

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

721 Capitol Mall, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021

4:00 P.M.

Reported by:

Peter Petty

APPEARANCES

Commissioners Present:

Linda Akutagawa, Chair
Neal Fornaciari, Vice Chair
Isra Ahmad
Jane Andersen
Alicia Fernandez
J. Ray Kennedy
Antonio Le Mons
Anthony Pane
Sara Sadhwani
Patricia Sinay
Commissioner Taylor
Pedro Toledo
Trena Turner
Angela Vasquez
Russell Yee

Staff Present:

Alvaro E. Hernandez, Executive Director
Marian Johnston, Legal Counsel
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

Technical Contractors:

Public Comment Moderator: Katy & Kristian

Public Comment:

Sky Allen, Inland Empire United
Helen Hutchison, League of Women Voters, California
Grace Garner, Black Census and Redistricting Hub

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Thursday, August 19, 2021 4:00 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR AKUTAGAWA (via Zoom): Okay. Thank you.
All right. Hi, everyone. Welcome to our August 19th
Business Meeting. I sometimes want to say, our Communities
of Input meeting, but that is not what we're here doing
today. This is our Business Meeting.

I just want to say welcome to everybody. We do
have several things on our Agenda today that we will be
discussing. And so I am going to start with Ravi. Would
you please take roll? MR. SINGH (via Zoom): Yes,
Chair.

Commissioner Andersen.

(No audible response.)

Commissioner Fernandez.

COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ (Via Zoom): Presente.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI (via Zoom): Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY (via Zoom): Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

COMMISSIONER LE MONS (via Zoom): Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI (via Zoom): Here.
2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.
3 COMMISSIONER SINAY (via Zoom): Here.
4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.
5 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR (via Zoom): Here.
6 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.
7 (No audible response.)
8 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner.
9 COMMISSIONER TURNER (via Zoom): Here.
10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vasquez.
11 (No audible response.)
12 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Yee.
13 COMMISSIONER YEE (via Zoom): Here.
14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.
15 COMMISSIONER AHMAD (via Zoom): Here.
16 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Akutagawa.
17 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here.
18 MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.
19 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
20 much, Ravi.
21 All right. So just very briefly, I do want to
22 just announce that we are going to go into Closed Session
23 first. We're not going to take public comment just yet.
24 So I do want to just let everybody know that. When we
25 return -- and we expect to be in closed session until 4:00

1 o'clock. So it will be a fairly short closed session, at
2 which time when we come back we will then start with public
3 comment. Okay.

4 MR. MANOFF: Chair. Just checking --

5 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Excuse me, Chair.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: What I was going to say,
8 it's 4:00 o'clock now.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I'm sorry. We'll be back
10 at 4:30. My apologies.

11 MR. MANOFF: Oh.

12 (Off the Record at 4:03 p.m. until 5:05 p.m.)

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
14 much. Welcome back. Thank you. Californians waiting for
15 us, I just want to report back on our Closed Session. We
16 were discussing pending -- we were having a discussion
17 under the pending litigation exception, and no action was
18 taken.

19 So with that said, I do want to continue on with
20 our Agenda. I know that I promised that when we came back
21 we would take public comment, and I do believe we have some
22 people waiting to make public comment, and then at which
23 time we will then as expeditiously go through our Director
24 Reports before we get to our Subcommittee Committee
25 Updates.

1 And we are in particular going to be discussing
2 the *3:05 population *3:11.

3 All right. So Katy, I'm going to ask you to let
4 us -- let everybody know how to call in to make public
5 comment.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR (via Zoom): Yes, Chair.
7 In order to maximize transparency and public participation
8 in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public
9 comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number
10 provided on the livestream feed.

11 It is 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the
12 meeting ID number provided on the livestream feed. It is
13 87694754343 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a
14 participant ID simply press the pound key. Once you have
15 dialed in you will be placed in a queue.

16 To indicate you wish to comment, please press *9.
17 This will raise your hand for the Moderator. When it is
18 your turn to speak you will hear a message that says, the
19 host would like you to talk, and to press *6 to speak.

20 If you would like to give your name, please state
21 and spell it for the record. You're not required to
22 provide your name to give public comment. Please make sure
23 to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent any
24 feedback or distortion during your calls.

25 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for

1 when it is your turn to speak, and please -- again, please
2 turn down the livestream volume. At this time we have
3 caller with the last four 1803, and then up next in the
4 queue will be caller 6252.

5 Caller 1803, if you will please follow the
6 prompts to unmute at this time. Caller 1803, the floor is
7 yours.

8 MS. ALLEN (via Zoom): All righty. Thank you so
9 much.

10 Good evening, Commissioners. I hope you all are
11 doing well. My name is Sky Allen. I work with Inland
12 Empire United. We are a collective impact people serving
13 Riverside and San Bernardino counties. And what the *5:15
14 name the IE Redistricting Hub, a group of 2,000 community
15 organizations working to educate and mobilize our community
16 around the process.

17 Last year we helped *5:25 people to apply for
18 this position from our region. We've spent all of this
19 year so far educating our friends and neighbors about what
20 redistricting is and mobilizing COI testimony for your
21 public input meetings.

22 I actually submitted a letter to you a while back
23 in May, urging you to host additional public input
24 meetings. And though we added more meetings to your
25 calendar, I apologize for that, I hope that it -- has been

1 one that's made your process stronger in the long run.

2 More recently, we've been in deep discussion with
3 map-drawers to insure that any draft district maps that are
4 proposed to you later this year reflect our COIs, reflect
5 our communities' needs and priorities, because we
6 understand that though the 14 of you are well equipped with
7 issue experts and excellent research and data, you don't
8 know our cities or our communities like we do. You
9 couldn't possibly.

10 So we understand that we don't have the
11 authority, of course, to decide what the maps are going to
12 look like. To the extent that we can hash out tricky areas
13 internally and save you some trouble, I would think and
14 hope y'all can see that as an asset, as opposed to a
15 threat.

16 I'm calling in tonight because the other week I
17 heard a comment, and *6:28 you possibly don't feel that's
18 the case, I would urge you to reconsider your perspective.
19 Your job as an independent commission is to be independent
20 of the partisan bias of state legislatures, not independent
21 of community members or organizations.

22 MR. MANOFF (via Zoom): Thirty seconds.

23 MS. ALLEN: Advocacy around maps is of a piece
24 with advocacy around COIs, not designed to undermine your
25 process, but to the contrary, to add the nuance and

1 perspective necessary and appropriate to respecting their
2 communities *6:53.

3 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

4 MS. ALLEN: I hope y'all will come to affirm this
5 commission as one welcoming to community members and
6 organizations, and in so doing insure there is space for
7 the submission and presentation of district maps this fall.
8 Thank you so much for listening.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Ms. Allen.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now, we
11 will have caller 6252, and then after that will be caller
12 3818.

13 Caller 6252, if you will please follow the
14 prompts to unmute at this time. The floor is yours.

15 MS. HUTCHISON (via Zoom): Thank you very much.
16 Good evening, Commissioners. This is Helen Hutchison, with
17 the League of Women Voters of California. I have two items
18 today I wanted to ask you -- to speak to you about. The
19 first is a brief one, one that asks you to consider taking
20 public input at the beginning of Agenda items, rather than
21 at the end.

22 The public voice should be able to have the
23 opportunity to have an impact on your discussion, and so
24 we'd like to be able to do that. Additionally, we'd ask
25 that you consider taking public input a second time when

1 you're considering something that is really a significant
2 change from your -- the original recommendation.

3 The second item is about submission of maps from
4 individuals or groups. You've received and will continue
5 to receive input in a whole variety of ways, and I'm not
6 just talking about the physical ways people give you their
7 input, but also a variety of kinds of ideas.

8 And these are definitely going to include
9 suggestions for district maps. These maps could be single
10 districts, a regional set of districts or a full state map.
11 You've been focusing on communities of interest, and that's
12 great.

13 They're the building blocks for everything, but
14 please don't limit yourself to thinking that's the only
15 kind of public input you should consider. You may find a
16 solution to a particularly tricky tradeoff in a proposed
17 map you receive, or something in the map may inspire some
18 new idea in your thinking.

19 So please consider and listen to all of the input
20 you receive in the spirit in which it's offered.

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MS. HUTCHISON: Whether it's from an individual,
23 a group or a coalition of groups, we're all just trying to
24 get to the best set of maps for all of us. Submitting a
25 map to you is just one more way that communities can give

1 you --

2 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

3 MS. HUTCHISON: -- that you can use in your final
4 mapping. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Ms. Hutchinson
6 [sic].

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now, we
8 have caller 3818. If you will please follow the prompts to
9 unmute at this time. And go ahead. The floor is yours.

10 MS. GARNER (via Zoom): Thank you. Good evening
11 Commissioners. This is Grace Garner, calling from the
12 Black Census and Redistricting Hub. We sent a letter along
13 with the Prison Policy Initiative to you regarding the
14 federal prison population allocation.

15 I just wanted to call in to let you know that
16 we're watching, and that if you have any questions at all
17 for us we're happy to answer those, either now or during
18 that section. So thank you so much for your time and for
19 considering our letter.

20 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much, Ms.
21 Garner. All right.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of
23 our --

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Katy. All right.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: -- that was all of our

1 callers at this time.

2 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Awesome. Thank you very much.
3 All right. So we'll go ahead and we'll move onto our first
4 Agenda item. We do have Director --

5 COMMISSIONER PANE (via Zoom): Check. Check.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER PANE: Chair, looked like
8 Commissioner Sadhwani hand a -- had her hand raised.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I'm sorry. It was --

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you so much,
11 Anthony. Just very briefly. I just wanted to respond to a
12 couple of the callers calling about district maps, and
13 point you to the documents that we've been providing from
14 the Line Drawer Subcommittee, that we are working on having
15 those sessions.

16 I don't have them in front of me. I believe that
17 we earmarked the days, and Commissioner Andersen, correct
18 me if I'm wrong, of October 21st, 22nd and 23rd to receive
19 those district maps. We are just working on what the
20 actual protocol will be for those meetings.

21 So I just wanted to let the folk -- let folks
22 know who are watching and called in, we hear you. We're
23 working on it and stay tuned for more information about how
24 those meetings will be run.

25 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Wonderful. Thank you for

1 clarifying that and adding that additional information.

2 It's helpful. Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

3 All right. We'll go ahead and we'll continue on
4 to our Agenda, and I will try to make sure I do a better
5 job of scanning through the boxes to look for hands. We'll
6 go to the first -- next item on our Agenda, No. 3, Director
7 Reports, and I am going to ask Director -- Executive
8 Director Hernandez to start.

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ (via Zoom): Thank
10 you, Chair, and good evening, Commissioners. I wanted to
11 let you know that my report will be brief, so we can move
12 things along.

13 Under staffing personnel, our Outreach Director
14 will be presenting the three remaining staff that have not
15 been presented to the Commission. So that will happen
16 shortly.

17 And then moving onto the Protocols for Commission
18 Communications, I wanted to let you know that we have
19 signed the Information Security Agreement with the
20 Statewide Database, and we are informed this morning that
21 the transmission of information will begin on a regular
22 basis as of later today or has already begun.

23 So we're moving that along. Our database portion
24 of -- is -- our database team is moving things along
25 quickly, and you'll have some information later on this

1 evening about the Airtable.

2 I also wanted to direct your attention to a
3 handout that we've posted for the meetings that include
4 input meetings, Commission meetings and Line Drawer
5 meetings through December. And so this is taking into
6 account the information that was provided by the Line
7 Drawer Subcommittee last week.

8 I've taken that information, incorporated into
9 the spreadsheet that I have posted for you to review.
10 There's a couple of things that you'll notice that have
11 changed, and I'll explain why they have changed. So I've
12 moved some of the meetings around a little bit because
13 there's still some ambiguity as to whether or not the
14 Emergency Executive Order for COVID-related -- suspending
15 the Bagley-Keene or making it, you know, more flexible, I
16 should say.

17 If that were to change and revert back to the
18 Bagley-Keene Requirements we would be in person once again
19 as of October. So with that I've indicated where we would
20 potentially have those meetings if we were to revert back
21 to that format.

22 So you'll see that beginning October 4th we would
23 have meetings in October in Sacramento for the three Line
24 Drawer meetings, and then I've moved the Commission meeting
25 to the 7th just so that -- for continuity purposes for

1 those that would be traveling.

2 Likewise, on the subsequent page the 20th,
3 October 20th, I've moved that one from the 18th so we
4 wouldn't have that much of a break, and allows those who
5 will be traveling to focus their attentions on all the
6 meetings versus traveling back and forth.

7 So I also wanted to mention that we still have in
8 September -- back to the first page -- September 9th and
9 10th, we had indicated COI input meetings if needed. That
10 is still open, and I've added a full CRC meeting for the
11 Line Drawers on the 11th from 9:30 to 4:30.

12 So those are some of the highlights of the
13 schedule. One of the questions that I would like to ask
14 the Commission, if it so chooses to have a statewide COI
15 Input Meeting, either on the 9th or the 10th, so that we
16 can do the scheduling as an option.

17 I know we're kind of rounding everything up.
18 Eighth right now is the last meeting that we have scheduled
19 for the Southern California H through K, so that we can
20 insure that the language of Mandarin, Cantonese and
21 Japanese are available to individuals. But we have the 9th
22 and the 10th available. So I wanted to kind of put that
23 out there for you.

24 Are there any questions? Yes.

25 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I see Commissioner Fernandez.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you.

2 Thank you, Executive Director Hernandez. On the
3 meeting for the September 1st, if we could also please add
4 that we had Vietnamese and Spanish for that, as well as
5 Korean, for that meeting. I just want to make sure that we
6 don't lose the other two languages, so we're consistent.

7 And I hadn't -- and I would consider this a
8 schedule through the end of November, not necessarily
9 December, because there really isn't much in December and
10 we're going to be really busy in December. So I would just
11 voice it more of a schedule for the next couple of months.

12 And on the meeting on November 17th, I notice
13 that you only put a three-hour window for that where
14 normally we'd have a four-hour window. And I see why on
15 November 12th you did not add another meeting for the Line
16 Drawers, and I'm thinking it's because there was a split of
17 a holiday.

18 So I'm not sure if we need to make up that Line
19 Drawer date, maybe on the 8th or something. I'm not sure.
20 I would ask the Line Drawer Subcommittee to maybe look at
21 that. And I really don't like having a meeting the day
22 after Thanksgiving, just FYI.

23 So, give me two days off, please. Thank you.
24 But that was it. I really do appreciate you doing this,
25 and moving some meetings around so that, you know, we don't

1 have gaps and we're not going back and forth. So thank you
2 so much.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I do -- oh, Commissioner
4 Sadhwani.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I just wanted to
6 note. I think -- and you know what, I did take a look at
7 this in advance and I didn't catch it then, and I'm
8 wondering if this is perhaps why folks are calling in. So
9 Alvaro, on October 21st, 22nd, 23rd, you have those down as
10 Line Drawing sessions.

11 The intention there is actually that those are
12 not Line Drawing sessions, but opportunities to receive
13 district maps. So hopefully, we can just make that change.
14 And then I think -- I just wanted to also raise, in the
15 last meeting I walked away with the understanding we had
16 had a conversation about the time line, I think as a part
17 of the Line Drawing Subcommittee.

18 So and we had tacitly agreed that we would
19 attempt to finish our draft maps no later than November
20 20th. We didn't make a motion. We didn't vote on that. I
21 just wanted to make sure that we're all still on the same
22 page for that, because as of right now one of the biggest
23 challenges, because we don't have a ruling from the Supreme
24 -- well, we haven't submitted a motion yet -- from the
25 Supreme Court, we don't know what our map adoption date is.

1 And so many pieces flow backwards from that date,
2 and I think, you know, when looking at this if you're
3 thinking there's ambiguity, that's on purpose, because we
4 don't know exactly what the date will be for draft maps in
5 which they have to be completed.

6 We can also complete them early, but I believe
7 and I just wanted to confirm that we would have draft maps
8 by November 20th.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. I do agree that -- or I
10 do recall that that was part of the conversation. I do
11 also see Commissioner Sinay and then I also have a comment
12 after that, too.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Chair. Yes. I -
14 - my comment was going to be that we had agreed that we
15 were turning in the map, the draft maps early and that we
16 were going to block off Thanksgiving just that we all would
17 have kind of a break.

18 And so hearing that there's a meeting the Friday
19 after Thanksgiving kind of goes against what we had talked
20 about last time. So and then the other piece is, I know
21 that the Executive Director has brought up that we can have
22 one meeting.

23 My thought was to have two statewide meetings
24 with one having Spanish translation, just because we do
25 have some -- you know -- if we've already budgeted and

1 everything else, why not have the two meetings. And
2 there's some areas that are going to be tough to reach and
3 they might still be tough to reach because of the fires.

4 But if we already have budgeted and everything
5 set up, why not have both, with one having Spanish
6 translations.

7 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And just for clarification, are
8 you saying one of the -- for example, if there's three days
9 of Line Drawing that one of those might --

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. No. No. The two input
11 meetings that were on the calendar the 9th and the 10th of
12 September. There's two --

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, got it. Sorry.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- there's two still up
15 there. Sorry. I wasn't clear.

16 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. So what you're
17 suggesting is that we -- either the 9th or the 10th, we use
18 those four additional COI Input Meetings and then make one
19 of them a full Spanish interpreted meeting.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Right. And then -- so two
21 statewide -- both of them statewide, so everybody's
22 invited, and at one of them we have Spanish interpretation.

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, I believe that we
24 would continue to provide Spanish interpretation at both,
25 as we've agreed upon for all the meetings.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right.

2 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So it wouldn't be one or the
3 other. They would both have Spanish interpretation.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Thank you.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. My comment on the
6 Agenda. Alvaro, I just -- I think -- I appreciate what
7 you're doing in trying to balance everything. I will also
8 say just as the comments around having a Line Drawer
9 meeting the day after Thanksgiving, having a -- I guess
10 we'll have to figure out where we put the full CRC Meeting,
11 but trying to have a meeting the week of Thanksgiving on a
12 Tuesday after we spent two days in Sacramento and then to
13 have to come back again.

14 And then I'm just thinking also about the -- just
15 the nightmare of what travel could be during the week of
16 Thanksgiving if you're coming from Southern California up
17 to Northern California. So I do want to also point out
18 that, you know, if we can maybe look at a different for
19 that meeting and try to keep that whole week clear, that
20 would probably be ideal.

21 Okay. Commissioner Fernandez and then
22 Commissioner Yee.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Along those lines,
24 Chair Akutagawa, I'm thinking that maybe the meeting right
25 now set for November 17th and if needed, maybe make that

1 the full Commission meeting, and then it clears out the
2 meeting on the 23rd.

3 And also, no meeting on that Saturday of
4 Thanksgiving either, please, 11/27.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I think there's a lot of
6 agreement.

7 Commissioner Yee.

8 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I'm wondering how to
9 proceed with this planning, you know, while we're still
10 waiting to petition the Court and then hear back from the
11 Court and actually have definitive dates. You know,
12 listening to the Census Bureau, Legacy Format Data Release
13 Press Conference they emphasize, you know, this is the
14 appeal of 94-171 data.

15 They emphasize that clearly, and I think it's
16 entirely possible that the Court will hold us to a short,
17 the strictest to be a deadline, which would -- let's see --
18 so that would be plus 12 days. That would end up being
19 maps due -- draft maps due November 13th, as possible, I
20 think, by my reading, and how do we plan for that
21 possibility.

22 I think it's actually a fairly -- it's not a
23 remote possibility. How do we plan for that while also
24 hoping for more time? I'm not quite sure how to approach
25 that.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sorry. Commissioner Sadhwani,
2 and then followed by Commissioner Andersen.

3 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Commissioner Andersen can
4 go first. Waving.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Yeah. My
6 hand keeps on disappearing. So I think I need to use the
7 button. I do have actually quite a few different comments
8 about the changes here, and thank y'all for putting all
9 this together. But one which, it's the time.

10 In the October you're kind of shifting, like you
11 want to have one meeting late and you've decided it'll be
12 the first one. Unfortunately, that's really going to goof
13 up the Line Drawing sequence. So if we really want to have
14 one, maybe be the last one, later in the day, not the first
15 one.

16 But my other quick question is, I appreciate that
17 you're thinking we might have to be in person in October,
18 so therefore, move the meeting directly next to the Line
19 Drawing meetings. I'd like us to make sure we have on the
20 calendar, in case it's not in person, I would like to keep
21 it the days before, which would be, instead of on the 20th
22 of October, the 18th of October, because we just don't have
23 the bandwidth to do four full days in a row. It's a lot.

24 I understand if we have to be in person. So that
25 would be -- that would affect the 18th and the 25th in

1 October. Then to address Commissioner Yee's point, there
2 are two different dates and one of which is -- should we
3 have no relief whatsoever and it doesn't matter, you still
4 have to stick with the 12 days, that's when it goes -- it
5 would not -- the 13th is correct, you have to be on or
6 before the 13th, but it being a Saturday we'd actually have
7 to post them on the 12th, which is why we did originally
8 have a CRC meeting on the 12th.

9 So I would recommend in that week of the November
10 we should put in three -- the Monday the 8th, 9th and 10th,
11 because originally we had 10, 11, 12 and then 9, 10, 11 and
12 then the 12th. So if we could have the meetings be Monday,
13 Tuesday, Wednesday, the 8, 9, 10, not Veterans' Day, and
14 then the full CRC meeting on the 12th, in the event that we
15 actually have to, you know, go on draft maps.

16 And then the other date would be the 19th. So
17 I'd kind of like to shift whatever it said about taking it
18 from the Saturday and moving that up, that set should move
19 up. And then like Commissioner Sadhwani, I totally agree
20 with what she was saying.

21 We need to kind of see what happens on our date,
22 final map date, before we can really fill in the rest of
23 those. So I'd like to tweak a little bit of these items,
24 timing, et cetera, but we'd -- I -- and we definitely want
25 to have that meeting on the 12th, just in case.

1 And we did -- we did indeed vote for -- we're
2 going to do our first draft map by the 20th, except that
3 would be again by the 19th. That's -- we all said we'd
4 like to do that on or before the -- you know -- that we all
5 kind of went -- we didn't vote, but we all kind of went,
6 we'd really like to do that.

7 And so I think those would be our days, meaning
8 through the 12th to the 19th, if possible, and depending on
9 the others.

10 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Executive Director Hernandez.

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. So I
12 will go back to the drawing board on this, try again to
13 accommodate some of the changes. Just for your
14 information, the reason that I put, for example, the first
15 meeting in the set of -- or the series of meetings, I was
16 thinking of the travel, you know, allowing Commissioners to
17 travel in the morning for the meeting in the evening, and
18 then the subsequent meetings being in the morning, and
19 ending earlier, than later, for travel purposes, as well.

20 So that was a consideration, but it appears I
21 will need to go back and fine tune some of the dates. I've
22 heard that Friday, November 12th, is technically a holiday
23 for state employees, I believe. Is it not the case? Oh,
24 the 26th. I'm sorry. The 26th is a holiday for employees.

25 The 12th is the day after Veterans' Day, as

1 Commissioner Fernandez pointed out. There may be people
2 that are not available because they're taking an extended
3 weekend. So we'll have to play around with some of those
4 dates to make sure it fits everyone as much as possible.

5 So unless -- recommendations on dates, please
6 feel free to forward them, or send me an email on those. I
7 appreciate it. Thank you.

8 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Executive Director
9 Hernandez.

10 We next have on our Agenda, we have our
11 Communications Director.

12 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you so much,
13 Chair. Hello Commissioners.

14 I wanted to start off with the social media
15 analytics. We posted those online. We have a total of
16 1,024 total page likes on Facebook. I think the biggest
17 number there was our post-engagement at 403 for this past
18 week.

19 For Instagram, we have 237 followers. Our
20 account's reach increased by 45 percent. On Twitter, we
21 have a total of 1,640 followers, and that's up by 64. So
22 people are adding onto our social media channels. Our
23 LinkedIn is at 284 followers and our YouTube is at 66
24 subscribers, and has 2,172 views.

25 I checked in on our database today and we're at

1 13,967 contacts. I just wanted to remind you that when we
2 started we were at about 3,000. So that's grown
3 exponentially, and will continue to grow once our
4 contractors come on board.

5 And jumping into that issue, we do have three
6 signed contracts for billboard and radio advertising. Raul
7 is working expeditiously to get the other ones going. So
8 as soon as those are signed then we can actually get
9 started on radio ads and billboards.

10 These contractors are eager to go, so one of them
11 is actually starting on Monday. We are getting the
12 language for the radio scripts approved. I got those
13 approved today, and then we're working on the graphics for
14 the billboards. We want to include one very basic design
15 to go statewide for the first month, and then the
16 communications team will be reaching out to each zone team
17 of Commissioners so that we can personalize the graphics
18 and messaging for billboards and radios for the next three
19 months after that.

20 But the very first month will be one basic
21 message going across the entire state, and then we'll have
22 an opportunity to tailor to your specific zones. We had a
23 big week last week with the announcement of the Census data
24 release.

25 Statewide there was 520 mentions of the Census

1 release. Forty-nine stories actually mentioned the
2 Commission. So we were pretty busy lining up interviews
3 and making sure that we were connecting Commissioners to
4 radio stations and newspapers.

5 We had Commissioner Sadhwani speak to L.A. Times,
6 Commissioner Sinay speak to KPBS. Commissioner Sinay spoke
7 to Telemundo 20 in San Diego. Commissioner Kennedy spoke
8 to KPCC. Commissioner Sadhwani spoke to Marketplace. She
9 also spoke to KCRW Press Play.

10 Commissioner Fernandez did an interview with
11 ABC10 from an oil change place in Sacramento. Commissioner
12 Kennedy spoke to NPR in Los Angeles. Commissioner Yee
13 spoke to KWED in San Francisco. I spoke to the Acorn
14 Newspapers. Commissioner Sadhwani spoke to NBC4, and last
15 night Commissioner Sinay was on with Univision.

16 So we are getting a lot more attention. It's
17 picking up, which is great, comes in at a great time. We
18 do have our coordinator, who's been updating the website.
19 This was the first week where he actually took the reins.
20 So I'm pretty proud of the team. We're gelling and moving
21 forward.

22 So I expect to have a lot more media hits these
23 coming weeks, as I'm going to continue updating the media
24 list and just calling and seeing if we can do follow-up
25 studies.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
2 much. Any questions?

3 All right. Not seeing any, I think we can move
4 on to our Outreach Director Report.

5 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Sorry. I lost the
6 mute. Thank you, everyone. I -- we are -- because we're a
7 little behind schedule, the field staff that we're going to
8 join to introduce, I don't believe any of them are on
9 anymore. So I will do an introduction at the next
10 Commission meeting.

11 I did upload a report for this week's -- for
12 today's meeting, which includes information for last week's
13 COI meetings and upcoming COI meetings in the next week.
14 So if there's any questions there, and then I just have a
15 few other highlights to mention, as well.

16 We did just receive an exciting update from the
17 Statewide Database this afternoon, but their access centers
18 are now open. We just got this news like right before the
19 meeting. So I'll be working with Fredy to get this
20 information on our website, and for the outreach staff to
21 distribute and other ways that we can promote this
22 information.

23 It is -- they are in six locations, Fresno, Long
24 Beach, Oakland, Sacramento, San Bernardino and San Diego,
25 and each center will have staff that can support members of

1 the public to develop community of interests or district-
2 based input to submit to the Commission, and to use the
3 redistricting software there.

4 I also wanted to highlight, also just found out
5 this afternoon, the redistricting curriculum for 11th and
6 12th grade that Sacramento County Office of Education and
7 L.A. County Office of Education put together is now
8 finalized and LACO just distributed it yesterday.

9 So I'm in contact with Frank Peazy of SCOEE on
10 how else we can support in getting the word out in
11 coordination with Fredy and our COMs team, as well as
12 Outreach team. I also recently met with the California
13 Catholic Conference about statewide engagement, and they
14 will be able to distribute this to religious schools across
15 the state, as well.

16 So we're looking at other areas where we can get
17 the education curriculum, as well. And just connected to
18 education, we also had a great meeting with the U.C. Office
19 of the President, and they're really excited to engage
20 campuses and students across the state, and I will be
21 providing more update on this as we move forward.

22 So I don't know if there was any questions on
23 that or the report that's ported.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I've not seen any
25 questions. Excellent. So let me -- oh.

1 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: No. I do see --
2 sorry. I do see Marlene is on now -- I see her -- who is
3 our field lead staff for the Central -- Central California.
4 So I just -- if there's a minute, I could introduce her
5 also.

6 Marlene, if you could turn on your camera and
7 introduce yourself to the Commission.

8 MS. DE LA GARZA: Oh, yeah, sure. Hi, everyone.
9 Hi. Thank you so much for this opportunity. My name is
10 Marlene De La Garza, and I am the field staff for Zones E,
11 F and G. Thank you.

12 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
13 much. It's nice to meet you, Marlene, and Commissioner
14 Andersen and I will look forward to working with you on
15 Zone G.

16 Director Kaplan, is there anyone else that you
17 want to introduce or, otherwise, I know Commissioner
18 Fernandez has a comment that she'd like to make -- or
19 question. Sorry.

20 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: No. That's it for
21 today, just because of the timing shift. We'll have the
22 rest join, the other three, at an upcoming meeting.

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Excellent. Thank you.
24 Commissioner Fernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. I just wanted to

1 say just thank you, and Marcy, to you and your staff,
2 you're doing absolutely wonderful. Thank you so much for
3 all the work. I know we send a lot of chats and a lot of
4 emails, but it's just awesome.

5 It's seamless. It looks really, really good when
6 we're on the -- doing our COI input meetings. So thank you
7 so much. Appreciate that. And then I also wanted a big
8 thank you to Fredy. I just to do a little back story on
9 this oil change, because I don't want people going away
10 with the wrong thinking, is Fredy called me and he said,
11 hey, there's someone in Sacramento that wants to do an
12 interview for the Census Data.

13 I said, right now, I'm getting the oil changed on
14 my car. He said, perfect, they can come meet you. And so
15 I did a quick look to see what I was wearing. I'm like,
16 all right. Bring it on. So anyway, thank you, Fredy, for
17 getting the word out, and you know, right *38:34 people
18 getting their oil changed and getting interviewed at the
19 Honda place. So thank you so much.

20 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: That's why we are called the
21 Citizens' Commission. All right. Thank you very much. I
22 am not seeing any other hands. So let's move on to our
23 Chief Counsel's Report.

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair and
25 Commission. I don't have anything to report at this time.

1 So I'm happy to have any -- answer any questions the
2 Commission may have.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. I'm not seeing any
4 hands raised for Chief Counsel. All right.

5 All right. Thank you, everyone. Let's go ahead,
6 let's go to public comments, since we are now finished with
7 Agenda Item No. 3, before we move onto our Committee and
8 Subcommittee updates.

9 Katy.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Commission will
11 now be taking public comment on Agenda Item No. 3. To give
12 comment, please call 877-853-5247, enter the meeting ID
13 number, 87694754343 for this meeting. Once you have dialed
14 in, please press *9 to enter the comment queue. The full
15 call in instructions are right at the beginning of the
16 meeting and are provided on the livestream landing page.

17 And we do not have anyone in the queue at this
18 time, Chair.

19 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: If you'll just let us know once
20 it's finished streaming.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes.

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And then while it does that
23 I'll just make a quick announcement. If anybody is
24 wondering, our break will take place at 6:30 p.m. So if
25 you've been hoping it's earlier, it is scheduled for 6:30

1 p.m.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Instructions are
3 completed on the stream, Chair.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
5 much, Katy. I don't see anybody who's in queue. So all
6 right. We will go ahead and we will move onto our next
7 Agenda item, No. 4, Committee and Subcommittee Updates. So
8 we'll go ahead.

9 We'll start with Government Affairs, and Census
10 Subcommittee.

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. Since our
12 last meeting we have been working on a couple different
13 pieces we were tasked at the last meeting to continue to --

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Sadhwani, we're
15 having a hard time hearing you.

16 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh. Can you hear me now?

17 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We need your podcast voice.

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh, yeah. Okay. Hang
19 on. Can you -- let me see. Make sure this isn't the echo.
20 Is that any better?

21 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO (via Zoom): That's good.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. Great. Thank you.
23 So we were tasked with reaching out to the Little Hoover
24 Commission regarding their work with following up with the
25 Governor's Office, as well as thinking a little bit about

1 the legality of the federal prisons issue.

2 I think what -- we're talking about federal
3 prisons issue later. So I think we should hold onto that.
4 Commissioner Toledo, do you want to give the update in
5 terms of the Little Hoover Commission --

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Sure. I'm happy to.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- the Governor's Office?

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Sure. Happy -- happy to.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Great.

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So Anthony and I met with
11 the Executive Director of the Little Hoover Commission.
12 His name is Ethan Rarick, and he explained their current
13 efforts to modernize *42:38, and some of the open meetings
14 requirements.

15 They did -- or he did clarify that the Little
16 Hoover Commission is shifting their advocacy focus to 2022,
17 for a 2023 implementation. And so they don't believe that
18 the Trailer Bill language will make it through the
19 legislature and get signed into law this year. And so
20 they're shifting their advocacy effort to get that done in
21 2022 for a 2023 implementation.

22 He also clarified that they are not working on
23 advocacy to update the Executive Order, because that falls
24 outside of their purview. Their focus is really not
25 executive orders, and so that's not something that they're

1 working on, and they are -- or he is not aware of any
2 conversations about extending the current flexibilities
3 that are about to expire in September.

4 And so with that we also -- as you know, we've
5 sent off a letter to the Governor's Office in support of
6 the Trailer Bill language, as well as the extension of the
7 current flexibilities. We've also contacted the Governor's
8 Office and did speak with some representatives there.

9 And they did express their desire to help us with
10 insuring that we can meet our mandate, given the pandemic.
11 And so we're hoping to get some favorable news sooner
12 rather than later. We're also in the process of drafting
13 an op-ed piece to advocate for the extension of -- to
14 advocate for some flexibilities and an extension of the
15 Executive Order that would allow us to be able to continue
16 to work in the format that we are doing, given the pandemic
17 and the continuing pandemic, and some of the issues that
18 some of our Commissioners are facing, and that the whole
19 community is facing, especially with larger gatherings.

20 And so we did ask Commissioner Vasquez to give us
21 -- provide some context and story to give the op-ed piece
22 some -- you know -- a story, right, because an op-ed piece
23 needs to have a story to go along with our advocacy
24 request. And so -- and I think she has a very -- or we
25 think she has a very strong story to tell, and that isn't

1 just important to us, but to other Bagley-Keene commissions
2 across the government process, and we need to be able to
3 continue our open meeting or meetings, and engage the
4 public in effective manners for us, in our case, through
5 the end of the year, but -- and into the finalization of
6 the maps, but for others it's going to be longer-term.

7 So that's where we're at, at this point, is
8 drafting the op-ed piece, continuing to work with the
9 Governor's Office and hoping to get -- at this point it
10 seems like we're leading, at this point, we're leading the
11 effort to try to get an extension of the Executive Order
12 for purposes of Bagley-Keene.

13 There may be other entities that are working on
14 it, and hopefully, they'll come forward as well, but at
15 this point it's us. And I mean, the other entities might
16 come to light once -- if and when -- and if we actually do
17 publish an op-ed, because that op-ed piece can be used both
18 in a letter format to the Governor's Office or in a more
19 public manner.

20 It depends on how quickly we can get a response
21 back from the Governor's Office and some -- I mean, in this
22 case some action to guarantee that we'll be able to
23 continue on in a hybrid manner, hopefully. I know we all
24 want to meet in person and we all want to see how tall we
25 are, right.

1 And so but we also need to be able to do it
2 safely and in a way that everyone is comfortable and
3 continue to move this work forward. And it would be very
4 disruptive not to be able to do that, and I think that's
5 the piece that we're -- I mean, there is even the potential
6 threat that we -- that some Commissioners may not be able
7 to continue their work if we have to meet in person, right.

8 And so that would be incredibly disruptive to our
9 Commission and to the work of the people of California.

10 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much,
11 Commissioner Toledo, especially because we are literally in
12 the home stretch now. So all right. Thank you very much.
13 Does anyone have any questions for the Government Affairs
14 Committee, Subcommittee? All right. Seeing no other
15 hands, right now we'll go onto Subcommittee 4B, which is
16 Finance and Administration.

17 Commissioner Fernandez or Fornaciari.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We have nothing to
19 report at this point -- or nothing of significance. I
20 forget what the correct language is.

21 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Nope --

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much.
23 Appreciate it.

24 Okay. Let's go to Subcommittee 4C, the GANTT
25 Chart Committee, Commissioners Kennedy or Taylor.

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair, it looks like
2 Commissioner Fornaciari wanted to -- had his hand up.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I'm sorry. Sorry. Okay.

4 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: I was just going to say,
5 Commissioner Kennedy has a question.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And Commissioner Kennedy, you
7 are up next, because you are the GANTT Chart, one of the
8 committee members. So it's -- take it away.

9 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. My question for
10 Finance and Admin, where are we on the travel policy? My
11 recollection is that it was going to go back for some
12 further work, but we're -- now that we're looking at
13 specific travel dates and potentially some difficult
14 combination and so forth, we really need policy to guide
15 us.

16 So I just wanted to know where we were on the
17 work on the travel policy.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So, so the last time we
19 brought it forward we -- the Commission did approve the
20 policy with some minor edits, and what Commissioner
21 Fornaciari and I are going back and we're looking at some
22 of the options and some of the language for that.

23 I think it was the last four options. So we are
24 working on that, but in terms of the final policy we can
25 probably forward that to the Commissioners so that they

1 have that language.

2 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. The -- you know --
3 if you recall, we're working on some language on -- or
4 scenarios, the last few scenarios. We haven't quite
5 finished that, but as far as the travel for the -- the
6 approval for travel for these meetings, that was part of
7 the original approval.

8 But and I apologize. It's on me to do the final
9 editing and upload it to the policy document, and I haven't
10 done that yet. So I will get that done tomorrow.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
12 much.

13 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thanks

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Mr. Kennedy.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So as -- on the GANTT
16 Chart we've made some progress and I've shared an updated
17 version with Commissioner Taylor and gotten some feedback
18 from him. I am still looking for a few dates on when
19 things actually happen, you know, when VRA Counsel Contract
20 actually started, those sorts of things.

21 So once I get those further details I'll be able
22 to finalize a draft for sharing with the full Commission.
23 Basically, you know, we are running significantly late on a
24 few things. You know, we -- it just makes the time tight
25 now. I don't think it endangers anything. It just means

1 that we'll have to keep the pace up. Thank you.

2 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
3 much. Any questions for the GANTT Chart Subcommittee?

4 Okay. Let's go onto Outreach and Engagement,
5 Subcommittee 4 D, Commissioner Fornaciari or Commissioner
6 Sinay.

7 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: I missed the last meeting
8 on Friday. So I'm not sure -- so I don't have anything.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Nothing to report.

10 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: I don't know if Patricia
11 -- or Commissioner Sinay has anything to add.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Nope. We're good right now.

13 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Okay. Thank you.
15 Let's go on to No. 4E. This is the Materials Development
16 Committee, Commissioners Fernandez and Kennedy.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We've been working with
18 the Communications Director on these draft radio scripts.
19 We've also prepared a -- kind of a template to -- that
20 could be shared with counties so that county redistricting
21 websites would include contact information on our website
22 address, and an indication of what body is responsible for
23 what aspect of redistricting, just because we -- you know --
24 -- our stated intent throughout has been to encourage
25 everyone to participate in all levels of redistricting.

1 But in order to do that they need easy access to
2 information on how to engage in the various levels of
3 redistricting. And now, the counties are putting up
4 websites that focus, you know, on their county processes,
5 but you know, some or many don't have information about the
6 statewide redistricting process.

7 So we thought that potentially developing a
8 template that we could share with them, they might find
9 useful and add information on how their citizens could also
10 engage in redistricting process with us, i.e., for U.S.
11 House seats, State Senate seats, State Assembly seats and
12 State Board of Equalization seats. Thank you.

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fernandez.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Can I just --

15 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. And then
17 just one more thing. I just wanted to get an update from
18 Executive Director Hernandez on the paper communities of
19 interest. I know that last time we received an update we
20 were looking at the postage and working on the copying
21 effort for the document.

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Commissioner -- or
23 Director Hernandez.

24 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Yes. So the latest is
25 we are working again with the Post Office. We had to make

1 some edits to the language versions, and they have to see
2 them once again to make sure that they fit their template
3 or their formatting that we have to adhere to. Once that
4 is cleared, we are ready to go with printing.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Great. Any
6 questions? Not seeing any, I'm going to move on to No. 4F,
7 Agenda Item 4F, Website Subcommittee. I believe that is
8 Commissioner Kennedy and Taylor.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to
10 report at this point.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you very much.

12 Next subcommittee is Data Management
13 Subcommittee. I do believe we've been anxiously awaiting
14 to hear from this one about Airtable. Commissioners Ahmad
15 and Turner.

16 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I can provide that update.
17 So we don't have anything significant from our end to
18 report, but we would like to get some understanding in how
19 y'all would want this type of information moving forward,
20 given that we have a full data management arm on the
21 Commission now.

22 So if it's -- it would be helpful for us to
23 understand if you also want these updates from us or from
24 Alvaro and Tony, who are leading the Data Management piece.
25 Other than that, no new updates.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Any questions, any
2 response to Commissioner Ahmad's question about how we want
3 to receive this information.

4 Commissioner Fernandez.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I mean, to me it doesn't
6 -- I'm indifferent as to how we receive the information. I
7 would just like some information in terms of the status of
8 Airtable and at some point in time when we can actually
9 look at the data, that's my main concern.

10 It sounds like Commissioner Ahmad, which I
11 completely understand, may want to sunset the subcommittee.
12 So I get that. But if it's from admin, that's fine, or if
13 it's subcommittee, I just would like an update.

14 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Cool. Then I will turn it
15 over to Alvaro.

16 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you. So I don't
17 want to steal anyone's thunder, but we do have a
18 presentation for you by our Data Manager during the Line
19 Drawing portion of this Agenda. So I will -- you'll be
20 able to get more information about the Airtable, as well as
21 the data.

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. We're looking forward to
23 that presentation, then. Thank you.

24 Let's move on to Agenda Item 4H, the COI Tool.
25 This is Commissioner Kennedy and I. So Commissioner

1 Kennedy.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The main news is the
3 opening of the Access Centers. We need to make sure we
4 have all of the contact information for those so that their
5 *57:39 can work on getting the news out.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
7 much. Let's see. I want to be conscious about order here.

8 Next up on our Agenda is the Incarcerated
9 Populations conversation or discussion, and we do need to
10 hear from the subcommittee, which is Commissioners Kennedy
11 and Turner. However, I also want to note -- I think I'm
12 going to just --

13 Commissioner Kennedy, I know -- I don't think
14 Commissioner has returned -- oh, no. She did return.
15 Okay. We have 30 minutes to break. One option is, I'm
16 thinking that we could quickly see if Lessons Learned,
17 Cybersecurity and Legal Affairs Committee, if you all have
18 short or no reports to make, so that we could knock those
19 out. I'd like to ask about those.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing significant to
21 report from Lessons Learned yet.

22 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Cybersecurity. I think I saw
23 Commissioner Fornaciari shake his head no, and then Legal
24 Affairs, Commissioner Sadhwani, Toledo or Yee, do you have
25 something to report at this time? Okay. All right. So we

1 have just knocked that part out.

2 So let's go back to Incarcerated Populations.
3 Commissioners Kennedy and Turner, Incarcerated Populations,
4 Federal Facilities.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair, it looked like
8 Commissioner Fernandez had a question.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, I'm sorry. Okay. Yes,
10 Commissioner --

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you for that.
12 Thank you, Anthony. I appreciate that, and thank you,
13 Chair.

14 Just quickly for the Lessons Learned, if we can
15 ask -- if we can add, we just recently had received the
16 Statewide Database Agreement, and if Lessons Learned, if we
17 can do that early on in the game instead of right before
18 we're going to receive the Census data.

19 So maybe put that in the queue earlier for the
20 next Commission. Thank you.

21 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Are you talking about having
22 the Lessons Learned conversation earlier, or are you
23 talking about --

24 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. I'm just saying
25 adding it to the list for Lessons Learned so that the 2030

1 Commission can queue that at the beginning of the
2 Commission versus at the tail end to have an agreement.
3 The agreement should be well in advance of Line Drawing.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sounds good. All right. Thank
5 you very much.

6 All right. Commissioner Kennedy and Commissioner
7 Turner, I'm going to turn this over; your Subcommittee
8 Report on Incarcerated Populations, Agenda Item No. 4I.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Go ahead, Commissioner
10 Kennedy.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Following up on the
12 last meeting, we did essentially reframe the request to
13 Bureau of Prisons. The initial request had gone to Senator
14 Padilla's office. Senator Padilla's office facilitated a
15 contact with someone in Legislative Affairs Office of
16 Bureau of Prisons, and ask that we continue the
17 conversation with that contact in Legislative Affairs at
18 Bureau of Prisons.

19 So the letter was reframed to go to Office of
20 Legislative Affairs of Bureau of Prisons. We received --
21 we basically stipulated the parameters that we will be
22 looking for in any data that we would receive from them to
23 be essentially identical to the parameters of the data that
24 Statewide Database has received from California Department
25 of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

1 I had received acknowledgment that the letter has
2 been received in Washington and submitted to the higher ups
3 in the chain of command, and at this point we are awaiting
4 their reply.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy,
6 let's see. First, I -- well, I guess first I'll just
7 start. So my understanding is that a letter has been sent
8 to Senator Padilla's Office requesting the data, I believe
9 is what I heard.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No. The letter to
11 Padilla's office went out months ago, and we did not hear
12 anything for a while. And then we heard that they had
13 managed to get a contact for us at the Bureau of Prisons.

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, my apologies. So the
15 letter went to the Bureau of Prisons for the data?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct.

17 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. My understanding from
18 the previous meeting's conversation is that we have a
19 rather binary choice. It's either we exclude or we
20 include, as far as our mandate, but I could be wrong. My
21 understanding is that we cannot mandate or instruct the
22 Statewide Database, from the last conversation, about what
23 else to do with the data.

24 I am also very conscious of the inputs that we
25 did receive from the Black Census and Redistricting Hub.

1 And so I guess it seems like we're at a place that we do
2 have to take some kind of action. And so instead of -- I
3 mean, I don't think we could just keep pushing along to the
4 next meeting.

5 I mean, we've just received the Census data. So
6 I think we have to decide what is it that we're going to
7 have to do. My -- just from my understanding from the
8 previous conversations at last meeting, we do have what
9 appears to be a more binary choice.

10 But I know that we have heard differently from
11 other stakeholders. So I -- for me, I just want to put
12 that out there. So, Commissioner Kennedy.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So if you will recall and
14 if the public will recall, you know, we -- recognizing the
15 time-bound nature of this, I did put a motion forward to
16 simply receive the data as provided by the Census Bureau
17 and go with that, understanding that that is not our
18 desired outcome, but within the time available, you know,
19 wanted to help move things along.

20 So that motion failed. You know, I'm happy to
21 make the motion again tonight, but also happy to hear from
22 other colleagues. Again, you know, we know that our
23 preferred outcome would be to receive data in a timely
24 manner at a sufficient level of quality and with clarity as
25 to our ability to seek the reallocation of individuals in

1 federal custody.

2 Part of the problem with this entire process has
3 been, it seems that the line between whether this is a
4 legal matter or a policy matter is a very fluid line, a
5 very fluid distinction. We've had some input in the sense
6 that this is really a legal question.

7 We've had other input in the sense that this is
8 really a policy question for the Commission to decide, and
9 so it kind of leaves us in a very difficult situation. You
10 know, if it were clearly a legal question or clearly a
11 policy question it would be much easier to address.

12 But we're in this situation where we had feedback
13 indicating that it is a legal question, feedback indicating
14 it is policy question and it just makes it very difficult
15 to make progress.

16 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you for that recap,
17 Commissioner Kennedy. That was helpful. I do see
18 Commissioner Fornaciari.

19 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Thanks,
20 Commissioner Kennedy, and I -- I mean, I just, I want to
21 echo some of your comments in my thoughts on this. You
22 know, I think we all want to do -- we all would love to
23 reallocate the prisons appropriate -- or the inmates
24 appropriately to their last known addresses, but time is
25 not on our side at this point.

1 I just -- I can't imagine that time would -- that
2 we would have the time to get the data and reallocate the
3 data. I -- plus, I would -- in addition, I would imagine,
4 even if we got data that we could use, that reallocation
5 would have to come at the end, after the Statewide Database
6 has already done the work that they needed to do for the
7 state.

8 And so we would be, in addition, eating into our
9 Line Drawing time, which is unclear how much Line Drawing
10 time we have. And I believe -- you know -- my read on it
11 is, you know, with Commissioner Akutagawa, it's a binary
12 choice at this point.

13 And so neither option is -- I think is great, but
14 I think that's where we're at. And I think in addition to
15 that, we have all agreed that, you know, working forward
16 for the next Commission to have in place the capability to
17 do the reallocation is what we're committed to do.

18 So given all that and, you know, given, you know,
19 the motion from last week that didn't pass, I'm going to
20 make a different motion. I'm going to move that we do
21 what's recommended by the state, to do -- that we do what
22 is required by the local municipalities, and that is to not
23 count the prisons.

24 So my motion is to -- is that we not count the
25 prison -- the inmates in federal custody. And I'll just

1 point out that that's consistent with the Black
2 Redistricting Hub's letter that we got. I mean, they --
3 that's Option 3 that they gave us.

4 But you know, they have very strong position on
5 this, that if we can't allocate the prisoners -- the
6 inmates in some way, that we exclude them. And so I'm --
7 that's the motion I'm going to make.

8 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Turner, is comment
9 or a second?

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Both.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

12 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'd like to second the
13 motion, and I'd also like to say that this has been a very
14 difficult discussion and decision to come to, or even just
15 -- I've gone back and forth. I am excited for Californians
16 everywhere, particularly those that are incarcerated, that
17 we do have a plan moving forward to be insured for 2030
18 that we're not in the same position that we're in today.

19 Timing is an issue. Choices that we have,
20 information, data that we have is problematic, and I think
21 everyone did what they could to get the information that's
22 needed, including just still inquiring to see what
23 information can be received.

24 But for us, at the level of work that we need,
25 it's -- what we need really won't happen in a timely

1 manner. And so we're left with the choice, the binary
2 choice and we don't like either of them, necessarily, and
3 it gets down to then just kind of what side you weigh out
4 on.

5 And I do second the motion of having them
6 excluded from where they currently reside, having the
7 inmates excluded.

8 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much,
9 Commissioner Turner.

10 Okay. I see Commissioner Sinay and then
11 Commissioner Fernandez and then Commissioner Kennedy.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just want to support what
13 Commissioner Turner said. I think this has been, you know,
14 just a tough conversation. The aspiration that we all
15 have, you know, we're not being able to meet it and so
16 we're hard on ourselves.

17 But we -- I -- you know -- I want to commend
18 everybody for the efforts that were done, especially
19 Commissioner Kennedy and Commissioner Turner, you know, on
20 getting us this far. And I think what it tells me is that
21 2030 is going to be different and that's really exciting.

22 I also want to remind everyone that we have made
23 inroads into facilities -- the state facilities to get
24 communities of interest maps from people who are
25 incarcerated. And so you know, we -- that is something new

1 and -- since that wasn't done last time.

2 And so, please, anyone who can help us get -- you
3 know -- share it with families, share -- we're really
4 looking forward to getting that input. So as much as we
5 feel like we're not hitting the full goals that we were
6 hoping, our aspirational goals, we have done leaps in 2020,
7 and I'm proud of all of us.

8 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fernandez.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. I was just going
10 to ask for some language maybe change, if it's acceptable.
11 I would like to note that it's incarcerated people in
12 federal facilities. I really try to stay away from inmates
13 or prisoner language. That's my only suggestion.
14 Hopefully, it'll be accepted by those that made the motion
15 and seconded.

16 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you for the good
17 reminder, Commissioner Fernandez.

18 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'd ask Alvaro to show
19 the language that Alvaro interpreted what I said, I think,
20 in a way I think's appropriate, and consistent with what
21 you said.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I certainly try.
23 Here we go.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Commissioner Fernandez, does --
25 does that reflect what you were hoping it would reflect?

1 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and California
2 Federal Prisons, can we just be a little bit more specific,
3 since there are federal facilities. Thank you.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. So Commissioner
5 Kennedy, I have you next.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. You
7 know, I just want to say that, you know, I have perhaps
8 been -- excuse me -- tilted at windmills in this effort,
9 trying to go where others said it was impossible to go.
10 You know, I'm happy that we do seem to have made more
11 progress than others thought possible.

12 I will say that, you know, my -- I continue to be
13 guided by what is on page 3 of the Black Redistricting
14 Hub's letter listed as number one of two inextricably
15 connected and equally important principles. Number one,
16 that everyone is counted.

17 And so you know, I will continue to feel that the
18 best option available to us, not our ideal, not our
19 preferred option, but the option that implements principle
20 number one as laid out in that letter is that we take the
21 data as received from the Census Bureau, which has
22 individuals in federal custody counted at their place of
23 incarceration, and go with that data.

24 And again, this is not my preferred solution. I
25 had fought for a different solution, but given all of the

1 parameters and constraints and in line with what is set out
2 as principle number one in that letter, I will continue to
3 advocate that we count the people.

4 I just -- I find that not counting people wins
5 too much of Indians not taxed and three-fifths of a person.
6 So that is my rationing. Thank you.

7 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much,
8 Commissioner Kennedy, and I think we all do very much
9 appreciate what you have done, and I think ideally, from
10 the conversations that we've all had, I think that is what
11 we would like to see happen.

12 I want to make sure that we also insure that any
13 other Commissioners who want to speak up -- okay. I --
14 Commissioner Taylor, I believe -- Okay. Thank you. You
15 have your hand up.

16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. Thank you. And
17 excuse me for the poor Internet connection tonight. I just
18 want to quickly just concur with Commissioner Kennedy. I
19 just find that objective number one is to have everyone
20 counted, and if we look at the mathematics of it all, I
21 think over-represented is a lesser evil than not
22 represented at all or under-represented. Thank you.

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.
24 Commissioner Andersen.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, everyone, and

1 this is -- as Commissioner Turner eloquently said, this has
2 been a very, very difficult conversation, because we all
3 want -- you know -- this around. Remember, everyone, we're
4 actually reallocating all the state prisoners at this time.
5 That's not happened in 2010.

6 This is the first time. This is a huge deal,
7 which is great. We also wanted to do the federal
8 prisoners, and unfortunately, the data was like, well, nice
9 idea, too bad. And all of a sudden, right at the last
10 minute, oh, we have some data, but it's inconsistent. We
11 don't know what it is and it really is a problem.

12 So the issue with do we include everyone or
13 exclude everyone, the local redistricting may not. There
14 will be a separate database which has all the state
15 prisoners reallocated. And even if we say -- if we say,
16 hey, we're going to -- we are going to count federal
17 prisoners, that means our database will be different.

18 And that's -- I think I want everyone to know
19 that this is why it's a -- we are really grappling with an
20 issue here, because absolutely, as Commissioner Kennedy and
21 Commissioner Taylor have said, we want everyone to count.
22 However, despite what we want, that won't affect the local
23 redistricting, because that's the way the law is written
24 and it couldn't change.

25 That's why 2030, wow, it's going to be different.

1 The legislature's actually asked, you know, for hey, let's
2 work on some -- the proper wording to go through some
3 legislation change. And I think with that in mind, the way
4 it was written, we need to exclude, which I hate doing, but
5 it would be a different data set.

6 And I have a problem with having two sets of data
7 just because of the issues there -- that involve. Like our
8 numbers would be slightly different than the county's and
9 the local. Now, I know that's not our job. It's a
10 different direction, but it is -- it's a little -- it's a
11 slight botheration, which is why I believe we've gone ahead
12 and said, hey, we need to exclude them.

13 And I just wanted to bring forward, this is not
14 what we want to do. This is what, as by law right now, I
15 believe the local can't consider them. And you know, I
16 understand the idea that we'd really like to, but I think
17 it does have a set of issues with it. Thank you.

18 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I am -- let's see. I'm
19 just making sure I'm not missing anybody. All right. I do
20 want to just echo everybody's comments. I think, as I
21 said, I think we all definitely want to insure that
22 everybody is counted, everybody is included, and at the
23 same time our options are not super great.

24 I also want to acknowledge the Black Census and
25 Redistricting Hub. They did lay out some options, the

1 third one being, obviously, the least preferred, but if we
2 have to come down to making a choice, they also did
3 recommend that we exclude versus include. So I do want to
4 just -- for me -- just note that that's something that I
5 took away from their letter.

6 Commissioner Turner, did you --

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I just want to add in, in
8 addition, I believe also signed on was the Prison Policy
9 Initiative. That was part of that same letter.

10 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes. Thank you for
11 acknowledging them, as well, too. And then I also do want
12 to note that they did send in an additional comment that
13 was noted or added to the handouts for this meeting. So
14 there is some additional comments that were added in. So
15 okay.

16 I know that we do need to -- I want to go to
17 public comment before we go to the vote.

18 So Katy. And this is on this Agenda item on this
19 particular vote.

20 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: You mean action item.

21 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I'm sorry. The action --

22 (Three people speaking)

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: On the agenda?

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: -- for the motion on the
25 Agenda, yes, on Incarcerated Populations in Federal

1 Facilities.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Got it. The
3 Commission will now take public comment on the motion on
4 the floor for Agenda Item 4I. To give comment please call
5 877-853-5247, enter the meeting ID number, 87694754343 for
6 this meeting. Once you have dialed in please press *9 to
7 enter the comment queue.

8 The full call in instructions are read at the
9 beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the
10 livestream landing page. And at this time we do not have
11 any callers, and we will let you know as soon as the
12 instructions are complete, Chair.

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Katy.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And we do have a
15 caller at this time. Caller 3818, if you'll please follow
16 the prompts to unmute at this time. The floor is yours.

17 MS. GARNER: Hello, Commission. This is Grace
18 Garner again, calling from the Black Census and
19 Redistricting Hub. I just wanted to clarify our position.
20 You know, we do list those two inextricably connected and
21 equally important principles that everyone is counted and
22 they are counted in the most equitable way possible.

23 And they can't really -- they can't be separated,
24 and that's why we favor Option 3 if you -- based on what
25 the two options are that you're looking at, when you

1 include people at the location of the facility you're
2 giving an oversized reach to those -- that community.

3 So we would prefer that it was excluded when
4 you're looking at those two options, because again, it's
5 everyone is counted in the most equitable way possible, and
6 those two cannot be separated. Thank you for much for your
7 work on this.

8 We understand that it is very difficult and we
9 really appreciate the attention that you've been giving to
10 the issue, and all of the work that's been done to get this
11 data for the next group. Thank you so much.

12 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much, Ms.
13 Garner. We appreciate your help and your comments on this
14 issue.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That was all of our
16 callers at this time, Chair.

17 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Then I believe, seeing
18 no one else calling in, all right, I believe we are ready
19 to take the vote.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, Chair. So
21 we'll begin the vote now.

22 Commissioner Ahmad.

23 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Abstain.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
25 Akutagawa:

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.
2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
3 Andersen.
4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.
5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
6 Fernandez?
7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.
8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
9 Fornaciari.
10 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes.
11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
12 Kennedy.
13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No.
14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le
15 Mons.
16 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.
17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
18 Sadhwani.
19 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.
20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
21 Sinay.
22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.
23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
24 Taylor.
25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
2 Toledo.

3 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
5 Turner.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
8 Vasquez.

9 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: No.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: No.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I believe this was
13 a simple majority. So the motion passes.

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you very much,
15 everyone. I just want to acknowledge first off the work
16 that Commissioner Kennedy and Turner did. I also know that
17 there were other, you know, very robust discussions that
18 took place last week amongst all of the Commissioners.

19 And I know that this is something that, you know,
20 ideally we -- again, we wanted something different. It's
21 not necessarily one that we make easily, but I do want to
22 thank everybody for all of your very considered and very
23 thoughtful discussion around this.

24 And so -- and I will also say that I'm glad that
25 we were able to make a decision, because I do believe we

1 needed to do just that. So thank you everyone for that.
2 With that, I know that we do need to take a break. And so
3 we will see everybody back at 6:46.

4 (Off the Record at 6:31 p.m., until 6:45 p.m.)

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you,
6 everyone. I hope you had a nice break, even if it was
7 brief feeling. All right. So what we're going to do is we
8 have completed all of the report outs on the committees and
9 subcommittees. We will take public comment on Agenda Item
10 No. 4.

11 And Katy, I'm going to ask you to make an
12 announcement about it.

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

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, thank you, Kristian.

15 MR. MANOFF: You got it. The Commission will now
16 take public comment on Item No. 4. To give comment please
17 call 877-853-5247, and enter meeting ID number 87694754343
18 for this meeting. Once you've dialed in, please press *9
19 to enter the comment queue.

20 The full call in instructions are read at the
21 beginning of the meeting and are provided on the livestream
22 landing page. And we do not have any comments at this
23 time, Chair.

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. We'll give
25 everybody a moment to catch up and call in if they have any

1 questions.

2 Welcome back to the camera, Commissioner Sinay.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

4 MR. MANOFF: Those instructions are complete on
5 the livestream, Chair.

6 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you so much,
7 Kristian.

8 Okay. Well, let's go ahead. Let's keep moving
9 on to our next Agenda Item, which is No. 5, Line Drawer
10 Committee, Commissioners Andersen and Sadhwani, and I do
11 believe this is where Executive Director Hernandez
12 mentioned our new data manager is also going to explain the
13 Airtable, I believe.

14 So Commissioner Andersen or Sadhwani. On, no,
15 she's not back yet. Commissioner Andersen.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I was glad you were going
17 to have Commissioner Sadhwani do the intro here. So I will
18 jump in. Yes. Thank you to -- if you -- all the public
19 and the Commissioners. It does say Item 5, Review COI
20 Submission.

21 And we, of course, have been waiting for Airtable
22 to be able to do this. And so at this point, basically,
23 we're going to have our new data manager, Toni Antonova --
24 hopefully, I spelled that -- pronounced that correctly --
25 will actually give us a presentation on where we are and

1 what we have so far, and then we also will do a little bit
2 more in terms of how we're going to be looking at this from
3 the Line Drawing perspective.

4 And I do want to say that we'll -- in terms of
5 reviewing the COI submissions, this will actually start up
6 next week, and with great detail. And so this is our
7 introduction, and at that point I'm just going to turn it
8 over to our wonderful data manager.

9 MS. ANTONOVA: Thank you for that introduction,
10 Commissioner Andersen. I am going to share my screen and
11 show a bit of a preview of what we have been working on, on
12 the Data Management Team. We have spent the last week
13 really working to get all of the public input into a --
14 into one central location and that the public can access,
15 and we are aiming to kind of finish this process by the end
16 of next week.

17 We're building a tool that the public can
18 interact with and to explore the data that's coming in.
19 Let me know if you can't see my screen for some reason.
20 This is a preview of the tool that we have been working to
21 put together. We want to share, you know, all of the data
22 that has been coming in, in an accessible way.

23 So along with a view of the data and a table
24 Excel-like format that you'll see on the left, we're also
25 putting together a map that you can interact with and

1 explore and zoom in on different regions. And I'll kind of
2 show how that works here.

3 You can see that, you know, that this map will
4 show how many submissions are coming from different areas
5 of California, and you'll be able to play around with it,
6 zoom in on the region that you're interested in, actually
7 click on the record and see what the person has written,
8 and the map that they may have drawn or attached.

9 You know, this is -- oops. Sorry about this.
10 Please make this app bigger or full screen. Oh, there we
11 go. You know, I think for some this may be the main way
12 that they prefer to interact with the data, and it's pretty
13 intuitive and kind of fun to play around with.

14 For those that might want a bit more of an Excel
15 view and to dive into all of this [sic] missions and some
16 of the metadata fields, we'll have this table on the right,
17 and you know, you can scroll through and see a summary of
18 the submission and a number of different fields, along with
19 the shape file, which is the -- basically, the map that the
20 person has inputted into Drawmycaliforniacommunity.org.

21 And this tool will allow people to, you know, do
22 a number of functionalities that you typically find in
23 Excel. You can filter on different fields. For example,
24 if you want to look at all of the letters that came in, you
25 can do that here, all of the emails and so on.

1 Public input that come in through live meetings
2 will also be here, and you can take a look at that, as
3 well. And yeah, that's the end of my update. I want to
4 keep it quick. I'm happy to answer any questions. For
5 context, the data that is here at the moment is not updated
6 as of a couple weeks ago, and that's what we are diligently
7 working on, to get access and put this on the website by
8 the end of next week. Thank you.

9 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Toni. Okay.
10 Questions.

11 Commissioner Fernandez and then Commissioner Yee.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you so much, Toni.
13 This is wonderful. You went through the filtering really
14 quick. Like what area -- what are the different filter
15 options?

16 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: You're on mute, Toni.

17 MS. ANTONOVA: So the columns that we're going to
18 include in this phase of the data release, you'll actually
19 find them here in the filters, or actually, I can show them
20 here. So you can basically filter on anyone of these
21 columns.

22 There's a submission date, the source of the
23 submission. So you know, that's whether it's an email, a
24 letter, whether it comes directly from
25 drawmycacommunity.org or a live meeting; a summary of the

1 submission.

2 Most of the time this is, you know, a direct,
3 like, copy paste of what the person has sent in.
4 Sometimes, it's a paraphrased summary, any attachments that
5 come with it and a PDF of the drawmycacommunity.org
6 submission, and so on. These last two fields are metadata
7 that help generate the map.

8 And you can filter on anyone of them. So you
9 know, I used the submission source, because that might be
10 easier to do. Another way to interact with the data is
11 actually to search right here. So you know, maybe you want
12 to look at input that mentions Fresno, you can do that
13 here.

14 Maybe I'll exit out of this. You can see here, I
15 can go through those different inputs. You know, maybe you
16 want to look at input that mention water rights. You can
17 type that in here, as well. We are -- you know -- after
18 this release we're going to be working on a kind of second
19 phase release, and there, you know, we'll be discussing any
20 additional, maybe more exciting features that we can add to
21 this tool.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Toni.

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
24 much. I have Commissioner Yee, followed by Commissioner
25 Turner.

1 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you so much, Toni. Wow.
2 This is super exciting. I've started looking at Airtable.
3 I'm wondering also about the search ability, and so I'm
4 thinking, you know, when we actually get to redistricting,
5 you know, drawing maps in different specific places, how to
6 group the input.

7 So the example you have or had there, Kettleman
8 City. You know, you can search on Kettleman City. You can
9 search on Kings County and you can search on any of those
10 other towns around Kettleman City. That's a lot of, you
11 know, searching to keep in mind.

12 So I'm wondering how -- can you search by map,
13 for instance, you know, kind of the way Yelp works. Give
14 me all the input for the current map view. You know, I'm
15 just trying to think, when we actually start mapping, I
16 mean, that's kind of -- you know -- sets of data that we'll
17 want, I think, right.

18 So everything that had to do with the whole area
19 around Kettleman City, whether or not it mentions Kettleman
20 City, right. And so how do we search like that?

21 MS. ANTONOVA: I'm happy to kind of provide a
22 response. You know, in the second phase of this I'll be
23 working with the Line Drawing organizations to figure out
24 what -- you know -- what they need to do analysis best, and
25 to make it easier to ingest all the information in this

1 data.

2 During that period of time, you know, on -- we
3 will be annotating and tagging each one of these data
4 entries with information like, you know, what neighborhoods
5 are mentioned, what cities, counties and any -- you know --
6 even maybe distinctive landmarks, things like that.

7 And so once we get that process going that may be
8 -- you know -- pieces -- that may be something that we can
9 add to this public view, as well, and that's a work in
10 progress with the Line Drawers and the Line Drawing
11 organizations.

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
14 much. We have Commissioner Turner, followed by
15 Commissioner Sadhwani.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I want to say, I
17 just felt like there should have been like drum roll, et
18 cetera. Toni kind of talked about it in this is this and
19 this is that, but I'm like, woo-who. This is amazing
20 information, and I just wanted to say thank you so much.

21 I'm so excited to have you on board, Toni, and
22 the entire team, and this is such an easy system to look
23 and search and be able to find what was previously
24 submitted. And I love, Commissioner Yee, what you just
25 suggested, to be able to get a map view, as well.

1 But I just wanted to celebrate a minute the tool
2 that we're finally looking at. Thank you.

3 MS. ANTONOVA: Thank you.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes, I echo that. Thank you,
5 Commissioner Turner, for pointing that out.

6 Commissioner Sadhwani, I have you next.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you. And you
8 know, I want to reiterate and echo Commissioner Turner's
9 like, woo-who, because this is -- we've been waiting for
10 this for a long time. And Toni, amazing. I mean, you've
11 been on board for, what, one week, 10 days, something like
12 that.

13 So incredible, incredible work. I apologize. I
14 wasn't back yet when Commissioner Andersen tipped off this
15 session, but I did also just want to interject here a
16 little bit, because I'm hearing in Commissioner Yee's
17 question, there's a technical aspect to it of how exactly
18 is this going to work.

19 But then there's also a time line aspect, and so
20 I wanted to just share a little bit about the time line
21 that we are anticipating over the next couple weeks and
22 months. Commissioner Andersen and I have been meeting with
23 Toni and the Data Management Team, as well as with the Line
24 Drawers.

25 The Line Drawers, of course, also need to make --

1 we need to make sure that they have access to all of the
2 information that we are receiving. And so we're really
3 trying to just make sure that this is a seamless process.
4 And then the other pieces, we -- because we've been waiting
5 for such a long time, we wanted to really map out how we as
6 Commissioners, as well as the public, will be receiving
7 this information and digesting it, right, and hopefully
8 digesting it.

9 There's a lot in there. We have been waiting for
10 the COI tool submissions for quite a while. And so I
11 wanted to just offer up what Commissioner Andersen and I
12 have kind of come up with as a sketch for moving forward
13 over the next couple weeks.

14 We didn't -- we were literally laying this out
15 this morning once we saw what was available and what Toni
16 had gotten done since Tuesday, which was a whole lot. So
17 we didn't have a chance to write this up as a memo or
18 anything more formal, but I wanted to share with you kind
19 of our thinking, and also get feedback.

20 And so, you know, today is August 19th. Our next
21 agendaized meeting is -- business meeting is August 31st.
22 And so our intention is that by August 27th, which is a
23 Friday of next week, the Data Management Team will have
24 completed uploading all of the -- and maybe it's not
25 exactly uploading -- inputting all of the information into

1 Airtable, as well as have that publicly available on our
2 website.

3 That is our goal. August 27th, of course, is a
4 Friday, which means clear some time in your weekends, my
5 friends, because we're hoping that on August 31st at our
6 meeting we would take our first kind of deep dive into some
7 of this data.

8 What we are anticipating, we've had a number of
9 conversations with the Line Drawers about how do we best do
10 this. We will give you a little bit of homework. So on
11 the 27th be prepared to get a little homework from us about
12 how the 31st will exactly run.

13 But we wanted to jump right in and, you know,
14 take, of course, the easiest part of the State of
15 California, which is L.A. County, and begin to take a look
16 at L.A. County. We know that there's a whole lot of COI
17 submissions in L.A. County.

18 We know that there will in the long run be a lot
19 of ERA considerations in the county, as well. Moving
20 forward, we anticipate exploring the input in Airtable by
21 using the mappers regions, right. So the Q2 Haystack Team,
22 as you all know, have a number of different mappers.

23 Jaime Clark, of course, is one of them, and we've
24 seen her often and she is most certainly a senior member of
25 that team. Jaime is assigned to Los Angeles, and that's a

1 part of why we thought it would make a lot of sense to
2 start there, in addition to, of course, L.A. has so many
3 other pieces.

4 Other mappers, Tamina, Willie and John, represent
5 more than one outreach zone, and so moving forward in our
6 future dates on September 7th and on September 11th, which
7 was a day that was added and is also a Saturday, we will
8 look at areas of California based on those mappers'
9 assignments. So that's multiple zones together.

10 Exactly which date -- which zones when is to be
11 determined, but that is kind of the direction that we're
12 thinking. And on August 31st we will start, actually, that
13 meeting with a training on how to use Airtable. And I
14 think, you know, we're hoping that everyone plays around
15 with it over the weekend next week, once it's live on the
16 27th.

17 We want to make sure, also, that there's an
18 opportunity both for Commissioners and the public to get
19 the proper training on how to use this tool, how to access
20 the information. So we anticipate that the 31st will start
21 out with a training done, you know, starting off with Toni
22 and the Data Management Team, followed by kind of this --
23 the transition from Airtable Data Management to Mappers.

24 And so I anticipate Jaime's also going to have a
25 little touch base on some of this training, as well. We're

1 still working out all of the kinks there, and then we would
2 kind of do a deep dive in L.A. County and review the
3 submissions that we have.

4 And Commissioner Andersen, please jump in,
5 because that's a lot of information, and I probably forgot
6 something.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. Commissioner
8 Sadhwani did a great job, which is why I was going to have
9 her lead off. Just a couple of items. When you're looking
10 -- and Commissioner Yee, you're saying, well, how do we
11 look at this by area?

12 One of the easiest ways, you'll notice Airtable,
13 that is our PinMap. Now, this will ultimately be on our
14 website, a link to it will be on the website. So the
15 public can actually -- a PinMap. Oh, where are those --
16 you know -- all those reds dots and things, they represent
17 not just Communities of Interest that have come in through
18 the COI tool, but Communities of Interest that have come in
19 from all sources.

20 And in terms of where they're located, that's
21 actually by essentially the center of -- basically, the
22 very center of whatever the community of interest is. So
23 if it's city, it's probably like somewhere in the middle of
24 the city. If it's several counties, it's in a geographic
25 center of those several counties.

1 So that's just in the way -- in terms of our,
2 when you're looking at it, you know, quick way to search by
3 area is look at the map. Then you've already looked
4 through the dates and the full information will be there,
5 and we'll give you -- as of right now, it's only a certain
6 amount.

7 And when you're saying, well, this view that
8 we're looking at now may or may not be exactly what the
9 public sees. In terms of other categories, other ways, our
10 little drop down of just looking at it by letter, email,
11 that sort of option, which are very readily available, and
12 then other searches, it probably might have a few more
13 things in it.

14 We want to work with the Line Drawers and have
15 Data Management work together on that to make it the most
16 useful, and without being too crowded. So that's basically
17 all I had to say on that. So this is sort of an intro, and
18 then any other questions, which I'm sure there will be
19 several of.

20 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: We do have several questions.
21 We have Marcy first or Director Kaplan first, or Director
22 Kaplan first and then also Commissioner Sinay next after
23 her.

24 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just had a very
25 quick note, if we're able to time stamp the training that

1 Toni's going to do so that we can push it out with the
2 Outreach Team, also, because I imagine there's a lot of
3 people who will want to listen in. Thank you.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. Great suggestion.
5 Commissioner Sinay.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm really, really excited,
7 but I also want to bring in a piece of reality into all of
8 this. We have, if I heard correctly, 1400 Communities of
9 Interest, which sounds like a lot, but it really is a drop,
10 and it's not a drop in the bucket to what our goal was.

11 And this was one of my concerns, that if we focus
12 so early on doing Communities of Interest public meetings,
13 we were going to forget the tool and really pushing, you
14 know, using the tool. And it's my understanding is that
15 1400 is both what's come in through the COI, as well as
16 some of the input we have.

17 And so I think it is -- it's really critical, you
18 know, how good -- you know -- the database can only be as
19 robust as the data that gets put in it. And so I would
20 like to put out there, what are we going to do, you know.
21 You know, we're already jumping into Line Drawing, but we
22 still don't have all the COIs, you know, the diversity of
23 COIs that we need from all the different regions.

24 And that really needs to be a priority, and I
25 don't see us galvanizing around that and strategizing on

1 how we're going to do that.

2 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

3 Any other hands? Commissioner Andersen.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I was just going to say
5 something about, it's a very good point, Commissioner
6 Sinay, and one of the reasons why the -- we're trying to
7 get the PinMap out early is it's graphic. People can say,
8 oh, I don't see enough bubbles in my area. And hopefully -
9 - and we can all see where we don't have a lot of input.

10 Now, one thing that did happen, you know, a lot
11 of people, no matter what we were doing, until the Census
12 data came -- got -- came out they weren't paying attention.
13 And so I'm hoping that by seeing the PinMap shortly after
14 the Census data, you know, people are starting to pay
15 attention and they might say, oh, goodness gracious.

16 And then I think it was you actually suggested
17 that those last couple of days we might get a lot more
18 Community of Interest input on those September days. But
19 then, we will throughout the entire process of Line Drawing
20 be getting Communities of Interest as well as maps.

21 So I -- but you're right. In terms of, you know,
22 our advertising, everything will come in as far as our
23 outreach. But that is one of the reasons to have the
24 PinMap out there, and everyone will have a good look at
25 that.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I see Commissioner Fornaciari
2 next.

3 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes. Sounds like a good
4 topic of conversation for our Outreach Committee Meeting
5 tomorrow, strategizing on how we're going to take a look at
6 this data and move forward to fill in those gaps. I do
7 think, though, also, that, you know, a lot of the input is
8 going to be coming -- a lot more input will be coming once
9 there are maps to react to.

10 And so, you know, we'll be getting to see that
11 and input in different ways, right. I guess the reason I
12 raised my hand is, I have a question for the Line Drawing
13 Team about the -- kind of the workflow and the process
14 here. You know, so I see, you know, we have time set aside
15 to review the COI submissions, and then in later -- you
16 know -- in September debrief and provide direction to our
17 Line Drawing Team prior to the release of the official
18 redistricting data.

19 And is that -- is the idea there, the -- like the
20 15th, 17th and 18th of September is where we develop the
21 direction to the Line Drawers to develop the visualization
22 so we'll -- so we're going to -- so the big picture, if I
23 can -- this is the way I'm thinking of it. Tell me if I'm
24 wrong, right.

25 We're going to look at all that input data we

1 have and we're going to try to digest that for a while, and
2 we're going to think a little bit more deeply with -- about
3 that input and, you know, hopefully we'll get some VRA
4 input at that time, too.

5 And then we sort of coalesce all that information
6 into direction for the Line Drawing Team, to come up with a
7 first set of visualizations that they will come up with on
8 -- by October 3rd, so we can begin to react to those and
9 work through those on the 4th, 5th and 6th.

10 And then after that, then we give them direction
11 on Iteration No. 2, and then on to Iteration No. 3 after
12 the 15th, I guess is -- am I getting it?

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Absolutely. That's
14 exactly it.

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: A+.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, that's exactly --
17 it's the 31st, the September 7th and September 11th will be
18 a review of what we have at -- what we have for different
19 areas. Then when we come back, then, on the 15th, 17th and
20 18th of September it will be -- okay. You've had a look.

21 This is -- the Line Drawers are also saying, you
22 know, we're seeing this, we see this, what do you want to
23 do Commission, and we'll be giving direction on some of
24 that, because we've had it -- we've already had a look, as
25 well as some VRA issues, which basically they'll be telling

1 us, well, that's nice, but there's going to be a VRA
2 consideration here.

3 So that's going to -- we'll get -- we'll be
4 giving direction input for them to give our -- do the first
5 set and then the first visualizations, and we start working
6 in October. That's perfect, your summary. Sorry. You're
7 on mute.

8 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'm on mute. So we'll be
9 -- I'll be taking over as Chair and Commissioner Sadhwani
10 will be Vice Chair for these meetings come up. So we'll
11 have to get together, kind of figure out how we balance the
12 needs of the business meetings that are scheduled and the
13 means to do this and how we might manage that.

14 I see maybe there's some tentative other meetings
15 we might want to insert in there, too. So we'll work
16 through that offline.

17 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And actually, for
18 clarification, Commissioner Sadhwani, I think you were
19 mentioning at the very beginning when some of the callers
20 called in about, you know, community members and
21 organizations being able to present district maps.

22 What -- again, I just want to just bring this
23 together. So you're saying the 23rd, 29th and 30th are
24 those -- or are those time frames where you're envisioning
25 that that's when those district maps would be presented?

1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: The district maps, I
2 don't have the dates in front of me.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: It's -- yeah.

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It's October 23rd, I
5 think, something like that. It's like a Thursday, Friday,
6 Saturday.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. The 23rd's the
8 last one. It's the -- like 21, 22, 23.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That, like we have the
11 three days. The first week of October is where we're doing
12 visualizations. The second week of October we're doing
13 visualizations. The third week of October will be for some
14 map input, and as far as, like, it could be an individual
15 district -- an individual with a district or an individual
16 with several districts, or it could be groups at the time,
17 as we're doing the visualizations, trying to come up with
18 our first draft maps.

19 And then the fourth week of October we'll be back
20 to visualizations, the 4th of October until we kind of go,
21 we're heading for a draft map.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And if I may, just to
23 jump in, you know, to Commissioner Sinay's point and very
24 valid concern, this process is -- that we've sketched out
25 with the Line Drawers is very different from 2010. This

1 iterative visualizations and releasing like kind of what
2 we're thinking about and -- before we actually commit to
3 and vote on a draft, if I had to guess when those
4 visualizations go out, we're going to get a whole lot of
5 public comment, and you know, from every direction.

6 So I think that we will get there. I also think,
7 though, I'll just add, you know, in the next couple weeks,
8 August 31st, September 7th, September 11th, we're just
9 looking, right. We're just looking to see what we have,
10 and also what we don't have.

11 And I think that that can be a really helpful
12 time. We're not providing direction at that point. We're
13 not making any decisions. Much like the Community Interest
14 input meetings that we have, we should be looking at those
15 three days as an opportunity to hear communities by seeing
16 what has been submitted and really synthesizing it and
17 going through all of that.

18 And I do think that that -- I think while all of
19 this would have been great, like two months ago, you know,
20 I do think like hearing, you know, the time line that
21 Fredy's been talking about with the -- you know -- the
22 billboards that are going to be going out and additional
23 paid media, I do think that these conversations will help
24 us identify where we might need to do additional outreach.

25 And we're going to be like blasting out, you

1 know, hey, the Commission process is happening, so get
2 involved. So I leave it to the Outreach Subcommittee to
3 figure out exactly all of those details, but I think
4 there's a lot of things kind of coming together all at the
5 same time, and I'm hoping -- I'm positive -- I'm feeling
6 positive.

7 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And then so I do have one
8 additional clarification question. So it was -- so are we
9 talking about September 23, 29 and 30th as for sure
10 meetings that we should all be planning for?

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Those are listed as
12 business meetings. I think it depends on whether or not we
13 need them. We've listed I believe -- I apologize, I don't
14 have the calendar in front of me -- the 15th, those days
15 right in the middle of September as providing direction
16 prior to the release of Census data.

17 Those dates on 23, 29 and I think 31 -- 30, were
18 kind of slotted for VRA. We haven't received a firm
19 confirmation of the VRA time line yet. So we're kind of
20 holding those for that purpose.

21 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you. I think I
22 was asking because of what Commissioner Fornaciari said
23 about finding that balance between all the things that
24 we're going to see, but also, what business we're going to
25 need to do, and will certain things need to get pushed off,

1 given just all that we're going to be discussing, as well,
2 too, so.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And also, one of those
4 days would be a review of our criteria, kind of -- like
5 back to kind of a quick review of all our training that we
6 did way back when in terms of how we -- you know -- kind of
7 all of the points we have to consider, one of those days.

8 But the days are September 23rd, and it's the
9 28th and 29th were those days. And so the Agendas have not
10 been set yet on that, but there's a few things we should do
11 before we just jump right in, so we're up to speed.

12 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you. And I see
13 Commissioner Sinay with her hand up.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. A couple of
15 things. I'm guessing from what you said, Commissioner
16 Andersen, that part of it will not only be discussing the
17 criterias [sic], you know, going back to our criterias, but
18 also discussing some of our values.

19 I don't know what the right word is. I don't
20 want to use criterias, but things like, when do we split up
21 cities or not. There's a lot of big questions that we all
22 need to grapple with before we even start Line Drawing, and
23 I've been asking that a couple of times.

24 What other data will we be using besides Census
25 data to get clarity on communities and Communities of

1 Interest? There's a lot of great complimentary data like
2 point in time, public counts and things like that. So I
3 feel like there's a lot of pieces that we need to do before
4 we even start Line Drawing.

5 I'm a firm believer to set the stage before you
6 start playing, because it's hard -- you know -- I always
7 tell my clients, set your policies around who you will
8 receive money from and who you won't when doing fund-
9 raising, because it's hard to say no when the money's at
10 the table.

11 And so, yeah, that's kind of why I was pushing us
12 to think a lot about this stuff earlier versus, okay, now
13 the data's here and we're going to -- I don't want us to
14 get distracted. Also, I hear what you're saying,
15 Commissioner Sadhwani, and yes, it's exciting that people
16 will be excited when they start seeing us Line Draw.

17 But we've said from the very beginning that every
18 input is equal, and I don't want us to get caught up, and
19 that's another piece that I want us to discuss very clearly
20 before we start playing with the data and getting people
21 calling in is, how are we going to stay true to that
22 promise, that every input is equal, and not that the
23 loudest voice or the last voice is the one we listen to.

24 So I completely understand when the community
25 says, hey, this is a public opportunity. Everybody gets a

1 say, but everybody gets a say and everybody is equal. And
2 so we really need to talk about that and talk about our own
3 biases and how we're going to draw these lines before we
4 jump into playing with the data.

5 And so as much as I appreciate that everyone's
6 going to -- there's going to be a frenzy to get us
7 information when we make mistakes with a line, we have to
8 remember, if we have good -- I'm still a firm believer that
9 if we have good data, we have good, diverse Communities of
10 Interest, we will actually draw better lines from the
11 beginning, from the get-go than if we draw lines and we try
12 -- and then the community is pushing us in one way or the
13 other.

14 And so I still go back to the -- you know -- I'll
15 be honest. Some of you may know this. I trolled Twitter
16 on the day after the -- all the Census data went out, and
17 anyone who talked about redistricting or Census data, I put
18 on there, if you're a Californian, please go to our tool
19 and submit a COI input.

20 You know, and I felt very lonely doing it,
21 because I wasn't seeing other people doing it, and we
22 didn't have a plan as a Commission, a communications plan
23 on how to do that. And I was like, I don't know if this is
24 appropriate or not, but hey, let me get -- you know -- if
25 people are reading this they'll find it interesting.

1 So I just want us not to just wait, but be
2 proactive all the way through and really remember that
3 we've said every input is equal, and really try to bring in
4 those different voices.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.
6 And I do think that you do bring up a good point,
7 especially around talking in advance before we're
8 confronted with some of these harder decisions around, at
9 what point do we make these decisions.

10 And I know it's not going to always be quite so
11 cut and dried, and so -- but it does help to perhaps make
12 certain decisions a lot easier and go more quickly, because
13 we don't have to go around. However, there are going to be
14 decisions where we are going to want to dig in and we are
15 going to -- even though we had made some decisions about
16 how we're going to make decisions, we're still going to
17 probably want to dig into certain ones. And so I want to
18 just uplift what you just said, Commissioner Sinay.

19 Do we have any other comments, any other
20 questions for the Line Drawers? I just want to just also
21 acknowledge all of the work. I know that Commissioner
22 Sadhwani and Commissioner Andersen, you have been putting
23 in a lot of time.

24 You continue to put in a lot of time, and so I
25 just want to acknowledge all of the work that you're both

1 putting in, really, as now the portion of the work that
2 we're all here to do is really ramping up. And so I just
3 want to say thank you to the both of you for all that
4 you're doing, so. And I'm glad that you're both doing it.

5 Okay. Well, thank you very much. I am not
6 seeing any other hands raised or questions or comments. So
7 we do need to take public comment on this particular Agenda
8 Item No. 5, I believe we are at, before we move onto our
9 next Agenda item.

10 So Katy or Kristian.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, I'm here. I was
12 just on the phone. The Commission will now be taking
13 public comment on Agenda Item No. 5. To give comment
14 please call 877-853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number,
15 87694754343 for this meeting.

16 Once you have dialed in please press *9 to enter
17 the comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read
18 at the beginning of this meeting and are provided in full
19 on the livestream landing page. And we do not have anyone
20 in the queue at this time, Chair, and I will let you know
21 when the instructions are complete.

22 (Pause)

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Chair?

24 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes, Commissioner Yee.

25 COMMISSIONER YEE: Just so you know, for Item No.

1 6, I'm not sure why the VRA Subcommittee was a separate
2 item. It should be in all other subcommittees, but in any
3 case, we don't have any business to report.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh. Well, thank you very much
5 for preempting us. That would be great. I think there was
6 anticipation that there may have been a possible more
7 detailed VRA analysis kind of report or conversation, but
8 my understanding I think was that -- yes, I was told that
9 most likely not anything detailed. So thank you for
10 affirming that, Commissioner Yee.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, would you like
12 me to make -- read the instructions again, then, for the
13 general public comment or --

14 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Since -- yes. Since
15 Commissioner Yee has noted that there's no report on VRA
16 Compliance, let's go ahead and let's go to general public
17 comment.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay. The Commission
19 is now taking public comment. All public comment for items
20 not on the Agenda and for Item No. 5. To give comment
21 please call 877-853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number,
22 87694754343 for this meeting.

23 The full call-in instructions are read at the
24 beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the
25 livestream landing page. We do not have anyone in the

1 queue at this time, and I will let you know when these
2 instructions are complete.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
4 much. Well, I will take the prerogative of the Chair,
5 then, as we're waiting. I will ask this question to the
6 question that Commissioner Sinay asked about how are we
7 going to make these kind of harder decisions.

8 Is that something -- can I ask, is that something
9 that the Line Drawer Committee would be taking on as part
10 of your process of the Line Drawing, that you would lead us
11 through a discussion around some of those things that
12 Commissioner Sinay brought up? I think I just wanted to
13 make sure we put some closure to that question. I realize
14 it's --

15 MR. MANOFF: Those instructions are complete on
16 the livestream, Chair.

17 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you so much, Kristian. I
18 guess we don't -- I don't see anybody lining up.

19 MR. MANOFF: There are no callers at this time.

20 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'm sorry, Chair. What
22 exactly --

23 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: So --

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- what exactly is that
25 question?

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I believe I heard Commissioner
2 Sinay ask how are we going to make -- we're going to come
3 to places where there are going to be, again, difficult
4 decisions. Do we want to have discussions in advance? I
5 know it's not all going to be, you know, cut and dried, but
6 if in cases of -- I'll just say, for example, if there's an
7 instance in which we would say, if this, then that, this is
8 when we would maybe make a decision that we would have to
9 split a city in half or we would need to -- I think --
10 Commissioner Sinay, am I understanding what I heard you say
11 correctly?

12 Okay. Thank you. So that's what I meant by, how
13 do we want to go about that. Yes, Commissioner Sinay.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry about that,
15 Commissioner Akutagawa. I mean, one thought I had was if
16 we all went back kind of to our notes and just remember
17 what questions have arisen as people who are going to draw
18 lines. So the city question was the first one that hit me,
19 because one of our first meetings, Calabasas called us and
20 said, look, we're so tiny and you split us three ways, you
21 know.

22 So just thinking about some of those things that
23 kind of have come up. Having said that, yes, it can't be
24 in stone. We have the VRA. There's all these other
25 pieces, but just having some of those conversations.

1 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I see Commissioner Fernandez
2 and wastewater Turner. Sorry, Kristian. Were you -- okay.
3 Commissioner Fernandez.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. And another -- I
5 mean, to me, I just see it as like kind of setting up the
6 parameters, and the question, if you've been asked or
7 interviewed is, are you going to start from scratch or are
8 you going to use existing maps.

9 So something like those type of conversations.
10 It's like, you know, what's going to be our play book
11 moving forward. Sorry. Football reference. I love
12 football. Something like that.

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Commissioner
14 Fernandez.

15 I saw Commissioner Turner with her hand up, and
16 then Commissioner Andersen.

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I was just going to
18 say, I really appreciate Commissioner Sinay for continuing
19 to lift that. I like the parameter-setting. I think that
20 there is a possibility that we can get so far into
21 conversation to determine what could be.

22 And another way to do it would also be just
23 keeping good notes as issues arise, and making our best
24 determination in setting a path and kind of a plan moving
25 forward that this is how we're going to continue to treat

1 this same circumstance.

2 Other than that, it feels like it can get really
3 hypothetical and we spend a lot of time on what may not
4 come up exactly in the same form.

5 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you so much, Commissioner
6 Turner.

7 Commissioner Andersen and then Commissioner
8 Fornaciari.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, Commissioner
10 Fornaciari had his hand up first, if he wants to go first.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari.

12 VICE-CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I just -- I was
13 just going to give a couple of examples. I mean, last time
14 around they -- it was my understanding that, you know, they
15 had this share the pain thing or something that they did,
16 where if they split a city in one -- you know -- the
17 assembly district, they tried to keep it whole in a
18 senatorial district, and you know, I mean, looking at the
19 districts, how they came out, looking at the feedback we
20 got, I mean, it's -- you know -- is that something we want
21 to consider doing or not.

22 I think the other thing that came to my mind was,
23 you know, we've had a lot of COI input on, I think that
24 other city should be with us. And then we have, I think my
25 city should be, you know, with -- you know. So how do we -

1 - I mean, do we -- are we going to kind of discuss how we
2 balance those two different types of input?

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Thank you very much.

4 Commissioner Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. These are actually
6 -- Commissioner Sinay, thank you for bringing that forward.
7 This is kind of the stuff, what I was saying about going
8 over and reviewing criteria. This is kind of what I was
9 thinking, but not quite in that depth.

10 And I think, like as Commissioner Turner sort of
11 said, as we sort of start through, okay, these are the
12 rules, remember, this and that, I think some of those
13 conversations will indeed happen, because as we start to,
14 oh, yeah, how do you -- can really consider that, how do we
15 look at these things, and I really like the idea of, you
16 know, sort of the general rules, you know, parameters.

17 We will be doing, as the Line Drawers are going
18 to be sort of pushing us to give them direction, I think
19 it'll be very obvious, some -- the harder questions. And
20 then, you know, I think, you know, as far as their first
21 visualization.

22 And then I think if we have those next kind of
23 three days to really contemplate what we sort of have done
24 a bit and then go, you know, so we could really be sort of
25 on the ground running, then, for October, I think might

1 really work.

2 You know, I certainly think Commissioner Sadhwani
3 and I can make a stab at what topics we need to include,
4 but I would look for other people to certainly -- you know
5 -- I don't know if we want to be the only ones to put some
6 of that on the table.

7 So I would recommend that -- trying to think what
8 other group would be sort of good at -- we might make a
9 quick drafts of -- actually, well, let's just put those --
10 put our ideas on the agenda building.

11 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very --

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Perhaps --

13 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, sorry. Commissioner
14 Sadhwani, please.

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry about that. I just
16 jumped in without raising my hand. Perhaps, you know, I
17 really like this and yet at the same time I'm not entirely
18 certain what all of those parameters will or will not be.
19 I think the examples that Commissioner Fernandez offered
20 and Commissioner Fornaciari, also from 2010, that's really
21 helpful.

22 I hadn't been thinking about that, per se.
23 Broader parameters of like, if x then y, I think that's a
24 little harder to set in stone, because I think every case
25 is going to be somewhat different. And so you know, I

1 agree with you, Commissioner Andersen, I would feel a
2 little uncomfortable drafting a play book that we would
3 then either adopt or not, just because -- I'm wondering if
4 maybe we can kind of insure that over the next several
5 weeks as we're reviewing the COIs if this can be on
6 everyone mind.

7 And by the time we get to September 15th and
8 we're giving direction to the Line Drawers, you know, as we
9 continue to -- if you feel passionately, like let's not
10 scrap all of the assembly and senate districts, right, as I
11 think Commissioner Fernandez, you were mentioned you've
12 been asked -- have been asked that numerous times.

13 Then let's talk about it on that day after we
14 have reviewed more of the COIs. I would be -- I would also
15 -- I wouldn't want to like set in stone something before
16 we've seen all of the submissions, because they're all
17 equal. Also, you know, I mean, in general, I think with
18 Congress we've lost a seat.

19 We do have to scrap them all, but Assembly and
20 Senate and Board of Equalization, right, the *2:19:49. But
21 yeah, I think if we can continue to work collaboratively on
22 this and recognize that before October 4th, when we start
23 the Line Drawing process, that we want to have some guiding
24 principles, I think that would be really helpful.

25 And perhaps we can make sure to, as Commissioner

1 Turner mentioned, keep good notes on what those are
2 collaboratively.

3 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you so much,
4 Commissioner Sadhwani. I think maybe the spirit of it is
5 just some broader kind of frameworks that we can -- that
6 will -- that you know, won't see us going all over the
7 place, given all the data.

8 And I do agree. I think you bring up a great
9 point, you know. Let's look at the data, and that may help
10 to surface things that we hadn't thought about either, too.
11 But as we go forward over the next few weeks, you know,
12 some of these questions that maybe we're being asked in
13 these interviews or other things may pop up, and maybe we
14 can each keep a running list so that when it comes time for
15 the discussion they'll either have been crossed off because
16 they're irrelevant, or maybe they're just ones that we do
17 need to bring up and discuss as an entire Commission.

18 Does this fall within that kind of area of broad
19 guidelines that will help guide us, but not necessarily
20 bind us and, you know, box us in, so. Okay. Thank you for
21 this discussion. I just wanted to make sure we had some
22 closure on that part.

23 And I appreciate -- I believe that Commissioner
24 Sadhwani and Commissioner Andersen, you will be -- will you
25 will not be the sole source of all of it, because it does

1 fall under Line Drawer, you will be the lead guides on it,
2 I'll say. All right.

3 Okay. So with that I just want to say thank you.
4 We have not had any callers still call in while we were
5 having our discussion. I just want to make sure that I am
6 following our Agenda and not forgetting anything. I do
7 believe that we have come to the end of our Agenda, and I
8 don't see anyone else who --

9 Commissioner Andersen.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do want to make sure
11 the public notices we have on the -- on our Agenda that we
12 have at the end, we have upcoming scheduled meetings and
13 that's -- we want to make a change on that. It's not --
14 actually, it's not quite correct.

15 The full Commissions are August 31st, September
16 7. Actually, there will be September 11, but it's
17 September 15. It's not the 16th. It's the 17th and 18th.
18 It is September 23rd, then September 28 and 29, not
19 September 30. So I just wanted to bring that up and have
20 the public be aware, because it's sort of written and then
21 if they're looking at it -- and I know that that's going to
22 be -- our Executive Director Alvaro will -- I mean --
23 Hernandez will be, you know, putting the different things
24 on our meeting schedule online, as well.

25 They all are online. But I just want to make

1 sure the public knows that. It's not the 16th. It's not
2 the 30th, but there is a September 11 and a September 17,
3 18.

4 CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: And also, just one more
5 reminder. We do have Communities of Interest input
6 meetings tomorrow, which is Zone G, which is the
7 communities mostly in the Eastern Sierras. And then we
8 also have a meeting on Saturday, which is the -- which is
9 Sacramento, as well as some of the other counties that
10 surround Sacramento, Yolo County, I think, El Dorado
11 County.

12 Unfortunately, or sadly, some of the areas that
13 are facing, you know, the big fires, too. So do want to
14 just note that we do have COI input meetings both tomorrow
15 and Saturday, as well, too.

16 So with that I just want to say thank you to
17 everybody. Thank you for your time. I know that -- woo-
18 who -- we are going to get 20 minutes back, and I just want
19 to thank everybody for all of your very thoughtful
20 conversation, discussion, consideration, deliberation, and
21 also all the hard work that our committees and
22 Commissioners are doing, so -- and also, very much so our
23 staff. I want to appreciate them, as well, too.

24 So thank you. Thank you to our -- also, our
25 video team. Thank you. We are adjourned.

1 (Session adjourned at 7:42 p.m., until August 31, 2021.)

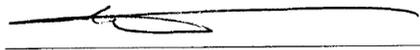
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I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under 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

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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 a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

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



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367