South Bay, and into Long
16 Beach and the gateway cities. So, please share. Looking
17 forward to it. Thanks.

18 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

19 Commissioner Andersen.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Hello, California, and
21 I'm -- my name is Jane Andersen, and I'm coming to you from
22 Berkeley, California, up north -- well, more the middle of
23 the country, but further north than Los Angeles. And I
24 look forward to hearing from everyone in Los Angeles County
25 and the surrounding areas who are going to be giving us

1 their communities of interest, and why their areas are as
2 special as they are. I look forward to hearing from you.
3 Thank you.

4 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.
5 Commissioner Fernandez.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Como estas, California.
7 [Introduction in Spanish]

8 Hello, California, and especially those that live
9 in L.A. County. I'm Alicia Fernandez from Yolo County, up
10 north. I think I got it right this time. And I'm very
11 excited to hear about your communities, and I will actually
12 be visiting your area next week.

13 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.
14 Commissioner Fornaciari.
15 Commissioner Kennedy.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I'm Ray
17 Kennedy, joining this afternoon from Morongo Valley, one of
18 the Joshua Tree gateway communities in the desert of
19 Southern San Bernardino County. Looking forward to hearing
20 what makes your area of Los Angeles County special to you.
21 Thank you so much.

22 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.
23 Commissioner Le Mons.
24 Commissioner Sadhwani.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, Chair. And

1 welcome everyone. Buenos tardes, barev, salam alaikum.
2 Welcome to all of our guests today. Looking forward to
3 hearing more about your communities of interest. I
4 probably call L.A. County home for many years, and look
5 forward to hearing more about it.

6 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

7 Commissioner Turner.

8 Commissioner Toledo.

9 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO (via Zoom): Thank you,
10 Chair. And buenos dias, Los Angeles. Good afternoon, Los
11 Angeles. My name is Pedro Toledo and I'm from Petaluma,
12 California in wine country. I'm looking forward to hearing
13 all about your communities this afternoon, and hoping to
14 have a wonderful, collaborative session today. Thank you.

15 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

16 Commissioner Vazquez.

17 Commissioner Sinay.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here. Buenos tardes, Los
19 Angeles. Good afternoon, Los Angeles. I was raised in Los
20 Angeles and went to college at UCLA, so it's nice to be
21 home. And we look forward to hearing from you, because the
22 communities of interest is a critical part of
23 redistricting. I know we got the Census data today, and a
24 lot of people want to talk about that, but we want to hear
25 from you because you're critical to this process.

1 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

2 And Commissioner Yee.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: Greetings, California, and
4 greetings L.A. County. I'm Russell Yee. I'm here in my
5 hometown of Oakland, California. And I look -- personal
6 greetings to all my nieces and nephews and relatives,
7 cousins down in L.A. County. Indeed, as Commissioner Sinay
8 mentioned, today's a big day in the redistricting world,
9 because the Census, 2020 Census data dropped finally today,
10 and so the numbers are out.

11 And L.A. County, of course, is one of the most
12 fascinating places demographically in the nation. So we'll
13 be looking closely at those numbers. What those numbers
14 can't tell us is your communities of interest, and so
15 that's what we're here to hear today, as you call in and
16 tell us about your places of -- that you call home in L.A.
17 County.

18 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And myself,
19 Commissioner Ahmad. I am very excited to continue to learn
20 about the communities out there in L.A. County, and I look
21 forward to having a very fruitful meeting today. So before
22 we continue, could I please have our interpreters provide
23 our language line numbers one more time?

24 We'll start with the Spanish Interpreter. Would
25 you please read the Spanish language line instructions?

1 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Hello. This is the Spanish
2 Interpreter.

3 [Instructions read in Spanish]

4 Thank you.

5 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

6 Can I have the Farsi Interpreter read the Farsi
7 language line instructions?

8 FARSI INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in Farsi]

9 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

10 Can I have the Armenian Interpreter read the
11 Armenian language line instructions?

12 ARMENIAN INTERPRETER: Yes.

13 [Instructions read in Armenian]

14 Thank you.

15 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

16 Can I have the Khmer Interpreter read the Khmer
17 language line instructions?

18 KHMER INTERPRETER: Yes, Madame Chair.

19 [Instructions read in Khmer]

20 Thank you, Madame Chair.

21 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And before we jump
22 in, I just wanted to go over a few housekeeping items.

23

24 This meeting is primarily for communities-of-
25 interest testimony, focus on L.A. County and surrounding

1 areas, however, anyone in California can call in to provide
2 input. General public comment will take place at the end
3 of the meeting. Although the Commission has divided up
4 California into 11 zones, that is in no way is related to
5 or reflective of redistricting lines or boundaries. The
6 Commission created the zones to assist Commissioners and
7 staff in their outreach efforts only, not as an indication
8 of planned boundaries.

9 Today, we are joined by our line drawing team,
10 Haystaq DNA and Q2 Data & Research, who will be displaying
11 a map of the area that attendees describe.

12 Please start with the area you would like to
13 discuss, and be as specific as possible about the
14 boundaries of where your community is located. It is our
15 goal to find the area on the map you would like discuss
16 prior to your testimony. If you are within a specific
17 neighborhood of a large city, please mention it by name.
18 Once we are able to locate your area, your timer will
19 begin. Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

20 We are also joined by Katy, our Comment
21 Moderator, who will be introducing attendees when it is
22 their turn to speak. When you join the meeting, please use
23 the raise-hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
24 the queue. If you have registered for a timeslot, we
25 encourage you to call in during your appointment timeslot.

1 When it is your turn to speak, Katy, our Comment Moderator,
2 will be identifying you by your assigned, unique I.D.
3 number. You will be reconnected to the session with the
4 ability to enable your own video and/or audio.

5 Registration is not required to participate in
6 this public input meeting. The public has the option of
7 calling in during the meeting to get in the queue to speak.
8 If you do not have an appointment and wish to call in to
9 provide public input, the number is 877-853-5247. Again,
10 that number to provide input is, 877-853-5247. You will
11 need to enter Meeting I.D. Number 87348251563. This call-
12 in information and access code is also listed on the live
13 stream. You will need to dial this new number in order to
14 give public input.

15 If you will be using a Spanish, Farsi, Armenian
16 or Khmer interpreter to provide input, there will be a
17 Spanish, Farsi, Armenian or Khmer interpreter for you at
18 this call-in number.

19 The comment moderator will assign you a speaker
20 order number before you begin speaking, and please make a
21 note of this for future reference. You will be able to use
22 this number to identify your community-of-interest
23 testimony on our website at a future date.

24 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute
25 time limit for English speakers, and a six-minute time

1 limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a
2 warning at 30 seconds and 15 seconds remaining.

3 At the beginning of your input you will see a map
4 on the screen. Please remind the mapper what area you
5 would like to see on the screen, and be as specific as
6 possible about the boundaries of where your community is
7 located.

8 If at the conclusion of the meeting there is
9 still a need to allow for public -- for members of the
10 public in the queue to speak, we will continue this
11 community-of-interest input meeting at a new date and time,
12 and will attempt to schedule the remaining members of the
13 public to speak for the allotted three minutes. Please
14 monitor the website, as we expect to post the continuation
15 of this agenda within 24 hours, if needed.

16 Next I'll go over the Community of Interest Tool.
17 While there are no clear rules on how to define your
18 community of interest, we've identified ways for you to
19 describe your community.

20 You can begin with your county or city, mention
21 the street names and significant locations in your
22 neighborhood to help us identify the parameters of your
23 community. You can talk about what your shared interests
24 are, and what brings you together, and what's important to
25 your community. Are there nearby areas you want to be in a

1 district with? Are there nearby areas you do not want to
2 be in a district with? Why or why not? Has your community
3 come together to advocate for important services, better
4 schools, roads or health centers in your neighborhood?

5 We also invite you to use the Community of
6 Interest Tool to draw a map and describe your community.
7 You can find the tool at drawmycacomunity.org. The tool
8 is also available in 16 languages. Skip the line, go on-
9 line. Submit your COI input today.

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

16 Katy, over to you.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

18 Welcome to the public input session. Please use
19 the raise-hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
20 the queue. When it is your turn to speak you will
21 identified by your assigned, unique I.D. number which you
22 were e-mailed yesterday. You will be reconnected to the
23 session with the ability to enable your own video and/or
24 audio. You will then be assigned a speaker order number
25 before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your

1 speaker order number for future reference.

2 If you are calling without an appointment, please
3 do not hang up, as you will lose your place in line. If
4 you will be using an interpreter, please identify the
5 language you speak as soon as you are connected.

6 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute
7 time limit for English speakers, and a six-minute time
8 limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a
9 warning at 30 seconds and 15 seconds remaining.

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

17 Right now we will have 015, and up next will be
18 001. And 015 has a request for a Spanish Interpreter, so
19 if the Spanish Interpreter could make themselves available,
20 as I will be promoting 015 right now.

21 I see you, Margarita. One moment.

22 015, your speaker order number will be number
23 one, if you will please make note of that for future
24 reference. You can now enable your audio and video in the
25 lower-left corner of your screen. If you'll please let the

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

3 MS. RODRIGUEZ (through Spanish Interpreter):
4 Hello. Good afternoon. My name is Rosie Rodriguez, and I
5 would like to focus on the area named El Monte, California,
6 please.

7 Thank you very much to the Commissioners. I am
8 part of I Heart El Monte, and we're just part of SBCC as
9 well. And part of our foundation -- I would like for -- I
10 would like to request that the Commission please keep our
11 community of interest in mind and keep it united. And,
12 again, I'm referring to the El Monte City. And I've been
13 residing here since 2010, and I became a volunteer in 2019.

14 And the area I'm referring to is El Monte and
15 South El Monte. And I believe the Interpreter may have
16 missed South El Monte earlier. El Monte South
17 (indiscernible), which are the communities of interest.

18 And one of the areas I'd like to speak about is
19 the El Monte Aquatic Center, which is on the corner -- or
20 on the -- by the streets of Mildred and Tyler Avenue, which
21 our community uses.

22 We also have the parks and recreation area in
23 South El Monte, which is on Santa Anita Avenue, which
24 provides lots of resources that we access. We also have
25 the El Monte Historic Center, the high schools, the

1 educational centers. And also swap meets, which we have
2 the Valley Mall, but we have different swap meets
3 available, and I mention those because they're also
4 (indiscernible) of our communities.

5 And so our language is the Spanish language in El
6 Monte and South El Monte, and so I would like for the
7 Commissioners, and we would like for the Commissioners, to
8 keep our communities united. Because we share parks,
9 libraries, transportation routes and, you know, we take
10 care of our families. And so we need for the Commissioners
11 to consider keeping our communities united.

12 Do I still have some time left? Can you let me
13 know, or is time up?

14 MR. MANOFF: A minute left.

15 Thirty seconds.

16 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Okay. So since I have that
17 minute left, I would like to please express that, I'd like
18 to say that our communities are different to our
19 surrounding communities that are our neighbors, because
20 some of those communities are mainly English speakers.
21 They have greater amounts of resources and funding or
22 money. And so we would like for the Commissioners to keep
23 that mind and consider that when looking at our
24 communities, because we have great needs in our
25 communities. Thank you.

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
2 Right now we will have 001, and up next will be
3 005.

4 001, I will be promoting you now. 001, your
5 speaker order number will be number two, if you'll please
6 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
7 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
8 discuss, the floor is yours.

9 MR. WALDMAN: Yeah. My name is Stuart Waldman.
10 I am calling in regards to the San Fernando Valley.

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

12 MR. WALDMAN: Thank you. My name is Stuart
13 Waldman. I am from VICA, the Valley Industry and Commerce
14 Association. I'm also representing the San Fernando Valley
15 Redistricting Coalition made up of neighboring councils,
16 homeowners and residents' groups and business groups.

17 I'm calling today about the San Fernando Valley.
18 The San Fernando Valley is a geographical area roughly
19 bounded by the Santa Susanna Mountains to the north and
20 west, Mulholland Drive to the south, and the San Gabriel
21 Mountains to the east. It lies wholly within Los Angeles
22 County, and includes the cities of Calabasas, Burbank,
23 Glendale, San Fernando, as well as 42-percent of the City
24 of Los Angeles.

25 The San Fernando Valley was formerly known as

1 America's suburb. However, now it is an economically
2 vibrant and ethnically diverse community that's the heart
3 of Los Angeles. In fact, if the San Fernando Valley region
4 were its own city, it would be the fifth largest city in
5 America.

6 The residents of this community come from across
7 the globe and work in myriad industries, but hold the
8 common identity as part of the San Fernando Valley
9 community. We have unique needs that are distinct from
10 those of the southern portions of Los Angeles County and
11 Downtown L.A.

12 The Valley needs districts that will truly
13 represent our interests. Recognition of the Valley's
14 individuality is far from new. The Los Angeles Unified
15 School District, the Los Angeles Police Department, and the
16 Census Bureau already divide the Valley into its own block.
17 Over 400 nonprofit groups recognize the Valley's regional
18 individuality, and distinguish our communities and cities
19 from the southern city of Los Angeles.

20 The Coalition supports the creation of districts
21 that will maximize the connection that legislators have
22 with the San Fernando Valley. To ensure full and adequate
23 representation for the San Fernando Valley, we support San
24 Fernando Valley-only districts. If it is necessary to
25 merge one Valley seat with areas outside of the Valley, the

1 preference is to have a minimum of 50-percent of that
2 district within the San Fernando Valley.

3 We would also request that none of our districts
4 go south of Mulholland Drive --

5 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

6 MR. WALDMAN: -- into the west side. If you must
7 move Valley Districts into another area, we would request
8 that they move north into Santa Clarita, east into the San
9 Gabriel Valley, or west into Ventura County, but never
10 south.

11 Additionally, the City of Los Angeles is made up
12 of geographically designated communities. These
13 communities within the City are not always recognized and
14 are -- their interests are not always preserved. In the
15 San Fernando Valley alone, there are 34 community --

16 MR. MANOFF: Time.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

18 All right. Now we will have 005, and up next
19 will be 003.

20 005, I will be promoting you now. 005, your
21 speaker order number will be number three, if you'll please
22 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
23 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
24 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
25 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

1 MS. HASLICK: I'm in the Antelope Valley,
2 Palmdale, Lancaster. My name is Marjorie Haslick
3 (phonetic). Am I on? Yeah, okay, I see the screen moving.
4 Okay.

5 I've lived here since 1981. Many a people from
6 the Antelope Valley -- well, in the late 80's and then
7 again around 2005 to 2010, we've had a couple major housing
8 booms, where many people from L.A. area bought houses up
9 here to have affordable housing, and then there's a greater
10 communiter -- commuter population that goes down into L.A.

11 Currently our Congressional District 25 includes
12 Santa Clarita and Simi Valley. I would like to keep that.
13 But you were talking about being -- I'm not trying to be
14 device. Well, several areas of the Lancaster and Quartz
15 Hill -- you can see that green line up at the top, that is
16 in the Kern County District. That is not, that area is not
17 District 25, and I'd like to include that area, to get it
18 back, that area back into District 25.

19 It -- Quartz Hill, parts of Lancaster, I know
20 people in Lancaster, some are in 25, and then some are in
21 23. It's all a high-desert area. As the Commissioner from
22 San Bernardino understands desert community life, it's
23 harsh climate, sensitive climate. I'd like to include
24 Quartz Hill and parts of Lancaster.

25 Include -- go up to the Kern County line, because

1 that part, where that green line is, and there's that red
2 line at the top, that's where Kern County is. I'd like to
3 get that part there back into District 25. That is
4 actually Avenue A -- okay. That would be -- there's a
5 major highway that goes through, Highway 138. Okay, that's
6 further down.

7 Right now, a lot of that over towards the right
8 hand -- anyhow, parts of that top part are still in the
9 other district, and that's still L.A. County. You wanted
10 to make it not so devise. That whole area up to where that
11 red line is needs to be, I think, part of District 25
12 again. Because we're all the same community, people, share
13 the same -- there's farming, airspace industry. It's a
14 diverse community. We've had a lot of commuter people
15 living up here. People that have lived here for -- their
16 families have been established here. So it's diverse that
17 way. But the desert community provides unique
18 opportunities that people down in L.A. don't understand,
19 because of our high elevation and our climate is just
20 harsh. We have the Antelope --

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MS. HASLICK: Yeah. We have the Antelope Valley
23 California State Park Poppy Reserve up here. We also have
24 the Indian Museum, which is also part of the state park.
25 So, people come up here for certain reasons, but we've got

1 the aircraft. So, thank you for your time. Please put us
2 back into -- this whole area into 25. Thank you.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now
4 we will have 003, and up next will be 024.

5 003, I will be promoting you now. 003, your
6 speaker order number will be number four, if you'll please
7 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
8 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
9 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
10 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

11 MR. RUBIO: Yes. I'd like to discuss the San
12 Fernando Valley.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

14 MR. RUBIO: Sure. Thank you for this
15 opportunity, Commissioners. My name is John Carlo Rubio.
16 I'm with the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, and
17 the San Fernando Valley Redistricting Coalition.

18 As you are well aware, unique communities of
19 interest are required to be respected when crafting state
20 legislative and congressional districts. The San Fernando
21 Valley includes two major, distinct communities of interest
22 that far too long have been assumed to share common
23 interests with ethnically similar areas outside of the
24 Valley.

25 High-density populations of Latino minority

1 voters in the cities of San Fernando and North Hollywood,
2 as well as the communities of Pacoima, Arleta and Reseda,
3 represent one such distinctive community of interest
4 currently included with the surrounding populations to the
5 east in the San Gabriel Valley, and north in Ventura
6 County, that share little ethnic and social connections
7 with Valley Latinos.

8 Additionally, large Angelo populations in the
9 communities of Woodland Hills, West Hills, Encino, Tarzana,
10 Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Toluca Lake, and the cities of
11 Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Burbank, also maintain their
12 own Valley-specific ties and concerns that are inconsistent
13 with those of the west city of Los Angeles communities, and
14 cities of Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Santa Monica.

15 Despite steady growth in Valley communities of
16 interest, political interests have historically determined
17 legislative districts without regard or respect for those
18 ethnic or social identities.

19 I simply ask that you distinct social, economic
20 and environmental interests of the San Fernando Valley no
21 longer be clumped into West L.A. and Ventura County
22 districts. These more common communities deserve to have
23 their own interests represented. Thank you for bringing
24 about the changes necessary to ensure the right to proper
25 representation for Valley communities is finally upheld.

1 Thank you.

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 All right. Now we will have 024, and up next
4 will be 016.

5 024, I will be promoting you now. 024, your
6 speaker order number will be number five, if you will
7 please make note of that for future reference. You can now
8 enable your audio and video on the lower-left corner of
9 your screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what
10 area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

11 SPEAKER NUMBER 5: Hi. I'll be speaking about
12 Long Beach. Okay. Thank you.

13 My name is Shannon. I'm with the Long Beach
14 Convention and Visitor's Bureau. It's been really -- it's
15 really important for us to keep Long Beach together.
16 That's the way we are now, and it's been working really
17 well for us.

18 Long Beach is an amazing community. We do so
19 many things together, especially during covid, where we --
20 we weren't able to host conventions in our convention
21 center, but we were able to repurpose the space and use our
22 talented employees to support the community. While we were
23 shut down, we took the time to build a virtual production
24 studio. We were able to help many organizations in the
25 city with that. We have a very intricate virtual meeting

1 and collaborations tool that's made it possible to have
2 things like breakout rooms, virtual studios and other
3 things to bridge the gap.

4 And in January we repurposed ourselves again as
5 the communities' vaccination center, which we're really
6 proud of. Seventy-four-percent of our City is now
7 vaccinated against COVID-19, and many of those vaccinations
8 happened right here in downtown Long Beach at our
9 convention center, with the support of the City's health
10 department, fire department, the Governor, state and
11 federal partners.

12 I cannot overstate how closely it is that we all
13 work together in this city, and our vaccination effort was
14 one of the very big examples of that. It's been one of the
15 most impactful things I've been able to do with the Long
16 Beach Convention Center, and really only possible because
17 of the amazing collation that we have with our city,
18 community, business and nonprofit partners.

19 Now that the city is shifting to mobile
20 vaccination clinics, our convention center is pivoting once
21 again, and we're expecting business in the next month and
22 year and a half, to be really strong, and we are looking to
23 welcome conventions back in our City, continuing to do the
24 work to support the community.

25 On redistricting, please continue to keep Long

1 Beach together, so that we can continue these amazing and
2 impactful collaborations throughout our community, and
3 continue to build. Thank you so much.

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: And thank you.

5 Right now we will have 016, and up next will be
6 002.

7 016, I will be promoting you now. 016, your
8 speaker order number will be number six, if you'll please
9 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
10 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
11 discuss, the floor is yours.

12 MR. CAMACHO: I'll also be speaking about Long
13 Beach.

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Go ahead.

15 MR. CAMACHO: Thank you. My name is Trace
16 Camacho. I'm a homeowner who lives in Long Beach, as well
17 as I have the opportunity to work in Student Services at
18 California State University Long Beach. And I want to
19 advocate for keeping Long Beach together as we currently in
20 the current redistricting process.

21 I heard all the Commissioners mention how excited
22 they were to have Census data released today, and I wanted
23 to speak about community that is left out of the Census
24 data, and that community of interest is the LGBT community.

25 As a member of the LGBT community whose

1 profession has led me all over the country, I am very happy
2 that I finally now get to call Long Beach home, for having
3 such a strong and welcoming queer community, as well as
4 representatives at all level who advocate on behalf of my
5 community.

6 Equity California has identified Long Beach as
7 one of the most densely populated areas for LGBT
8 individuals. And even today if you took note, there's a
9 New York Times article talking about how LGBT communities
10 are an important community of interest to consider in the
11 redistricting process. Keeping Long Beach together is
12 vital not only to advocate for the City of Long Beach for
13 our diverse communities within it. That is why I advocate
14 today for you to keep Long Beach together and help support
15 my community of interest within the City of Long Beach, the
16 LGBT community. Thank you for your time.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

18 All right, now we will have 002, and up next will
19 be 004.

20 002, I will be promoting you now. 002, your
21 speaker order number will be number seven, if you'll please
22 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
23 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
24 discuss, the floor is yours.

25 SPEAKER NUMBER 7: Hi. I'm calling regarding the

1 San Fernando Valley.

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

3 SPEAKER NUMBER 7: Perfect. My name is Kayla,
4 and I'm calling with the Valley Industry and Commerce
5 Association and the San Fernando Valley Redistricting
6 Coalition. The Voters First Act calls for all districts to
7 be designed as geographically continuous and respectful of
8 political boundaries.

9 The San Fernando Valley is exactly such an area.
10 The distinct cities of Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden
11 Hills and San Fernando must be respected as unique
12 communities that share only one common identity, the San
13 Fernando Valley residency.

14 The communities in the cities of the Valley must
15 be kept together as compact and contiguous districts that
16 recognize geographic features and natural boundaries. The
17 San Fernando Valley is a thriving community of over 40,000
18 businesses, ranging in size from small storefronts to
19 multi-million-dollar corporations.

20 Too often our commercial interests have fallen
21 victim to the whims of surrounding areas. Although we
22 share economic ties with the City of L.A., the business
23 community of the Valley maintains distinctly different
24 interests due to operations across five different Valley
25 cities, San Fernando, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Burbank and

1 Glendale.

2 The City of Los Angeles is made of geographically
3 designated communities. These communities within the City
4 are not always recognized, and their interests are not
5 always preserved. In the San Fernando Valley alone, there
6 are 34 communities, and we urge the Commission to purchase
7 those legally recognized boundaries for inclusion in the
8 mapping software, to keep consistent with the County and
9 the City of Los Angeles.

10 And while we appreciate the neighborhood councils
11 in Los Angeles, their lines are self-drawn, divide
12 communities, and are often disputed. All recognized
13 communities should be kept together as part of compacted
14 and contiguous districts, which shall recognize geographic
15 features and natural boundaries. Thank you very much.

16 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

17 Right now we will have 004. Up next will be 011.

18 004, I will be promoting you now. 004, your
19 speaker order number will be number eight, if you'll please
20 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
21 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
22 discuss, the floor is yours.

23 SPEAKER NUMBER 8: It will be speaking about the
24 City of Rancho Palos Verdes. Thank you.

25 Good afternoon, honorable Commissioners. My name

1 is Mackenzie, and I'm speaking on behalf of the City of
2 Rancho Palos Verdes. The City is located on the Palos
3 Verdes Peninsula, adjacent to the peninsula cities of Palos
4 Verdes Estates, Rolling Hills, and Rolling Hills Estates.
5 The peninsula cities share a school district, library
6 district, local transit authority, land conservancy, and
7 frequently work together on areas of mutual interest. The
8 cities of Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills and Rolling
9 Hills Estates additionally share a regional contract with
10 the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

11 The City of Rancho Palos Verdes has also been
12 intimately tied to the coastal cities and communities of
13 the South Bay region, including the peninsula cities
14 Torrance, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and
15 El Segundo. The city shares with its northerly South Bay
16 neighbors a dependence upon a common transportation network
17 for access to the rest of the Los Angeles region, and
18 shared many economic and cultural factors. Additionally,
19 the city actively participates with the South Bay Cities
20 Council of Governments.

21 Following the 2010 Census, the city was realigned
22 with the northern coastal cities and communities of the
23 South Bay, located generally west of the 110 and 405
24 Freeways, and south of LAX. We have appreciated the common
25 representation these districts have provided, and would

1 request that the city continue to be districted with the
2 other cities on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and with the
3 South Bay. Thank you for your time.

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

5 Right now we will have 011. Up next will be 019.

6 011, I will be promoting you now. 011, your
7 speaker order number will be number nine, if you'll please
8 make note of that for future reference. If you could --

9 MR. DUARTE: Good afternoon.

10 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead, the floor is yours.

11 MR. DUARTE: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Long
12 Beach is the city in which I'm talking about today.

13 Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Robert
14 Duarte, and I'm a resident of Long Beach, and also a
15 Commissioner on the Airport Advisory Board. And I'm here
16 today to ask that during this redistricting process that
17 Long Beach maintains in its current legislative makeup, and
18 that the district lines remain the same for another decade.

19 A decade ago Long Beach -- the Long Beach
20 community had to fight to keep our city together as
21 possible, and it worked. And today many of our fellow
22 community members are doing the same, and I'd like to add
23 my voice to that.

24 A large majority of Long Beach is currently in
25 our main congressional state senate and state assembly

1 districts, and I hope that we can keep it that way.
2 Representatives that know all of Long Beach best serve our
3 diverse needs and our much intertwined communities.
4 Because of the way our district lines are drawn, our
5 communities have been able to work with our policymakers to
6 advocate for the betterment of Long Beach and its interest.

7 To split Long Beach up now would be a great
8 disservice and put many of our already disadvantaged
9 communities at a further disadvantage. I ask that you
10 please support the collaborative partnerships that we
11 built, and let us continue this work together to best serve
12 Long Beach.

13 Our City's strength is that we are a diverse
14 majority-minority city, where our elected leaders reflect
15 us, and having elected leaders from Long Beach is the best
16 way to reflect our community. I thank you for your time
17 today, and I ask that you listen to my fellow Long Beach
18 residents who value the way our district lines are now
19 drawn. Please keep Long Beach together, and it is our --
20 it is about our civic unity and identity. Thank you all
21 for your service as Commissioners.

22 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

23 Right now we will have 019. Up next will be 017.

24 019, I will be promoting you now. 019, your
25 speaker order number will be number 10, if you'll please

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

5 MS. MITCHELL: Yes. Long Beach. Hi. My name is
6 Mary Ellen Mitchell, and I am a homeowner in the City of
7 Long Beach, as well as I am the Executive Director of
8 WomenShelter of Long Beach. The WomenShelter of Long Beach
9 provides supportive services to survivors of domestic
10 violence, and has been serving the victims of domestic
11 violence and their children for almost 45 years now.

12 Our mission is to eliminate domestic violence
13 through compassionate intervention, education and personal
14 empowerment. In our 45 years we have helped thousands of
15 families overcome the trauma caused by domestic abuse.
16 And, in fact, we've reached in excess of 3,200 and provided
17 over 24,000 services last fiscal year, even during the
18 pandemic.

19 These victims come from every neighborhood and
20 demographic that exists in Long Beach and surrounding
21 cities. We do not do this work alone. Here in the City of
22 Long Beach, WomenShelter of Long Beach is fortunate enough
23 to be part of a strong network of nonprofit providers, all
24 working together to support each other, support those we
25 serve, and to support our City.

1 We work closely with all city departments and
2 especially with the Long Beach Police Department and Fire
3 Department, to ensure the safety and support of the many
4 victims of domestic violence who we serve. Every year
5 during the holidays WomenShelter works closely with our
6 local fire department to ensure that the families who are
7 staying at our shelters, and those who receive services
8 through our resource center, are given every opportunity to
9 have a joyous holiday season.

10 These are the people who are often at one of the
11 most vulnerable points in their lives, and every ounce of
12 kindness goes a long way for them, and this is important.
13 We greatly appreciate the toys and unwrapped gifts that are
14 donated through the Spark of Love Toy Drive that benefits
15 our families during this time.

16 Over the years I've had the opportunity to work
17 collaborative with many organizations across Long Beach on
18 behalf of the WomenShelter. By being a part of the
19 community that is at the core of our main congressional
20 state senate and state assembly districts, our city has
21 been able to build relationships and find synergy across
22 each level of government.

23 We have been well-served over the years. As this
24 Commission considers new district lines across California,
25 we ask that you please continue to keep Long Beach together

1 in federal and state legislative districts as it should be.
2 We would truly appreciate the ability to build upon the
3 collaborations and partnerships that we currently have in
4 place. I thank you for your time --

5 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds remaining.

6 MS. MITCHELL: -- and your service on this
7 Commission.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

9 Right now we will have 017. Up next will be 021.
10 017, I will be promoting you now. 017, your
11 speaker order number will be number 11, if you'll please
12 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
13 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
14 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
15 would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

16 MR. METOYER: Hi. My name is Austin Metoyer, and
17 I am speaking about the City of Long Beach.

18 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead.

19 MR. METOYER: Awesome. Thank you.

20 Well, good afternoon, Commissioners. Thank you
21 for the opportunity to speak with you today. As I
22 mentioned, my name is Austin Metoyer, and I'm a life-long
23 resident of the Long Beach community.

24 My family actually has lived in Long Beach nearly
25 -- most of their lives. My grandparents moved from

1 Arkansas and from Louisiana to make a home in Long Beach.
2 My parents and my siblings and cousins have all grown up in
3 Long Beach, attended Long Beach Poly High School, and Long
4 Beach State University. And currently I live in the
5 Wrigley area, so Long Beach for me has been -- has always
6 been home. And in addition to living in Long Beach, I also
7 serve on the Long Beach Economic Development Commission as
8 a Commissioner.

9 And so, as one of the other speakers had noted, I
10 think 10 years ago Long Beach (indiscernible) been an
11 independent redistricting commission when they did this
12 work for the City not too long ago, and saw incredible
13 benefits as it relates to the community and keeping the
14 community together.

15 I love my city and everything it has to offer,
16 from its incredible education system, to downtown, to our
17 many diverse neighborhoods. And furthermore, as a member
18 of the LGBT community, Long Beach has been an extremely
19 welcoming city for me and my partner.

20 As one of the previous speakers had noted,
21 Quality California has identified Long Beach as one of the
22 most dense gay communities in the State, with a high
23 concentration of LGBTQ businesses and people. And it's
24 critical we continue to keep our queer community voices
25 together and strong.

1 All across our shoreline in Long Beach and in
2 downtown, we have businesses that represent both our
3 community's needs and interests. And so Long Beach is a
4 place that has something for everyone.

5 I'm calling on the Commission, the Commission
6 today to keep the State of Long Beach together, as the
7 previous redistricting commission has done for us, so that
8 we can keep our unique culture and identify as a queer-
9 friendly city. Thank you.

10 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

11 Right now we will have 021, and up next will be
12 023.

13 021, I will be promoting you now. 021, your speaker order
14 number will be number 12, if you'll please make note of
15 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
16 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
17 is yours.

18 MR. LAWSON: Hi. I'll be speaking on the City of
19 Long Beach.

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.

21 MR. LAWSON: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
22 name is Justin Lawson, and I'm a resident of the Wrigley
23 neighborhood here in Long Beach. I grew up in a
24 neighboring community and first moved to the city to attend
25 Cal State Long Beach in 2008. After graduation my partner

1 and I spent a few years on the East Coast for work, and
2 when we decided where we wanted to move back -- when we
3 wanted to move to California, we knew Long Beach was the
4 place we wanted to settle and make our home.

5 There's much to love about our city. It's
6 welcoming, diverse, and focused on community. Long Beach
7 is a place where everyone, especially for those who
8 identify as LGBTQ-plus. You might have seen the recent New
9 York Times article released that highlighted this important
10 community of interest.

11 Equality California has also identified Long
12 Beach as one of the most populous communities in the State,
13 with a concentration of LGBTQ-plus culture, business and
14 residents, and I've always felt welcome.

15 From our downtown to the east side, we have
16 businesses that represent our community's needs and
17 interests. And I support keeping the City of Long Beach in
18 much the same districts when the lines are redrawn. Long
19 Beach is both a diverse community and one that is closely
20 knit. Its incredible sense of place make me proud to call
21 it home.

22 I ask the Commission today to keep Long Beach
23 together as the previous redistricting commission has done
24 for us, so we can keep our unique culture and identity
25 intact. Thank you.

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
2 Right now we will have 023, and up next will be
3 018.
4 023, I will be promoting you now. 023, your
5 speaker order number will be number 13, if you'll please
6 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
7 your audio and video on the lower-left corner of your
8 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
9 would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.
10 MS. ELGAYAR: Hello. I would like to talk about
11 Long Beach, please.
12 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.
13 MS. ELGAYAR: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
14 name is Lori Elgayar, and I am with the Long Beach
15 Convention Center and Visitor's Bureau. I am part of a
16 team that gets to talk about all the great things that
17 happen in Long Beach to attract more businesses,
18 conventions and visitors to our city. And there's always
19 something happening in Long Beach.
20 Before covid, the Long Beach hospitality and
21 tourism industries supported over 18,000 jobs, 15,000 of
22 which were made possible by direct visitor spending, 1,600
23 by indirect spending, and 2,000 by induced spending, which
24 is spending by individuals or households caused by
25 increased earnings linked to the direct and indirect

1 spending.

2 The total labor income generated by the industry
3 was 687,000,000 in 200 -- in 2018. Also, an independent
4 analysis of our tourism industry found that the industry
5 generated an estimated \$1.8 billion in total economic
6 impact in the city last year.

7 While the past year was hard for everyone, we are
8 making a comeback. And, again, because of our close
9 collaboration with our local, state and federal elected
10 officials, we've been able to secure PPP loans, preserve
11 jobs, and keep the building operational.

12 This all enabled us to be ready to help when the
13 call came to turn our convention center into a temporary
14 shelter for migrant children. We're incredibly proud to
15 support this work, all of which would not be possible if
16 not for the amazing collaboration that we have with our
17 city, community, business and nonprofit partners. The
18 level of coordination between our community and state and
19 federal elected officials have only served to benefit our
20 local workforce economy and businesses.

21 We ask that you support Long Beach and the
22 collaboration we've been able to foster by keeping a large
23 majority of our city together through this redistricting
24 process. As a visitor's bureau, we market all of Long
25 Beach, and we ask that you please don't break up our city.

1 Thank you.

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 Right now it will be 018, and up next will be
4 014.

5 018, I will be promoting you now. 018, your
6 speaker order number will be -- excuse me, will be 14. If
7 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would like
8 to discuss, the floor is yours.

9 MR. VERDUZCO-VEGA: Long Beach, please.

10 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead.

11 MR. VERDUZCO-VEGA: Thank you. Good afternoon.

12 My name's Erick Verduzco-Vega, and I have been a Long Beach
13 resident for more than 25 years. I'm the past president
14 and CEO of the South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce. I
15 have the honor of serving as a Commissioner for the City of
16 Long Beach, and also a Commissioner for the County of Los
17 Angeles, and I'm very proud to be able to employ more than
18 30 men and women through several businesses that my wife
19 and I own in Long Beach.

20 I came to speak today in strong of support of
21 keeping Long Beach together in a congressional, state
22 assembly and state senate district, very similar to the
23 work that done by the previous independent redistricting
24 commission.

25 My family and I believe that doing so will

1 preserve the geographic and demographic integrity. It will
2 allow our unique strengths as a city, particular -- excuse
3 me, particularly with our Latino business community, to
4 contribute to the continued success of California.

5 Our largest Latino organizations, like CENTRO Cha
6 and Latinos in Action, want to ensure that you don't break
7 up our city. For the past two redistricting cycles, the
8 city has been largely kept intact, with the vast majority
9 of Long Beach represented by predominant seats. With
10 nearly half-a-million residents, Long Beach is the second
11 most popular -- populous city in Los Angeles County, and
12 the seventh in California, and it's home to one of the
13 State's most diverse communities.

14 To ensure that our community (indiscernible)
15 remains an economic engine for the State, and to keep our
16 robust community thriving, I ask that the Commission draw
17 final lines that keep most of Long Beach intact in single
18 districts. Thank you so much, Commissioners.

19 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

20 Right now we will have 014, and up next will be
21 022.

22 014, I will be promoting you now. 014, your
23 speaker order number will be number 15, if you'll please
24 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
25 please let the mapper know what area you would like to

1 discuss, the floor is yours.

2 MR. CASTILLO: Thank you very much. City of Long
3 Beach, please.

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Go ahead.

5 MR. CASTILLO: Thank you, Commissioners. My name
6 is Alvaro Castillo, and I'm a life-long resident of the
7 City of Long Beach. And I'm here to speak on behalf of
8 keeping Long Beach unified in the upcoming redistricting.

9 As other speakers have noted, Long Beach is a
10 very diverse community, and I can attest to that diversity.
11 Since moving here in late 1970's, emigrating here from
12 Nicaragua my family has made Long Beach our home, and I
13 plan to do the same for my own children.

14 I have two kids in the Long Beach Unified School
15 District. As a product of the City of Long Beach, both
16 through the school district and Long Beach State
17 University. I've also served in various capacities, and
18 continue to help my community in Long Beach by serving in
19 the community development commission, the airport
20 commission, police commission and other areas to, again,
21 help contribute to the city's well-being.

22 The redistricting process is one of those things
23 that I feel very strongly about, most importantly because
24 we have so many things of interest. We have our own health
25 department. We have a airport that supports the region, a

1 vibrant downtown, and lot of very unique sub-communities
2 within the city that are very well served by having unified
3 leadership at the state and federal level to bring
4 resources to our city. And fortunately because of those
5 things, we've benefitted over the decade.

6 And I still remember being a teenager, having to
7 request services from our representatives that were in far
8 north of us and far east of us, that I guarantee you did
9 not represent the interests that I hold. So, I continue to
10 hope that the Commission will consider -- continue to keep
11 that momentum going, so the next 10 years we can continue
12 to make progress, and that the elected leadership can
13 continue to represent our city collectively, and, again,
14 the diversity in the City of Long Beach, not only the
15 Latino community but all the communities.

16 I'm a graduate of Long Beach Poly High School,
17 where I call that the melting pot of America in one small
18 5,000 population's high school, where you have folks from
19 all socioeconomic backgrounds, Southeast Asia, all over the
20 U.S. and various languages and communities as well. So, I
21 hope that you will continue to honor that and keep our
22 lines together.

23 Lastly, the efforts that the city makes in terms
24 of its services, and all the things that we have, again,
25 with the health department, things especially --

1 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2 MR. CASTILLO: -- in this last year, proved
3 beneficial. So I hope you continue to honor that. Thank
4 you very much.

5 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right now
6 we will have 022, and up next will be 010.

7 022, I will be promoting you now. 022, your
8 speaker order number will be number 16, if you'll please
9 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
10 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
11 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
12 would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

13 SPEAKER NUMBER 16: Long Beach, please.

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.

15 SPEAKER NUMBER 16: Good afternoon,
16 Commissioners. My name is Stella, and I'm calling today to
17 respectfully request that the Commission keep Long Beach
18 together in our congressional state senate and state
19 assembly districts.

20 I've been an active member of the Long Beach
21 community for 30-plus years. I'm a proud environmentalist.
22 I'm a member of our LGBTQ community, and a strong advocate
23 for equity and representation. Thank you so much for
24 taking the time to listen to me, and to my fellow Long
25 Beach community members, who speak out about keeping Long

1 Beach together during their redistricting process.

2 This is very important to the work that we're
3 doing and the progress that we've been able to make in our
4 community. We have a vital LGBT community represented by
5 its own LGBTQ center, and a number of related communities
6 support our organizations that the city depends on.

7 We have numerous sustainability and climate
8 change organizations that are critical to creating a
9 sustainable and an equitable agenda and action plan for the
10 city. We have a vibrant green (indiscernible) that
11 provides thousands of workforce opportunities to local
12 residents, and we have one of the largest Cambodian
13 communities in the country. With close to 500,000
14 residents currently living in Long Beach, it is critical
15 that the city be kept together to ensure that we are
16 effectively supported by the current congressional state
17 senate and state assembly districts. Adding more area to
18 these districts might complicate and slow down our efforts
19 to create a more resilient and equitable city for all.

20 Long Beach has incredible potential from an
21 equity and sustainable -- sustainability standpoint. We
22 have many organizations, nonprofits, community
23 organizations, schools, and the city council and the mayor
24 that work very closely to engage our communities, to keep
25 them involved, and to bring constant change to the City of

1 Long Beach.

2 Thank you so much for your service,
3 Commissioners, and I respectfully request that you keep the
4 City of Long Beach together as far as our congressional
5 state senate and state assembly districts. Thank you.

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

7 Right now we will have 010, and up next will be
8 012.

9 010, I will be promoting you now. 010, your
10 speaker order number will be number 17, 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 MR. MORGAN: Yes. I am here to discuss Long
15 Beach -- first one, right? The area specifically around
16 Cal State Long Beach is known as Los Altos.

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

18 MR. MORGAN: Sure. My name is Justin Morgan. I
19 am the former CPCC commissioner. I was also head of the
20 community outreach for that commission. I served on a
21 couple boards for my kid's school -- school, and school
22 district as well.

23 My family's actually lived in Los Angeles County
24 since 1850. My great grandfather was chief counsel for DWP
25 in L.A. My grandmother and mom both grew up on the west

1 side and went to UCLA, among other schools. So I'm pretty
2 well versed in the area. I went to Cal State Long Beach
3 myself.

4 What I do right now is I own a fintech company,
5 and it was started in Long Beach by Long Beach people.
6 It's getting some real attention. I really think -- my
7 story's a little more personal. I really think Long Beach
8 is just an amazing community. It's one of my favorite
9 cities in the entire United States. I've traveled all
10 over.

11 And one of the unique things about Long Beach to
12 me is its history. I live in a house in Los Altos, as we
13 spoke, and it was built in 1947 by the same craftsman that
14 McDonnell-Douglas hired about World War II. And when we
15 were remodeling my house last winter, we pulled it apart
16 and we actually found the old blueprints that were written
17 by hand inside of the wall.

18 And it just, it's a story that doesn't have a lot
19 of meaning, except to say that Long Beach is just its very
20 own, unique community. It's got this -- it had the Spruce
21 Goose. They had -- it housed the -- has housed the Queen
22 Mary. It just has a lot of history and a lot of culture.
23 It's just a unique place.

24 And all of the other commissioners and speakers
25 before me have spoken to it much better than I have, but I

1 really, really -- I really mean it. I couldn't live
2 anywhere in Los Angeles County (sic). I can go to the west
3 side if I want to, and I chose to live here. I chose to
4 raise my son here, and I chose to start my business here.
5 And I really, really believe that Long Beach should stay
6 strong and independent. And that's all I have to say.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 Right now we will have 012, and -- right now we
9 have 012. I'll be promoting you now.

10 012, your speaker order number will be number 18,
11 if you'll please make note of that for future reference.
12 You can now enable your audio and video in the lower-left
13 corner of your screen. If you'll please let the mapper
14 know what area you would like to discuss, the floor is
15 yours.

16 MR. ARCOS: Hello. I'm speaking about the City
17 of Long Beach. Good afternoon. My name is Milton Arcos.
18 As a member of the Latino community, long-time resident of
19 Long Beach, small business owner in Long Beach, and parent
20 to students enrolled in Long Beach Unified School system, I
21 ask the Commission to largely maintain the current district
22 lines for federal and state representation of Long Beach.

23 The way the maps have been for the last 10 years
24 has been beneficial to maintain Long Beach's strong sense
25 of community and connectively to our elected officials. If

1 the district lines were to change too much and split Long
2 Beach up between our elected officials, this would change
3 the way in which we'd be able to interact with our congress
4 and state elected officials.

5 By keeping Long Beach together, we hope to be
6 able to build upon existing community partnerships that
7 have formed with our elected officials, and also with
8 various organizations within the Long Beach community. If
9 there's a silver lining to the COVID-19 pandemic, it's been
10 seen in these community groups who come out to support one
11 another, whether it be through hosting food drives or
12 getting the word about mobile vaccination clinics, or just
13 translating for one another, because there's been so much
14 information that's been distributed so quickly about a
15 topic that is important to all of us, and that's public
16 health.

17 Keeping Long Beach together through the
18 redistricting process is important to my neighbors, my
19 family and me. Please don't break us up. Thank you for
20 your time, and thank you for keeping Long Beach together.

21 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you to all of our speakers
22 so far. We are certainly excited to hear your input,
23 however, at this time we will be taking a break to allow
24 some rest time for our ASL interpreters, as well as our
25 other language interpreters. So we'll take a 15-minute

1 break and reconvene here at 4:45 p.m. Please don't lose
2 your spot in line. We will get to you as soon as we get
3 back from break. Thank you, everyone. Let's be back at
4 4:45.

5 (Off the record at 4:29 p.m.)

6 (Back on the record at 4:45 p.m.)

7 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Welcome back to the California
8 Citizens Redistricting Commission Community of Interest
9 Input Meeting. We also encourage you to visit the
10 Community of Interest Tool to draw a map and describe your
11 community by visiting drawmycacommunity.org.

12 For anyone who has joined us recently, we are
13 offering language lines for Spanish, Farsi, Khmer and
14 Armenian language speakers to listen to the meeting in
15 their native language, and a separate line for those who
16 wish to provide public comment or public input.

17 And now I would like to call on each of our
18 interpreters to provide our language line numbers and the
19 information to provide public input before we jump back
20 into public input from our callers.

21 Let's start with Spanish. Would the Spanish
22 Interpreter please read the site translation of full call-
23 in instructions?

24 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Yes. This is the Spanish
25 Interpreter.

1 [Instructions read in Spanish]

2 Thank you.

3 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

4 Now may I please ask the Farsi Interpreter to
5 please read the cite translation of full call-in
6 instructions?

7 FARSI INTERPRETER: Certainly.

8 [Instructions read in Farsi]

9 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

10 And now may I please ask the Armenian language
11 interpreter to please translate the cite translation of
12 full call-in instructions?

13 Again, that's the Armenian Translator, would you
14 please read the cite translation of full call-in
15 instructions?

16 ARMENIAN INTERPRETER: Yes. I guess I was muted.

17 [Instructions read in Armenian]

18 Thank you.

19 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much.

20 And now may I ask the Khmer Interpreter to please
21 read the cite translation of full call-in instructions?

22 KHMER INTERPRETER: Yes.

23 [Instructions read in Khmer]

24 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

25 And now I will pass this over to Katy, our

1 Comment Moderator, to continue with public input.

2 I think you're on mute, Katy.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment. Can you hear me
4 now?

5 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Awesome. All right.

7 Welcome to the public input session. Please use
8 the raise-hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
9 the queue. When it is your turn to speak you will be
10 identified by your assigned unique I.D. number which you
11 were e-mailed yesterday. You will be reconnected to the
12 session with the ability enable your own video and/or
13 audio. You will then be assigned a speaker order number
14 before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your
15 speaker order number for future reference.

16 If you are calling without an appointment number,
17 please do not hang up, as you will lose your place in line.
18 If you will be using an interpreter, please identify the
19 language you speak as soon as you connected.

20 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute
21 time limit for English speakers, and a six-minute time
22 limit for those with an interpreter. There will be a
23 warning at 30 seconds and 15 seconds remaining.

24 It is the Commission's goal is to find the area
25 on the map you would like to discuss prior to your

1 testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood of a
2 large city, please mention it by name. Once we are able to
3 locate your area, your three- or six-minute testimony will
4 begin. Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

5 Right now will be 008, and up next will be 007.

6 008, I will be promoting you now. 008, your
7 speaker order number will be number 19, if you'll please
8 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
9 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
10 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
11 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

12 MR. THOMAS: Thank you. Can you hear me okay?

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. Go ahead.

14 MR. THOMAS: Great. Thank you so much. My name
15 is John Thomas, and I'm speaking specifically about the
16 City of Long Beach.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

18 MR. THOMAS: Well, thank you so much. Good
19 afternoon, Commissioners. I just want to express my
20 appreciation for your dedication to the State of California
21 and your role in the State Redistricting Commission.

22 I've had the benefit and the extreme pleasure of
23 serving in the City of Long Beach for over 30 years on many
24 boards and commissions. Most recently I served as an
25 economic development commissioner. Most of my passion has

1 been in the historic preservation, cultural arts, that
2 includes our nonprofit community and cultural tourism with
3 the convention and visitor's bureau specifically. And I'm
4 currently supporting the city's effort for the preservation
5 of the Queen Mary, which is a whole other subject.

6 The connectively to Long Beach and its citizens
7 has been unique. The pillars of the City of Long Beach is
8 its wonderful diversity. And if you have a passion or if
9 you have a purpose in this city, there are boards and
10 nonprofit organizations that you can sign up to become part
11 of, and actually involve yourself towards those missions.

12 But what's unique about that activity
13 specifically in Long Beach over the last 10 years that I've
14 seen, since the last commission supported keeping Long
15 Beach pretty much intact, is that when we reach out to our
16 elected for their support, whether it be a specific cause
17 or whether it be just their general support for that
18 particular nonprofit or community need, having that
19 internal consistency with those representatives is so
20 important.

21 And, quite frankly, as a resident and as a
22 community member, where Long Beach defines its citizens as
23 service-minded individuals, we would hate to lose what
24 we've built, with the ability to work with a pretty intact,
25 close-knit legislative body for our different causes and

1 needs.

2 So I would just ask the Commission to consider
3 keeping us intact the way that we have been over the last
4 10 years. I know it's a huge, daunting task, but it's
5 worked for Long Beach. And as the old saying goes, if it
6 ain't broke, don't fix it.

7 We've benefitted from the structure and the
8 continuity in the internal consistency working with --

9 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

10 MR. THOMAS: -- a handful of legislative
11 individuals. So, thank you so much for your service, and I
12 appreciate your time. Thank you.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

14 Right now will be 007. And up next will be Aaron
15 Fletcher, 026.

16 007, I will be promoting you now. 007, your
17 speaker order number will be number 20, if you'll please
18 make 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'll please let the mapper know what area you
21 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

22 MR. OTTO: (Indiscernible.)

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.

24 MR. OTTO: I'm trying to -- there you are.

25 Good afternoon to -- can you hear me?

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

2 MR. OTTO: Great. Thank you.

3 Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Doug
4 Otto. I've been a life-long community leader in the City
5 of Long Beach, and that's the area about which I am
6 (indiscernible).

7 Currently, I serve on the Long Beach Unified
8 School District Board of Education, and for many years Long
9 Beach has known the benefits of independent redistricting
10 and its importance to our community.

11 I 2010, the first independent state redistricting
12 commission drew lines that kept a large majority city in a
13 single congressional state assembly and state senate
14 district, because that's what our community wanted, and
15 we've thrived under that system.

16 We continue to ask for that, to ensure regular
17 and consistent access to our state and federal elected
18 officials, and we hope that that's what the Commission will
19 decide.

20 The level of coordination between our community
21 and our state and federal elected officials has only served
22 to benefit our local neighborhoods, small businesses and
23 (indiscernible). Long Beach has 18 historic districts, and
24 we tell people that if you live in Long Beach, you have two
25 neighborhoods, the neighborhood where you live, and the

1 downtown. And in the downtown we have the Aquarium of the
2 Pacific, which is an attraction not only to Southern
3 California, but not only to the State of California, but
4 nationally and even internationally. And the benefits of
5 keeping our entire community together are reflected in the
6 success that that Aquarium enjoys.

7 In November 2018, Long Beach voters approved a
8 ballot measure by over 61-percent to create our own local,
9 independent redistricting commission. We worked to create
10 an independent redistricting commission because we saw how
11 successful and meaningful the work of an independent
12 commission is, and it was very evident that the commission
13 listened to the communities and drew lines that were
14 reflective of the defined communities, and that's what's
15 helped make and keep Long Beach strong.

16 I'm calling on you today to keep this large
17 majority for the City of Long Beach intact as this
18 Commission considers congressional and state redistricting.
19 Please keep Long Beach together. The importance can't be
20 overstated. Let me give you a couple of examples.

21 Most recently with the global COVID-19 response,
22 the Long Beach Unified School District worked closely with
23 our local health department to develop guidelines and
24 procedures to keep our students and staff safe and learning
25 ongoing.

1 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2 MR. OTTO: That we have access to our elected
3 leaders was critical in accomplishing this. And another
4 example, our school district through dual emersion programs
5 was able to support the Federal Government's temporary
6 migrant shelter at the Long Beach Convention Center.

7 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

8 MR. OTTO: In both instances we were able to work
9 collaborative with our state and federal partners. We ask
10 you to support Long Beach and the collaboration we have
11 been able to foster for seeking -- keeping a large and
12 majority of our city together through the redistricting
13 process. Thank you.

14 MR. MANOFF: Time.

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

16 Right now we will have 026, and then up next will
17 be 013, and after that will be 006, as they are from the
18 first session.

19 026, I will be promoting you now. 026, your
20 speaker order number will be number 21, if you'll please
21 make note of that for future reference. If you'll please
22 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
23 the floor is yours.

24 MR. FLETCHER: Thank you very much. My name is
25 Aaron Fletcher, and I'm going to speaking about Long Beach

1 again today.

2 So, good afternoon, Commissioners. I would like
3 to thank you very much for your service, and I'd like to
4 thank the large number of participants that have called in
5 about Long Beach for their passion.

6 I was born in St. Mary's Hospital in Long Beach.
7 My grandfather served in the Navy out of Long Beach when I
8 was -- long before I was born. My mom's whole family went
9 through Long Beach schools, and now I have three children
10 myself, one in high school, one in middle school, and one
11 at elementary school in the Long Beach school district.

12 I'm calling today as the President of the Long
13 Beach Lifeguard Association, and I'm calling to
14 respectfully that the Commission keep Long Beach together
15 as a majority in our local, congressional state senate and
16 state assembly districts.

17 The Long Beach lifeguards have a long history.
18 We started in 1906, and we were innovators in the field,
19 the first lifeguard agencies ever to use two-way
20 communication, and we invented the rescue buoy. And first
21 people to use the power vessels as rescue tools. First
22 people to use the rescue board as a rescue tool. So a long
23 history of innovation here in Long Beach, and we want to
24 keep that innovation that happens with the collaboration of
25 the community partners that we've worked with.

1 We have 200 full-time and seasonal personnel, and
2 we're most often seen on the waterways, but we extend much
3 further into other parts of the city. One of the ways we
4 did this is we partnered with the Long Beach school
5 district recently to create career pathways for students to
6 reach careers in public safety. Through our junior
7 lifeguard program and our seasonal program, we have many
8 people that go on to public service and public safety
9 professions after that, in addition to becoming full-time
10 lifeguards.

11 It's these partnerships that we absolutely want
12 to continue. Most recently we worked with the city in
13 supporting the COVID-19 testing and vaccination clinics
14 throughout the city. These partnerships would not be
15 possible without the cohesive work of all levels of
16 government that we have. So that shared representation
17 across all levels of government work allow us to use these
18 monies and allow us to have these opportunities to continue
19 to serve the city in ways beyond just the beachfront.

20 Since that time we've had huge policy -- so.
21 Since 10 years ago when we fought to stay together, we've
22 had huge policy wins and directed millions of dollars to
23 the City of Long Beach to help grow and help foster these
24 communities. And it's these shared interests that we want
25 to keep strong. And I would like to thank you for your

1 time and service on this Commission.

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 Right now we will have 013, and up next will be
4 006.

5 013, I will be promoting you now. 013, your
6 speaker order number will be number 22, if you'll please
7 make note of that for future reference. If you'll please
8 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
9 the floor is yours.

10 MS. ARCHULETA: Thank you.

11 Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Irma
12 Archuleta, and I am speaking on behalf of Long Beach. I am
13 a long time Long Beach resident, educational leader, and
14 former elected official. My commitment to Long Beach is
15 strong, and has only grown in the years that I have lived
16 there.

17 In my 30 years as a Long Beach resident I have
18 seen the city change and grow. We are a unique and diverse
19 community with special needs that can only be understood by
20 the elected officials who come from Long Beach. Long Beach
21 has its own school district, college district, health
22 department, port, airport, and transportation department,
23 just to name a few. All those entities take time to
24 understand and appreciate.

25 Our Latino community in Long Beach has always had

1 a presence, but we have grown, and today we have a stronger
2 presence. This is largely due to the work and the support
3 of community-based organizations, like CENTRO Cha and
4 Latinos in Action. Those two organizations have forged
5 strong partnerships to support our local Latino community
6 through workforce development, economic development, and
7 when needed, providing basic needs.

8 As you consider statewide redistricting, I urge
9 you to keep Long Beach together. It is vital for continued
10 collaborations with all our local partners, and partners at
11 every level of government. I firmly believe that our
12 success is due to the current elected leaders, and our
13 ability to continue to elect leaders who understand our
14 community's uniqueness. It is essential for the
15 community's well-being and the future progress of our city.
16 So I urge you again, please keep Long Beach together, and
17 thank you for your work.

18 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

19 Up next is 006. And after that will be 035.

20 006, I will be promoting you now. 006, your
21 speaker order number will be number 23, if you'll please
22 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
23 your audio and video on the lower-left corner of your
24 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
25 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

1 You're on mute. There should be a thing in the
2 middle of your --

3 MS. ROSSI: Yeah. I'm --

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: There you go.

5 MS. ROSSI: Sorry about that. Hi there, Long
6 Beach. Of course, as you can tell, we have some amazing
7 people that live in Long Beach.

8 Good afternoon, Commissioners. Thank you for
9 your service and your time today. My name is Dede Rossi,
10 and I recently retired as the executive director of the
11 Belmont Tour Business Association and the Improvement
12 District, where I served for 11 years.

13 I wanted to call and express my thoughts why Long
14 Beach needs to stay together. Long Beach citizens are
15 grateful for the 2010 state independent redistricting
16 commission, kept Long Beach mostly together because it's
17 working, as you have heard before.

18 When the independent state redistricting
19 commission was created 10 years ago, we were not the core
20 of our local congressional state senate and state assembly
21 district. But since then we have been able to build
22 relationships across each level of government.

23 It has allowed us to work together and find
24 strength in each of our organizations to benefit our city,
25 because we all have a shared interest. This has helped us

1 get millions in federal and state resources for our city.
2 Our community worked together in ways that have benefitted
3 our city, our family, our kids of Long Beach.

4 So, as you heard, in 2016 our Long Beach voters
5 approved a local ballot measure to create our own local
6 independent citizen redistricting commission for our city,
7 because of the outcome and result we have had from state
8 redistricting, and it's modeled much like yours. We know
9 this works, and I hope you agree and consider keeping Long
10 Beach together when considering new district lines in
11 California.

12 And I'd like to note, I am a Long Beach lifer,
13 and I wouldn't live in any other city. Thank you.

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

15 Right now we will have 035, and up next will be
16 041.

17 035, I will be promoting you now. 035, your
18 speaker order number will be number 24, if you'll please
19 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
20 your audio and video on the lower-left corner of your
21 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
22 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

23 MR. COGNALOTTI: Thank you very much. I would
24 like to actually talk about and discuss Inglewood,
25 California.

1 I attended a COI input meeting posted by the
2 Black Census and Redistricting Hub. I'd like to focus on
3 Inglewood, California. My name is Damon Cognalotti, and I
4 represent a nonprofit called, EMERGE, whose mission is to
5 develop and produce future leaders using hip-hop and
6 education to raise social awareness and to effect a more
7 equal and just transformation of society.

8 We envision a culture where underserved youth are
9 educated to live, not just to survive. We believe that by
10 keeping Inglewood together, we could potentially create --
11 by keeping Inglewood together, that could potentially give
12 citizens and youth more power -- excuse me, the power to
13 transform political apathy into action that could actually
14 lead us towards a more brighter and more rich and a more
15 robust democracy.

16 Many of our youth mentees actually come from the
17 area of Inglewood, where their parents, family and other
18 community members are greatly affected by redistricting.
19 And I can even say so for myself. I actually grew up in
20 Inglewood, spent the majority of my childhood in Inglewood
21 attending St. John Chrysostom.

22 My mother worked for Daniel Freeman Memorial
23 Hospital back when it was actually up and running, and have
24 -- I've had tons of family members who for years -- and my
25 mother still actually lives there, and some other family

1 members do, too, as well, who still live there, and who
2 would indeed greatly benefit just from keeping Inglewood
3 together.

4 I represent a group of concerned citizens in
5 Inglewood, most of whom are concerned about the effects of
6 redistricting on especially the Black communities, really
7 in the face of being out priced as a result of new business
8 development, and also, too, shutting -- the shutting down
9 of local long-standing businesses.

10 It's a city that is -- that has a substantial
11 Black and Brown population. And we don't necessarily want
12 to see just quite simply as a result of redistricting their
13 political power being atrophied. I want to highlight this
14 particular community because it is indeed one of the last
15 predominantly Black communities in Los Angeles. And as you
16 begin the process of redistricting, it's important to
17 maintain the integrity of the community.

18 South Los Angeles has dealt with the divestment
19 and gentrification for decades, but really our organization
20 really wants to focus on empowering members of the Black
21 community by helping to keep it together.

22 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

23 MR. COGNALOTTI: And really I would like to ask
24 the Commission to keep Inglewood together in its current
25 district composition that it currently holds, so that we

1 could retain one of those last vestiges of the Black
2 community in the Los Angeles area. Thank you.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

4 Right now we will have 041, and up next will be
5 027.

6 041, I will be promoting you now. 041, your
7 speaker order number will be number 25, if you'll please
8 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
9 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
10 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
11 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

12 MR. URETSKY: I'd like to discuss the greater
13 Wilshire neighborhood of Los Angeles.

14 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

15 MR. URETSKY: Thank you. My name is Sam Uretsky.
16 I live in the Larchmont area of the Greater Wilshire
17 Neighborhood Council. And I thank you very much for the
18 opportunity to speak today, and I thank you for the work
19 you're doing to help put in place new redistricting for the
20 State of California.

21 My concern is that we have a neighborhood that up
22 until 2009 had a coherent representation in terms of
23 Congress, state senate, the state assembly and the city
24 council. And then by the unfortunate use of LAPD division
25 maps, we were bifurcated into two areas. So we have two

1 councilmen, two state senators, two state assemblymen, and
2 three congressional representatives.

3 This neighborhood is a long-standing, well-known,
4 well regarded neighborhood, over 100 years old, recognized
5 in 1976 as a principal area of interest in Los Angeles.
6 And our efforts to maintain the infrastructure, the
7 educational possibilities, and city services and access to
8 government officials at every level has been terribly
9 damaged by the splitting of our council district into two,
10 or in some cases, three parts.

11 So I ask you when you're looking at the
12 redistricting, that you recognize -- or re-recognize the
13 importance of this very coherent neighborhood, long-
14 standing Los Angeles neighborhood, and place everything in
15 some district. Thank you very much.

16 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

17 Right now we have 027, and up next will be 039.

18 027, I will be promoting you now. 027, your
19 speaker order number will be number 26, if you'll please
20 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
21 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
22 discuss, the floor is yours.

23 MR. PAKIZ: I would like to discuss Long Beach.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.

25 MR. PAKIZ: Thank you, members of the Commission

1 for your time and for your attention here today. My name
2 is Derek Pakis, and I'm a member of the Long Beach
3 Lifeguard Association. I will share with you I am so very
4 proud of the overwhelming outpouring of support to keep
5 Long Beach together as a city, as a district, as a
6 representative body.

7 I can share with you that Long Beach has nine
8 miles of beaches. It has 5,300 acres of oceanfront
9 waterways and marinas, and over 4,000 pleasure craft moored
10 within our waterways. I think it's fair to say, the city
11 is Long Beach, and that the beach is the very heartbeat of
12 the city.

13 I have somewhat of a unique overview of the beach
14 and of lifeguarding and of citizenry, and of the
15 development and diversity that people have spoken so
16 proudly of here today.

17 I've been a ocean lifeguard for the last 42
18 years. Before that, for a decade I was a junior lifeguard
19 and in the inaugural junior lifeguard class in 1969. We had
20 50 members, all boys, all White, all grew up a stone's
21 throw from Naples Island and Belmont Shore.

22 Today, we have over 600 junior lifeguards of all
23 genders, of all races, of unbelievable diversity, and that
24 has really reached out into every district and every
25 community within Long Beach, turning the city and its

1 beaches into a galvanized group that is not homogenous, but
2 rather diversified. And as we know, the more diversity you
3 have, the greater strength something has.

4 I can share with you within our lifeguards, we
5 had three women lifeguards before I came on in 1980. Today
6 we have dozens and dozens. I am so proud to say that Long
7 Beach was either the first or amongst the very first
8 beaches in the country to have female lifeguards, amongst
9 the very first to have --

10 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

11 MR. PAKIZ: -- openly gay and open lesbian
12 lifeguards. And today the diversity we have just bonds the
13 city together. We have a great oceanography program that
14 couples with Cal State Long Beach.

15 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

16 MR. PAKIZ: And between the city, the lifeguards,
17 the university and all of its members, we are all the
18 stronger for this kind of unity and diversity that we have.
19 Thank you very much.

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

21 Right now we will have 039, and up next will be
22 048.

23 039, I will be promoting you now. 039, your
24 speaker order number will be number 27, if you'll please
25 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable

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

4 MR. STRATTON: I would like to discuss U.S.
5 Congressional District 25, which runs from portions of the
6 Antelope Valley down through Simi Valley.

7 Hello. My name is Scott Stratton. I have been a
8 member of this congressional district for 31 years. We
9 have raised our children here. They attended school here
10 and -- before they left for college and vocational schools.

11 We have benefitted from the services, the good
12 people and the diversity in this district. We have found
13 it to be a great mix of political, religious and economic
14 lifestyles and views. We don't always agree with our
15 neighbors, but we have found that we can disagree
16 agreeably.

17 There's a great blend of industry and
18 agriculture, housing and open space, jobs and people to
19 fill them. We -- after having living here -- lived here
20 during this period we know that our needs are different
21 from our neighboring communities. And over this time, the
22 infrastructure has developed to fill those needs
23 beautifully.

24 I strongly recommend that the 25th District be
25 kept as-is. It's a wonderful blend of diversity, of people

1 who have bonded together over the years, and has been an
2 amazing place for us to raise our children. If it is added
3 to, it is my desire that the portion that is added will
4 bring the same amount of diversity and mix as the current
5 district.

6 I thank you for this opportunity to speak, and
7 appreciate the efforts you are making to listen and to
8 organize California that will go into the future for a long
9 time. Thank you very much.

10 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

11 Right now we will have 048, and up next will be
12 044.

13 048, I will be promoting you now. 048, your
14 speaker order number will be number 28, if you'll please
15 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
16 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
17 discuss, the floor is yours.

18 SPEAKER NUMBER 28: Hi would like to discuss,
19 let's see, Palos Verdes through Santa Monica beach cities
20 along the Santa Monica Bay. Great.

21 My name is Judy, and I'm a resident of Manhattan
22 Beach. I request that when drawing the district lines you
23 keep together the South Bay beachfront cities, from Palos
24 Verdes up the coast to Santa Monica. We call this area the
25 South Bay.

1 Residents of the South Bay, like me, live here
2 because we have similar lifestyles. From the beach, ocean,
3 strand, greenbelt, hiking trails and parks, our communities
4 come together to exercise, socialize and relax.

5 The residents of the South Bay take great pride
6 in maintaining the public places by doing beach cleanup
7 days, and teaching our children to make a smaller carbon
8 footprint. The children of the South Bay have a huge sense
9 of belonging to these cities. They are proud to be part of
10 the South Bay.

11 Since the part of the pandemic the South Bay
12 children come out of their homes and started to utilize the
13 beaches, parks and recreational areas of the South Bay more
14 than ever. Parents are comfortable letting their kids have
15 freedom, because the communities have a small-time feel to
16 them and everyone knows each other.

17 During the pandemic I actually felt like I was
18 living back in the 80's again, with kids riding bikes up
19 and down the street, and the lazy days of sitting on the
20 block and just playing. Living in Manhattan Beach, my kids
21 often play soccer with kids in Palos Verdes, all the way up
22 to Santa Monica.

23 Surfing is one thing we all have in common, and
24 has become the number one pastime of all of our children in
25 the South Bay. It is a perfect outlet for our children,

1 and we all share that as a community.

2 The junior lifeguard program in the South Bay is
3 phenomenal. The kids from Hermosa, P.B., Manhattan,
4 Redondo, Torrance and Santa Monica all come together and
5 learn from our amazing L.A. lifeguards about ocean safety.

6 There is now a new tutoring program also forming
7 as a community within the South Bay by the high school
8 students from all over, from P.B. through Santa Monica.
9 The high school students have seen the deficiencies of on-
10 line school, and they will be working to tutor the younger
11 kids within our community.

12 I feel that it is more important than ever to
13 maintain our --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 SPEAKER NUMBER 28: -- district's lines of the
16 South Bay, so that our communities of young and old feel a
17 sense of belonging to their small-town feel during this
18 time of uncertainty. Thank you for listening. Please keep
19 South Bay coastal for these together.

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

21 Right now we will have 044, and up next will be
22 032.

23 044, I will be promoting you now. 044, your
24 speaker order number will be number 29, if you'll please
25 make note of that for future reference. If you'll please

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

3 MS. SIKENIYAS: Hi. My name is Jenna Sikeniyas
4 (phonetic), and I'm actually going to talk about the
5 Assembly District 38.

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

7 MS. SIKENIYAS: Thank you so much. I really
8 wanted to thank the Commissioners here. You guys are doing
9 a really great job.

10 So, my name is Jenna. I actually just recently
11 moved here from Illinois, and I was involved in the
12 redistricting process there. And the move here kind of
13 made me sad to miss that process, so I wanted to engage in
14 that here.

15 When my partner and I were looking for places to
16 live out here, it was sort of, you know, hard to tell, you
17 know, what the communities would look like and bring and,
18 you know, physically being here. And now that we're here,
19 and having chosen to live in Simi Valley for availability
20 reasons and proximity reasons to work.

21 Something that I've noticed and was surprised
22 about, was that Simi Valley is the only portion of the 38th
23 Assembly District in Ventura County, and that surprised me.
24 And so I'm actually speaking to cut Simi Valley out of the
25 38th Assembly District. So that is my request, and I'll

1 explain why in a few words.

2 So, I think that, you know, having been here for
3 a couple months, and driving around and learning as much as
4 possible about these communities, you know, I find that
5 Simi Valley, you know, being part of Ventura County,
6 especially from a public health perspective, is, I guess
7 for lack of a better term, fits better with communities in
8 Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Oxnard. I spend more
9 time over here than I do in, say, like the north valley,
10 you know, Chatsworth, Granada, and then -- and Santa
11 Clarita.

12 And so I think this great community that I'm
13 learning more and more about every single day has more in
14 common -- I think it deals with a lot of the same public
15 issues or -- yeah, the same public issues, same municipal
16 issues that Moorpark, Thousand Oaks and, say, Camarillo do.
17 But this assembly district kind of keeps it in this L.A.
18 County space. And so there's this sort of like floating in
19 the abyss feeling for Simi Valley.

20 And so my request and my final word is --

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MS. SIKENIYAS: -- (indiscernible) Simi Valley
23 from the 38th Assembly District. Thank you so much.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

25 Right now we will have 032, and up next will be

1 029.

2 032, I will be promoting you now. 032, your
3 speaker order number will be number 30, if you'll please
4 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
5 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
6 discuss, the floor is yours.

7 MS. JONES: Good afternoon. I would like to
8 discuss Simi Valley.

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

10 MS. JONES: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
11 name is Jennifer Jones. Thank you for being so patient
12 with me. I know I've called in a lot, but I really, really
13 want to keep Simi Valley whole. And also, if the 25th
14 Congressional District expands, I would like it to expand
15 to include the rest of Simi Valley, along with Moorpark.

16 And my reasoning is, Simi Valley and Moorpark, we
17 have a lot of organizations that are joint, such as the
18 Boys and Girls Club of Moorpark and Simi Valley. There's
19 also a Moorpark-Simi Valley realtors group. There's also
20 up in the Bridle Path with the horses.

21 And we do have a synergy with Santa Clarita. And
22 Santa Clarita and Simi Valley on the surface do not look
23 like they would fit together, but they actually do. We're
24 diverse like Santa Clarita. Middle class, educated, median
25 household income is above 70,000. And a lot of development

1 going on in Santa Clarita, just like there's a lot of
2 development going on here in Simi Valley. And I just
3 really appreciate how well we all kind of fit together.
4 And I would really, really like to keep Simi Valley whole.
5 And like I said, if the 25th does expand, I am -- would
6 really like to include the rest of Simi Valley and
7 Moorpark. Thank you very much for listening to me, and I
8 hope you guys have a good evening.

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
10 Right now we will have 029, and up next will be
11 046.

12 029, I will be promoting you now. 029, your
13 speaker order number will be number 31, if you'll please
14 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
15 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
16 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
17 would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

18 MS. SELVESTER: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
19 My name is Karissa Selvester, and I'm here to address the
20 City of Long Beach.

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

22 MS. SELVESTER: Thank you so much. I'm a Long
23 Beach resident, and part of our local early childhood
24 education consortium. Long Beach has earned a reputation
25 for a long time now as one of our country's finest

1 education systems. And through my work I have been able to
2 see the impact that redistricting can have on youth and
3 children in Long Beach.

4 Our early childhood education consortium develops
5 strategic partnerships, programs, continuing community
6 engagement, and seeking funding in support of early
7 childhood education and internship and college completion.
8 We know that investments in especially early childhood
9 education in particular, provide the greatest return on --
10 for long-term success, college readiness, and graduation
11 and job placement.

12 Federal, state and state resources are essential
13 to support our students' success, and we have benefitted
14 well from these existing district lines over the past
15 decade. Support for the dynamic partnership between our
16 Long Beach Unified School system -- School District, city
17 college and University of Long Beach, has helped propel the
18 education and workforce opportunities for youth in our
19 community. We are grateful for the efforts of the State of
20 California's independent redistricting commission to
21 establish district lines, and we have kept Long Beach
22 mostly together with a large majority of the city in
23 prominent districts in the state and congressional levels.

24 So last redistricting lines have advanced Long
25 Beach's priorities, and we ask that Long Beach retain this

1 unity through the upcoming redistricting process. Keeping
2 Long Beach together will ensure we maintain strong
3 reputation -- representation in the state legislator --
4 legislature and Congress.

5 Keeping our community together is essential for
6 Long Beach, and we want to make redistricting that does not
7 further divide Long Beach into smaller districts. Thank
8 you so much for your time and consideration this evening.

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

10 Right now we have 046, and up next will be 045.

11 046, I will be promoting you now. 046, your
12 speaker order number will be number 32, if you'll please
13 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
14 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
15 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
16 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

17 MR. ELLIS: Hello. My name is Stephen Ellis.
18 I'll be speaking about the City of Lancaster, located
19 between District 23 and 25.

20 So, first off, I want to say thank you for the
21 Commissioners for the opportunity to speak at this vital
22 moment in the political future of California. Like I said,
23 my name is Stephen Ellis. I'm a grad student here in
24 Lancaster, California. As a citizen I value my opportunity
25 to speak and make my voice heard.

1 I urge this committee to consider the City of
2 Lancaster and its placement on the current district map, as
3 it sits between District 23 and 25. Two congressmen
4 representing one city is both confusing and troubling.
5 This chaos manages to divide our vote, diminish our voice,
6 and create apathy amongst our voting population.

7 My political ideology does not matter how this
8 committee should draw the maps, but common sense does.
9 While Kevin McCarthy is my current elected representative,
10 as my part of town resides in District 23, I firmly believe
11 that this committee should redraw the line to place the
12 entire city of Lancaster in District 25 under
13 Representative Mike Garcia.

14 Lancaster and our neighboring town of Palmdale
15 are similar politically, economically and the socio-
16 cultural dynamics. And I believe that Lancaster, Palmdale
17 and the whole of the Antelope Valley where each city
18 resides should have one representative and one collective
19 voice to select our representation.

20 As the speakers from the City of Long Beach have
21 attested, maintaining a city largely within a specific
22 political district is an advantageous position. Lancaster
23 has become a transformation in the last 10 years into a
24 city with a growing cultural, dining and entertainment
25 center, and will only benefit from united political

1 support.

2 Please allow Lancaster to have an opportunity to
3 experience the advantage of residing in a single district.
4 I believe the city can be politically advantageous area for
5 the right politician who can appeal to new voters. Our
6 population has a vast amount of untapped registered voters,
7 and would benefit from a single representative in Congress.

8 This area of California has come too far in its
9 development on the past decade to lose ground now. I ask
10 again that this committee (indiscernible) vote and let the
11 Antelope Valley speak with one voice. Thank you.

12 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

13 Right now we have 045, and up next will be 047.

14 045, I will be promoting you now. 045, your
15 speaker order number will be number 33, if you'll please
16 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
17 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
18 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
19 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

20 MR. CAUNTAY: Hi. I would discuss Long Beach.

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

22 MR. CAUNTAY: Thank you. Good afternoon,
23 Commissioners. Thank you very much for your time and
24 dedication in this important process. My name is Norm
25 Cauntay. I'm a Long Beach resident and a small business

1 owner in Bixby Knolls, which is located in the northern
2 part of the city. I'm actually coming from a different
3 perspective that we've heard from other fellow constituents
4 within the city, and coming from it as a business owner, as
5 well as a resident. And I think that it's very important
6 to keep our city intact from all areas of the city.

7 I'm an executive board member of a local business
8 association in that area, and I feel I have good sense of
9 the community as a resident and also a business owner. And
10 I've also experienced firsthand of what the financial
11 hardships brought on by the covid pandemic, walking the
12 streets of our business district, these are my neighbors.

13 And I'll have to tell you that the importance of
14 our tie to the city, because we connect the coastal area of
15 Long Beach to the northern part, and it's a really key part
16 of being part of the cultural fabric for our city being an
17 arts district and a business district. And it's with the
18 affiliation with the mayor and other business districts
19 that help this collaborative effort, that unification, that
20 help us to be -- climb out of the pandemic and succeed even
21 more.

22 I would say that the local state and federal
23 covid relief funding and grants have helped sustain vital
24 businesses. And its these same businesses that are also
25 residents of the city, just like me, and affects the

1 businesses even more, right, it's that cycle of residents
2 as well as businesses.

3 So, keeping Long Beach together the past decade
4 has been essential to meet the needs of the business in
5 Long Beach. So, keeping those same redistricting lines
6 that were drawn during the last cycle I think would be
7 really critical.

8 And the analogy I'll give you is, imagine a
9 family who have been affected financially through a
10 depression, and the husband and wife lose their job and
11 they have kids. And then there's whether it's Government
12 assistance or donations or just neighbors who help, draw
13 parameters of saying, we're going to exclude the husband
14 or wife from any assistance or effort in making their
15 family better. That's the same relationship that we would
16 have by excluding one part of our city, and not keeping
17 everyone intact.

18 So I do hope that this Commission will keep Long
19 Beach together as we were able to do in the previous
20 redistricting process. So, thank you very much, and I
21 thank you for your time. Have a good evening.

22 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

23 Right now we will have 047, and up next will be
24 030.

25 I would like to invite those that have

1 appointments during this session to please use the raise-
2 your-hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter the
3 comment queue line.

4 That's for 036, 042 and 050, if you will please
5 use the raise-your-hand button to get in the comment queue
6 line. Thank you so much.

7 047, I will be promoting you now. 047, your
8 speaker order number will be number 34, if you'll please
9 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
10 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
11 discuss, the floor is yours.

12 SPEAKER NUMBER 34: Thank you very much. I'd
13 like to pull up the cities of Redondo Beach, Santa Monica,
14 Marina del Rey, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach
15 and Palos Verdes. Thank you.

16 These -- first of all, my name is Jim, and it's
17 my pleasure to be speaking to you. And I'm a resident of
18 Manhattan Beach. Actually, I was born and raised in
19 Manhattan Beach, and I have the pleasure of raising my
20 family in Manhattan Beach.

21 Manhattan Beach is part of what we call the South
22 Bay. It's an incredible place to raise a family, to grow
23 up for a number of reasons. The sense of community is so
24 important there. The children regularly -- besides the
25 outdoor activities, you know, there's surfing, there's

1 beach volleyball, there's soccer, there's all these sports,
2 but there's a real sense of community and a lot of
3 community involvement. Many children are required do it on
4 their own, community service, to help others. I think it's
5 very important and vital to keep our cities in the same
6 district.

7 The South Bay, we're linked economically. We're
8 linked with our love of the beach, our proximity to the
9 beach, and the love of outdoors. And we all really, all
10 these cities in the South Bay, they have a small-town feel.
11 We really feel like we're not part of greater Los Angeles,
12 and that's a really special thing. And I think if you
13 change the districting, I think you're going to lose some
14 of that small-town feel, which makes it such a great place
15 to live and visit and flourish.

16 So our coastal community -- and there's a common
17 theme if you look at the map there. Pretty much all these
18 cities are bordering on the oceans. There's the ocean,
19 there's the beach. So, we need to keep these cities
20 together. I think we'd lose a lot if we weren't.

21 So, I would just urge again, you keep them
22 together, keep the South Bay cities together in the same
23 district. And I know I'm not as long as some of the other
24 people, but everyone's really covered this point, and thank
25 you for your -- thank you for listening. Appreciate it.

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
2 Right now we have 030, and up next will be 033.
3 030, I will be promoting you now. 030, your
4 speaker order number will be number 35, if you'll please
5 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
6 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
7 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
8 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

9 MR. NELSON: I'd like to discuss Long Beach,
10 California.

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

12 MR. NELSON: My name's Ron Nelson, and I'm a
13 long-time Long Beach resident. I'm also -- have the
14 pleasure of being the Executive Director for the Long Beach
15 Museum of Art. I also sit on the board of the convention
16 and visitor's bureau, as well as other arts institutions
17 within the city.

18 The Long Beach Museum of Art is rather unique, in
19 that it is one of the oldest Long Beach -- or the oldest
20 southern -- museums in Southern California. And we have
21 just celebrated our 71st year. This museum has a commitment
22 to this city, and we have educational programs that we
23 bring throughout the city. We've had award winning
24 programs that we have over the last 10 years been able to
25 reach out, and without exception, bring in 99-percent of

1 the students from the 5th grade throughout the City of Long
2 Beach.

3 Our message is very clear to them and to the rest
4 of the city, is that this is a place that people should
5 have access to a meaningful relationship. And that
6 diversity and equity inclusion are part of our lives here
7 and part of our mission, and it is part of the city.

8 We would within all nine council districts, and
9 we do stay attentive to everything that they need. Long
10 Beach has a wonderful home also the Long Beach Symphony,
11 the Long Beach Camerata Singers, as well as the Long Beach
12 Opera, and all of these together create a very tight
13 creative community.

14 Before the pandemic, there was 1,500 people were
15 employed in arts institutions through this city. That was
16 generating \$2,000,000 in local revenue and \$5,000,000 in
17 state revenue annually. COVID-19, as everywhere, has hit
18 us hard, but the -- and we are a member of the Long Beach
19 -- or the American Alliance of Museums. And the Alliance
20 of Museums, which is our accreditation body, at three
21 months into the pandemic, said that within a year, 30-
22 percent of the -- of museums in the United States will
23 close and -- without the money to continue. And indeed
24 there have been closures across this country and in
25 Southern California.

1 Without the help --

2 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

3 MR. NELSON: -- without the help of everyone
4 together with this city, and coming together, we would have
5 never been able to pull through years coming. And there's
6 a momentum that's happening within the city that is
7 unstoppable. And I really beg you and thank you --

8 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

9 MR. NELSON: -- for keeping Long Beach together
10 and within our own district. Thank you very much.

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

12 Right now we will have 033, and up next will be
13 034.

14 033, I will be promoting you now. 033, it does
15 not want to let me promote you. There could some
16 connectivity issues. I will be doing the audio only at
17 this time.

18 033, you are unmuted. Your speaker order number
19 will be number 36, if you'll please make note of that for
20 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know
21 what area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

22 MS. LUBIN: Thank you. My name is Kathleen
23 Lubin. I'm from Santa Clarita, and I would like to speak
24 about the 25th District, which covers most of northern L.A.
25 County, part of eastern Ventura County, and it includes the

1 cities of Palmdale, Santa Clarita, Acton, most of Lancaster
2 and Simi Valley. It also includes Porter Ranch in San
3 Fernando Valley.

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

5 MS. LUBIN: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Thank
6 you for giving me the opportunity to speak today. I've
7 been a resident and homeowner in Santa Clarita for 10
8 years, and due to the unique characteristics, the unique
9 geography that Santa Clarita Valley shares with Simi Valley
10 and Antelope Valley, my family and neighbors believe that
11 it's important to keep these communities together in the
12 same district.

13 We have an important issue in common, and that is
14 the direct impact of the fires, wild fires, wild fire
15 danger. So, it's crucial, we think that it's crucial that
16 the district stays intact, so that we can continue to work
17 together, the communities can work together to address
18 safety concerns.

19 We do have special needs in this district,
20 especially during fire season. Therefore, I respectfully
21 ask that the Commission keeps the boundaries of District 52
22 -- excuse me, District 25 intact. Thank you.

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

24 Right now we will have 034, and up next will be
25 042.

1 034, I will be promoting you now. 034, your
2 speaker order number will be number 37, if you'll please
3 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
4 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
5 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
6 would like to discuss today, the floor is yours.

7 MR. MYLES: Yes, hello. The area that I will be
8 representing and speaking for is Pasadena.

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

10 MR. MYLES: Good evening, everyone. My name is
11 Reggie Myles, and I'm with the LA Black Worker Center and
12 am a community member of northwest Pasadena, located in
13 L.A. County, part of the 27th Congress District.

14 I attended a community of interest input meeting
15 hosted by the Black Census and Redistricting Hub. I'm here
16 to uplift the voices of my community, given the systemic
17 cultural erasure and displacement of gentrification,
18 gerrymandering that has taken political power from Black
19 communities in my city, and amass inequalities that
20 economic injustices have produced.

21 Growing up as a young Black boy, hearing the
22 stories of a flourishing historical Black Pasadena,
23 specifically along the Lincoln corridor, and to experience
24 what is happening now has left me disheartened, and I know
25 there is so much potential in my community with the right

1 resources.

2 A stake for my community is to have a seat at a
3 table that we have created and built for centuries, but
4 don't have the tools to fix or sustain. The social issues
5 that impact my community is police brutality, food
6 insecurity, housing insecurity, and unemployment and access
7 to quality jobs that entail good wages and protection.
8 These social inequalities are not only a Black issue, but a
9 human rights issue.

10 Some historical or cultural ties that my
11 community shares is the Lincoln Business District, which is
12 a place of Black spaces, connectiveness and enterprise. In
13 celebration and community we also share the annual Pasadena
14 Black History Month Parade, annual Juneteenth celebration,
15 Black community cultural centers, Jackie Robinson Park, and
16 were community members gather and resources are
17 distributed, Black home ownership, and a family-oriented
18 culture.

19 It is important to protect the dignity, political
20 power and my community's legacies of greatness. There's
21 something in my community that makes us so timeless and
22 innovative, whether it's the talent of arts and activism,
23 our political power figures to modern-day people. My
24 keeping our community of interest together, community
25 members would share the values of issues, would be able to

1 organize amongst themselves to build power. Thank you for
2 your time and listening.

3 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Caller, would you please hold
4 for one second?

5 MR. MANOFF: Just a moment, Chair.

6 Welcome back, 034. The Chair had some additional
7 questions for you, please.

8 MR. MYLES: Yes.

9 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Hi. Thank you so much for
10 holding on. Would you please be able to define what
11 northwest Pasadena is?

12 MR. MYLES: Yes.

13 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: If you could define by
14 boundaries, maybe street names, if you have those.

15 MR. MYLES: Yes. So the boundaries is Lake
16 Street to Arroyo Parkway. So East Lake to West Arroyo.
17 And then it would be, I would say Orange Grove. So, south
18 going up north to Woodbury Road.

19 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. And would
20 you also be able to describe the Lincoln Business District
21 boundaries as well, if you have that?

22 MR. MYLES: Yes. The Lincoln Business District
23 is, runs from the top of Woodbury going down Lincoln to
24 Howard. That within itself was a historically Black
25 business district that is now ever changing. And, yeah.

1 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Excellent. Thank you so much.

2 MR. MYLES: Thank you all so much.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we will have 042,
4 and up next will be 050.

5 042, I will be promoting you now. 042, your
6 speaker order number will be number 38, if you'll please
7 make note of that for future reference. You can now enable
8 your audio and video in the lower-left corner of your
9 screen. If you'll please let the mapper know what area you
10 would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

11 SPEAKER NUMER 38: Hi. Okay. How are you all?
12 Hopefully well. Thank you for having us. I want to pull
13 up, please, the Antelope Valley, Lancaster and Quartz Hill
14 area specifically that's divided by two different
15 districts.

16 MR. MANOFF: Yes. Go ahead, please.

17 SPEAKER NUMER 38: Okay. Thank you so much.

18 We have almost all of Quartz Hill and at least
19 half of Lancaster not in the 25th District, which is where
20 it should be. So I'd like to see the line just continue
21 straight at the L.A. County-Kern County line. That would
22 be perfect.

23 We'd all -- I mean, we could all converse and
24 have a greater sense of unity and cohesiveness. But these
25 lines are dividing my neighbor from me in Lancaster, and

1 then of course when I do a lot of business in helping
2 people in Quartz Hill. So it'd best to run that dotted
3 line all the way across to L.A. County-Kern County line and
4 include the rest of -- all of Lancaster and all of Quartz
5 Hill. So that way, yeah, we could be more unified, you
6 know. (Indiscernible) produce an asset in gold, and we
7 work at like those solar (indiscernible) at plant 42, and
8 we live in that area, but then it's divided by the 23rd
9 District and the 25th District. We'd like to keep it in the
10 25th District, and just make it go all the way across. And
11 then, of course, you can see all the rest of the Antelope
12 Valley, Palmdale, New Valley, Green Valley, Elizabeth Lake,
13 Lake Hughes, and all on down the Acton to Santa Clarita and
14 Simi Valley.

15 If you could keep -- if you could, you know,
16 redraw that line that would be perfect for all of us. And
17 I do appreciate your time on that.

18 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

19 Right now we will have 050, and up next will be
20 036.

21 050, I'll be promoting you now. 050, your
22 speaker order number will be number 39, if you'll please
23 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
24 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
25 discuss, the floor is yours.

1 MS. WESSON: Sure. Good evening, Commissioners,
2 and thank you all for having us this evening. We really
3 appreciate having input.

4 The -- I'd like to discuss AD 54 this evening.
5 You know, I've lived in this district for over 40 years,
6 and it's been pretty much one district, but with various
7 communities in it. And, you know, we'd like to maintain
8 its robust Black communities in Culver City. We're talking
9 about Mid-City, West Adams, the Crenshaw District Quarter,
10 Baldwin Hills, and then unincorporated communities of
11 Ladera Heights and View Park-Windsor Hills. We want to
12 maintain those as they are, while also maintaining the
13 Asian-Pacific Islander and Jewish Orthodox communities on
14 the west side.

15 Culver City, I raised my kids in Culver City.
16 They all went to the middle school, the high school. I can
17 still -- and my youngest is 39. I'm not going to tell you
18 how old the oldest one is. But anyway, I can still go to
19 the post office, the grocery store, and still see folks
20 that I know and say hello. That is true community. Let's
21 maintain that. Let's keep that. Let's keep those
22 communities in Palms and Beverlywood and South Robertson
23 and West Los Angeles, and also Westwood. Let's keep those
24 intact. These communities, they not only have ethnic
25 groups in common, but they all have common interests across

1 ethnic groups related to income, single-family households,
2 and educational attainment and goals.

3 This Commission should be utilizing the
4 neighborhood council boundaries when defining communities,
5 and do everything in its power not to split adjacent cities
6 and unincorporated areas unnecessarily. We've got new
7 representation in our assembly district. Our assemblyman
8 is new, young, dynamic. Help him help us by keeping this
9 district intact.

10 Thank you, and we really appreciate the input,
11 but don't just take it, listen to it. I implore you,
12 please, keep these district -- this district intact. Thank
13 you. And again, my name is Fabian Wesson. I don't if I
14 identified myself. I appreciate the input. Thank you.

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

16 Right now we will have 036, and up next will be
17 caller 9751.

18 036, I will be promoting you now. 036, your
19 speaker order number will be number 40, if you'll please
20 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
21 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
22 discuss, the floor is yours.

23 MS. MARTINEZ: Hi. My name is Margarita
24 Martinez, and I'm representing two different organizations,
25 SBCC and NALEO. I have lived in South Central L.A. in

1 District 9. I'm between Hooper Avenue and Slauson Avenue.
2 I have lived here more than 20 years. My niece goes to LA
3 Academy Middle School. It is located in District 9 on 56th
4 Street and Avalon. Our community -- our communities share
5 the same interests. We shop at the local groceries. We
6 also eat and shop at our local restaurants and shopping
7 centers. I shop at Firestone, Florence-Firestone, I mean
8 -- sorry, Florence and Alameda, (indiscernible).

9 My community brings the different Latin cultures
10 together from a variety of food, music and art. District 9
11 offers different resources and events like jazz festivals,
12 that brings our surrounding neighbors together. And we are
13 -- share and learn about each other cultures.

14 One of my concern is my safety. We're using
15 public transportation to travel to the community of
16 Firestone and -- Florence-Firestone, sorry, and make -- it
17 makes it hard to report safety issues, since they are not
18 in the District 9.

19 Another concern is maintaining a clean community
20 where people are aware of the resources and who to contact
21 at the city and community levels. I would like for
22 Florence-Firestone to be part of District 9, because we
23 share common interests. And I associate with Florence-
24 Firestone community. Because I am constantly visiting the
25 local stores and restaurants. Thank you. Thank you for

1 your time.

2 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Caller, would you please hold
3 for one second?

4 MS. MARTINEZ: Yes.

5 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Would you please help me
6 understand where South Central is? If you could help me
7 with the boundaries of South Central, that would be very
8 helpful.

9 MS. MARTINEZ: South Central is between -- it's
10 all part of Hooper-Slauson corridor, all the way to 57th and
11 Alameda.

12 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

14 Right now we will have caller 9751, and then up
15 next will be caller 6308.

16 Caller 9751, if you will please follow the
17 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 9751, you are
18 unmuted. I have a couple of brief instructions. Your
19 speaker order number will be number 41, if you'll please
20 make note of that for future reference. And if you'll
21 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
22 discuss, the floor is yours.

23 MR. LINDLE: Yes. Thank you. I am calling in
24 regards to West Hollywood and the Beverly Hills corridor of
25 Sunset, that borders or divides Hollywood, West Hollywood

1 and Hollywood Hills.

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

3 MR. LINDLE: Thank you. My name is Jaime Francis
4 Lindle (phonetic), and I have been a resident of West
5 Hollywood for 10 years, however, before that, I used to
6 reside in Santa Monica. And the west side was gentrified
7 out unfortunately, due to the high cost of living in this
8 particular neighborhood.

9 What I'm calling about is, we are unified when it
10 comes to the assembly district, as well as the senate
11 district, as well as our third supervisorial district. I'm
12 in supervisor district three, assembly district -- excuse
13 me, I'm in 26 Senate District and 50th Assembly District,
14 however, I'm in a different congressional district, which
15 is bifurcated between the 33rd Congressional District and
16 the 28th.

17 I'm in the 28th Congressional District that
18 represented by Adam Schiff, who actually lives and
19 represents all of Burbank and Glendale, and parts of the
20 Sunland area, as well as La Canada-Flintridge. I live
21 closer to the 33rd Congressional District, and I used to
22 live and be in what used to be the 30th Congressional
23 District, represented by Henry Waxman, that is now the west
24 valley. I am closer to the west valley and the west side,
25 but yet now West Hollywood was carved out. And for eight

1 years that's just not fair to me.

2 If West Hollywood falls in the west side
3 communities, all the way from Malibu to Santa Monica, and
4 even further towards Venice and Marina del Rey, why should
5 I have to be in the east valley for congressional
6 representation? That's just not right.

7 I'm basically two miles to the east of Beverly
8 Hills. A mile south of me is the 33rd Congressional
9 District. A mile west of me, or less, is the 33rd
10 Congressional District. That's just not fair. I feel that
11 it's not representative of this area. I don't want to be
12 represented by Hollywood. I live west of Hollywood. And I
13 want it to be in the west side. And I feel this is the
14 furthest east I have to be, I was already priced out of the
15 west side district of Santa Monica and Westwood and certain
16 parts of Beverly Glen that I used to live in before. And I
17 just feel alienated. I want to remain on the west side.
18 And even my zip code, we have four different zip codes.
19 I'm 90046. Two miles west of me is 90210. A mile east of
20 me is 90038. A mile south of me is 90048.

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MR. LINDLE: So, I really implore the
23 redistricting committee to please understand, don't let
24 West Hollywood remain in that congressional district. We
25 belong in the 33rd Congressional District. And I want to

1 remain on the west side.

2 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

3 MR. LINDLE: I don't want to feel like I'm
4 represented by the east valley. So thank you so much.
5 Again, I'm calling in regards to West Hollywood that's
6 divided by Beverly Hills, and we've been bifurcated. Thank
7 you.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

9 Right now we have caller 6308. If you'll please
10 follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 6308,
11 your speaker order number will be number 42, if you'll
12 please make note of that for future reference. And if
13 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would like
14 to discuss, the floor is yours.

15 MR. AMADOR: Hi. Good afternoon. My name is
16 Carlos Amador, and I'm calling on regards to northwest part
17 of the San Fernando Valley, which is Assembly District 38.
18 I would like to see sections of Granada Hills, the Granada
19 Hills neighborhood. I believe that there is an important
20 community of interest that needs to be protected regarding
21 the north valley communities impacted by the
22 (indiscernible) Aliso Canyon gas blowout, which impacted
23 the health and well-being of residents in all of the
24 neighboring towns. Those include Porter Ranch, Granada
25 Hills where I live, Northridge and Chatsworth.

1 It's important for me to make sure that we keep
2 the environmental community of interest united, and the
3 fact that we -- it's a strong voice, in order to be able to
4 continue the work and (indiscernible) the healthcare and
5 environmental aftermath of the glass blowout -- the gas
6 blowout.

7 In my opinion, Assembly District 38 would benefit
8 of including just one county, L.A. County. It doesn't make
9 sense to have Simi Valley, which falls in Ventura County,
10 to be included. Really, they didn't have -- or they didn't
11 feel the impact of the Aliso Canyon blowout. And they also
12 doesn't share geographical intertwined nature of the north
13 valley communities.

14 It would make more sense for Simi Valley to go
15 and connect with the community interest in neighbor -- in
16 neighborhoods in Ventura County. To me, maintaining this
17 valley town in the northwest San Fernando Valley, the
18 residents that travel within this town for work, school and
19 other activities, it is crucial, and, therefore, paramount
20 to make sure that we continue -- these towns stay together
21 for Assembly District 38.

22 You know, we have a connection to Santa Clarita
23 Valley, you know, whether it's sharing on the colleges'
24 connection, as well as business and other cultural
25 activities. So, I ask that you maintain this communities

1 together in the northwest San Fernando Valley. That, you
2 know, there needs to be any carving, it is the Simi Valley
3 area for Ventura County that is carved out of the Assembly
4 District 38. And I appreciate your time.

5 CO-CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you so much to all of the
6 callers thus far. We are eager to continue to listen to
7 everyone who is in the queue. Please do not hang up. You
8 will lose your spot. So, please stay on the line.

9 We are going to take a mandatory break right now
10 for our ASL interpreters and our other interpreters. So we
11 will meet back here in 15 minutes at 6:30.

12 (Off the record at 6:15 p.m.)

13 (Back on the record at 6:30 p.m.)

14 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Good early evening, and welcome
15 back to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission
16 COI Input Meeting.

17 For anyone who has joined us recently, we are
18 offering language lines for Spanish, Farsi, Armenian and
19 Khmer, for Khmer language speakers to listen to the meeting
20 in their native language, and a separate line for those who
21 wish to provide public comment or public input.

22 Could I please have each of our interpreters
23 provide our language line numbers, and the information to
24 provide public input?

25 Starting with Spanish, please read the cite

1 translation of full call-in instructions.

2

3 SPANISH INTERPRETER: This is the Spanish
4 Interpreter.

5 [Instructions read in Spanish]

6 Thank you.

7 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 Now to Farsi, please read the cite translation of
9 full call-in instructions.

10 (Pause.)

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: Could the Farsi Interpreter
12 unmute your mike in Zoom?

13 FARSI INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in Farsi]

14 Thank you.

15 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

16 Now to Armenian, please read the cite translation
17 of full call-in instructions.

18 ARMENIAN INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in
19 Armenian]

20 Thank you.

21 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 Now to Khmer --

23 KHMER INTERPRETER: Yes.

24 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: -- please read the cite
25 translation of full call-in instructions.

1 KHMER INTERPRETER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2 [Instructions read in Khmer]

3 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 This session is specifically dedicated to those
6 that do not have an appointment. However, if you had an
7 appointment and were unable to call in during your time
8 block, we encourage you to call in now.

9 We will continue to take public input at this
10 time, and also invite public comment at this time. The
11 phone line for public input and public comment will close
12 at 7:00 p.m. We will get to all the callers who are in the
13 queue at that time, to include going beyond 7:00 p.m., if
14 needed.

15 I will pass this over to Kay, our Comment
16 Moderator.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

18 In order to maximize transparency and public
19 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
20 taking community of interest input and public comment by
21 phone at this time.

22 To call in dial the telephone number provided on
23 the live stream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,
24 enter the meeting I.D. number provided on the live stream
25 feed. It is 87348251563 for this meeting. When prompted

1 to enter a participant I.D., simply press the pound key.

2 Once you've dialed in you'll be placed in a
3 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press star-
4 nine. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When
5 it is your turn to speak you'll hear a message that says,
6 "the host would like you to talk," and to press star-six to
7 speak.

8 If you'd like to give you name, please state and
9 spell it for the record. You are not required to provide
10 your name to give public comment.

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

16 At this time will be caller with the last four,
17 2312. And up next will be caller 4478.

18 Caller 2312, if you'll please follow the prompts
19 to unmute at this time. Caller with the last four digits,
20 2312, if you could please press star-six to unmute at this
21 time.

22 MR. SILKE: Hello.

23 COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello. You are unmuted.
24 Your speaker order number will be number 43, if you'll
25 please make note of that for future reference. And if

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

3 MR. SILKE: Hi. My name is Al Silke (phonetic),
4 and I would like to talk about Montebello and Pico Rivera.
5 We are twin cities bordered by I-5, I-605 and State Route
6 60, held together by the three bridges across Beverly
7 Boulevard, Whittier Boulevard, and Washington Boulevard.

8 Both cities have roughly a population of 63,000,
9 and are both over 75-percent Latino. We often cross the
10 river to do business in each other's city. We share a
11 common community, and often engage in civic events
12 together.

13 It is vital that we keep our representation in
14 the assembly, state senate and Congress, to make sure our
15 concerns are held as a predominantly Latino community.
16 Thank you.

17 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

18 Right now we will have caller 4478, and up next
19 will be caller 7223.

20 Caller 4478, if you will please follow the
21 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 4478, your speaker
22 order number will be number 44, if you'll please make note
23 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
24 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
25 is yours.

1 MS. LYNCH: Sure. The I-210 corridor just north
2 of the 210 Freeway. The northern point being Altadena, and
3 the eastern point being in Claremont.

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

5 MS. LYNCH: Okay. Thank you for having me
6 tonight to speak behalf of my community of interest. My
7 name is Beth Lynch. I use she/her pronouns. I'm the
8 community organizer for Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San
9 Gabriel Valley. We are reproductive healthcare provider
10 that has five health centers who serve Glendale and
11 Highland Park communities, all the way to the San Gabriel
12 Valley's Azusa and Glendora region.

13 I'm speaking today representing 62,000 patients
14 annually, 40,000 supporters, a staff of 150, our community
15 partners and our neighbors. I'm here speaking on this
16 important issue because we know redistricting determines
17 whether our communities can remain together and how they
18 are represented.

19 A fair redistricting process is one that draws
20 boundaries ensuring voices are equitably heard. These
21 boundaries help protect underserved communities and
22 determine how much power or influence a communities'
23 collective weight has on those they elect to represent
24 them. These districts determine our neighborhoods, our
25 cities and our identities.

1 I'm requesting that you keep the community of the
2 210 corridor from Claremont to Altadena as the district is
3 currently drawn. Please keep this community intact.

4 My best friend actually lives at the base of
5 Angeles Forest in Altadena. There's literally one house
6 away from here, and that vast (indiscernible) expanse. In
7 her first week of living there a brush fire happened. Her
8 family, of her husband and two kids, readied themselves in
9 case the fire wasn't able to be contained. And fortunately
10 they didn't have to evacuate, but this is a very common
11 occurrence for them and others like them close to this
12 mountain.

13 As we've seen with the Lakes and the Bobcat Fire,
14 sometimes this community isn't that fortunate. I was about
15 15 minutes away with the 210 separating us. When the
16 wildfires hit last year, I saw the sky change color and our
17 street fill with ash, but fleeing a wildfire is not a
18 concern for me. My best friend casually discusses a bear
19 eating a neighbor's chickens, and that is so far from my
20 daily reality.

21 The point is, fires, wildlife and transportation
22 define the 210 corridor community in a way that nearby
23 communities cannot relate. In order for this community and
24 others like them to be able to address serious issues and
25 keep their collective power, they need to have one voice

1 with one representative.

2 The greater San Gabriel Valley, and specifically
3 this 210 corridor tract, has unique ecosystems of voices
4 that need extra attention and protection to preserve what
5 makes the region so special to begin with. I urge you to
6 keep the 210 corridor intact as it is currently drawn.
7 Thank you for your time.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

9 Right now we will have caller 7223, and up next
10 will be caller 8544.

11 Caller 7223, if you will please follow the
12 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 7223, your speaker
13 order number will be number 45, if you'll please make note
14 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
15 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
16 is yours.

17 MS. RODRIQUEZ: Thank you. I -- my name is Rene
18 Grace Rodriguez, and I am a resident of Chatsworth,
19 California, and I'm speaking about area 38. AD 38 is so
20 important to keep the Chatsworth community, Porter Ranch,
21 Granada Hills, Northridge and Chatsworth. We need to keep
22 Porter Ranch, keep us together.

23 We have a common community of interest over the
24 next 10 years. We have to deal with the fallout of this
25 Aliso Canyon gas blowout. I myself was poisoned in my

1 office as that gas leak exploded. And we have united as a
2 community to work to clean up this mess, and we need to
3 stay together as a community. Included in our community,
4 if you look at the map, it's this awkward little leg,
5 tangent of Simi Valley that's hanging out in a completely
6 different county. Doesn't share the same unity of interest
7 that we share, and it's so important that they be able to
8 have a common interest in their side on Ventura County with
9 the issues that they face, as opposed to us being
10 influenced by what goes on in the valley.

11 In addition, I'd like to point out that we also
12 share a common interest with the Santa Clarita Valley. As
13 often times being part of the north valley, our freeway
14 connects us so closely to the community colleges that are
15 there is Santa Clarita Valley. Many people in Santa
16 Clarita Valley, in fact, I -- my own assistant commutes
17 from Santa Clarita Valley into the San Fernando Valley for
18 work.

19 So it's tremendously important that you
20 understand, we do have a community of interest when it
21 comes to both Aliso Canyon and the Santa Clarita community
22 in terms of schools and shopping and churches. So, I would
23 also ultimately like to also point that -- and once again
24 reiterate, that Simi Valley does not have that common
25 interest, and Simi Valley should be included in Ventura.

1 Thank you for taking my testimony this evening.

2 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 Right now we have caller 8544, and up next is
4 caller 5736.

5 Caller 8544, if you will please follow the
6 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 8544, you are
7 unmuted. Your speaker order number will be number 46, if
8 you'll please make note of that for future reference. And
9 if you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
10 like to discuss, the floor is yours.

11 MS. CATERSFIELD: Hi. My name is Catherine
12 Catersfield (phonetic). I am calling from Chatsworth in
13 the north San Fernando Valley about Assembly District 38.

14 I echo Rene Grace's comments about the north San
15 Fernando Valley having a very strong environmental interest
16 surrounding the Aliso Canyon gas leak. I myself and my
17 husband, we were both personally impacted by this, however,
18 we are just outside of the Assembly District 38, which I
19 find, you know, very odd, because I live in the same
20 neighborhood in Los Angeles as people who are, you know, a
21 quarter mile from me, yet we live in a different assembly
22 district. I don't think that's right. I think I should be
23 a part of the Chatsworth community in terms of my assembly
24 representation, just as I am here in Los Angeles. We share
25 a Los Angeles city council member, yet we don't have the

1 same assembly district member.

2 The same can be said for Northridge, Granada
3 Hills and Porter Ranch. We are all represented by the same
4 city council member, yet we don't necessarily have the same
5 assembly member. As Rene said, there are a lot of people
6 who commute from Santa Clarita to this part of the San
7 Fernando Valley for -- as a (indiscernible) student, I had
8 a lot of fellow students who were from Santa Clarita
9 Valley. I've made friends with co-workers who live in
10 Santa Clarita Valley. So it's makes complete sense to me
11 to unite North Los Angeles County.

12 What does not make sense to me is to include Simi
13 Valley, which is part of Ventura County. It does not
14 experience an environmental impact from the Aliso Canyon
15 disaster. And, generally, it's a different demographic
16 makeup than the north San Fernando Valley. The north San
17 Fernando Valley has a very high Latino population, and I
18 feel that that is not represented in Simi Valley. I feel
19 that those voices are drowned out. Because Simi Valley is
20 in AD 38 right now, I would think that the people of Simi
21 Valley would feel their interests more aligned with the
22 rest of Ventura County, and that's how they should be
23 represented.

24 I urge you to include all of Chatsworth, all of
25 Northridge, Granada Hills and Porter Ranch in the same

1 Assembly District 38, and to remove Simi Valley from AD 38.

2 Thank you for hearing my comments.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

4 Right now we'll have caller 5736, and up next
5 will be caller 5592.

6 Caller 5736, if you'll please follow the prompts
7 to unmute. Caller 5736, your speaker order number will be
8 number 47, if you'll please make note of that for future
9 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
10 area you would like to discuss, the floor is yours.

11 MS. VALDEZ: Hi. My name is Joella Valdez, and I
12 would like to discuss AD 58 and 49. I'm calling in tonight
13 to express support in keeping Montebello and Pico Rivera
14 together. We have many commonalities and it's not just
15 demographics. We share a school district and residents
16 from each city benefit from resources in both communities.
17 Our children go to school in each other's city, participate
18 in community activities and events.

19 It's imperative to keep our communities together.
20 We're united. We work together. Keeping our voices
21 together and making sure that our representatives continue
22 to effectively represent our interests is not only
23 paramount to our community today, but also tomorrow. Thank
24 you for your time.

25 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, caller, for that

1 input. And just as a final announcement, the phone lines
2 will be closing at 7:00 p.m. So please get in the queue so
3 we can listen to your input before adjourning for the day.

4 And, Katy, back to you.

5 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much, Chair.

6 And again, for those that have called in, please
7 press star-nine to raise your hand to get into the comment
8 queue line. Please press star-nine to raise your hand to
9 get into the comment queue line.

10 Caller 5592 will be right now, and up next will
11 be caller 2150.

12 Caller 5592, if you will please follow the
13 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 5592, your speaker
14 order number is number 48, if you'll please make note of
15 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
16 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
17 is yours.

18 MR. VILLALOBOS-SALUD: All righty. I'm calling
19 from the Southgate area in the southeast of Los Angeles,
20 and I'll begin now.

21 My name is Jesus Ramon Villalobos-Salud
22 (phonetic), and I'm a member of the Coalition for Humane
23 Immigrant Rights, otherwise known as CHIRLA, as well as the
24 People's Bloc. And I've been a resident of the city for
25 about 11 years. I've been a resident in this district for

1 a little bit more than that, and, again, I'm talking about
2 Southgate and the gateway communities.

3 This time around I'll be talking as an immigrant.
4 My neighbors, for those who live in my community, are
5 working-class immigrants like myself. They're construction
6 workers, factory laborers, food plant processors. And we
7 have a very tight-knit community in the southeast. We have
8 plenty of libraries and mosques and churches that we visit.
9 And often times we traverse the entire southeast in order
10 to partake in a lot of these cultural and economic
11 transactions.

12 The majority of my neighbors are a mix,
13 indigenous and Hispanic in heritage, though we do have a
14 significant community of South Asian, Middle Eastern, North
15 African and (indiscernible)-American neighbors. And in our
16 streets you will hear Spanish more than English, and the
17 occasional Portuguese, Arabic and even Bangladeshi.

18 A lot of our neighbors work in the factories in
19 Vernon and Huntington Park, preparing and cutting fruit,
20 meat and goods. Southgate hosts the satellite of East Los
21 Angeles College and runs free shuttles to the main campus
22 in Monterey Park. And the 105 and 710 run through the
23 edges of the City of Southgate, and the Harbor Freeway lead
24 to the ports near San Pedro. And if you take the 60 bus,
25 you will arrive at the heart of downtown, though it will

1 take you across the neighborhood as well.

2 I believe that my community is currently
3 separated by a line, my community being the area of
4 Southgate, Huntington Park, Maywood, Bell and Bell Gardens.
5 I believe that this community is separated. We are majorly
6 Hispanic. A lot of us speak Spanish as the native
7 language, and we visit each other's cities for both
8 commercial, medical and religious reasons.

9 And I believe that currently, at least with our
10 assembly district, Assembly District 63, our interests are
11 not being respected, our interests are not being aligned,
12 especially after -- after this January's incident with --
13 January 2020's incident with the spraying of jet fuel over
14 our communities of Cudahy, Bell Gardens and Southgate, that
15 impacted our entire community, and that includes outside of
16 the district lines. I really feel like we would all --

17 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

18 MR. VILLALOBOS-SALUD: -- be better served if
19 people from this region would be under one representative.
20 Thank you.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

22 Right now we will have caller 2150, and up next
23 will be caller 0471.

24 Caller 2150, if you will please follow the
25 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 2150, your speaker

1 order number will be number 49, if you'll please make note
2 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
3 mapper know what area you would like to discuss, the floor
4 is yours.

5 SPEAKER NUMBER 49: Hi. Good evening,
6 Commissioner. I'm calling on behalf of SBCC and NALEO,
7 specifically in South L.A. District 9. I'm calling because
8 I've been living in the District 9 for over 80 (sic) years
9 now, and I -- my son attends one of the schools in District
10 9. Now only do I live there and advocate for different
11 community issues, but I also work in South L.A.

12 Due to the different communities that surround
13 us, we have a (indiscernible), which is actually in an
14 incorporated area in L.A. County. It is a small community
15 where there isn't much for presentation. There is
16 definitely a lot of lack of resources. It's also a place
17 that I frequent, where I go to the medical offices, where I
18 shop. And definitely something that folks in that
19 community visit the different districts in Los Angeles,
20 District 8 and District 9, for the various activities, the
21 resources, the community events.

22 And I would like to suggest that we include that
23 community in a district in the City of L.A. Thank you.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

25 Right now we will have caller 0471, and up next

1 we have caller 3784.

2 Caller 0471, if you will please follow the
3 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 0471, your speaker
4 order number will be number 50, if you will please make
5 note of that for future reference. And if you will please
6 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss, the
7 floor is yours.

8 SPEAKER NUMBER 50: Thank you very much. I am
9 calling for the West San Gabriel Valley. The last
10 commission did a great job keeping the Asian-American and
11 Pacific Islander community in the West San Gabriel Valley
12 united. And we are asking that the community be kept
13 together again.

14 The community is centered around a cluster of
15 cities that include Alhambra, Arcadia, Monterey Park,
16 Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino and Temple City. The
17 last commission not only kept the community largely whole,
18 but also did a good job allowing us to form coalitions with
19 nearby areas.

20 For example, in Congress, we are unified with
21 communities bordering the Angeles Forest, aligned for joint
22 solutions to the federal issue related to that natural
23 resource. While in the Senate we are combined with
24 different communities in the upper San Gabriel Valley,
25 where, for example, we share a common water district and

1 more state-related issues relating to water quality. While
2 in the assembly, our communities are able to make up a
3 district on their own, meaning we can have representatives
4 focus specifically on our own issues of concern.

5 For example, many of our communities in the wake
6 of the COVID-19 pandemic were particularly impacted by the
7 surge in AAPI hate crimes. So, please keep us whole,
8 thereby giving us full voice so we can then work together
9 with our neighbors to address both the individual and joint
10 challenges we face. Thank you.

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

12 Right now we have caller 3784, and up next we
13 have caller 6989.

14 Caller 3784, if you will please follow the
15 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller with the last four
16 digits 3784, your speaker order number will be number 51,
17 if you'll please make note of that for future reference.
18 And if you'll please let the mapper know what area you
19 would to discuss --

20 MS. CORTINA: Bueno?

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello? Hello? Can you hear
22 me?

23 MS. CORTINA: Si.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Spanish?

25 MS. CORTINA: Español, por favor.

1 SPANISH INTERPRETER: This is the Interpreter.
2 I'm available for Spanish interpretation.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you.

4 Your speaker order number will be number 51, if
5 you will please make note of that. And if you'll please
6 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss,
7 the floor is yours.

8 SPANISH INTERPRETER: I'm just going to give them
9 a brief announcement about the interpretation.

10 [Instructions read in Spanish]

11 MS. CORTINA (through interpreter): Thank you.
12 Good evening, Commissioners. My name is Jacqueline Cortina
13 (phonetic), and I am here on behalf of SBCC in
14 collaboration with the educational fund, NALEO.

15 I have been living in the area, the L.A. County
16 area for three years. I live in the community of Florence-
17 Firestone. It's considered a part of L.A. County, starting
18 from Compton Street to Alameda Street. I am a mom of six.
19 Three of my children are older, but three of them attend
20 the Chavez (sic) schools.

21 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Sorry. This is the
22 Interpreter speaking. The students are charter school
23 students.

24 MS. CORTINA: My daughter attends a school
25 located here on 112 and Grape, which belongs to District 15

1 by the Watts area. She goes to swimming classes at Athens
2 Park, which is located on Broadway and Second. My other
3 two children attend Alliance Judy Burton Tech High School.
4 This school is located on Broadway and Century, which is
5 part of District 9. My kids since they were little, they
6 would go to schools located in District 8 and 9.

7 I have been a volunteer at my children's schools,
8 and I've also been a volunteer at other organizations, like
9 organizations like Best Start and Avalon Garden and SOFLA
10 (phonetic) of CBK.

11 I go shopping for food at Superior on 103 and
12 Avalon, and the Food for Less on 103 and Compton. I would
13 like for Florence and Firestone to possibly be a part of
14 the district in Los Angeles, so that it could have
15 representation and more resources be provided to the
16 families that need it. And to maintain my community
17 together in union, like the other communities nearby, like
18 Watts, since we share the same cultures, the same language
19 and the customs in common, and other things in common. And
20 so, again, thank you for your attention.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

22 Right now --

23 MS. CORTINA: Muchos gracias.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: -- right now we will have
25 caller 6989, and up next will be caller 8293.

1 Caller 6989, if you will please follow the
2 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 6989, your speaker
3 order number will be number 52, if you will please make
4 note of that for future reference. And if you will please
5 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss, the
6 floor is yours.

7 MR. SONG: I'd like to represent the Long Beach
8 area.

9 Good evening, honorable Commissioner. My name is
10 Charles Song (phonetic). I was born in Cambodia and moved
11 to the United State in 1983, after fleeing the Cambodian
12 genocide. I am co-chair of Equity for Cambodians, Chair of
13 the Khmer American Civic Engagement Committee, and Chair of
14 the United Khmer American Coalition Committee.

15 I am also a board member on the Midtown Business
16 Improvement District in Central Long Beach. As an
17 immigrant and a community activist, I understand first-hand
18 the importance of the redistricting and political
19 representation in my community.

20 Long Beach is home to the largest Cambodian
21 population outside of Southeast Asia, with as many as
22 50,000 Cambodian in Long Beach. Cambodian immigrants have
23 transformed central Long Beach and Cambodia town with
24 countless small businesses, mom-and-pop stores,
25 restaurants, and cultural programming and events. And yet

1 Cambodians have historically been divided into four local
2 council districts in Long Beach, instead of being united in
3 a single district.

4 We have worked diligently to advance
5 representation at the local level through the creation of
6 Long Beach independent redistricting commission. Keeping
7 community of interest together, like the Long Beach
8 Cambodian population is essential to ensure our voices are
9 heard and our interests and supported (indiscernible) in
10 the state legislature and Congress.

11 We have established strong partnership with our
12 representatives at local level state and congressional
13 levels, and the existing district lines that kept Long
14 Beach together over the past decade have helped to advance
15 the diverse interests of our Cambodian businesses and
16 community member in Long Beach.

17 We have request the Long Beach, the upcoming
18 redistricting process keep our community together, rather
19 than divide it up into different districts. I thank you
20 for allowing me the opportunity. Thank you.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

22 Right now we will have caller 8293, and up next
23 will be caller 8173.

24 Caller 8293, if you will please follow the
25 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 8293, your speaker

1 order number will be number 53, if you will please make
2 note of that for future reference. And if you will please
3 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss, the
4 floor is yours.

5 SPEAKER NUMBER 53: Good afternoon. Thank you so
6 much for -- the Commission for taking your time. This is a
7 long freaking call. I don't know how you do it.

8 But anyway, I would like to -- I'm a resident of
9 25th Congressional and the 38th Assembly, and I'm calling
10 from Santa Clarita.

11 My name's Nicole, and one of the criteria for
12 developing district boundaries is to respect communities of
13 interest. In 2010 the previous commission did not
14 sufficiently protect communities of interest in north Los
15 Angeles County.

16 I'm writing to express my view that unlike 2010,
17 the Commission must respect the given criteria for
18 development of district maps, and the interest of northern
19 Los Angeles County are recognized with district boundaries
20 that represent unique and colorful history of the region.

21 Currently the 25th Congressional District, which
22 includes Assembly District 36 and 38, and Districts 21 and
23 27, encompasses numerous municipalities, spanning over
24 1,500 square miles. There's no easy identifiable interests
25 between Simi Valley and the rest of the district.

1 Between Simi Valley and Santa Clarita, the
2 closest contiguous cities to Ventura County, the respective
3 chambers of commerce have different priorities and focuses.
4 They have separate law enforcement agencies and first
5 responders, and none of their school districts and
6 community college districts overlap. The cities do not co-
7 host or advertise each other's events. The only identical
8 (sic) connection between Simi Valley and the remainder of
9 the districts are the currently shared congressional
10 assembly and congressional districts. In short, we have
11 nothing in common.

12 I would propose that we stay with north L.A.
13 County. We have transportation needs. A lot of our
14 students share campuses between College of the Canyons and
15 CSUN. We have nothing in common with Ventura County, and I
16 propose that we stay with Los Angeles County, as we share
17 the same services and we are a resident of L.A. County.

18 Both Los Angeles and counties -- and Ventura
19 County and cities within their respective jurisdictions
20 have different health departments and protocols for such
21 things like covid, which make it more difficult for
22 representatives to provide constituents with constantly
23 evolving critical health and safety information.

24 I ask of this Commission to ensure that separate
25 and distinct communities of interest are not artificially

1 connected by arbitrary district boundaries. And again,
2 that Los Angeles and Ventura County each be bestowed with
3 representation that respects their specific interests. And
4 I just have to give a shout out to Long Beach. I am so
5 impressed with their community. Thank you for letting me
6 share.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

8 Right now we will have caller 8173, and up next
9 will be caller 7532.

10 Caller 8173, if you will please follow the
11 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 8173, your speaker
12 order number will be 54, if you will please make note of
13 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
14 mapper know what area you would to discuss, the floor is
15 yours.

16 MS. MORALES: Hello, Commissioners. My name is
17 Maria Morales, and I'm a member of CHIRLA. Could we please
18 focus on the map in the area of Mid-City, Baldwin Hills,
19 Cienega and Jefferson Park?

20 I'm a resident of Mid-City, and I've lived in the
21 neighborhood for 11 years. And today I will be speaking
22 for my community of Mid-City as an immigrant. My city is
23 made of poor and lower middle-class, where the majority of
24 us identify ourselves as Hispanic and Latinx, and few
25 Jewish people. There's a lot of homelessness, and most of

1 the workers I know are just paid minimum wage, which are
2 restaurants, retail workers, if not, they are construction
3 workers, health cleaners, street vendors or gardeners.

4 La Cienega Plaza is a small shopping center that
5 helps employ my neighborhood. And with these jobs, my
6 neighbors can afford apartments, duplexes, single-family
7 homes to live in. Although in some apartments there can be
8 up to five or seven people living in each unit.

9 Since my area is mainly Latin America, the
10 primary languages spoken are Spanish and English, which
11 leads me to education. Some students go to nearby schools
12 like Fernando Estella Elementary (phonetic), Martin Middle
13 School, and Hamilton High School, while some go to cities
14 -- other cities for school. The two closest community
15 colleges are West L.A. and (indiscernible).

16 Now I would like to talk about services and
17 transportation that are available for -- that my community
18 needs. Available services are Kaiser Permanente Medical
19 Center, the Robertson Branch Library, La Cienega Plaza and
20 nearby parks. Although we have great services, my
21 community needs more mental health services. If people
22 want to get access to mental health services, they have to
23 travel to nearby cities like Culver City. These services
24 are available to people that can afford health insurance,
25 so we also need affordable healthcare. Along with that, we

1 need better education for kids in elementary school, and
2 schools in general.

3 We also come from a Hispanic and Latinx community
4 where the students first language is Spanish. Finally, we
5 also need services for kids with disabilities. I
6 personally have seen the struggle my mom has to go through
7 to get resources for my sister's needs.

8 Lastly, my community is located in La Cienega and
9 (indiscernible). So we have access to public
10 transportation, such as the Big Blue Bus, Metro buses and
11 the Expo Lines. Others travel by car and bike.

12 To close off, I would like to ask that we could
13 keep the following neighborhoods, my city, Baldwin Hills,
14 Jefferson Park, Cienega together in one district, so our
15 representatives can continue to be champions for these
16 issues. In addition, covid relief, homelessness, access to
17 education, access to healthcare, working rights, civil
18 rights, I would like if Westwood and Century City were not
19 part of my district, because those cities are more
20 different than my community --

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MS. MORALES: -- since more wealthy people live
23 up there -- since more wealthy people live up there. With
24 that being said, I want to thank you guys for allowing me
25 to speak today.

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

2 Right now we have caller 7532, and up next we
3 have caller 9835.

4 Caller 7532, if you will please follow the
5 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 7532, your speaker
6 order number will be number 55, if you will please make
7 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
8 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss today,
9 the floor is yours.

10 MR. OSMORANO: Hello. I would like the map to be
11 focused on the Antelope Valley, specifically Lancaster.

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

13 MR. OSMORANO: Good afternoon, Commissioners. My
14 name is Eric Osmorano (phonetic), and I am a member of
15 CHIRLA. I am a resident of Lancaster, so today I will be
16 talking about this area.

17 This town is divided with the west being upper
18 class, and the east being lower class. I lived in the east
19 side for all 25 years of my life here, and know how the
20 schools, stores, parks are treated differently on each
21 side.

22 My community is united by the northbound 14
23 Freeway and Sierra Highway. Many of the residents have
24 vehicles or use busses and ubers to travel around the
25 neighborhood and to go to work. We have commuters that get

1 up at 4:00 a.m. to make it to their hard-labor job. Many
2 are working in the fast food industries here, working
3 grocery stores, as we have stores like Vallarta, Superior,
4 that represent the Latino community. Many on the east side
5 live in apartments, single-family homes and duplexes.
6 Sometimes multiple people in one room, all sharing occupied
7 spaces, like kitchens and bathrooms. Most of the community
8 are renters and rely on government assistance to have
9 housing.

10 In my community we have parks, such as El Dorado
11 Park, Tierra Bonita Park, which are both attached to
12 schools. Antelope Valley College, which is a community
13 college that has a nursing program, and where most of the
14 residents go because of this nursing program. We also have
15 many trade schools, such as University of Antelope Valley
16 and High Desert Medical School.

17 Around our neighborhood mostly the races that are
18 seen are Latino and Black, while the Whites in the
19 neighborhood are more seniors. The language spoken --
20 spoken in the communities are Spanish and English. It's
21 important to unite Mexican community that has been divided
22 to disempower and erase us, because we care about
23 immigration, access to education and higher education,
24 housing, worker rights. By keeping all of Lancaster
25 together in Congressional District 25 with Palmdale,

1 Rosemont and Littlerock, our representative can continue to
2 be champion for these issues. Thank you.

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

4 Right now we have caller 9839 --

5 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Katy?

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes?

7 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Katy?

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

9 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Can we have that speaker come
10 back, please?

11 COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely, Chair.

12 Caller 7532, the Chair has some questions.

13 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: I'm sorry. It was my mistake.

14 We can move on. Thank you for your input. Thank you.

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay. Thank you so much.

16 All right. Caller 9835, and up next will be --
17 right now will be 9835, and then up next will be caller
18 2270.

19 Caller 9835, if you will please follow the
20 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 9835, your speaker
21 order number will be number 56, if you will please make
22 note of that for future reference. And if you will please
23 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss, the
24 floor is yours.

25 MS. MONROE: Good evening. I am discussing for

1 South Los Angeles, District 8 and 9 in the County of Los
2 Angeles.

3 My name is Lawanda Monroe, and I would just first
4 like to thank you the honorable Alicia Fernandez and the
5 California Citizens Redistricting Commission for allowing
6 me this opportunity to voice some of my concerns. So,
7 again, my name is Lawanda Monroe. I am the Executive
8 Director for Stop the Violence Increase the Peace
9 Foundation. Also, the CEO for STV Allied Health Education
10 Centers, where we train our youth within our communities
11 and young adults as certified nursing assistants, certified
12 home health aides and licensed vocational nurses.

13 I am very concerned about the redistricting in
14 communities and neighborhoods within the City and County of
15 Los Angeles. While reducing the number of splits among
16 unincorporated communities and adjacent cities, in my
17 opinion I feel this Commission should be using neighborhood
18 council boundaries when defining communities and do
19 everything in its power not to split assembly district and
20 adjacent cities in unincorporated areas unnecessarily.

21 An example is the Empowerment Congress Southeast
22 Neighborhood Council. That should be made whole in one
23 assembly district, in either AD 59 or AD 64, while the
24 Wilmington Neighborhood Council should be included with the
25 Los Angeles communities of Harbor City and San Pedro in AD

1 70, as they are naturally separated from most of the rest
2 of the City of Los Angeles south of the Harbor Gateway
3 community. While violence and crime is spiking everywhere,
4 we believe that representative control is truly important.
5 I thank you all for this time.

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

7 Right now we will have caller 2270, and up next
8 will be caller 8121.

9 Caller 2270, if you will please follow the
10 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 2270, your speaker
11 order number will be number 57, if you'll please make note
12 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
13 mapper know what area you would to discuss, the floor is
14 yours.

15 MS. AHMAD: Yeah. If you could please pull up
16 Southeast Los Angeles on the map, I'll be speaking about
17 Cerritos and Artesia.

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

19 MS. AHMAD: Hello. My name is Hina Ahmad. I am
20 the Program Manager at the South Asian Network here in
21 Artesia. I'm calling in to ask the Commission to speak --
22 to keep Cerritos and Artesia together and in L.A. County
23 base districts. Cerritos and Artesia has its own unique
24 demographics. There are a lot of South Asian that live in
25 the area, and the residents that live here are more tied to

1 L.A. County than they are to Orange County.

2 For example, the commuting patterns of these two
3 cities trend more towards L.A. County than to Orange
4 County. Pre-pandemic nearly 60-percent of workers who
5 lived in Cerritos and Artesia worked in L.A. County,
6 compared to around one quarter in Orange County. Likewise,
7 nearly two-thirds of those who worked in Cerritos and
8 Artesia commuted from L.A. County, compared with only one
9 quarter from Orange County.

10 When it comes to everyday life, the residents of
11 Cerritos and Artesia rely on Norwalk and the other
12 neighboring L.A. cities for their shopping and
13 entertainment needs. The youth of Cerritos and Artesia
14 attend ABC Unified, which includes neighboring L.A. County
15 cities like Lakewood and Hawaiian Gardens.

16 Cerritos and Artesia, like their neighbors in
17 southeast L.A., deal with air pollution coming from the I-
18 5, 605 and 91 freeways. The source of this pollution on
19 these high-use freeways are the daily commuters heading
20 into the L.A. basin for work, as well as trucks hauling
21 freight from the Port of Los Angeles.

22 The California EPA considers Cerritos, Artesia
23 and much of the rest of southeast L.A. as disadvantaged
24 communities because of this daily exposure to pollution.
25 In short, Cerritos and Artesia share the same ethnic

1 diversity, socioeconomic makeup and environmental justice
2 issues that the rest of its neighbors in southeast Los
3 Angeles experience. Thank you for your time. Please keep
4 Cerritos and Artesia whole and in L.A. County base
5 districts.

6 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

7 Right now we have caller 8121, and up next we
8 have caller 3733.

9 Caller 8121, if you will please follow the
10 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 8121, your speaker
11 order number will be number 58, if you will please make
12 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
13 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss, the
14 floor is yours.

15 MS. OLMOS: Okay. I'm in the San Gabriel Valley
16 area, specifically South El Monte.

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

18 MS. OLMOS: Hi. My name is Gloria Olmos. I'm
19 the Mayor of the City of South El Monte. And first off,
20 I'd like to thank the Commissioners for taking the time to
21 provide our input. I know it's been a long night.

22 And the City of South El Monte City Council
23 submitted an input letter on July 28th in regards to our
24 districting -- redistricting. For the past two cycles the
25 city has experienced some back and forth splits between the

1 districts, as well as the inclusion cities, that do not
2 have the same demographic or geographic characteristics
3 such as us.

4 We believe that it's in the best interest of
5 South El Monte to remain a whole in one assembly,
6 congressional and state senate district that contain cities
7 with similar characteristics and share the regional needs
8 and opportunities.

9 All of the cities of California are facing
10 challenges such as housing deficiencies, homelessness,
11 operation increases, organic waste mandates, stormwater
12 management and transportation access. Our city would
13 benefit by staying with our San Gabriel Valley region, by
14 sharing the same regional issues with similar cities of El
15 Monte, Baldwin Park, Azusa and West Covina.

16 That's why I'm asking, as the city council would
17 like to follow-up on this and be acted on for the City of
18 South El Monte to keep whole.

19 For assembly district, we'd like to see the City
20 of South El Monte be included in the same assembly district
21 as El Monte, Baldwin Park, Azusa, which would be the 48th
22 District.

23 And for our congressional district we'd like the
24 City of South El Monte to be included in the congressional
25 district of El Monte, Baldwin Park, Azusa and West Covina,

1 the 32nd District.

2 And also for the state senate district, we'd like
3 to remain with Susan Rubio, Senator Susan Rubio, District
4 22. She's done an outstanding job. So we'd really like to
5 see the demographics being -- instead of being split, to
6 maintain as a whole, so that we can go ahead and seek other
7 options to benefit the City of South El Monte.

8 And once again, I just thank you so, so much for
9 all your time. I know you had a long night. And, Long
10 Beach, kudos to you. You've had a lot of input. But I
11 just wanted to ask for that and the City of South Monte.
12 On behalf of us, we have several school board members
13 already onboard with us, and several leaders in our
14 community that all agree, that this should be the change
15 that we can make.

16 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

17 Right now we will have caller 3733, and up next
18 will be caller 4057.

19 Caller 3733, if you will please follow the
20 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 3733, your speaker
21 order number will be number 59, if you'll please make note
22 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
23 mapper know what area you would to discuss, the floor is
24 yours.

25 MS. OLSON: Hi. My name is Kim Olson, and I'd

1 like to speak about the northern part of the San Fernando
2 Valley.

3 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead.

4 MS. OLSON: I'm calling -- thank you.

5 I live in Chatsworth, and I would very much like
6 to protect the northern valley and keep this group
7 together. We have a -- we have a -- there are a few things
8 that are really important to us, and we have a community of
9 interest here that has to be protected. One of the main
10 and most serious things that's happened recently was the
11 Aliso Canyon gas blowout, and those of us here in
12 Chatsworth were impacted, as was Porter Ranch, Granada
13 Hills north and Northridge.

14 These are also communities where -- for those of
15 us who live here, we're all natural partners. I go to
16 Kaiser in Porter Ranch. I have a dentist in Granada Hills.
17 I shop and do business in Northridge. We are all
18 interconnected here.

19 We're also all part of Los Angeles County. And
20 we share services. We share police services, we share fire
21 services. It's extremely important for us that our
22 interests, especially around Aliso Canyon, are protected.
23 We need to be part of the same group.

24 We also travel back and forth to Santa Clarita.
25 I'm sure you're familiar with College of the Canyons and

1 CSUN. And a lot of youth will travel back and forth
2 between the northern San Fernando Valley and Santa Clarita,
3 which is also part of Los Angeles County.

4 For those of us who live here, it's a very
5 natural and obvious connection. And for folks who don't
6 really know this area, Aliso Canyon and the continuing
7 impact that we have from Aliso Canyon, we need to be
8 together so we can protect that interest.

9 And if you look at Simi Valley, Simi Valley is
10 geographically closed off from us. I live one stop away
11 from Simi Valley and I never head that way, because that's
12 not really part of our community. I can tell you that's
13 Ventura County. That's different services, different
14 police, different fire department.

15 I would encourage you to please keep the northern
16 valley together. We really need to protect our interests
17 here, and we are very much a community --

18 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

19 MS. OLSON: -- and it's pretty tight
20 (indiscernible) one. I appreciate your time, and I would
21 encourage you to keep Los Angeles communities together,
22 Santa Clarita and the northern San Fernando Valley. Thank
23 you very much.

24 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

25 Right now we are on caller 4057, and up next will

1 be caller 9280.

2 Caller 4057, if you will please follow the
3 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 4057, your speaker
4 order number will be number 60, if you will please make
5 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
6 let the mapper know what area you would to discuss, the
7 floor is yours.

8 MS. HAGOBIAN: Hi. Good evening. Thank you.
9 City of Santa Clarita.

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

11 MS. HAGOBIAN: Good evening, Commissioners. My
12 name is Masis Hagobian. I'm the Intergovernmental
13 Relations Analyst for the City of Santa Clarita, on behalf
14 of the Santa Clarita City Council, I respectfully urge that
15 the City of Santa Clarita and Santa Clarita Valley be
16 placed within only one congressional state senate, state
17 assembly and Board of Equalization district.

18 Currently the city's bifurcated by two state
19 senate districts and two state assembly districts, which
20 has made it significantly challenging to collaborate in a
21 consolidated and unified manner that fairly and effectively
22 represents the interests shared by residents of the city at
23 the state level.

24 We respectfully ask that the state senate
25 district encompass the entire City of Santa Clarita, Santa

1 Clarita Valley, and neighboring communities of the Antelope
2 Valley, including the cities of Lancaster and Palmdale.

3 Furthermore, we respectfully ask that the state
4 assembly district encompass the entire city, Santa Clarita
5 Valley, and neighboring communities of Simi Valley and
6 North San Fernando Valley, including Porter Ranch.

7 In regard to the congressional district, we
8 respectfully ask that the City and Santa Clarita Valley
9 continue to be included in one congressional district that
10 includes Simi Valley to the southwest, and the Antelope
11 Valley to the northeast, including the cities of Lancaster
12 and Palmdale.

13 The city collaborates on regional issues,
14 including transportation planning, homelessness, public
15 safety, emergency preparedness and response, and water
16 quality with surrounding incorporated areas directly
17 adjacent to the city, including Castaic, Stevenson Ranch,
18 Acton and Agua Dulce, and again, the cities of Lancaster
19 and Palmdale.

20 Furthermore, the city serves on the North Los
21 Angeles County Transportation Coalition with the Antelope
22 Valley cities to develop regional policies and implement
23 projects and programs to address critical transportation
24 issues, current economic development, (indiscernible)
25 transportation funding opportunities, including Measure M

1 and Senate Bill 1, in the North Los Angeles County region.

2 Similar to the city, the City of Lancaster and
3 Palmdale also contract with the Los Angeles County
4 Sheriff's Department and Fire Department, and work together
5 on emergency preparedness throughout the Los Angeles County
6 Disaster Management Area B Planning Group, which is of
7 critical importance due to the region's history of
8 wildfires and flooding.

9 Regional collaboration between these
10 unincorporated areas and cities meet the state commission
11 criteria with respect to retaining communities of interest
12 that share common social and economic interests that should
13 be included within a single district --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MS. HAGOBIAN: -- for purposes of effective and
16 fair representation.

17 I also want to just extend an appreciation and a
18 thank you to all of you. It's been over four-and-a-half
19 hours this evening, and I know that you guys are doing this
20 across the State. So on behalf of the --

21 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

22 MS. HAGOBIAN: -- of the Santa Clarita City
23 Council, thank you so much for your consideration of our
24 comments.

25 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

1 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Christian. Christian, can you
2 have the caller remain on the line, please?

3 MR. MANOFF: Just a moment.

4 COMMENT MODERATOR: 9280 -- wait a minute. 4057.

5 MR. MANOFF: Caller 4057, the Chair had some
6 questions for you.

7 COMMENT MODERATOR: They're here.

8 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you for your input. Can
9 you define in your own words Santa Clarita Valley? And
10 it's always best to sort of set it with the north-south or
11 east-to-west border.

12 MS. HAGOBIAN: Absolutely, yes. So the Santa
13 Clarita Valley will start from the north, would encompass
14 all the way up to the Castaic area. In regard to the west,
15 would encompass all of Stevenson Ranch. And in regard to
16 the east, would encompass the communities of Acton and Agua
17 Dulce.

18 If the mapper were to zoom in just a bit, you'll
19 see unincorporated areas in the northeast region. It
20 should be identified. You'll see Acton in pink, Agua Dulce
21 in yellow. Those would also be included in that Santa
22 Clarity Valley region. And then the cursor is covering the
23 Castaic area. So that would be the entire Santa Clarita
24 Valley.

25 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

1 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

2 Right now we have caller 9280, and up next will
3 be caller 4817.

4 Caller 9280, if you will please follow the
5 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 9280, your speaker
6 order number will be number 61, if you'll please make note
7 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
8 mapper know what area you would to discuss, the floor is
9 yours.

10 MS. AMADOR: Thank you. Can you please focus the
11 map in the area of South Los Angeles, specifically the USC
12 area, Inglewood and Gardena.

13 Hello, Commissioners. My name is Emi Amador, and
14 I am a member of CHIRLA. I am a resident of the City of
15 Los Angeles and have lived there in the community for 16
16 years.

17 Now please take a moment to close your eyes.
18 Imagine the sweet aroma of home cooked meals, beautiful
19 mural scenes, sweet melodies by the sounds of beeping cars
20 and the sights of street vendors fill the street. You're a
21 16 year old working at a local bodega, a place for home
22 essentials and a rich cultural center, to help bring more
23 income to your home.

24 One day a well-known coffee shop owner comes into
25 your community and begins making threats to the owner of

1 the bodega, Berta (phonetic), pressuring here to sell it to
2 him. She doesn't want to lose her bodega, but the threats
3 about shutting her business down are overwhelming. She
4 gives in. The man extends his coffee shop, displacing the
5 family that was behind what was once a bodega.

6 It's getting tough for you to find another job.
7 Using -- trying to commute to a neighboring district, but
8 it conflicts with your school day. Now you have to make a
9 decision, school or work? You are not against development,
10 you are against displacement.

11 Now please open your eyes. This is the reality
12 for many families. They cannot open their eyes and escape
13 their realities. There's so many high schoolers in this
14 position and people like Berta.

15 My community in South L.A. is made up of poor
16 working class. They are factory workers, (indiscernible)
17 workers, grocery store workers, department store workers,
18 construction workers and street vendors. My community
19 lives in apartments, rental homes and mobile homes, of
20 which have increasingly become to hoard Main Street.
21 Because of this, it's typical to see whole families living
22 in small, single-family homes.

23 My community in South L.A. is predominantly Black
24 and Brown, Latinx and immigrant (indiscernible). And other
25 than English, most of the residents here speak Spanish.

1 Recently there has been increase of gentrification
2 happening, especially in the Crenshaw area, which has
3 displaced residents. Many are facing the poverty cycle in
4 addition to that.

5 We have libraries, like (indiscernible) Branch,
6 Library Hyde Park Miriam Matthews Branch. The schools in
7 my community are HIP Academy Elementary School, Raymond
8 Avenue, El Camino College, Compton Community College, John
9 Muir, (indiscernible) Academy and (indiscernible)
10 opportunity.

11 The 110, 10 and 405 freeways run along the edges
12 of my community. The main street used here -- used here
13 are Florence, Figueroa, Crenshaw and Jefferson Boulevard.
14 When my mom considers it unsafe, a lot of students take the
15 Metro Blue Line, bike or walk to get to school. Cars are
16 also used to get around the area and to work.

17 My community is similar to Gardena --

18 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

19 MS. AMADOR: -- Inglewood and Crenshaw. It is
20 vital that my community stay united because we care about
21 stopping gentrification, providing access to healthy food,
22 advocating or immigrant rights and (indiscernible) rights.
23 Air quality, quality education, education exposure --

24 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

25 MS. AMADOR: -- and homelessness. We also care

1 about access to early and higher education, because
2 typically resources are not catered to our (indiscernible).
3 (Indiscernible) learning is an issue because it is harder
4 for people in South L.A. to own a house, which combined
5 with trauma from different oppressive systems is affecting
6 community. By keeping --

7 MR. MANOFF: Time.

8 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

9 Right now we have caller 4817, and up next will
10 be caller 4852.

11 And I'd like to invite those that have not raised
12 their hand at this time to please do so by pressing star-
13 nine on their telephone keypad. Please press star-nine to
14 raise your hand indicating you wish to comment.

15 And we're getting down to our last couple of
16 hands here.

17 Caller 4817 will be right now, and up next will
18 be caller 4852.

19 Caller 4817, if you will please follow the
20 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 4817, your speaker
21 order number will be number 62, if you'll please make note
22 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
23 mapper know what area you would to discuss, the floor is
24 yours.

25 MR. OLIVER: Thank you. At this time I would

1 like to discuss South Los Angeles County.

2 My name is Reverend Frank Oliver. I represent the
3 Uplift Church, a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference
4 of Southern California. And I also sit as a board member
5 before Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship, which I represent
6 district churches in South Los Angeles and the Inland
7 Empire region.

8 I would just like to talk today about uniting,
9 uniting districts and reducing of the split. For example,
10 I would really like to talk about a number of splits in the
11 unincorporated communities and adjacent cities.

12 One of those is, I would like to talk about AD
13 50, Assembly District 50, 53 and 54. Pico, South
14 Robertson, Olympic Park, I believe those should be made
15 whole. I believe those have more in common than they do in
16 the split. It makes also sense that we deal with Assembly
17 District 50, and having Venice and Morro Vista neighborhood
18 councils, which have more in common with Santa Monica and
19 Los Angeles communities north of Ballona Creek, and those
20 being part of AD 50.

21 One of the things that is close to my heart is
22 the Empowerment Congress Southeast Neighborhood Council.
23 And I believe that should be one of assembly, whether we
24 put under AD 59 or AD 64. And there, also, I believe we
25 should include the Wilmington Neighborhood Council, should

1 be included in Los Angeles communities of Harbor City, and
2 uniting it with San Pedro in AD 70.

3 Some of the other things I think that we should
4 look at is Empowerment Congress West and Empowerment
5 Congress North Neighborhood Councils being united as one
6 district under AD 59. And the Westmont district should not
7 be split between Assembly District 62 and Assembly District
8 59.

9 If we could also talk about the state senate map
10 just for a little bit, the City of Torrance should not be
11 split in the state senate map. The city should -- the city
12 that should -- it should be included in the South Bay
13 communities to the west and the southwest in --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MR. OLIVER: -- in AD 26. The City of Inglewood
16 -- I will conclude. City of Inglewood, I would actually --
17 if we're looking at split, it should be a more natural
18 barrier, maybe following that Crenshaw line --

19 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

20 MR. OLIVER: --- light rail in looking at that
21 district. At the end, finally, or actually the third,
22 Board of Equalization District, should include the City of
23 Los Angeles all in one district, and the City of San
24 Fernando. And also the --

25 MR. MANOFF: Time.

1 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, caller. And just as
2 a statement, your statement was pretty extensive. So you
3 are able to provide an e-mail or submit a COI -- as a
4 method to provide a detailed public input. Thank you.

5 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

6 Right now we have called 4852, if you will please
7 follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 4852, if
8 you will please follow the prompts to unmute at this time
9 by pressing star-six.

10 Caller 4852, your speaker order number will be
11 number 63, if you'll please make note of that for future
12 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
13 area you would to discuss, the floor is yours.

14 MR. SINGH: Hello?

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello. The floor is yours.

16 MR. SINGH: Yes. I'm Gulbarg Singh. I live in
17 (indiscernible), San Fernando Valley. Hello? Hello?

18 MR. MANOFF: Yes. Thank you. Go ahead, please.
19 Yeah, we can hear you. Go ahead.

20 MR. SINGH: Okay. I'm Gulbarg Singh. I live in
21 San Fernando Valley. I'm the president of Global Punjabi
22 Forum. We want to keep our valley separate. We don't want
23 Mulholland Drive. Keep us separate from the rest of the
24 valley. We don't want valley go -- yeah, we want separate
25 valley. Because of the community we have, we have Sikhs

1 community. We have Sikhs. We are -- all of the community
2 we have, we have minority, we have (indiscernible), Bantu,
3 (indiscernible), with Beverly Hill and others of Hollywood,
4 because we lose our voice and be, our community,
5 (indiscernible) community, living here. (Indiscernible)
6 here, of everything here by our (indiscernible) here. So,
7 we don't want lose our valley. We want to stay valley
8 separate from the Los Angeles. We don't want mix valley
9 with the Los Angeles or Beverly Hills (indiscernible).

10 This is -- I appreciate, Mr. Commissioner. So,
11 I'm president of Global Punjabi Forum, to my member of this
12 forum. We (indiscernible), our community. We have
13 (indiscernible) -- we have (indiscernible) in India. We
14 live in (indiscernible) from here. Our community, we have
15 temple here, Laurel Canyon, Pacoima and Canoga Park and
16 North Hill. We have three temple here. We have majority
17 of the community, but a majority, like other community
18 majority here. But we don't want a separate valley from --
19 we don't want mixed valley with the Los Angeles or other
20 (indiscernible). Keep our valley separate, please. Thank
21 you so much, Mr. Commissioner. Hello?

22 COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Thank you so much.

23 Right now we have called 7514, and up next will
24 be caller 0039.

25 And I would like to ask those that have called in

1 and have not chose to raise their hands at this time, to
2 please press star-nine if you wish to raise your hand.

3 Caller 7514, if you will please follow the
4 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 7514, your speaker
5 order number will be number 64, if you'll please make note
6 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
7 mapper know what area you would to discuss, the floor is
8 yours.

9 MR. GETZ: Yeah. Good afternoon. I am speaking
10 on behalf of Congressional District 34, Assembly District
11 53.

12 Hello, Commissioners. My name is Raquel Getz
13 (phonetic), and I am a member of CHIRLA. For the first
14 five years of living in this country, my family and I
15 called home the Westlake MacArthur Park region. Then we
16 had the opportunity to move not too far away in to the
17 Koreatown area, and have resided here for the last 17
18 years.

19 Today I speak as a BACA beneficiary about our
20 immigrants and like to ensure that I am one of the voices
21 that help, help support our undocumented families, youth
22 and community members. Not only to survive in our area,
23 but also to genuinely thrive.

24 So people predominantly who live in my area are
25 poor working-class individuals. Demographically we range

1 in -- from Latinos to AAPI community and Black folks, many
2 who are low income. And during the last seven to 10 years,
3 we overwhelmingly have seen the rapid rampaging that has
4 gone on in terms of gentrification, and this was really
5 harmed our residents. And so many times the apartments
6 that are remaining are old, and the infrastructure of the
7 buildings have not been remodeled. There's infestations
8 going on. Hence, this continues access to -- hence, this
9 affects disproportionate access to housing.

10 And then, furthermore, during the pandemic, the
11 housing crisis, along with the lack of fair wage paying
12 jobs, has caused many of our community members to move
13 their homes, and many times ends up being houseless and on
14 the street.

15 The lack of accessibility to affordable housing,
16 and not luxury homes in Koreatown and Westlake-MacArthur
17 Park area is important. We need affordable housing. We
18 need to ensure that our members, our community members are
19 able to pay rent, bills, and have basic necessities.

20 Alongside with that, educational access is super
21 important. I'm the first in my family to be able to
22 graduate. And still during this pandemic there was
23 technology (indiscernible) and lack of internet and access
24 to computers that range from elementary to middle to high
25 school students. One of the closest community colleges

1 that we have is LACC. And so it's just very critical to
2 have educators in these different institutions that help
3 develop, grow and ensure the success of many current and
4 future leaders, such as myself.

5 I also want to note that there are many key
6 nonprofit organizations, such as CHIRLA, KYCC, Bresee
7 Foundation (phonetic), CHIRLA, HOLA (indiscernible) --

8 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

9 MS. GETZ: -- that are very critical.

10 And then also in terms of healthcare, it's just
11 very important to note that also we lack a lot of different
12 hospitals and clinics, because many times they're over
13 capacity and appointments take forever.

14 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

15 MS. GETZ: And to conclude, I would like to
16 preserve together Koreatown, Westlake-MacArthur Park,
17 Rancho Village, Pico-Union, et cetera, and I would like see
18 if it's possible to revise and see via a poverty and income
19 level indicators, outskirts of Larchmont Village since --

20 MR. MANOFF: Time.

21 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

22 Right now we will have caller 0039.

23 This is the last hand that I have raised in the
24 queue. For the other callers, if you do wish to raise your
25 hand, please press star-nine. I see one more hand.

1 039 will be -- caller 0039 will be right now, and
2 then next will be caller 2515. And those are the only two
3 hands that I have. So if the other callers wish to raise
4 their hands, please press star-nine to raise your hand at
5 this time.

6 Caller 0039, please follow the prompts to unmute
7 at this time. Caller 0039, your speaker order number will
8 be number 65, if you'll please make note of that. If
9 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would to
10 discuss, the floor is yours.

11 MR. GRIDS: Yes. Good evening, Commissioners.
12 Can you please pull up the Antelope Valley and the Santa
13 Clarita Valley? The major cities at the center of these
14 areas are Lancaster, Palmdale and Santa Clarita.

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

16 MR. GRIDS: Okay. My name is James Grids
17 (phonetic), and I have lived in the Antelope Valley for
18 over 30 years. I currently live in Palmdale. I came here
19 from Los Angeles because of aerospace work. It continues
20 to attract people from Los Angeles, or down below as the
21 locals say, for that reason, but also as a growing suburb
22 of the L.A. Basin.

23 It offers the most affordable housing in L.A.
24 County, which is attractive to young families, as well as
25 most of the things they found in the urban areas from which

1 they came. The connection to Santa Clarita, the San
2 Fernando Valley and the greater L.A. area are cultural,
3 familial and economic, so it's imperative that we remain
4 connected.

5 What was once rural decades ago on the outskirts
6 of Palmdale-Lancaster is increasingly being developed. We
7 have carpools, vanpools, buses and the Metro Train that
8 support the commuters. I for one ran a vanpool for many
9 years when I worked in Glendale. And I don't know of
10 anyone that commutes to Bakersfield, but the L.A. radio
11 stations incorporate Highway 14 into their morning and
12 afternoon traffic reports.

13 We have continued economic expansion and
14 diversification that will stretch at these ties in the
15 future. So in summary, we have more in common with the
16 Santa Clarita and the San Fernando Valley than Kern County
17 and the San Joaquin Valley. So, I would urge you to please
18 keep the Antelope Valley with the Santa Clarita Valley.
19 Thank you, and good evening.

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

21 Right now we have caller 2515. This is the last
22 hand that I have in the queue at this time. For the other
23 caller, if you do wish to comment, please press star-nine.

24 Otherwise, caller 2515, please follow the prompts
25 to unmute at this time. Caller 2515, your speaker order

1 number will be number 66, 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 to discuss, the floor is
4 yours.

5 MR. RAFFERTY: Hello. My name is Sage Rafferty
6 (phonetic). I'm calling from Santa Clarita, and I'd like
7 to talk about CA 25 and also AD 38.

8 I'm calling to urge the Commission to place Santa
9 Clarita Valley in a congressional and an assembly district
10 with other communities in Los Angeles County exclusively,
11 and that includes San Fernando Valley and Antelope Valley,
12 and also Chatsworth and Porter Ranch.

13 Currently we have Simi Valley in both CA 25 and
14 the AD 38. This makes no sense, since we are definitely
15 not communities of interest. Simi Valley has separate law
16 enforcement agencies and fire responders. None of their
17 school districts, water districts or community college
18 districts overlap.

19 The cities do not co-host or advertise each
20 other's events. The only thing that we have in common is
21 that we currently share an assembly district, and we share
22 a congressional district.

23 So for one example that I can bring up that -- by
24 having multiple counties represented by a single district,
25 is the COVID-19 epidemic. L.A. County and Ventura County,

1 and cities within their respective jurisdictions, had
2 different health departments and protocols in place, which
3 made it more difficult for our representatives to provide
4 their constituents with constantly evolving, critical
5 health and safety information.

6 So, please keep Santa Clarita in a congressional
7 and assembly district that includes other communities in
8 Los Angeles County. And put Simi Valley into their own
9 district with other communities within Ventura County.
10 Thank you.

11 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Seeing as that was
12 the last call with the raised hand, Katy, can you have the
13 interpreters to read the instructions for raising their
14 hand, please?

15 COMMENT MODERATOR: Could all the interpreters
16 please make themselves available, and do the consecutive
17 translation of what I am about to say, starting with --

18 SPANISH INTERPRETER: Starting with Spanish?

19 COMMENT MODERATOR: -- Spanish. Please, yes.
20 Spanish.

21 If you would like to raise your hand, please
22 press star-nine on your telephone keypad.

23 SPANISH INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in
24 Spanish]

25 COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead.

1 SPANISH INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in
2 Spanish]

3 COMMENT MODERATOR: Would the Farsi Interpreter
4 please make themselves available. Could you please do the
5 cite -- or the consecutive translation of the instructions
6 to please press star-nine to raise your hand on the
7 telephone keypad.

8 FARSI INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in Farsi]

9 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.
10 Could the Armenian Translator please make
11 themselves available at this time.

12 ARMENIAN INTERPRETER: Yes.

13 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, so much. Could
14 you please do the consecutive translation of the
15 instructions to raise your hand? Please press star-nine on
16 your telephone keypad if you wish to raise your hand.

17 ARMENIAN INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in
18 Armenian]

19 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

20 Khmer?

21 KHMER INTERPRETER: [Instructions read in Khmer]

22 COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

23 CO-CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Katy.

24 And so seeing no other raised hands, I would just
25 like to reiterate, there are numerous way to provide public

1 input to the Commission. You can do so at a COI Input
2 Meeting taking place throughout the summer. You can visit
3 wedrawthelinesCA.org for more information. You can use the
4 Community of Interest mapping tool. That can be found at
5 drawmyCAcommunity.org.

6 The on-line COI tool is available in English,
7 Spanish, simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese,
8 Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic,
9 Russian, Japanese, Punjabi, Khmer, Hmong, Thai. Tutorials
10 are also available in those languages.

11 You can provide input on our website. It will be
12 drawthelinesCA.org, and click on the "Draw My CA Community"
13 icon. You can do so by e-mail at
14 votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov, or by traditional mail, snail
15 mail, at California Citizens Redistricting Commission, 721
16 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, California 95814. And
17 you can also do so for those detailed community input or
18 for input that wasn't completed, you can do so by those
19 methods.

20 So, again, seeing no other hand raised, I'm going
21 to bring this meeting to a close. Thank you for joining
22 our Community of Interest Input Meeting today.

23 We have one additional upcoming COI Public Input
24 Meeting this week. On Friday, August 13th at 3:00 p.m., our
25 COI meeting will focus on Imperial and San Diego Counties

1 and their surrounding areas. And we'll have Spanish,
2 Pilipino, Tagalog -- and Tagalog and Arabic listening lines
3 and interpreters available.

4 Next week we have two COI Input Meetings. The
5 first is on August 20th at 2:00 p.m., focusing on Alpine,
6 Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono and Tuolumne
7 Counties and their surrounding areas. And we'll have a
8 Spanish listening line and Spanish interpreters available.

9 The second meeting is on August 21st at 9:00 a.m.,
10 focusing on El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra,
11 Sutter, Yolo, Yuba counties and their surrounding areas.
12 And we'll have a Spanish listening line and Spanish
13 interpreter available.

14 Registration for each meeting closes two calendar
15 days before at 5:00 p.m.

16 The next Commission Business Meeting will be on
17 August 19 at 4:00 p.m.

18 Callers at the Community of Interest Meetings are
19 not limited to their -- to the specific mentioned counties.
20 You can visit the meetings page at our website to see a
21 list of additional, upcoming COI Input Meetings at
22 www.wedrawthelinesCA.org/meetings.

23 I would like to thank all the Commissioners for
24 their attentiveness. I'd like to thank all of California
25 for their participation. I would like to thank the staff

1 for sticking with us.

2 And, Katy, you are wonderful. I'm sure you know
3 that.

4 This meeting is adjourned.

5 (Session recessed until August 13, 2021.)

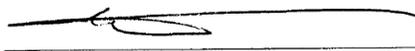
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REPORTER' S CERTIFICATE

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

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 4th day of November, 2021.



PETER PETTY
CER**D-493
Notary Public

TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber.

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



Barbara Little
Certified Transcriber
AAERT No. CET**D-520