

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

LINE DRAWING MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Transcription By:

eScribers, LLC



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P R O C E E D I N G S

9:30 a.m.

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3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Good morning, California. I'm
4 Neal Fornaciari and along with my co-chair, Sara
5 Sadhwani, we'll be hosting these meetings of the
6 California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Sorry, a
7 little rough start this morning. I apologize.

8 This is a pretty exciting time for us where we're
9 just beginning to get into the real meat of the work that
10 we were hired to do and begin to do some line drawing.
11 So Commissioner Sadhwani will lay the groundwork for that
12 a little bit later. But before we get started, I will
13 hand it over to Ravi for roll call.

14 MR. SINGH: Thank you, Chair.

15 Commissioner Kennedy?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

17 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

19 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

20 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

24 Commissioner Toledo?

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.



1 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

3 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vazquez?

4 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here.

5 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Yee?

6 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad?

8 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

9 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa?

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

11 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

13 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Presente.

15 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Fornaciari?

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I am here.

17 MR. SINGH: You have a quorum, Chair.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Ravi. So let's see.

19 Today, Friday and Saturday, we will be beginning to give
20 some line drawing direction. I put together a schedule
21 that's posted with the agenda items that goes over
22 roughly what we'll be doing each day.

23 So we'll be reviewing each of the zones and
24 providing direction to the line drawers for each of those
25 zones. We'll start today with L.A. and tomorrow we'll do

1 zones A, C, and E. And then on -- not tomorrow, Friday.
2 And then Saturday, the balance of the zones. Intermixed
3 with that we'll be having a business meeting. I'm sorry
4 I didn't really have the details of when we might be
5 getting to each of the agenda items for the business
6 meeting, because I really have no idea how long the
7 direction will take.

8 So I've put a lot of little bit of extra time at the
9 end of the meetings on Friday and Saturday in case we
10 need it. Then we also have a -- on the 17th in the
11 morning, we'll have a presentation on California
12 geography. So that should be interesting and helpful.
13 Before we get any further, we want to turn it over to my
14 colleague, Ray Kennedy, for a brief statement. You're
15 muted.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I want to
17 take the opportunity to wish everyone happy International
18 Day of Democracy. Today is an opportunity for all of us
19 to remind ourselves that democracy does not survive on
20 its own.

21 It requires each of us to be involved and engaged
22 every day, even if only in a small way to ensure its
23 survival, whether that be through informing yourself as a
24 citizen, discussing public affairs with your family,
25 friends, neighbors, and colleagues, helping register

1 voters and helping them understand the electoral process,
2 communicating with your elected officials, working as a
3 poll worker on Election Day, serving as a citizen
4 observer, running for office yourself, or many other
5 actions that help ensure that our democracy thrives.

6 I'd like to thank my colleagues, our staff, those
7 who have participated in our redistricting process so
8 far, and those who will participate as we move forward,
9 as well as those millions of Californians who voted in
10 yesterday's election for being an integral part of this
11 process we call democracy. And I look forward to working
12 with all of you to continue to both broaden and deepen
13 our democracy. Thank you, Chair.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, thanks, Ray. That was
15 really, really nice. Well said. On behalf of the rest
16 of the Commission, thank you for that. I think it's
17 important to remind ourselves of that, especially in
18 these times, it can be hyper-partisan. So thank you for
19 that.

20 At this point, I will turn it over to Katy for to go
21 to public comment. Before we do that, though, and I just
22 want to remind -- I'm not sure how much public input and
23 public comment we're going to have today. So I just want
24 to remind callers that we do have a two-minute time limit
25 for public comment that we'll be enforcing throughout



1 these three days just to ensure that we get -- everyone
2 gets a chance to provide input. So Katy?

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Good morning, Chair. In
4 order to maximize transparency and public participation
5 in our process, the Commissioners will be taking public
6 comment by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number
7 provided on the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247.

8 When prompted to enter the meeting ID number
9 provided on the livestream feed, it is 88286102051 for
10 this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID
11 simply press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you
12 will be placed in a queue to indicate you wish to
13 comment, please press star 9. This will raise your hand
14 for the moderator.

15 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
16 message that says the host would like you to talk. Press
17 star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your name,
18 please state and spell it for the record. You are not
19 required to provide your name to get public comment.

20 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
21 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
22 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for
23 when it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn
24 down the livestream volume. At this time we do have a
25 couple of callers.



1 Caller with the last four 9907, if you will please
2 follow the prompts to unmute at this time. Once again
3 caller with the last four 9907, if you please press star
4 6 to unmute at this time. Caller 9907, the floor is
5 yours. Can you hear me? You might want to make sure
6 that the mute is not pressed on your phone. It happens
7 sometimes. Can you hear me? Caller 9907, you are
8 unmuted on our end. Can you hear us?

9 MR. KUMAR: Can you -- yeah, I can hear you. Can
10 you hear me?

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can now. The floor is
12 yours.

13 MR. KUMAR: Thank you. Good morning to all. My
14 name is Sam Kumar. I wanted to thank the Commissioners
15 and the staff for their dedication to making this process
16 so transparent to the public such that the public can
17 analyze the data information presented.

18 In the spirit of more preciseness, I see at least a
19 dozen data entries and emails that were posted making the
20 request to maintain the communities of interest within
21 the boundaries of Congressional District 17. Hello? Can
22 you hear me?

23 MR. MANOFF: Yes, we can. Go ahead, please.

24 MR. KUMAR: Yeah. Thank you. There are five main
25 cities that make up the Congressional District 17, which

1 are Cupertino, Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Milpitas, and a
2 large section of Fremont.

3 The detailed inputs are given from these several
4 cities, including the city mayors and also city council
5 members. The City of Sunnyvale city council letter
6 acknowledged its unanimous decision to have their city
7 stay in Congressional District 17. City of Santa Clara
8 did the same thing, and there are seven councilmember
9 voted in support of keeping Santa Clara within the
10 Congressional District 17.

11 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds remaining.

12 MR. KUMAR: In addition to the Fremont mayor, vice
13 mayor, and the council members also did the same thing.
14 But unfortunately in the September 11th meeting --

15 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

16 MR. KUMAR: -- I think the current map shows that
17 all the San Jose to be part of part of the Congressional
18 District 17. San Jose has a 1 million population. The
19 current district has had 750,000 population. That makes
20 it a 1.7 million --

21 MR. MANOFF: Time.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for that feedback. And
23 if you'd like to provide more detailed input to us, you
24 can go to our website and send us an email or give us a
25 call or go to the online tool, drawmycommunity.org.



1 Thank you. Next caller, Katy.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Next caller is caller
3 2829. And I invite caller 2448, if you do wish to give
4 comment during this public comment session to please
5 press star 9 on your telephone keypad. Caller 28 -- oh,
6 I see that hand.

7 Caller 2829, if you will please follow the prompts
8 to unmute. The floor is yours.

9 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Good morning, Commissioners. This
10 is Renee Westa-Lusk. I just wanted to let you know, I
11 finally was able to email a bunch of corrections for the
12 pin map on the database, website or tab. And I'm -- I
13 would like some acknowledgment that sometime maybe today
14 if your staff can please let me know they received the
15 email and can distribute it to the Commissioners.

16 It's fairly lengthy and I found some more
17 corrections that I wasn't able to email to you. Yeah,
18 it's kind of time consuming to give the detailed
19 information of what needs to be corrected. So I wanted
20 you to know that I have emailed the corrections. And if
21 you can please look them over and have them corrected in
22 the database pin map. Thank you.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, Ms. Westa-Lusk,
24 thank you again for your participation and your
25 involvement in the process. We appreciate that. And



1 yeah, we'll have staff take a look at that and ensure
2 that the Commissioners get your input and that they make
3 those corrections.

4 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Thank you very much.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you. So Ms. West -- oh.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: She hung up.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. If you're still listening,
8 please, Ms. Westa-Lusk, please send your email to
9 VotersFirstAct@crc.ca.gov.

10 Is that correct, Alvaro --Director Hernandez?

11 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you. Next caller.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And we do have one more
14 caller this time. Caller 2448, if you'll please follow
15 the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. And caller
16 2448, the floor is yours.

17 MR. CANNON: Good morning. My name is Peter Cannon.
18 First, I want to thank you for organizing these first
19 phase preliminary direction meetings by region and not by
20 plan. It is easier for the public. If I want to hear
21 about the lines in my area, I only have to listen in on
22 one day.

23 Second, I would also strongly suggest you organize
24 your second phase visualizations by region as well.
25 Besides being easier for the public, what you see in the



1 visualizations for one plan may trigger discussion
2 relevant to the other plans in the same area.

3 Third, with each region -- excuse me -- third within
4 each region, as described in the draft mapping playbook,
5 it may make sense to have a standardized order for which
6 plans to look at first. So I would recommend that when
7 looking at Los Angeles, for example, you would review the
8 Assembly, then Senate, and so on. And then when you look
9 at the Bay Area, it would go in the same order.

10 Fourth, once you reach the phase for statewide
11 plans, it may make sense to focus on one plan a day. By
12 then, you will be able to see how decisions in one region
13 affect another, how everything is interconnected.

14 Fifth, for the -- excuse me -- fifth, for the order
15 of the regions while I am from Northern California and
16 would selfishly love to always have my area go first. It
17 may make more sense to start with the most complicated
18 areas and then work from there.

19 And finally, I am glad to acknowledge that Kennedy
20 Wilson will be working on the districts where I live.
21 Her presentation last week was great. I've been
22 consistently impressed with the Q2 --

23 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

24 MR. CANNON: -- team and I'm glad someone with her
25 talents will be drawing our seats. Thank you and best of



1 luck today.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, thank you, Mr. Cannon, for
3 your ongoing participation in and deeply, deeply
4 thoughtful input. We appreciate it. With that, I am
5 going to turn it over to Commissioner Sadhwani and
6 Andersen to kick off the morning session. Thank you.

7 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Great. Thank you. Well, I
8 think -- I know Commissioner Andersen's going to lead us
9 through the L.A. portion, so I'll just say a few words to
10 get us started. As we all know, just as a way of
11 recapping, we have been on quite a journey already for
12 the past year, starting off with our community outreach
13 and education phase, followed by a phase of collecting
14 communities of interest testimony, which has taken up the
15 entirety of the summer.

16 And I think we've been very thorough in our approach
17 across the state to gather as much information as
18 possible, not only in public sessions, but also through
19 the use of the COI tool that drawmycommunity.com or dot
20 org, I believe, mapping tool as well as in receipt of
21 numerous letters and emails and phone calls from
22 individuals across the state.

23 As Commissioner Fornaciari's -- Chair Fornaciari --
24 excuse me, laid out for us on Saturday, we are now
25 actively transitioning to the line drawing phase. And

1 today we begin that process by giving feedback and
2 direction to our line drawing team on all of the
3 communities of interest testimony that we've heard.

4 We, of course, don't have the official redistricting
5 database just yet. So we're giving this direction solely
6 based or predominantly in any case, based on the
7 testimony that we've received.

8 We have with us today our line drawing team of
9 HaystaqDNA and Q2. And so I want to welcome them as well
10 as several representatives from the Strumwasser/Woocher
11 team, along with our VRA expert David Becker. So welcome
12 to all of them. I see Megan Gall is -- our PV analyst is
13 here with us as well. So welcome to you all.

14 I'm going to -- we're going to start off this
15 morning with some general comments on how to give line
16 drawing direction. As you all recall, we had a
17 conversation on Saturday reviewing a document that was
18 prepared in terms of what the next steps of this line
19 drawing these will really look like.

20 So I'm going to turn first to Karin MacDonald and
21 her team at Q2 to lead us through that. After that,
22 we'll turn to David Becker for a reminder and a little
23 short training on the line drawn criteria that we need to
24 be following.

25 Karin?

1 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you so much, Commissioner,
2 Sadhwani. And good morning, Commissioners. Very excited
3 to be here. As Commissioner Sadhwani said, we will be
4 referring to the document that was shared with you last
5 Saturday and I'm going to summarize some of that right
6 now.

7 I just wanted to start off by saying how excited we
8 are to have reached this phase in the process where
9 you're actually able to look at the input that you've
10 received, along really with the other redistricting
11 criteria, and you can begin to give preliminary direction
12 that will allow your line drawing team to put some lines
13 on a map for you for consideration.

14 This is really a great moment, I think for all of
15 us. It's a new phase and it's just great. So before we
16 go into a little bit more detail, I just want to point
17 out that while Jaime and I were part of this specific
18 process ten years ago, this is a new experience for us as
19 it is for you, because we're not only doing this
20 virtually, which of course, didn't happen ten years ago,
21 but you're a new Commission.

22 We're all still learning to work collaboratively,
23 and I think the process will evolve, just like the input
24 process evolved as we all learned what your priorities
25 are and how you wanted information to be presented. And

1 so this is really exciting and I can't wait to see what
2 comes next.

3 So today, as I mentioned and as Commissioner
4 Sadhwani mentioned, is the first opportunity for you to
5 provide directions based on what you have heard and seen
6 so far prior to seeing any potential boundaries. We will
7 be focusing on the L.A. region today and then the other
8 regions on the 17th and the 18th of this week.

9 The directions you give today and during the other
10 meetings will be turned into what we call visualizations.
11 And so that is to distinguish from really district maps
12 or plans, as we call them later. And we will be able to
13 show you those during the meetings on October 4, 5, and
14 6.

15 Of course, in between today and October, the
16 official redistricting database for The State will be
17 released. And that means that the line drawing team can
18 use the population figures that will be released and then
19 implement the direction that you're giving today in
20 context of that.

21 Really quickly to talk about what preliminary
22 direction really means. Really the purpose of these
23 visualizations is really to map some preliminary -- just
24 some preliminary direction, and it's to show you some
25 potential options. These are not going to be statewide



1 plans. Again, these are regional plans. And they can
2 be -- there can be visualizations from multiple more
3 mutually exclusive scenarios. Preliminary direction
4 falls into like two broad roughly categories.

5 One is more general direction. So basically what is
6 on the statewide level even. What should the line draws
7 do? Which criteria -- how should they follow the
8 criteria when there is not specific direction from you.
9 This will this will happen inevitably that we will run
10 into a particular section and you haven't said anything.

11 And then in that case, what should we do? Should we
12 just stop the process -- end the process or should we go
13 on? And what is the general direction, for example,
14 should the line draws give way to submissions when
15 they're not in conflict with other direction? That will
16 be an example for general direction.

17 And the second is the regional feedback. And that's
18 of course, again, what we're going to be starting to
19 focus on today. And your entire team, including the VRA
20 attorneys, are here today to collaborate with you on that
21 piece. I think it's likely that we'll have three general
22 categories for regional direction, and those are, in a
23 nutshell, whenever possible, do X in this region, for
24 example, there is a specific city that should be kept
25 whole in a district with the caveat that as long as it

1 does not conflict with higher ranked criteria, then a
2 second broad bracket would be -- explore the possibility
3 and this is about your preferences.

4 And those could fall into a wide range of
5 categories. For example, you may want to see whether a
6 certain group of cities that people have mentioned to you
7 could be kept together in certain plans. And so the line
8 jurors could map that for you and then bring you back a
9 visualization that shows whether or not that is possible.

10 And that will then give you, again, an opportunity
11 to say, okay, we're seeing that this is not possible, and
12 then you can make a decision about how you want to deal
13 with that particular area. And then there's multiple
14 options which will come into play if the Commission has
15 heard conflicting testimony and of course, you have heard
16 that already about some sections where people are just
17 not quite in agreement.

18 And perhaps you would like a line drawing team to
19 explore what those options -- what that conflict would
20 look like mapped. So for example, some people in
21 Community A say we really want to be with Community B and
22 then some other people from Community B say, well, we
23 really want to be with Community C. So you may want to
24 direct us to give you both options in a visualization so
25 you can take a look at what that looks like on a map.



1 And finally, flexibility is a really good thing for
2 all of you and for us also. So if you don't have a
3 strong preference, you could say, you know, we don't
4 really have a strong preference, so please just figure
5 out what version would work best and then come back and
6 tell us what you find. And then we can walk you through
7 that with these visualizations and also moving forward.

8 Again, just to remind all of us, that direction
9 today is very preliminary. It's exploratory and it does
10 not represent final directions. So you know, we're
11 getting started. You don't need to reach consensus
12 today. This is, again, very preliminary. I'll keep that
13 in mind and it's just visualization. So these are not
14 draft maps or anything that goes toward final.

15 This is a first step, figuring out what have we
16 heard and what does that look like on a map when we put
17 things together. And you also don't need to necessarily
18 identify all the possibilities. There is literally
19 billions of possibilities and options to put a map
20 together for The State of California.

21 And so let's just start someplace and just give us
22 some direction that allows us to come back in October
23 with a reasonable number of visualizations that you can
24 then start working off of. As we start to go further
25 toward our goal to get a draft map out by whatever date,



1 we will have that draft map out.

2 So with that, I'm going to stop here and hand things
3 over to Mr. Becker, if that's okay. And I will be back
4 in a second. Thank you so much.

5 MR. BECKER: Thanks, Karin. Good to see you all.
6 Good to be with you again. And thanks. Also wanted to
7 say for being flexible with everyone's schedules. I know
8 getting everyone together for these important meetings
9 has been difficult and there are holidays and time
10 differences. And I'm just very, very appreciative of the
11 efforts everyone has made on that front.

12 I just want to reiterate what candidate Karin just
13 said. No one has ever drawn a perfect map the first time
14 at the very first moment. In fact, I don't know that
15 anyone's ever drawn a perfect map that pleased anyone --
16 everyone ever. So this is going to be an iterative
17 process. We've probably heard that for me quite a bit.

18 We're going to go through many, many steps, trial
19 and error, working through this process, which is a lot
20 more like art than science and trying to balance out the
21 variety of criteria that the Constitution requires you
22 all to balance out.

23 So with that, what I'm going to do if I can, I'm
24 going to share my screen and show -- hopefully this will
25 come up -- show a slide. This will be old news to all of



1 you. I just want to remind you all what the criteria are
2 as defined by the Constitution. And also get a little
3 bit into kind of how those criteria are prioritized,
4 because I know that's going to be really important to
5 you, is really the at the center of all of your work.

6 So this is -- by the way, this slide, I -- we've
7 shown -- I know there have been several slides and
8 sometimes we paraphrase these. I've actually tried to
9 use the exact language from the Constitution in these --
10 in this slide so everyone can see it. There some
11 language that I've edited out just for clarity.

12 The Constitution states, the Commission itself, to
13 abolish single member districts using the following
14 criteria as set forth in the following order of priority.
15 So the first priority, if I can get it -- there you go.
16 Districts shall comply with the U.S. Constitution.

17 Congressional Districts shall chief population
18 equality one -- hold on -- as nearly as is practicable
19 and Senatorial Assembly and State Board of Equalization
20 Districts shall have reasonably equal population with
21 other districts of the same office, except where
22 deviation is required to comply with the Federal Voting
23 Rights Act or allowable by law.

24 Now, we've gone into some detail on that before.
25 This is the first criteria and -- meaning it takes that



1 top priority population equality, getting specific means
2 in this case, what the law has said in the past is that
3 congressional districts should be as close to true
4 population equality as is reasonably practicable.

5 And then Legislative Districts like the Senate
6 Assembly, and State Board of Equalization, can contain a
7 reasonable amount of deviation to achieve other goals
8 that are required under the law. And generally, that
9 deviation has meant plus or minus five percent in total
10 population. That has usually been a safe harbor.

11 The second priority is districts shall comply with
12 the Federal Voting Rights Act. We've discussed this at
13 length. I know, and I won't go into too much detail
14 about this. But specifically, are there areas in which
15 minority voters are large enough to form a majority of a
16 district and are cohesive enough in their voting patterns
17 to prefer particular candidates?

18 And those candidates might be defeated by other
19 voters who also vote cohesively. That's the kind of
20 thing we're looking at and as well as some issues -- some
21 items related to the totality of the circumstances
22 related to history of discrimination, things of that
23 sort.

24 Third is the District shall be geographically
25 contiguous. The fourth priority, and this is obviously a

1 very important one and one we're going to be focused on
2 quite a bit today is the geographic integrity of any
3 city, county, city and county, local neighborhood or
4 local community of interest shall be respected in a
5 manner that minimizes their division to the extent
6 possible without violating the requirements of any of the
7 preceding subdivisions.

8 So this is fourth. This comes after the necessity
9 of equal population compliance of the Federal Voting
10 Rights Act and contiguity. And it's really important to
11 note that these cities, counties -- cities and counties,
12 neighborhoods, and local communities of interest, there
13 is no priority given by the Constitution among these
14 things. And this is why your work is going to be so
15 important.

16 It really is going to require you all, in your
17 judgment, as the Commissioners here, to balance all of
18 these out. There is no set priority among these. This
19 is going to be up to your judgment as you consider all of
20 the facts and data and evidence before you. Fifth is, to
21 the extent practicable, where this does not conflict with
22 the criteria above, districts shall be drawn to encourage
23 geographical compactness. Compactness comes after the
24 previous four in terms of a priority.

25 And then last is the nesting attempt, which is to

1 the extent practicable, where this does not conflict with
2 the criteria above, each Senate District shall be
3 comprised of two or more complete and adjacent Assembly
4 Districts, and each Board of Equalization District shall
5 be comprised of ten or more complete and adjacent Senate
6 Districts. Whether this is possible or not, given that
7 the priority of the other five factors is something that
8 we'll be looking at as we look at the data and the input.

9 I will say -- let me just stop sharing my screen
10 really quickly. I will say very briefly, one of the
11 things -- just because there's a priority list like this
12 doesn't mean you start with number 1, complete that, and
13 then go to number 2, complete that, and then go to number
14 3. That's not how this works. It can't possibly work
15 this way.

16 Your job is hard and we're going to try to help you
17 as much as we possibly can, because you're going to be
18 constantly balancing all of these factors. So as we're
19 looking through some of these visualizations, what you'll
20 be doing is having to juggle all six of these balls in
21 various ways.

22 And even within, for instance, the fourth criteria,
23 there might be areas where cities, counties, communities
24 of interest might -- there might be tension among them.
25 And you may need to make some judgments with regard to

1 that, where the Constitution doesn't tell you, for
2 instance, that a county takes precedence over a city,
3 takes precedence over a community of interest.

4 I want to be clear, that is not what the
5 Constitution says. It allows you to consider how all of
6 those things interact, particularly when you're also
7 considering the three factors above that -- that factor
8 four, and then also compactness, which is immediately
9 below it, but is below it in terms of consideration.

10 So I think the main thing I'd want you to take away,
11 because I know you know these criteria very well, is
12 don't force yourselves into a box too early, allow the
13 flexibility that the criteria give you to consider a
14 variety of visualizations and you're going to get a
15 variety of input.

16 I know you're already really familiar with the
17 community of input -- community of interest input you've
18 had. We're going to be getting very, very shortly, some
19 of the actual population data, which is also going to
20 enter into the considerations.

21 So take some of the pressure off to allow yourselves
22 to really consider all of this data and then also allow
23 yourself to balance out the various criteria as they are.
24 We'll get into a lot more specifics about the Voting
25 Rights Act factor, particularly on a lot of these issues

1 and how that interrelates with communities of interest
2 and also population issues.

3 But this is going to be an iterative process. Don't
4 put too much pressure on yourself to get it right the
5 first time. With that, I think I'm ready to hand it over
6 to Jaime if you're ready to start actually looking at
7 some input and data and maps, correct?

8 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: It looks like before we do
9 that, it looks like there's a -- Commissioner Sinay, at a
10 minimum, has a question or if there's any other questions
11 or comments from Commissioners.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner
13 Sadhwani. And yes, of course, I've got a question. Is
14 this the opportunity also to just highlight areas that we
15 heard could potentially be VRA analyzed? However, the
16 right wording is about VRA because there were times that
17 we thought communities called us or they mentioned that
18 they might have not known the wording, that they were
19 basically talking about VRA criteria. Does this one --
20 we should just highlight that piece as well?

21 MR. BECKER: I think we're going to get into -- and
22 Karin and Jaime, feel free to chime in here. I think
23 we're going to get into looking at specific areas of
24 California and where those -- and where we've had input
25 also that that might relate to that issue, Commissioner

1 Sinay. And so let's -- I think we want to I think we'll
2 do that first and then that will enable you to
3 specifically point out areas that you're familiar with or
4 you want -- you might need some advice on with regard to
5 the Voting Rights Act criteria in particular.

6 And I also want to be -- just to let you know kind
7 of where we are at the Voting Rights Act data and
8 criteria. We have citizen voting age population, which
9 is incredibly important for voting rights, that criteria.
10 It largely governs what is called the first Gingles
11 precondition, which is a particular distinct minority
12 group, large enough and geographically compact enough to
13 form a majority in a district.

14 We have a pretty good sense of some of that. We're
15 going to see some data that relates to that, not
16 necessarily to say this definitely complies with Gingles
17 precondition 1, or it definitely doesn't, but there are
18 going to be areas that certainly we're going to want to
19 pay attention to and we can start flagging as potential
20 areas.

21 And then the second two relate to -- preconditions
22 of -- in the Thornburg vs. Gingles are -- relate to
23 racially polarized voting. Does the racial minority vote
24 cohesively? Do others vote cohesively in opposition to
25 the candidates of preference of the racial minority? And

1 we're even going to have some very, very preliminary kind
2 of indications of how we'll look at that, but not any
3 conclusions, if that makes sense.

4 Megan, does that -- just not if I didn't -- I
5 hopefully, again, didn't write any checks with my mouth
6 that you can't cash. So I think that's how we're going
7 to start going through it and it would be extremely
8 helpful to get direction from you all as to particular
9 areas that you have received input or have thoughts about
10 with regard to the Voting Rights Act, but also any of the
11 other criteria. That's really the whole purpose of this.

12 So feel free to bring that up. But I think the
13 point to do it is when we're starting to look at maps
14 that might touch on those areas. Is that most helpful to
15 you, Karin and Jaime? Okay.

16 MS. MACDONALD: Yes. Thank you.

17 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Great. I think that was a
18 really helpful response. Any other final questions
19 before we get started? All right. So I believe before
20 Jaime and Karin, that you jump in, I think Commissioner
21 Andersen and Commissioner Ahmad, we're going to share a
22 little bit about some of the testimony that they have
23 received and reviewed from Los Angeles.

24 MS. MACDONALD: I think we were going -- oh, I'm
25 sorry, Commissioner Sadhwani.

1 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: No, go ahead, please.

2 MS. MACDONALD: I know there have been a few little
3 agendas -- different agendas floating around. So I
4 apologize. I think what we -- we're hoping to do is to
5 have Jaime put up actually, which lends itself perfectly
6 to Commissioner Sinay's question, to have Jaime put up a
7 map with citizen voting age population for the region.
8 And then David can provide some feedback and some detail
9 about that.

10 So this is all about getting us all onto the same --
11 onto the same level of communication. And then Megan can
12 talk about the work that she has been able to do so far.
13 And then that would pretty much conclude our "Little
14 training phase this morning". And then we can talk about
15 the actual input and so forth. So if that's all right.

16 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Absolutely. Perfect. Thank
17 you.

18 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you. Thank you so much.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, that was -- I think
20 that is the plan for this morning. So thank you very
21 much, Karin.

22 MR. BECKER: Yeah. And the whole point of this
23 portion, I think, is just to provide some framing for how
24 we're going to be discussing this and not to lock you
25 into anything, but to kind of hopefully provide some

1 direction so we can approach this in an organized way
2 that hopefully works for all of you.

3 Jaime, if you want, I think you could probably start
4 sharing. What you're going to see is I think we're going
5 to -- we're going to just for purposes of framing and
6 discussion, we're going to zoom in on some areas that
7 get -- to show you kind of how this might be approached
8 and then allow you to kind of direct us.

9 So first of all, what you're looking at as you can
10 probably tell this is a very well, nicely labeled map.
11 This is -- and Jaime, correct me if I if I get any of
12 this wrong, I hope this is primarily a map of Los Angeles
13 County and some of the surrounding counties, and the
14 shaded areas and boundaries are of local cities within
15 each of these within each of these counties.

16 Just to give you an idea where -- there's so many
17 possible ways to overlay data on these maps, we're trying
18 to give you some clean maps just to start with. And then
19 as we zoom in, we're probably get more granular with the
20 data. You'll be able to see a little bit more.

21 But of course, once we get to the actual line
22 drawing, Karin and Jaime, correct me if I'm wrong, we're
23 going to we're going to be able to be responsive -- the
24 line drawers will be able to be responsive to you with
25 regard to the mapping. And if you have specific

1 questions, these are just some -- these are just some
2 ways of looking at the maps right now.

3 Jaime, did you have anything else you wanted to add
4 about this map?

5 MS. CLARK: No, nothing else to add about this map.
6 And thank you, David. So again, this -- the dark red
7 lines that I'm sort of showing with the hand are the
8 county boundaries. The smaller areas that are shaded in
9 different colors are cities in Los Angeles County.

10 And then the like the empty looking places are
11 unincorporated areas. Some of these little layers where
12 there might be green, et cetera are like -- are what's
13 called landmark areas, and they might be like a specific
14 delineation of a desert or forest or an open space, et
15 cetera.

16 And I'm going to go through and show of I can start
17 with this view and just sort of show county-wide, the
18 visualization or I should say a way to visualize the
19 citizen voting age population data on the census block
20 level. And then we can zoom into perhaps more
21 concentrated areas based on the populations that we're
22 looking at. And I can sort of show like, okay, if it --
23 if it's just sort of show the differences between how
24 it's shaded and what that means in terms of the data
25 itself.

1 And throughout this process will be using the same,
2 color scheme for the different populations. So that will
3 be true, like whether I'm showing it or whether Kennedy
4 is showing it, anybody on our team. It will always be
5 the same -- it'll always be the same data represented
6 with the same color scheme just to avoid any confusion.

7 And also a quick note before I turn them on is that
8 through this program, our mapping software, we can show
9 one population group at a time. Unfortunately, we can't
10 show -- here's the red one, which is Latino and here's
11 the blue one, which is Asian at the same time. So just
12 noting that we can show one at a time and not multiples
13 at a time with the same -- in the same player. So
14 with -- oh, I see a question from Commissioner Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I was curious. How are
16 we looking at mixed race? And I know with the new
17 census, we can actually go more into detail and know what
18 the mixed race is. Is it black and other, is it Latino
19 and other? How are we taking that into account when
20 we're looking at VRA and the voters?

21 MS. CLARK: I will let David answer that question.

22 MR. BECKER: Okay. So first of all, I want to say a
23 couple of things. You'll hear a lot -- a lot of times
24 we'll use the term CVAP. I think I described it once
25 before, CVAP means citizen voting age population. That

1 number comes from a five-year average of estimates ending
2 I think in 2019 was the most recent; is that right?

3 Okay. So and so and that goes down to the block
4 level, which is the smallest level of census geography.
5 So it gives you a really robust granular level data on
6 people, on the demographics of citizens who are 18 and
7 over, if that makes sense. So we will get race data,
8 black, white, Asian.

9 We will also get Hispanic or not Hispanic, which is
10 ethnic data, and we can use that data to determine --
11 that will come in particularly handy on the Voting Rights
12 Act analysis, but also could be relevant to things like
13 communities of interest. So I wanted to say that.

14 Now, since 2000, the census has allowed people to
15 indicate multiple races on their census forms, so someone
16 can indicate that they were both black and Asian, for
17 instance. And the way the Justice Department guidance
18 indicates that data should be used is that they are -- if
19 someone is marked down as a minority group and white, if
20 they have self-selected as, for instance, let's say black
21 and white, they are counted once as a member of the
22 minority group only.

23 Again, I'm hoping Karin and Jaime or check me if I
24 get any of this stuff wrong. If someone marks themselves
25 down as multiple minority groups, perhaps. So for

1 instance, black and Asian, they would be marked down
2 under both. They would be considered both black and
3 Asian for purposes of this. So if we looked at Asian
4 data, we would -- they would be reflected. If we're
5 looking at black data, they would also be reflected.

6 And then finally, since Hispanic is a totally
7 separate category that's either Hispanic or Non-Hispanic.
8 So someone could be even multiple races and Hispanic, and
9 so someone could be black, Asian, and Hispanic, and in
10 which case they would be marked down as each of those
11 things for purposes of the census estimates.

12 Does anyone have any correction or added anything to
13 add to that? Do I have that right? I believe I do.
14 Okay. So does that answer the question?

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. In case you can't see my
16 head nod. Sorry.

17 MR. BECKER: Okay. I couldn't hear.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just realized that the screen
19 is small, so. Yes. Thank you so much.

20 MR. BECKER: Yeah. And I'll also add in the past,
21 the percentages of people who had multiple race answers
22 has not been particularly large. I've seen indication
23 this is probably the largest group of multiple race
24 respondents that we've ever seen. It's something we
25 should be attentive to. It's one of -- I'll just say, as

1 someone who's litigated these cases in the past, it's
2 where people might self-identify in the census as more
3 than one race.

4 They are often -- they often have an identity that
5 predominates. But we, of course, don't have that data.
6 That's what we're going to have to rely upon the census
7 data for that. So but the -- but that's how the Justice
8 Department looks at it. That's how we advise that you
9 look at it as well because that's how the census -- the
10 data is going to be available.

11 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: That's great. Thank you so
12 much. I know that's been a question that's arisen in the
13 past as well.

14 I think, Jaime, should we --

15 MS. CLARK: Yeah. So with that, I am going to turn
16 on the census block layer. These are the 2020 census
17 blocks. And the color fill that's on here right now
18 represents Latino citizen voting age population. I'm
19 going to turn off the city weigher so that we can just
20 get a better idea because there's -- even just with these
21 two layers, there's a lot of data on the map right now.

22 So turning off these -- turning off these layers,
23 this is what the citizen voting age population
24 distribution looks like in Los Angeles County. I'm going
25 to turn back on the city and county layer and then zoom

1 into one area so we can see -- better understand the
2 difference between what the different color fill means on
3 the census box. So one moment, please.

4 And I will turn off the neighborhood council layer.
5 I'm going to turn back on the city layer. So this is the
6 city -- the boundaries of The City of Los Angeles. This
7 is Florence, says Florence Graham on the map. Lots of
8 members of the public have reported this as Florence-
9 Firestone.

10 Here where they are -- I guess it's a magnifying
11 glass, not a hand right now is waving is Inglewood,
12 Southgate, Huntington Park, Vernon, City of East Los
13 Angeles. And I'm going to again turn off the city layer
14 so we can really see the difference between the color
15 fill and on the census block layer.

16 So the whitest color here is zero to thirty percent
17 Latino citizen voting age population. This might be zero
18 population block or it might be a block where there is
19 just very -- where the percentage of citizen voting age
20 population is between zero and thirty percent.

21 And then this sort of cream -- buttercream yellow
22 color here is -- let's see is thirty to forty percent
23 Latino citizen voting age population. And I'm going to
24 Zoom in a little bit more. You can see how itty bitty
25 these census blocks are. The lightest orange color just

1 right here, this represents forty to fifty percent Latino
2 citizen voting age population.

3 The darker orange color is forty -- or excuse me,
4 fifty to eighty percent Latino citizen voting age
5 population. And the darkest red color is eighty to 100
6 percent Latino citizen voting age population. So you can
7 see here we have the citizen voting age population broken
8 down to the census block level. And we can get that
9 granular level of detail on each and every census block
10 throughout The State of California. I'm going to turn
11 off the --

12 MR. BECKER: Jaime, can I chime in for just a --
13 real quick and keep it on this map? So I want to mention
14 real quick, because I think we've talked about this
15 before. So these are percentages of Latino population,
16 but block size -- the number of people in each block is
17 not standardized.

18 It is all over the place. It goes from a very
19 small, maybe a handful of people in areas that are not
20 very populated to a couple of hundred people in a place
21 where there's a lot of concentrated population. So all,
22 for instance, of the darkest orange/red, that doesn't
23 mean the same number of people or the same number of
24 people who identify as Hispanic live in those blocks,
25 especially, this will come in once we're looking at less

1 populated areas, particularly more on the eastern part of
2 the state, you'll see that these blocks look very large
3 because they're trying to get a few people compared to
4 some of these blocks in Los Angeles, might be literally a
5 block or smaller in the city. And that's something to
6 keep in mind.

7 I also want to address one point because I've got a
8 couple of questions on it. People have asked me if
9 people who are -- who classify themselves as multiple
10 race are counted twice in effect. And I want to do my
11 best to try to explain this. They're not actually
12 counted twice for population purposes, they're only
13 counted as a single person.

14 So if we're equal population, a person who
15 identifies as black and Asian, they will only be counted
16 once for equal population purposes. But when we're
17 considering, for instance, citizen voting age population
18 for purposes of Voting Rights Act compliance, we might
19 look at overall population.

20 And if there is a significant percentage of people
21 who identify as both black and Asian and that number of
22 people when added to the people as identified as black
23 alone, could comprise a district that would be a majority
24 black district, they would be counted as black for that
25 purpose, if that makes sense.

1 They're not actually counted twice, but their
2 identity as either black or Asian or whatever multiple
3 races they choose would be considered in the Voting
4 Rights Act analysis for each race. And I hope that makes
5 sense. I know it's not as straightforward as we'd like
6 it to be. And it's a fairly recent -- this has literally
7 only been something we've needed to deal with for 20
8 years. So it's only been around that 20 years that the
9 census has allowed individuals to self-identify as
10 multiple races.

11 MS. CLARK: Thank you for those clarifications. I
12 am going to again turn off the block layer because
13 it's -- there's so many blocks that will really slow down
14 the map. I'll turn off the block layer, zoom back out to
15 the full county view, and then display the Asian CVAP.
16 So one moment, please, while I move the map.

17 And I'm going to turn on the cities and towns one
18 more time so that we can have a little bit more
19 information about what we're looking at. When I turn the
20 census block layer on, it's going to have with the
21 citizen voting age population have to do some stuff in
22 the background. Some boxes will probably pop up on the
23 screen. So thank you all for your patience as I do that?

24 All right. And I'm turning on the percent Asian
25 citizen voting age population color fill. More boxes.



1 Okay. And I'm going to -- now the percent Asian citizen
2 voting age population on the census block level is
3 displayed on the map. I'm going to again turn off the
4 city layer so we can get a better sense of where these
5 populations are. And I will zoom into an area on the map
6 so we can take a closer look at what the differences are
7 in the color fill. One moment.

8 Okay. I'm going to turn on the city layer one more
9 time. This is around Pasadena, South Pasadena, Arcadia,
10 San Marino, East San Gabriel, Gabriel, Alhambra, Temple
11 City, and Rosemead. And one more time I'm going to turn
12 off the city layer so that we can really understand
13 exactly what the different -- what the different colors
14 mean on the map. So one moment.

15 And again, it kind of follows this -- it follows the
16 same percent break down. So the very lightest color is
17 going to be zero to thirty percent. The next lightest,
18 which I think would be right here. It's a little -- I'm
19 not sure how easy it is for you to see on how the
20 projection turned out over zoom. My apologies for that.
21 I can change the opacity on this to make it a little bit
22 more clear if needed. Please let me know. And that
23 would be thirty to forty percent.

24 The next lightest color, which I'm going to zoom in
25 a little closer, would be this one, is forty to fifty

1 percent. The next darkest one would be this color. It's
2 fifty to eighty percent and the darkest is 80 to 100
3 percent. And again, this is percent Asian citizen voting
4 age population. So I'll zoom out.

5 MR. BECKER: Yeah, I was -- can you just zoom in a
6 bit because I want to -- like, not too much. Just a
7 little bit. So I just want to note, I'm not -- we're not
8 talking about any conclusions or anything right now.
9 This is all just very preliminary. But if you look at
10 this, this is a really nice -- actually, can you take the
11 city layers off again? Thank you.

12 This is a really nice area that would -- we would
13 want to look at more closely. Right. We don't know what
14 the total population is in this area. That's not
15 overlaid here. But we have is clearly, Asian citizens
16 who are concentrated within an area we know this is also
17 I think many of you know, this area. This area is --
18 there's concentrated population generally. This is this
19 is a city area.

20 So this is this -- is an area we'd want to look
21 really closely at and say, you know, ah, what is the
22 overall population of the area generally? What is the
23 overall population of this community? And then this
24 would be an area -- and we have not done this yet, but
25 we're going to be able to do this, if we decide that this

1 is an area that likely might satisfy the first Gingle's
2 precondition -- and by the way, I want you to also -- I
3 want to be clear, I'm not saying that yet.

4 We don't know for sure. But if it does, then we'd
5 want to look at voting patterns and see if the second and
6 third Gingles preconditions are met. But this one is a
7 particularly nice area to visualize. And I'm glad Jaime
8 showed it to you because it's just so easy to see where
9 the concentration of population is and in the surrounding
10 areas -- how it peters out in the surrounding areas where
11 you don't have concentrations of the Asian population in
12 the surrounding area.

13 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Mr. Becker, I'm seeing a
14 number of hands raised with questions. Are you
15 comfortable to take those at this time?

16 MR. BECKER: Sure.

17 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Great.

18 MR. BECKER: That's why I'm here.

19 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Let's start with Commissioner
20 Ackerman.

21 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you. Just a quick
22 question about the data being presented between the Asian
23 population in the first map with the Latino population.
24 Did I hear it correctly that the scales are different?
25 So the first -- for the Latino population, it was the

1 lightest color on the map was zero to twenty percent.

2 And then for the Asians, zero to eighteen percent. Or am

3 I -- did I mishear something?

4 MS. CLARK: So for all of them, the lightest color
5 will be zero to thirty percent.

6 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Got it. Thank you.

7 MS. CLARK: Yeah. And so the break down just one
8 more time is zero to thirty percent, thirty to forty
9 percent, forty to fifty percent, fifty to eighty percent.
10 And then eighty to 100 percent. I'm happy to repeat that
11 again as many times as is helpful.

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you. That clarified it.

13 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Commissioner Turner?

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. Thank you. I'm JUST
15 wondering, curious, are you able to display -- for any of
16 the various categories, are you able to display if we
17 wanted to see Asian citizens forty percent and below,
18 could you just show that on the map as opposed to all of
19 the categories? Is that an option? If we wanted to just
20 see --

21 MS. CLARK: Yes, absolutely. I can customize the
22 breakdown to show -- yeah, the answer is yes.

23 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

24 MS. CLARK: And that's something I would definitely
25 need a little bit of time to be able to ask the software

1 to do. And it's certainly possible. Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

3 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Sorry. Commissioner Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER SIMAY: Sorry for all the questions,
5 but where are Middle Eastern communities coming up?

6 Because we brought it -- I don't have -- how do we now
7 have enough information so that we -- they have their own
8 color blocks?

9 And then, second, if we wanted to see the nuances
10 among the Asian communities, because not all Asian --
11 saying Asian is just so broad. So if we wanted to see
12 just the Southeast Asians or the Chinese community, is
13 that possible or are we supposed to be looking at all of
14 this as one block?

15 MS. MACDONALD: I'm happy to answer that, Jaime, if
16 that's -- yeah. So the citizen voting age population
17 comes from the American Community Survey, and it's rather
18 limited in what it allows us to do. We will send out --
19 we can send out the variables that are in -- that are
20 part of the citizen voting age population.

21 But just as a shortcut, there was a lot of
22 discussion over the last ten years in -- at census about
23 the Middle Eastern category that you're talking about.
24 And they decided not to actually offer that as a -- as an
25 option. So hopefully that will be available next time.

1 And there's a whole story behind that.

2 I know you've talked about having Ditas back. She
3 can probably talk about that because she was actually on
4 that advisory board that made that decision. And I think
5 they did recommend it for inclusion, but were turned down
6 by the Census Bureau. So I will send out the variables
7 that are available.

8 In a short answer, the subgroups are not available
9 as part of the citizen voting age population. So we have
10 to bring those in separately. And of course, that's also
11 why you've been constructing an additional dataset, even
12 though not everybody may be thinking of it as an
13 additional dataset, which is you've been talking to The
14 State of California.

15 So we're filling in these blanks and these gaps, and
16 we're relying on everybody to help us with that, because
17 the census and the American Community Survey are really
18 limited in some respects. So thank you for that
19 question, Commissioner Sinay.

20 MR. BECKER: Yeah. Commissioner Sinay, I'd just add
21 really quickly also for Voting Rights Act issues, it's
22 really good that you're considering that because this
23 this goes directly towards cohesion of a minority group.
24 And it's quite right that particularly within Asian
25 communities, it would we should make assumptions about

1 all Asian communities being monolithic and choosing the
2 same candidates and preferring the same candidates.

3 That might be true in a lot of cases. It might also
4 not be true in other cases. And so we will look at
5 the -- in addition to the census data, we'll be looking
6 at the voting patterns in these communities to see if we
7 see the kind of levels of cohesion across Asian
8 populations, regardless of the subdivisions.

9 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: All right. And I think I know
10 someone who might have some data on that.

11 Commissioner Yee?

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. I have a VRA
13 question. So for Gingles 1 and 2, you're looking at a
14 minority population and let's say you're looking for an
15 assembly -- a potential VRA Assembly District. And you
16 have an actual number in mind for what constitutes the
17 majority fifty, maybe fifty, fifty-five percent of a
18 district size population -- compact population. So
19 that's a pretty clear target.

20 For Gingles 3, what's the geography for the majority
21 opposing since that would not be the majority of an
22 actual VRA district --

23 MR. BECKER: Yeah.

24 COMMISSIONER YEE: -- if it's drawn right.

25 MR. BECKER: Yeah, this is a really good question

1 and gets into the mechanism of how we look at these
2 things. So for establishing what Justin calls
3 liability -- what Justin Levitt calls liability under
4 section 2, the Gingles preconditions govern. And that
5 really says is there -- do you have sufficient citizen
6 voting age population to form majority in a district?

7 So for instance, we're looking at this area right
8 now and we're talking about the assembly and the assembly
9 districts are going to be, if memory serves, somewhere
10 between 450 and 500,000 people each. Do we have citizen
11 voting age population to be roughly half of that or a
12 little more? And we'll have to answer that question.

13 And then when we're looking at the second and third
14 Gingles preconditions, we are -- that is data that we're
15 looking at retrospectively because we only have data from
16 past elections, of course. And so retrospectively, that
17 data is going to be limited to the political geography
18 that existed at the time. We're going to show you this
19 in a second.

20 But so for instance, if we're drawing an assembly
21 district, we might want to look at the Assembly Districts
22 in this area. And we're only going to have data from
23 those districts in this area. We're going to but we're
24 going to get down to the precinct level and identify
25 precincts that have population -- that have different

1 populations and precincts that, for instance, are heavily
2 Asian, might perform differently in this area than
3 precincts that are heavily white.

4 And so we're going to look at that. It's really
5 going to be limited to the preexisting political
6 geography. But then that's the liability phase. Then we
7 get to the point where we're what Justin Levitt calls the
8 remedy phase, which is what kind of district are we
9 redrawing.

10 And then we're no longer limited to this fifth --
11 artificial fifty percent number. It might be that forty
12 percent is sufficient to draw a district. It might even
13 be that forty -- over forty percent might be considered
14 packing because we're actually limiting minority voting
15 influence in some ways.

16 So that's when you're no longer limited to the
17 existing lines. You can draw the lines as the data
18 suggests. So if it turns out that as we look at the
19 racially polarized voting patterns, that there is
20 racially polarized voting, that Asians, for instance, in
21 this area, just as an example, are cohesive, that non-
22 Asians tend to vote against the Asian candidate of
23 choice. But there's enough crossover voting amongst
24 those non-Asians that they -- the Asian candidate of
25 choice can generally get ten to fifteen percent of the

1 non-Asian vote, it may be that's roughly forty percent of
2 a district would be sufficient to enable them to elect
3 the candidates of their preference.

4 So those are the -- and those are very fact
5 intensive inquiries that we're going to -- once we get
6 more data, we're going to be able to help advise you on.
7 And I hope that answers your question, Commissioner Yee,
8 because I think it's -- it does get tricky because we're
9 talking about using census geography from for both total
10 population and CVAP that come from different Census
11 reports.

12 We then talk about using election data that uses
13 existing political geography. In other words, what
14 Assembly Districts were drawn here and how does how did
15 those elections play out? And then ultimately, when
16 you're drawing the districts, that will just advise you
17 on how to draw the lines. And you have a lot more
18 flexibility in how to draw the lines at that point based
19 on what you're seeing from the existing data.

20 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

21 MS. CLARK: I'm going to remove the color fill on
22 this, zoom out to county wide view, and then display the
23 percent black citizen voting age population. One moment,
24 please. And again adding the city layer. Okay. So now
25 the percent black citizen voting age population color

1 fill is on the census block layer.

2 I'm going to turn off the city and town layer so
3 that we can get a sense of sort of a county wide
4 distribution. And I'm going to zoom in again to an area
5 so we can get a better sense of what the -- like, what
6 the breakdown is, what the different -- what the
7 different percent black citizen voting age population
8 breakdowns look like on the census block.

9 Okay. So again, the lightest color is zero to
10 thirty percent. Oh, and I'm going to actually -- really
11 quick, I apologize. I'm going to turn on the city and
12 town layer so we can see where we're looking at. And
13 then again, do the -- show the different breakdowns.

14 So this here is City of Los Angeles. This is the
15 ten freeway. And where I'm running the magnifying glass
16 now is the 110. City of Los Angeles, this is View Park,
17 and I'll move the map down a little bit just to give us a
18 little bit more reference. Here is the northern part of
19 Inglewood. I'm going to take the city and town layer off
20 one more time.

21 So the very lightest color is zero to thirty percent
22 black citizen voting age population. And then the next
23 lightest green -- or next darkest green, please excuse
24 me, is -- let me see if I can. So it's probably really
25 hard to see. I'm waving the hand right here. I'm not

1 sure how well that's coming through on zoom.

2 And again, I can change the opacity if it's very
3 difficult to see. That would be thirty to forty percent
4 black citizen voting age population. I'm going to zoom
5 in a little bit here. The middle most green color is
6 forty to fifty percent black citizen voting age
7 population. Second to darkest green is fifty to eighty
8 percent black citizen voting age population, and the
9 darkest green color is eighty to 100 percent citizen --
10 black citizen voting age population.

11 And I'm going to turn on the city layer one more
12 time so we can get another look at that. So this is a
13 citizen -- again, sort of an overview of the level of
14 detail that we can get into with the citizen voting age
15 population on the block level. And we can display that
16 throughout The State of California.

17 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Jaime, it looks like
18 Commissioner Turner has a question.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I do. Thank you. And thank
20 you, Jaime. I love seeing this. This is exciting. I
21 wanted to just name, though, for all of the different
22 categories, that thirty to forty percent, that is
23 difficult to see on zoom.

24 MS. CLARK: Yeah. Thank you for that feedback. And
25 we can adjust the opacity to make it more clear.



1 Additionally, if there is feedback on what you would like
2 the -- what you would like to be represented in the
3 different fills, what the percent breakdown would be, we
4 can absolutely accommodate that and adjust the percentage
5 breakdowns. I would request that there's one breakdown
6 at fifty percent just for when we're mapping in the
7 future. That would be fantastic for us.

8 MS. MACDONALD: So I think with that, I think this
9 conversation goes back to maybe David, but then Megan, if
10 that's possible.

11 MR. BECKER: Yeah, I think I think we were going to
12 Zoom in on -- Jaime, are we ready to zoom in on the
13 Assembly District we discussed?

14 MS. CLARK: Yes. One moment, please. And I'm going
15 to keep this color fill on. Again, it's the percent
16 black citizen voting age population. And I'm going to
17 turn on the current Assembly District lines.

18 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: And while you do that, you may
19 just want to offer a little reminder that we do have a
20 mandatory break at 11 a.m.

21 MS. CLARK: I'm looking at the current Assembly
22 District 64. The Assembly District lines are the blue
23 dotted lines. And what's included in this District is
24 Carson -- it follows, I believe that this -- where I'm
25 running the hand right now is Vermont -- Vermont Ave.

1 But it's a little bit west of the 110. It includes
2 Willowbrook, Compton, West Rancho Dominguez, City of
3 Carson, a little bit of Long Beach right here. And I'll
4 turn on the neighborhood council layer as well. North
5 here is Watts area. This is Watts.

6 MR. BECKER: Maybe just to clean it up, Jaime, could
7 you turn off the city layer just for a second? Oh,
8 that's -- yeah, hopefully that's helpful to everyone. We
9 can turn that back on any time anyone wants to see. We
10 were all talking about this. We thought this is a really
11 good district to look at for illustration right now.

12 This is one of the districts with the largest black
13 percentage under the current map. And you can see why.
14 There's high concentrations of black citizens in
15 particularly the northern half of this District. And
16 obviously, this is an area where that -- we'd probably
17 advise we take a closer look out for Voting Rights Act
18 considerations.

19 Again, not reaching any conclusions yet but with
20 that in mind, one of the other things we wanted to do is
21 illustrate for you just very preliminarily how we will be
22 able to provide you some guidance on whether we're seeing
23 racially polarized voting patterns consistent with the
24 Gingles, pre-conditions.

25 And Megan, we're very lucky to have Megan -- we're

1 very lucky to have Megan Gall with us today as well.
2 She's been working with us very closely since we brought
3 her on board. And Megan, are you -- can you can you
4 maybe just give a very, very brief indication of what we
5 might be able to look at in a district like this?

6 MS. GALL: Sure. So we have looked at some
7 preliminary analyzes. And again, what the RPV is getting
8 at is Gingles 2 and 3, which is -- is the minority group
9 politically cohesive and does the majority vote as a
10 block that can defeat them -- that usually defeat them?
11 Those are the two things that we're really thinking
12 about.

13 For this particular Assembly District, 2020 had two
14 Democrats on the ticket. One was Mike Gipson. He was
15 the incumbent, and he beat his challenger by about twenty
16 points. Gipson is an African-American. He was
17 originally elected to his seat in 2014. His 2020
18 contender was Fatima Iqbal-Zubair. She is also a
19 Democrat.

20 Actually, the only Democrat that's run in this
21 District in the last ten years was Theresa Stanford in
22 '16 and '18. So it's heavily Democratic candidates.
23 Iqbal-Zubair is an immigrant from the United Arab
24 Emirates. She did better in the general than in the
25 primary. And I have done a preliminary look at this

1 election. It looks so far like we do have some clear
2 preferences among the African American voters for
3 candidate Gipson who, like I said, was the incumbent.

4 Latino voters also appeared to have a preference for
5 Gipson. But they were not quite as cohesive as black
6 voters. And again, this is very preliminary. And just
7 sort of a quick look at what this District might be
8 telling us.

9 And as we move back in time in Assembly District 64,
10 as I mentioned, we have one Republican candidate. And
11 then when we go back to 2014, 2012, it is a full slate of
12 minority and Democratic candidates. So that is what we
13 will be looking at for the RPV analyses for this
14 particular Assembly District.

15 MR. BECKER: Yeah, that's great. So that's just an
16 indication we'll be able to go into much more depth,
17 obviously, as we get direction from you as to areas where
18 we want to dive deeper into Voting Rights Act analysis.

19 I'll also say one of the things I think I've said
20 this before, I just want to note, it isn't always the
21 case that minority candidates are the preferred candidate
22 of the minority voters who are selecting them. The
23 Voting Rights Act focuses on the voters, not the
24 candidates. So it is possible for a -- someone who is
25 not a member of a particular minority group to be a

1 preferred candidate. But the election results will show
2 us this. And I should also say that that's also not
3 common.

4 It is most common for minority voters to select
5 candidates of the same minority group. But it's not it's
6 not exclusively so. So the election results that Megan
7 reviews will give us an indication of that.

8 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Okay. I see a question from
9 Commissioner Kennedy.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner
11 Sadhwani.

12 Megan, is it part of what you're doing or are you
13 able to back out, as it were, the effects of incumbency?
14 I mean, we have as political scientists, we have a
15 general sense of incumbency having a certain impact on
16 races. And I'm thinking that for me to really see as
17 much value as I'd like to see in the analysis, I'd really
18 like to see some effort to remove the effect of
19 incumbency from the equation. Thank you.

20 MS. CLARK: Incumbency is not something that we can
21 remove from the effects of the EI and RPV analyses. I
22 think the -- it's a qualitative thing to think about.
23 One of the things that we can also look at if we have
24 results that are not clear, we can go back to when the
25 incumbent was first on the ticket. For Gipson, what did

1 I say, it was 2016 or '14?

2 MR. BECKER: I think it was '14.

3 MS. CLARK: And we can look at how he how performed
4 at that point. But the incumbent flag is a really
5 critical flag to understanding RPV analyses. We can't
6 pull it out quantitatively. We have to think about it
7 qualitatively.

8 MR. BECKER: But we will be able to show you, as
9 Megan said, that flag is going to be there and will --
10 there will be -- there'll be a set of elections that
11 we'll be able to look at again at your direction and
12 advise you about. And we'll give you some advice as to
13 qualitatively which -- especially if the if the data is
14 not extremely clear cut, which data might be more
15 relevant than other data.

16 Megan, is that fair to say?

17 MS. GALL: That is fair to say. And I appreciate
18 your point that every time we look at an election, you
19 will know who the incumbent is, that will be on the table
20 and known.

21 MR. BECKER: And party as well, especially with the
22 top two primary we'll have -- there will be -- there will
23 be a time we're looking at winners coming out of a
24 primary that belong to the same political party.

25 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Commissioner Andersen? And

1 then we do have a break in about five minutes.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. Thank you. Just a
3 just a quick -- actually, David or Megan, if you could
4 kind of just maybe sort of -- we've looked at Assembly
5 District 64 and here's just a question. Assembly
6 District like 54, I think it is, and 59 in those it looks
7 like -- and several interests have been saying, keep our
8 group together.

9 And clearly, between these two districts, it looks
10 like a large area of the black population has been
11 divided into two different districts. Does that have to
12 do with -- I mean, there are many neat reasons for doing
13 this, but is that also sometimes an aspect of the Voting
14 Rights Act to make sure that it's not packing?

15 MR. BECKER: That absolutely could be that way. I
16 want to first say that Megan and I are both blessed with
17 complete ignorance as to why these lines were drawn at
18 all. So I can't tell you why these lines were drawn. We
19 don't have we don't have that information.

20 But it could be that that when you take this entire
21 concentrated African-American community that we can see
22 going from District 54, southeast, all the way through
23 Assembly District 64, that it -- that is so sufficient
24 that there's so many people within that and they're so
25 cohesive and they are relatively compact as we can see

1 that to put them all in a single district would have
2 would have resulted in a packing of that population and
3 an unnecessary limitation and concentration of their
4 political power.

5 This is a -- really again, I can't stress this
6 enough. It's such a fact intensive inquiry. We're going
7 to really look closer at the total population data. We
8 don't know, although this is a fairly tightly populated
9 area, so I would presume that this represents a fairly
10 large number of people. We don't have that data overlaid
11 here yet so we can't really assess that. But we'll be
12 able to advise you on that, absolutely.

13 And it could be that this is a population that if
14 they were packed within one single district, it would
15 be -- it could potentially be a violation of the VRA.
16 But it's also possible that if they were cracked
17 unnecessarily so that they could not elect a candidate of
18 their choice, that that would be a violation of the VRA
19 as well.

20 We've talked before about packing and cracking. So
21 finding that sweet spot where a population that satisfies
22 the Gingles preconditions is placed into a district that
23 gives them that power that -- political power that
24 complies the Voting Rights Act. That's what we'll advise
25 you on as we get more data.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

2 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: We are three minutes away from
3 a break. I think Commissioner Fornaciari, do you think
4 your question can fit in that time frame?

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, I will be brief.

6 So Mr. Becker, you just mentioned you don't have the
7 reasons behind why these districts were drawn this way.
8 We have that. If you want it, we can get it to you. If
9 you don't want it, then we won't. Let us know.

10 Just a comment for Jaime. I seem to recall maybe
11 I'm wrong, but in the past when you've been -- the team
12 has been showing districts, the Assembly Districts have
13 been kind of a purple color and the Senate Districts have
14 been kind of blue. So I got a little confused when you
15 showed the assembly districts in blue. So just a
16 comment.

17 MS. CLARK: Yeah, for this map, these are the
18 Assembly Districts. And for this map, I believe that I
19 just copied over the same color theme. I'll verify. And
20 I will absolutely make sure that everybody's using the
21 same lines for the same district --

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah.

23 MS. CLARK: -- level.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, that's all. I just
25 wanted --

1 MS. CLARK: Yeah.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- to ensure that it's
3 consistent. That's all.

4 MS. CLARK: Yeah. Thank you. And thank you for
5 that feedback.

6 MR. BECKER: And I'll just add very quickly,
7 Commissioner Fornaciari, that we wanted -- we want to be
8 as helpful and advise you with whatever you need to do
9 your really important job. So if there are conditions
10 that applied during the last round of redistricting that
11 we think might still apply, whether they're -- whether
12 they relate to community input or communities of interest
13 or whatever.

14 Absolutely. I think we would we would be interested
15 in having that information to be able to provide you with
16 good advice on this. It could also be that some of the
17 conditions that applied during the last round of
18 registering don't apply anymore due to population shifts
19 or something like that.

20 And so obviously we're not relitigating the last
21 round of redistricting. We're really just trying to help
22 you draw the right districts for this round. So if
23 there's some conditions that apply that we should be
24 aware of, we absolutely want to -- it'd be helpful to
25 have that information probably in this process right now

1 as you're providing us with direction.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Perfect. And so with that, I'm
3 going to recommend that we take a pause here and take our
4 fifteen-minute break and come back at 11:15 and pick up
5 this conversation where we left off.

6 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, welcome back, California.
8 Thank you for joining us. At this point, we will
9 continue on. And I'll turn it back over to Jaime.

10 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much. So at this point I
11 will summarize the COI input that was submitted through
12 the COI tool from members of the public that we have
13 previously -- that we had previously reviewed in a
14 presentation for the Commission. And then I will display
15 the new COIs that have come in from the public since that
16 last presentation.

17 And the COIs I'm going to be displaying are the COIs
18 that have come in that are that are not the same as COIs
19 that we reviewed last time. So again, as the Commission,
20 I'm sure you're aware, as you've been reviewing all of
21 the input in Airtable, that there is a lot of overlap in
22 some of the public input. So if there is overlap or
23 identical testimony, et cetera, then I won't be reviewing
24 those COIs.

25 And with that, I'm just going to jump right into the

1 summary of what was presented last time. So one moment,
2 please, while I move the map. So during our last COI
3 review and I'll turn on the neighborhood council lines
4 here, we sort of started in north east L.A. -- City of
5 L.A. and in this area I'll zoom out a little bit.

6 In this general area we heard a lot about residents
7 who live here having shared social, political, and
8 economic backgrounds, ties to the Chicano movement of the
9 60's and 70's, an importance of family values for
10 residents who live here, and importance in
11 multiculturalism, and also heard from people again who
12 submitted COIs through the COI tool that there are a lot
13 of -- there are a lot of people who immigrated to Los
14 Angeles from Central America, and that there are a lot of
15 Spanish speakers in this area.

16 Megan, I'm not going to show the COIs that we showed
17 last time on the map. Again, to give a summary of what
18 we heard about last time and then in. In this general
19 area where I'm waving my hand, which is like Atwater
20 area, greater Hollywood, Hollywood, West Hollywood.

21 We also heard that there were a lot of migrants in
22 this area, that there was a mix of working and middle
23 class communities in these areas again, and importance of
24 multiculturalism and having a multicultural community.
25 People who live in these areas submitted COIs around

1 having access to a lot of murals and street art, that --
2 there are environmental concerns for people who submitted
3 COIs in this area.

4 And that there's a blend of housing types and that
5 there are LGBTQ populations that live in this area.
6 There's a majority of renters and also that public
7 transportation and being able to use public
8 transportation was important for people who live in the
9 greater Hollywood, Hollywood, Franklin Village, Atwater
10 Village area.

11 Then we looked at some COIs that were coming in from
12 the west side of The City of Los Angeles. And those
13 COIs, the people who submitted those COIs, provided a
14 narrative that maintaining access to community services
15 was really important to them, that there were
16 environmental concerns for people living on the West Side
17 and that also ensuring support for houseless people who
18 live on the West Side was important to these communities
19 as well.

20 Then we looked in downtown L.A. in Skid Row area.
21 And in this area, we heard testimony that there was an
22 interest and a need for small business recovery as we are
23 moving through the COVID-19 pandemic. The gentrification
24 and access to affordable housing was a big issue and that
25 there are deep ties to black history and to music and the

1 arts. Again, this is a downtown Skid Row area.

2 And in South Central L.A. -- I'm going to zoom out a
3 little bit here. In South Central L.A. -- City of Los
4 Angeles, we -- there are a number of COIs submitted in
5 this area and over -- the overarching themes and COIs
6 that we touched on during that presentation, talked about
7 issues of gentrification, access to resources such as
8 food, health care, education opportunities.

9 Some people who submitted COI's expressed concerns
10 with public safety and affordable housing. A few
11 submissions specifically mentioned reparations and black
12 homeownership programs and also in general heard that
13 there was that there were multiple black communities and
14 Latino communities living in South Central L.A. -- City
15 of Los Angeles.

16 And then we talked about some COIs that were
17 submitted through the COI tool that are located in the
18 coastal regions of Los Angeles and of Los Angeles County.
19 And in particular, we heard that there were shared
20 interests in recreation, in sharing the same
21 transportation corridors, that there also were
22 environmental concerns in these areas, that services for
23 unhoused people was also really important for communities
24 that we heard from in these areas, which again is sort of
25 coastal Los Angeles County.

1 I'm going to move down to South Bay. So where's
2 sort of ranging from Malibu, Santa Monica, El Segundo,
3 Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, all the way down to Palos
4 Verdes. We heard that there is a lot of shared access to
5 education opportunities, the same medical systems were
6 being used, same hospitals being used. The communities
7 that live in these areas said that they use the same
8 water and sewage system and have access to the same local
9 news sources.

10 In the Los Angeles Harbor area, which I'm circling
11 with the hand now. The Los Angeles Harbor area community
12 members provided information that these areas are
13 racially and ethnically diverse and that many residents
14 work in oil or shipping or the recycling industries. And
15 there are some shared economic and environmental concerns
16 for people who live in these areas.

17 Sort of in the greater Long Beach area we reviewed
18 some testimony that had been submitted that they're
19 again, a very diverse area. And people who submitted
20 COIs through the point was specifically named that there
21 were Cambodian, Latinx, blacks, and LGBTQ communities
22 living in close proximity to each other, that there's a
23 strong sense of unity in this area and that people who
24 live here have the same access to transportation systems
25 and education systems and institutions.

1 And I'm going to move up to the Gateway Cities. And
2 sort of circling this general area with the hand now. So
3 these are areas such as Downey, Whittier, Norwalk,
4 Cerritos, Artesia, et cetera. And again, I'm running my
5 hand over the boundary of Los Angeles County.

6 So in the Gateway Cities, people who submitted COIs
7 through the COI tool talked about connections through
8 transportation corridors and medical access in
9 workplaces, having access again to the same education
10 systems. And family, a lot of families here and
11 commitment to equity. And again, many communities living
12 in close proximity to each other. Many different race
13 and ethnic, racial and ethnic communities living in close
14 proximity to each other.

15 Then a little further north, I'm getting to San
16 Gabriel Valley area sort of Rowland Heights, that
17 Hacienda Heights area, that I'm circling with the hand
18 right now and this is all kind of -- yeah, circling with
19 the hand right now. People who submitted COIs through
20 the COI tool in this area talked about protecting open
21 space, having communities where there are a lot of
22 different languages spoken, and specifically named
23 Spanish and various different Asian languages.

24 Members of the public discussed rapid growth and
25 demographic flux in this area. Additionally having

1 shared transportation routes, sharing the same watershed,
2 and education institutions. And some people who
3 submitted COIs through the COI tool noted that air
4 pollution was an issue in this area. And again, that
5 this area shares access to the same local news sources.

6 We also looked at some COIs that were submitted
7 through the COI tool that focused on the Inland Empire.
8 And there were a couple of different definitions of the
9 Inland Empire geographically that we saw and generally
10 they tended to focus on Pomona, Montclair, and Rancho
11 Cucamonga. Some of them went all the way out to Fontana
12 or Rialto. Some included Chino and Chino Hills. But
13 sort of this main corridor along the 10 was what the
14 geography of that was like.

15 And people who submitted COIs from the Inland Empire
16 talked about traffic and having long commute times, that
17 there were large networks of senior care centers and care
18 providers, that there needs to be more investment in
19 infrastructure and in education in this area. People in
20 the Inland Empire reported to be sharing utility agencies
21 and also mentioned that there's large Latinx communities
22 in the Inland Empire and growing Vietnamese community.

23 Sort of moving a little bit west to East San Gabriel
24 Valley. From these areas, we heard that a lot of Asian
25 and Latinx communities living in close proximity to each



1 other, and that there's a lot of families with young
2 children and a shared interest that they have this shared
3 access to the same education systems.

4 From people who live here, mostly focusing along the
5 210 corridor, which is where I am moving the hand right
6 now, people who submitted COIs in this area that we
7 looked at last week discussed these cities along 210
8 corridor being fire hazard areas.

9 They described themselves as independent small towns
10 with a commitment to preserving open space and a
11 commitment to environmental conservation. And a number
12 of people also noted that they recreate in the foothills
13 of Angeles National Forest. Again, here's the 210
14 corridor.

15 Okay. Moving sort of into the Burbank, Glendale,
16 Pasadena area. We reviewed some COI submissions
17 specifically around transportation corridors. Members of
18 the public talked about working together to rebuild
19 biodiversity in the foothills and noted that they have
20 the same fire dispatch system that this area is, that
21 this area has a lot of economic and racial and ethnic
22 diversity, and also that they share sort of an economic
23 tie to the close proximity to downtown Los Angeles.

24 And then moving to the San Fernando Valley, which
25 generally speaking is this area here, large area. And

1 I'm running the hand here. We've heard a lot about this
2 in the input meetings about Mulholland Drive. And where
3 I'm running my hand now represents the Mulholland Drive.

4 So we heard about a lot of smaller COIs in the San
5 Fernando Valley. And particularly in this area sort of
6 east of 405, we heard about working class neighborhoods,
7 concerns around pollution from some industry that's
8 located in the San Fernando Valley and concerns around
9 public safety. We heard that there are -- there's many
10 small businesses and support for small businesses.
11 There's desire for more open spaces and more public
12 transportation options. We also heard about Sikh
13 communities in San Fernando Valley.

14 And in West San Fernando Valley, we heard it was a
15 little bit more middle class. People there working for
16 again, support for houseless residents who live in this
17 area and also working together to mitigate fire risks.

18 And then moving north to Santa Clarita. And again,
19 here, where I'm running the hand right now is the county
20 boundary between Los Angeles County and Ventura County.

21 And then this is The City of Santa Clarita. And Santa
22 Clarita Valley, we've had a couple of different
23 definitions of exactly where Santa Clarita Valley is.

24 And in this general area, members of the public provided
25 information that there is shared school systems, that the



1 Santa Clarita and Santa Clarita Valley is a safe place to
2 raise kids.

3 They share an economic development strategy, and
4 protecting open spaces is important to members of the
5 public who submitted COIs through the COI tool. And also
6 heard that Santa Clarita Valley and Simi Valley share a
7 river basin. Some people submitted input that they
8 wanted Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley to be together
9 as their COI. And we noted that there was a love and
10 enjoyment of the outdoors and that they share a chaparral
11 ecosystem and transportation corridors.

12 I'm going to zoom the map out a bit. We heard a
13 couple of different definitions of Antelope Valley. And
14 again, running my hand along the Los Angeles County line
15 to the east, Los Angeles County is bordered by San
16 Bernardino County to the north, Kern County and to the
17 west, Ventura County.

18 And we did review a couple different -- a couple of
19 different versions of what Antelope Valley is depending
20 on who submitted the COI. So some people kind of defined
21 it as really concentrated around cities of Lancaster and
22 Palmdale. Some people talked about it going up into Kern
23 County. And in Antelope Valley, we heard that there was
24 a military -- a lot of people were employed in the
25 military and aerospace industries.



1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Excuse me, Jaime, could you
2 possibly turn on the terrain as we're looking at the
3 valley while you're saying this one? Thank you very
4 much.

5 MS. CLARK: Okay. So we heard from Antelope Valley
6 that there's a lot of military and aerospace employment,
7 that there are large Native American populations and
8 concern for tribal issues that people who live in
9 Antelope Valley share unique and challenging ecosystems
10 and heard about, additionally, like criminal justice
11 reform in Antelope Valley in general.

12 And then finally -- one moment, please. Finally, we
13 heard about some COIs in the high desert, which was
14 described as sort of being the general area I'm running
15 by hand, Antelope Valley areas north of the Kern County,
16 Los Angeles County line, and including Victor Valley.
17 And people who submitted those COIs said that there is a
18 shared ecosystem and shared in specific climate or
19 environmental concerns.

20 And now I'm going to turn the terrain layer off and
21 review the new COIs. One moment. Okay. So now I'm
22 going to review the new COIs that were provided by
23 members of the public through the COI tool. And again,
24 these are COIs that have been submitted since our last
25 review session up until the 6th. That's what we have

1 access to right now.

2 And these again, are just COIs that are new. So not
3 essentially duplicates or extremely similar in geography
4 and in testimony to the COIs that we reviewed during our
5 last session. So one moment, please. We're going to
6 kind of take them in the same order that we just did the
7 review.

8 So we're going to start in like north eastern City
9 of Los Angeles, move to south central Los Angeles, back
10 to the sort of coastal areas and then through the eastern
11 part of L.A. County, up to Antelope Valley. Those are
12 where the new COIs are. And there are about eight of
13 them.

14 So one moment, please. I'm going to zoom in to the
15 area of our first COI. And here it is on the map. And
16 the person who submitted this COI identified it as El
17 Sereno. And it generally follows the 10 freeway or
18 excuse me, the 110 freeway and the boundary of The City
19 of South Pasadena.

20 And this person said that they are brought together
21 by the same sense of history, community, working class
22 values, creative energy and food. And this has
23 definitely has a lot of overlap with what we saw in COIs
24 in the same area during our last review session.
25 However, this is a new shape. We haven't seen this

1 geography yet. And again, this is identified by the
2 person who submitted it as El Sereno.

3 And now moving into South Central L.A. and the
4 person who created and submitted this community of
5 interest is -- named it South Central L.A. So it's this
6 big green area on the map, generally following the 10 to
7 the north, near the 110 to the east northern part of
8 Inglewood. This right here is 405 and includes all of
9 View Park and is bordered by Ladera Heights.

10 So the person who submitted this COI said that there
11 are a lot of different groups of black and brown people
12 living in -- living together in under-served South
13 Central L.A. And that was their comment.

14 And moving on, one moment. I'm now moving to
15 Westlake Village. And this, again, is the L.A. and
16 Ventura County line. This COI was named Oak Forest
17 Mobile Home Estates. It's a secure, gated community in
18 Westlake Village. There's a mixed demographic of
19 affluent home owners.

20 There's beautiful custom-built homes in this area
21 surrounded by great restaurants and retail shops, and the
22 area is filled with beautiful hills and mountains and
23 hiking trails. And the person who submitted this COI
24 specifically said that they wish to be with a Ventura
25 County based district.



1 Now, I'm going to zoom out and move to the eastern
2 side of Los Angeles County. One moment. There we go.
3 So this COI -- there are areas of this COI that are in
4 Orange County, which includes Bueno Park, Cypress, and La
5 Palma. And then also areas in La Habra -- excuse me and
6 also areas in Los Angeles County like Lakewood, Artesia,
7 Cerritos, La Mirada, East Whittier, La Habra Heights,
8 Whittier.

9 And the person who submitted this COI said that this
10 is a COI and that they share all of the issues that come
11 with being a cohesive community and sharing a county
12 border separated along a small river. They noted that
13 it's mostly a mix of Asian and white communities and
14 again, that there it is a cohesive community, although
15 it's part of two different counties.

16 And now I'm going to move to Northern Los Angeles
17 County. One moment, please. And this next COI was
18 specifically talking about Quartz Hill, which is right
19 here. It's surrounded by Lancaster and by Palmdale. I'm
20 going to turn on this COI. So this this COI represents
21 most of The City of Quartz Hill and then also some
22 surrounding areas in Lancaster and in Palmdale.

23 The person who submitted this COI said that Portable
24 has long been a rural community with many neighborhoods
25 and dirt roads and big lots and horses and other



1 livestock in the backyards of people -- of where people
2 live. Over the last ten years, it's become a little bit
3 more suburban with a lot of new housing developments.

4 And they also said that they wanted their community
5 to be in a Congressional District in Los Angeles County.
6 I'm going to turn on the Congressional District layer,
7 which is the green dotted line right here.

8 Quartz Hill is currently part of Congressional
9 District 23, which -- I'm just going to zoom out a little
10 bit, which the rest of sort of this Antelope Valley area
11 is in Congressional District 25 and then the boundary
12 sort of comes down and encompasses part of all of Quartz
13 Hill and part of Lancaster.

14 So they're saying they want Quartz Hill to all be in
15 a district with Los Angeles County and that this area is
16 bound by festivals and parades that bring the community
17 closer and identify themselves as being part of the
18 Antelope Valley and that they most often go to Santa
19 Clarita or Los Angeles for shopping, dining, and
20 entertainment. So again, here's the Quartz Hill COI that
21 I just spoke on. I'm going to turn off the Congressional
22 District layer and turn off the Quartz Hill COI.

23 And then the next three COIs are similar in shape.
24 They're about the Mojave River Valley or Mojave High
25 Desert. And I'm just going to show them one at a time



1 really quick. One moment, please. So here in green,
2 Mojave High Desert, it's Antelope Valley, parts of Kern
3 County, including Edwards Air Force Base, Rosamond,
4 Mojave, California City, and then just like Barstow and
5 Victor Valley area.

6 And then I'm just going to show they're very, very
7 similar in shape. And this one in Mojave River Valley
8 does not include the parts of Kern County. It doesn't
9 include any of Kern county. So just Antelope Valley and
10 Victor Valley areas and other areas in the high desert in
11 San Bernardino County.

12 And the people who submitted these COIs said they
13 were brought together by a desire to be away from big
14 cities but still have access to resources as required,
15 noted the unique and sometimes -- unique and sometimes
16 difficult climate and challenges that come with this
17 specific climate and that they share similar
18 socioeconomic makeup.

19 Multiple people mentioned that's a great place to
20 raise families. There's multigenerational families
21 living in the same area, wanting what's best for their
22 kids and for their grandkids, and also an interest in
23 preserving open space.

24 That is my summary of the new COIs that have come in
25 through the COI tool from members of the public since our

1 last COI review session. And with that, I am going to
2 hand it back over to Commissioners.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you very much,
4 Jaime. I really appreciate this. I'm going to step in
5 right now. And I'm going to come as we're sort of like
6 the -- we come back to an overview because that's what
7 I'm going to do a little bit.

8 I'm going to overview just sort of the public input
9 what we've seen. It's also from commissioners and the
10 public and where you can find it and then how we're
11 proceeding. Basically there are three different types of
12 input or forms of input that we've been getting.

13 The first is obviously public input COI meetings and
14 that's you can go on to our website and see the videos of
15 all of those under the meeting tab. You can look up each
16 day and you can watch the entire video. And then that
17 information, however, is also then been added into our --
18 what's called our public input database, which is under
19 the data tab of our website.

20 Then we've also been hearing from our line drawers
21 what's been coming in through the COI tool, which is
22 again on our website, we can go to a directory and
23 they've been reviewing that information for us and these
24 have been presented to the public. But now they're also
25 on our website from the COI tool that comes in directly

1 and is on our -- again on our data tab. It's on the
2 public data -- public input database.

3 The third part is all the information coming in
4 directly to our office, which consists of emails,
5 letters, phone calls, also through our website. Now that
6 information is indeed also all on our website. The
7 letters, emails, you can see on the tab, that's called
8 public input. There's also a public comment tab.

9 Those are general things such as the for -- how the
10 meetings are being run. Those aren't to say directly map
11 input. Those are other comments. And then they're being
12 put into the -- our, again, under the data tab -- public
13 input database. If you'll notice, and if the public or
14 visitors go to the data tab, you will notice we've added
15 a second -- all the way to the right, there's an
16 additional column for sorting this information by county.

17 I think this -- there's been a request for that and
18 it's actually been added. Also as of today, the database
19 is through August 31st and that will be updated as we get
20 to it. What we're going to do and the commissioners are
21 going to be doing here is -- although it's all on the
22 website and it's all open for the public, we're actually
23 going to do a quick overview review of the information
24 that's come in through the office and the -- what we call
25 them, our zone liaisons, are going to be doing that for

1 us.

2 And so at this point -- and that's how each of these
3 areas are going to go. We're doing Los Angeles today.
4 We're doing the Coastal California and San Francisco bay
5 area on Friday. We're doing North Inland Central
6 California, also the rest of the Southern California on
7 Saturday.

8 And these will start with a review of what we've
9 seen on the COI, what additional COI input has come in
10 and the liaisons will go through a quick summary just for
11 everyone's understanding of the information that came in
12 to the office.

13 So at this point, I'm going to turn this over to
14 Commissioners Ahmad and Taylor. I'm not sure if
15 Commissioner Taylor was able to join us. He switched
16 jobs, and that doesn't have quite the flexibility this
17 morning.

18 But I'm going to hand this over to Commissioner
19 Ahmad. And if Jaime might be able to hopefully kind of
20 follow her a little bit as she gives us a quick summary
21 of the information that's come in about -- from the
22 COIs -- about COIs about Los Angeles County.

23 Commissioner Ahmad?

24 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner
25 Anderson. And my review is not as thorough as Jaime's

1 review, so I'll just preface this next portion with that.
2 But before I jump in, I do want to remind first of all,
3 myself and everyone else that is listening that we do not
4 have the census data at this point.

5 So what we're doing here is just reviewing the COIs
6 that have come in. We are not determining any lines or
7 making any determinations in that respect at this time.
8 And then also that everyone should still review all of
9 the COIs that are on the database themselves.

10 Just hearing the summary from Jaime, which was very
11 helpful, I have a few questions about certain areas, so
12 that would require myself to go in and do that due
13 diligence myself. And the COIs are being continuously
14 updated in our database.

15 When I checked this morning final preparations for
16 this conversation, there were 327 COIs that came into our
17 office and I just refreshed page right now and now
18 there's 384. So these COIs are continuously being
19 updated on the database and it does require us as
20 commissioners to be on top of that and continuously check
21 for new updated COIs.

22 And then the last thing I'll mention, which Mr.
23 Barker did a very good overview of, is the VRA
24 consideration. So as we talk through the COIs that came
25 into our office, I'm not applying that lens to just the

1 high-level summary at this time. That's why we have our
2 guidance from our legal team to provide that when the
3 time is appropriate to do so.

4 So with that, I will just jump in to a high-level
5 summary and then highlight some COIs that we've received
6 through our office. So what does it mean when we have
7 received them through the office? As Commissioner
8 Anderson has highlighted, that would constitute letters,
9 emails, phone calls through the CRC website contact us
10 page or labeled as to be determined within the database.

11 There's also that separate tab, the public input
12 tab, that does house some COI information, and the idea
13 is to bring that over into the database. But I'll just
14 give a high-level overview of some of the COIs that I saw
15 within that have related to the general L.A. County area.

16 So jumping in, most of the COIs that were submitted
17 through our office are pretty straightforward. There are
18 a variety of reasons that folks have listed out to
19 support the inclusion and sometimes the exclusion of
20 certain communities of interest that ranged from
21 socioeconomic status, culture, education, safety,
22 immigration, homelessness, housing cost, economic
23 development, food insecurity, transportation, and VRA
24 compliance to name a few.

25 Most used to define the parameters of their



1 communities are geographically present and they use the
2 transportation systems such as freeways, to identify
3 where their communities lie. Commissioner Taylor and I
4 saw in our review Simi Valley is a point of concern for
5 numerous communities. There is input to have Simi Valley
6 both a part of and excluded from respective districts.
7 So at a certain time we will probably have a conversation
8 about that.

9 San Gabriel Valley is a desired district along the
10 210 corridor, so north of the 210 freeway from Altadena
11 to Rancho Cucamonga. We heard that. We heard Boyle
12 Heights wants to remain intact -- as an intact community
13 with other similar communities. The greater Wilshire
14 area would like to remain intact with the District
15 boundaries further east not splitting the area.

16 And then let me jump into a breakdown. So now I'll
17 break it down by type of submission. So emails, as of
18 this morning -- now, these numbers are old since we have
19 new updated numbers. There are 201 records returned that
20 were identified as emails. And upon using the search
21 term Los Angeles, I had sixty-five entries returned.
22 These numbers are now updated. So please excuse the --
23 four-hour delayed numbers. But we heard that Santa
24 Clarita Valley would like to stay together as a region.
25 They collaborate as a region on issues like

1 transportation planning, homelessness, public safety,
2 emergency preparedness and response, water quality and
3 supply.

4 They also had -- this submission also had submitted
5 a COI through the COI tool. And it was great to see that
6 our team was able to connect that COI submission through
7 the COI with the email that had come into the office. So
8 that shows up as one line in our database.

9 We also heard again the greater Wilshire community
10 of interest together. They also submitted a COI that was
11 connected. We heard Toluca Lake belongs in the same area
12 as Studio City. This email was provided and it included
13 for Boundaries and COI was digitized and input into the
14 database along with that email.

15 Jumping over to letters, this morning when I
16 confirmed the numbers, we returned 110 records that were
17 labeled or tagged as letters. And with the search term
18 Los Angeles, the return of fifteen records was presented.
19 We got letters from The City of Long Beach to keep Long
20 Beach together.

21 We also got a letter from the Long Beach Unified
22 School District asking for the same to keep The City
23 together. And that letter also, interestingly, invited
24 us to hold an in-person meeting in the Long Beach area
25 when it is appropriate to do so. We also heard in a

1 letter from the part of Sherman Oaks, which is a
2 community organization that represents a population of
3 about 6,900 residents.

4 They want to be kept with Greater Sherman Oaks in
5 CD, Congressional District 30, as they are currently in
6 Congressional District 29. They talked about the
7 geographical proximity, similar landmarks, lack of
8 similarity to areas north of Khalifa and Tiara
9 educational community. They talked about property values
10 in that letter and then also the Sherman Oaks Homeowners
11 Association and what ties them -- that community
12 together.

13 When reviewing the tab CRC website contact us -- so
14 that is the Contact US tab through our website. There
15 were sixteen submissions as of this morning from that
16 avenue to our office and with the search term Los
17 Angeles, I returned one submission within that category.

18 The submission talked about keeping the Olympic Park
19 neighborhood in the same legislative district for state
20 and congressional, and they submitted a geographical COI
21 that is now connected to the entry in our public input
22 database.

23 As of this morning, in our public input database
24 there were no COI submissions that were tagged as to be
25 determined or phone calls, and that is as of this



1 morning. So right now it may look different. So those
2 were the inputs received to -- directly to our office.
3 So anything outside of the community of interest tool
4 and/or our live public input meetings.

5 Moving to the public input tab, upon reviewing the
6 list of attachments that currently lives under the public
7 input tab, there were quite a number of letters -- I
8 shouldn't use the word letters. There were quite a
9 number of inputs on that page that talked about keeping
10 Long Beach together, and we've heard that many times
11 around.

12 There was also a letter or a statement on the public
13 input tab that talked about keeping downtown Los Angeles
14 together. And this area is bound by the 10 freeway on
15 the south and the 110 on the west and the 101 to the
16 north and the L.A. River on the east.

17 So this input talked about how this region is very
18 diverse. They really wanted to keep downtown Los Angeles
19 together and whole because of the unique challenges and
20 opportunities, talking specifically about transit,
21 homelessness, and economic diversity.

22 So again, this was just a high-level overview of the
23 inputs we've received directly to our office outside of
24 the COI tool and/or live public meetings that we've held
25 all summer. I encourage my fellow Commissioners and the



1 public to continue to review the public input database.
2 As evidenced today, it is continuously updating and we
3 have a lot of homework to do before our final exam.

4 Back to you, Commissioner Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much,
6 Commissioner Ahmad. Now we sort of have our full
7 overview of what we have in the public should be well
8 aware of if they want to find any information and where
9 to find it. And so at this point, I'd like to turn it
10 over to Karin and Jaime to give us some ideas of how we
11 are supposed to move forward.

12 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you so much. Thank you,
13 Commissioner Ahmad. And thank you so much, Commissioner
14 Andersen, for facilitating this particular piece of the
15 presentation. We really appreciate it. And at this
16 point, we are ready for you to give us some preliminary
17 directions. Very exciting.

18 I would like to get you started perhaps by giving a
19 few examples if you think that that might be helpful
20 about what you may want to ask us, what you may want to
21 ask to see mapped. So for example, you may be
22 contemplating you just heard something about these areas,
23 whether Simi Valley should be with Ventura, for example,
24 or perhaps with Santa Clarita. And then you may wonder
25 what the population would be for either scenario.

1 So this might be a visualization or a set of
2 visualizations that you could ask for. So you would just
3 say, Jaime, please, we would like to see this particular
4 visualization in October, because remember, we will have
5 the census data available by then so we can take a look
6 at that at the equal population criterion. And we can
7 generally see what the population breakdown of these
8 various scenarios might be.

9 And also, I'd like to remind you that, of course,
10 communities of interest and public input are not your
11 only criteria. So the mapping team will always endeavor
12 to keep the other criteria in mind, obviously. And then
13 also we have Mr. Becker and the Strumwasser/Woocher team
14 here today, and hopefully they can help us a little bit
15 guide this conversation to get you started on giving some
16 directions.

17 So another suggestion or potential suggestion you
18 may have and you may want to ask for is if you heard from
19 a number of cities that have told you that they'd really
20 like to stay together in a particular district, then that
21 might be another visualization you want to -- you want to
22 ask for example, something in the northern part of this
23 region, for example, the Antelope Valley. How does the
24 population break, break out? And what could be kept
25 together and what could not be?

1 And then you might also ask, well, mappers, if you
2 do this visualization, can you tell us what the impact
3 would be on the surrounding areas? Because as you've
4 heard, there are communities of interest and there is
5 input and other considerations surrounding this area. So
6 nothing really is mapped in isolation. So you may want
7 to ask for that also.

8 Just another really quick reminder, this is
9 preliminary. So this is not -- we're not going to a
10 draft map quite yet. This is the time to explore, give
11 some general directions of things that you would like us
12 to follow. You could tell us to follow some specific
13 direction whenever possible, if you have some strong
14 preferences about something, and you could ask us to
15 explore possibilities based on preferences that you may
16 have.

17 And then also, please feel free to ask for multiple
18 options if you've heard conflicting testimony. Like, for
19 example, in some areas we have heard people define the
20 same area in different ways. So perhaps there was a
21 little area attached on -- in one COI, but then somebody
22 else came in and attached something on the other side of
23 that COI and said, this is who we are. So you have a lot
24 of options.

25 And with that, I would like to turn it over to the



1 Commission and see if we could get started someplace.
2 And please just tell Jaime in what area of Los Angeles
3 you'd like to get started or Jaime, if you have a
4 suggestion of -- then please also weigh in. Thank you so
5 much.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I might just jump in here.
7 And again, it's just -- again, just it's a start. Just
8 for I thought if we start the north and kind of go south,
9 it might be faster. And I'm just going to go ahead and
10 say a couple of visualizations, sort of to give us an
11 example. And then if we could have Chair Fornaciari
12 raise -- facilitate raising hands and moving forward on
13 this.

14 I believe we need several different scenarios with
15 considering a population of do we keep Santa Clarita with
16 the rest of the Lancaster Palmdale area? So that's sort
17 of one area. Do we keep Simi Valley in -- can we? So
18 that's sort of another I think this is an area where we
19 have conflicts. So I believe we need at least two,
20 possibly three visualizations in this area.

21 Another one could possibly be considering the
22 Lancaster/Palmdale with portions of -- going up to the
23 high desert. So that would be essentially if you went up
24 into Kern County with part of that one, that area going
25 over into the Victorville area too.

1 Just sort of -- and then the other portion then
2 going back west if it's the Santa Clarita and that's --
3 then this gets a bit more into the Ventura County. But
4 with Simi Valley, because we've heard a lot from Simi, is
5 add Moorpark the rest of it. So that's kind of that's an
6 area. And I'd like to see population on that in terms of
7 what we could do.

8 Then going south, the San Fernando Valley,
9 population wise, how many assembly districts? Would it
10 be broken into this because we've heard let's keep the
11 entire valley together. Clearly that's way too many
12 people to be in one Assembly District.

13 MS. MACDONALD: Pardon me, Commissioner Andersen.
14 I'm sorry to interrupt. Could we just make sure that
15 we're very clear on the direction? I should have said --
16 and I apologize, I should have said that staff are trying
17 to take notes of the direction that you are providing,
18 and they're going to read that direction back to all of
19 you later. So that that we're very clear that we're
20 understanding exactly what you would like us to map.

21 And perhaps also, Jaime, if you -- I think if you
22 hear something that's not completely clear, if we maybe
23 could just pause between visualizations, that's just to
24 make sure that Jaime hears it correctly. And if she has
25 a follow up or clarifying question, if she could ask

1 that. Thank you so much. And sorry to interrupt again.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, this is why I went
3 first, because we haven't done this before. And so I
4 thought I would be the guinea pig. And so I just thought
5 I'd lay things out. And I don't know how fast, how slow
6 we want to do this. So --

7 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you. This is perfect.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So Jaime, what should I have
9 said, not said?

10 MS. CLARK: Thank you. I'm just going to zoom out
11 on the map a little bit. And I do see that Commissioner
12 Fornaciari has a hand up. I think that those were --
13 those were good directions. They were quick, which not a
14 problem. And I would maybe suggest -- and we can always
15 revisit different sort of general areas, but maybe a
16 suggestion would be to look at one area for a while, hear
17 ideas about visualizations, and then move on to a
18 different area.

19 And I guess one specific question I had about the
20 discussion around keeping Antelope Valley with areas in
21 Kern County is that some people have talked about
22 Tehachapi and that area being included and some people
23 have not. So just clarifying like exactly what you
24 mean -- I guess exactly what you mean by Antelope Valley.
25 And then also what areas to include in visualizations.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. So perfect. So
2 let's just look at the north first. And again, I just
3 threw this out. We have heard everything from the
4 Lancaster, Palmdale, West Tehachapi up into the -- I
5 can't remember the -- Air Force base that that entire
6 area up there. So that that is one. Similar we've seen
7 in the Palmdale area do not have us with Kern County and
8 have us with Santa Clarita.

9 Then there's also the entire Lancaster/Palmdale with
10 the Victorville area. And that being especially Hesperia
11 up. And then depending on population that is
12 increased -- that is added, the area up into in Kern
13 County as well.

14 Then going west, just the Lancaster/ Palmdale, Santa
15 Clarita at Simi Valley. It's one possibility. And then
16 I'm going to stop there and ask for other people to jump
17 in and say, we'll do the north area and then move on from
18 there.

19 MS. MACDOANLD: Jaime, was that clear? I just want
20 to make sure that that was clear for Jaime. And --

21 MS. CLARK: I accidentally clicked video off instead
22 of unmute. But yeah, I understand those directions and
23 thank you for clarifying.

24 MS. MACDONALD: Okay. And then also, if Mr. Becker
25 has any input on any of these areas, which may be coming

1 up, then he may also weigh in, just foreshadowing that.

2 MR. BECKER: Yeah, I don't have anything yet.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So I'll call on myself since I
4 had my hand raised. So yeah, just to add a little more
5 specificity, what I would like to see regarding the --
6 this area is if you would start in the north east corner
7 of L.A. County and go down south west gathering --
8 keeping Lancaster whole, Palmdale, all that area in the
9 Santa Clarita for a Congressional District and wrap all
10 those cities north and -- what does that look like?

11 Is it a full Congressional District? Do we need a
12 little more? Do we need less people? Just to give us an
13 idea of how we're doing there I think would provide a lot
14 of clarity or help provide clarity on the Simi Valley
15 question for us. But specifically for Congressional
16 District. That's my main thought for this area.

17 Any others? I like the raise the hand button.
18 Really worked out well.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That actually, Commissioner
20 Fornaciari, I might just jump in, that's a really good
21 point in terms of if you think I'd like this area for a
22 Congressional District versus I'd like this area for a
23 State Assembly District. That would be a really good
24 point. And actually, so to go back to what I was saying,
25 the Lancaster up into Kern County, that would possibly be

1 a Congressional District.

2 MR. BECKER: I'd just quickly advise one of the --
3 one of the things to consider again, and one of the
4 reasons we used Assembly Districts as the illustrative
5 tool here, is because they're the smallest districts,
6 they're the ones where there are most likely to be
7 tensions between the criteria.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right. Thank you. So
9 who's next?

10 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: I think, Ms. MacDonald is
11 still talking.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Mr. Becker, you muted yourself.

13 MR. BECKER: Yeah, I accidentally muted myself. I
14 don't know how far I got. So we use the Assembly
15 Districts because they are the ones where there's most
16 likely going to be tension between the districts because
17 they're the smallest.

18 So I might advise starting focusing a little more on
19 the Assembly Districts, although advice and direction
20 with regard to Congressional and Senate are also useful,
21 Jaime, you think -- you seem to maybe disagree, which is
22 fine.

23 MS. CLARK: I think that we don't necessarily need
24 to get down to levels of specificity around district
25 types. And we could just come away with general

1 direction of what you would like to see. And we can
2 explore -- we can explore questions around like
3 population, et cetera once we actually have the data and
4 then can prepare visualizations that would reflect again
5 the population and what you wish to see together.

6 MR. BECKER: Perfect. Okay.

7 MS. CLARK: So I think in general, just kind of
8 giving general direction and then we can make it so once
9 we have the data.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So I just want to clarify who is
11 facilitating right now. Is it me or is it -- Jane, are
12 you going to facilitate?

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Whichever. I don't see any
14 hands raised, so I was kind of leading.

15 Commissioner Sadhwani, do you --

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: You can facilitate, that's fine.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. All right.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: One issue I might bring up,
20 I was -- didn't see anyone's hands -- in this area, and I
21 don't have the COI just right off my head, but there
22 were -- and it's a group of -- it said, I really don't
23 want the Air Force base in this area, but I want to
24 include Lancaster, Palmdale, and then the areas -- and I
25 don't have the city names -- up above in Kern County in

1 one district. So that would be another possible
2 visualization on that one. I see Jaime nodding your
3 head. I think she understands the COI I'm talking about.

4 MS. MACDONALD: Yes. And I think that this is --
5 I'm so sorry. I think this is a good -- this is a good
6 start for this particular area. We also don't want to
7 overwhelm you with visualizations, obviously.

8 And I think just to go back to that point about
9 whether general direction right now versus specific
10 direction, I think in some cases you may want to give
11 some -- a little bit more plan -- what I call plan
12 specific direction, i.e., you've heard a lot about people
13 talking about a particular congressional district.

14 So I think that's fine to map that right now as a
15 visualization, but generally I think you want to just
16 keep things broad and then just see how the populations
17 work out because you may have to weigh later, okay, we
18 would really like to keep these areas together, but
19 that's just not going to be possible in one or the other
20 plan, i.e. assembly.

21 When I say plan, I mean Assembly, Senate,
22 Congressional or Board of Equalization. So keeping that
23 conversation a little bit more broad, unless you have
24 very specific ideas about something, I think that's all
25 fine. So thank you very much for bringing these --

1 bringing all of these points up.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

3 Commissioner Sadhwani?

4 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Yeah, I think just to add to
5 that conversation, I mean, what I'm hearing and correct
6 me if I'm wrong, from Commissioner Fornaciari and
7 Commissioner Andersen is seeing the trade-offs
8 potentially between maintaining a district that includes
9 Simi Valley, in other words, cutting into Ventura County
10 versus an option that would include the entirety of
11 Lancaster and moving up.

12 And I believe that -- and correct me if I'm wrong,
13 or we can zoom in Mojave, Rossmoor, I believe, and then
14 options with and without Edwards Air Force Base. I think
15 we've heard actually testimony on both sides of whether
16 or not that should or should not be included. So I think
17 once we have that population data, I think we'd better
18 have a sense of what's doable in those areas. But to me
19 it would be those two trade-offs between Simi Valley or
20 moving further into Kern.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So I don't see anyone else.
22 Hence we move then further south tackling the San
23 Fernando Valley.

24 Oh, Commissioner Akutagawa?

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. One other testimony

1 that I did hear, and I guess I'd be curious as to where
2 it would be included, because it's that big mass of
3 white, which I believe is the -- I think those are the
4 Angeles Mountains or something like that. Yeah, I do
5 recall hearing some testimony that also spoke about
6 including those mountains with the Antelope Valley and no
7 one else really mentioned it.

8 I guess the question would be, where does it get
9 included? Does it get included with the Antelope Valley
10 or does it get included with the -- I guess, in this
11 case, maybe the San Fernando Valley? And I don't know
12 whether or not it makes sense -- I mean, I know that
13 there's probably some small pockets of people.

14 It'd be interesting to see whether or not it makes a
15 difference in terms of combining it with the Antelope
16 Valley and Lancaster, along with those that -- versus the
17 other way around where it gets attached to the San
18 Fernando Valley. And along that that kind of like those
19 foothills that that run along. I guess it's kind of goes
20 from the San Fernando Valley all the way into like
21 Pasadena and into the San Gabriel Mountains, too, so.

22 And then, Commissioner Sadhwani, when you were
23 talking about combining the Antelope Valley, Lancaster --
24 those with Edwards Air Force Base, I think, did -- were
25 your thoughts to go up as far as Ridgecrest, which has

1 the Naval Air Station as well, too? Because I think
2 there were different thoughts about that.

3 I remember some of the people from around that area
4 did not want to be combined with L.A. County. They
5 wanted to stay within Kern. But then we also heard from
6 others that did speak about wanting to stay within like
7 the Lancaster/Palmdale area because of the aerospace
8 corridor that they have, which is very much in terms of
9 the military contracts and other things like that.

10 So I was just curious as to how far north were you
11 thinking in terms of one of the options?

12 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Sure. May I respond real
13 quick? To me, I think at this stage it would make sense
14 just to maintain this smaller area, just at the -- at
15 that southern portion of Kern County until we have a
16 better sense of population. I agree. I mean, I think we
17 heard varying forms of testimony there. And as we move
18 into thinking about the Central Valley on Friday or
19 Saturday, I think, we'll -- we can we can address some of
20 those other kinds of testimony as well. But for right
21 now, my sense was these areas that are just -- I'm moving
22 my mouse on my end. But clearly you can't see it. Just
23 some of those key areas right at the at the tip of that
24 southern portion. Yeah, that's exactly right, Jaime.
25 Thanks.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Kennedy?

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks. My sense as far as
3 the Angeles National Forest and that big white area is I
4 certainly heard plenty from people saying attach that to
5 the cities along the southern edge, particularly those
6 north of the 210, all the way from at least Altadena to
7 Claremont. Yeah. So you know that that is what I would
8 prefer to see.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fornaciari?

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I was going to say the
11 same things, Commissioner Kennedy, that it's a
12 visualization I want to see is that, you know, the
13 foothill towns north of the 210 with the mountains
14 included.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And again, I believe
16 the population through there will -- and also just train
17 level will really help us with that. So then there's
18 another visualization. Any word about the San Fernando
19 Valley?

20 I personally would really like to see a population
21 number on it because there's so many different areas of
22 this and I don't know how many Assembly Districts is
23 that? I mean, I'm guessing four at least. But I do know
24 that they all pretty much said cut it at Mulholland
25 Drive. So if we want to see how that would fit, and then

1 there are many different groups in that that had
2 different breakdowns.

3 Commissioner Sinay?

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can you zoom out just a little
5 bit to the -- kind of towards the coast? Because one of
6 the things that's interesting about this area is that
7 they said cut it off at Mulholland. And then those who
8 talked about coastal Los Angeles, usually the South Bay
9 usually ends way before Santa Monica, Marina del Rey.
10 But I think it's they've expanded it.

11 But the reason I asked the pull out was because of
12 Malibu. Where are we -- where does Malibu kind of fall
13 into? A lot of this is just going to be a question we
14 need to think through as we're thinking of the San
15 Fernando Valley and such, because very few people, if
16 anyone, mentioned Malibu.

17 So I guess that might not be helpful for
18 visualization, but I just wanted to put that out there
19 that that was one thing that occurred to me while we're
20 looking at this.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Sadhwani?

23 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Yeah, I think we're popping
24 around here a little bit. But with the mention of
25 Malibu, I mean, as we get to thinking about Ventura and

1 Central Coast, I would be really curious to see Malibu,
2 Topanga, Calabasas, Agoura Hills, Westlake Village,
3 Hidden Hills, that area, kind of what that would look
4 like with portions of Ventura County, depending on where
5 that goes.

6 I mean, I think we heard a lot of testimony from
7 Thousand Oaks, for example, to stay together, Simi
8 Valley, Moorpark, that connection there. So I think
9 we'll have a lot to unpack.

10 And just in response to Commissioner Sinay, to me, I
11 could certainly see it going both ways where Malibu could
12 potentially stay with coastal Los Angeles or possibly be
13 grouped also with Ventura County.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Those are two
15 visualizations that we could certainly have because we
16 did hear from Calabasas, many people talked about along
17 the 101 freeway and that area being part of Ventura and
18 the Hidden Hills.

19 And then Westlake, again this morning, Commissioner
20 Ahmad said they clearly wanted to be with Ventura, so I
21 think that might be -- the Calabasas/Hidden Hills area,
22 because Bill Canyon -- some of them said they wanted to
23 be with L.A. and not with Ventura. So I think that area
24 in there will be interesting. When you put population on
25 it, I think that will give us a bit more of a heads up

1 for visualizations.

2 I see Commissioner Sinay also. No, no.
3 Commissioner Kennedy?

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I've heard
5 certainly the voices saying keep coastal communities
6 together all the way from Santa Monica to Palos Verdes.
7 In my experience, yes, they're all coastal communities.
8 But to me, the airport is kind of a barrier right there
9 in the in the middle.

10 And people from Marina and Santa Monica are less
11 likely to go down to Redondo Beach and places like that,
12 whereas if you're in El Segundo, kind of that whole area
13 from El Segundo to RPV and so forth, yeah, that that to
14 me seems like a very coherent area.

15 MR. BECKER: Can I interject here with a very quick
16 general statement? I think one of the things -- I notice
17 a lot of the comment right now is really related to
18 communities of interest in particular, which is really
19 important and good. That's excellent. That's one of the
20 key directions that's needed. I do want to stress,
21 obviously, a lot of this is going to be subject to the
22 total population and voting rights considerations that we
23 have. So these are all going to be subject that is a
24 lower criteria than those considerations.

25 And I also want to make sure that you're aware of

1 the fact that you will have to -- that there's going to
2 be a balance of some of these communities of interest
3 considerations with the political geography
4 considerations and other considerations that are in the
5 factors.

6 So obviously, community, I know you're all aware,
7 communities of interest can't predominate over all of the
8 other factors. That's not anyone's intention and they're
9 absolutely appropriate to be considered in this way. I'm
10 just trying to make sure as well, Karin and Jaime, you
11 are getting direction you need to be able to balance out
12 the all of the factors that include the communities of
13 interest, but also includes several other things.

14 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

15 MS. MACDONALD: Yeah, I think for us. Oh, Jaime,
16 you go first. Go ahead.

17 MS. CLARK: Thank you. Yeah, I think for us, sort
18 of as we move through Los Angeles County, if there are --
19 if there are questions, for example, it just came up like
20 what to do with Malibu? I'm wondering if we -- if the
21 direction would be, again, preliminary direction, just
22 for visualizations to follow COIs or input, if there's
23 not necessarily specific direction about a specific city
24 or a specific group of cities or a specific neighborhood,
25 for example, if the general direction would be just

1 follow the input that has been received by the Commission
2 so far. And this would just be in the absence of more
3 specific input.

4 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fernandez, is
5 your question -- is yours about that?

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Is mine what? I'm sorry,
7 Jane --

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'm sorry.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- Commissioner Andersen.

10 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Is yours about that due to
11 the general directions? Or is that something different?

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, I guess this is very
13 different than I envisioned us doing the initial
14 directions. I felt it was going to be more after the
15 census data. And we look at the VRA and the racially
16 polarized. It just seems kind of backwards to me how
17 we're doing it. And maybe I just misunderstood from our
18 prior meetings how are we going to do this?

19 So I'm just -- I don't want them confused. I think
20 my approach would be different than the approach we're
21 going through. So I'm trying to sit back and understand
22 the advantage of doing it this way instead of waiting
23 until we have the census data.

24 MS. MACDONALD: Would you like me to --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Please.

1 MS. MACDONALD: -- to respond to that? Yeah. So
2 thank you for that question, Commissioner Fernandez.
3 This is an opportunity to sort out some of the things
4 that you have heard, that has been submitted to you, and
5 to kind of talk about what resonates for you, and how you
6 would like to explore that.

7 Between now and the census data release we -- or
8 rather between now and the visualization release, we will
9 have access to the census data. So we will be taking the
10 census data into consideration, putting all of these
11 things together and exploring them along with the census
12 data and looking at total population along with the
13 communities of interest as a first step can be a little
14 bit overwhelming.

15 And so again, this is very preliminary, just to
16 sketch out some visualizations to see what might even fit
17 together and also for you to perhaps start talking about
18 how you might want to deal with general direction.
19 Again, the visualization will have total population in
20 there.

21 And then also we have VRA counsel here. And I was
22 actually hoping that before Mr. Becker hops off, we might
23 be able to talk about some of the more central areas of
24 Los Angeles to get some preliminary direction with the
25 benefit of having him weigh in on this so that we can

1 work some of these things out.

2 As you know, Commissioner Fernandez, we don't know
3 what our timeline yet is. It could be anything. And we
4 have to get from here to a draft map, no matter when that
5 draft map has to be out. This is just the best flow. We
6 had a constraint, obviously, because the census data came
7 out late and this is just the way that the process is
8 unfolding.

9 Otherwise, we would have had to wait, you know,
10 until probably late next week to start doing all of this.
11 And so we're trying to just get something done so that
12 you have something to look at and then we can become more
13 specific from there. And I hope that makes sense.

14 MR. BECKER: And to address what Karin just said,
15 I -- so I have to be clear, I don't have a ton of advice
16 to give right now because we don't have the population
17 numbers, it's very hard to give exact advice.

18 But as we saw from the from the maps that Jaime
19 showed us earlier, there are areas of certainly black
20 population and Latino population and also likely of Asian
21 population that are -- that whether it's that area that
22 we looked at around Assembly Districts 54 and 64 for
23 African-American populations, whether it's much of much
24 of East L.A. for Latino populations or the San Gabriel
25 Valley for Asian populations in the L.A. area, we're

1 going to want to flag those areas.

2 We're going to want to take a close look at the
3 total population numbers once they're available to us.
4 And I would suspect that all of them are going to be
5 areas in which we're going to think there is a
6 possibility, at minimum, if not a probability, that the
7 first Gingles precondition is met.

8 We'll want to then guide Megan the -- and the RPV
9 analysis, racially polarized voting analysis to assess
10 whether other Gingles preconditions are met, if it will,
11 because the Voting Rights Act compliance is the second
12 ranked priority. That will likely inform some of the
13 efforts.

14 But it's also very good to get your thoughts on
15 which communities of interest to the degree that
16 communities of interest and cities in particular, when
17 we're talking about the L.A. area. When you're balancing
18 those out and to the degree you want to know that
19 communities of interest might predominate over cities in
20 your in your mind or vice versa, or there's other
21 geography that you think is really important here.

22 In L.A., obviously, things like freeways are very
23 important. There's other geography that is important.
24 So getting that kind of guidance can be helpful and using
25 this time is important. I think this is consistent with

1 what Karin just said because we don't have the final
2 population data uploaded yet. So getting this kind of
3 guidance before that will enable us to hit the ground
4 running once that is all entirely uploaded.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do see we're also -- we're
6 close to we should probably breaking here for our
7 mandatory break. But given that we have Mr. Becker here
8 with us, should we actually just turn off the -- you have
9 the cities and then the voting rights -- the racial
10 voting rights areas and just sort of address that right
11 now? Or it says that we see the cities that we can kind
12 of go, right? There are community centers in that area.
13 We put these groups together for consideration because
14 clearly I've been sort of not talking about that because
15 I don't quite know what kind of Voting Rights Act
16 information we need to give or don't give. But would
17 that be helpful?

18 MR. BECKER: Yeah. Thank you, Commissioner
19 Anderson.

20 Jaime, do you want to we've got about seven or eight
21 minutes here before the break is supposed to happen. But
22 if you want to turn off the cities and maybe go back
23 to -- why don't we start with maybe Latino CVAP?

24 MS. CLARK: One moment, please.

25 MR. BECKER: And maybe zoom out.



1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, actually, I would like
2 if you could put that and add the cities, because then we
3 could do a little bit of community of interest over that.

4 MS. MACDONALD: Commissioners, if I may, and may
5 weigh in also. While Mr. Becker is still here, perhaps
6 you might discuss with him whether it would be possible
7 to just give some general direction about, if you feel
8 comfortable with that, if there is a particular
9 population concentration overall, because we're clearly
10 not going to be able to go through everything today.

11 This is a very large region that is very
12 complicated. So if there is a particular density that
13 might meet Gingles one, and I will let Mr. Becker, of
14 course, discuss that. If you could give general
15 direction to us to perhaps keep certain things -- try to
16 keep certain things together in light of other testimony,
17 that might be something you want to discuss with Mr.
18 Becker.

19 MR. BECKER: Yeah, I'll just -- I'll make these --
20 these are very general comments for me right now, and
21 they're just pieces of advice. And I don't have the
22 benefit of the actual total population figures to go
23 with. But as I eyeball this map and I'm glad you zoomed
24 out, Jaime, one of the things I'm looking at is the --
25 and I'm doing the same thing you were doing, Commissioner

1 Sadhwani, is I'm pointing to my screen, as if anyone can
2 really see what the heck I'm doing.

3 The northern part of the county -- the extreme
4 northern part, which is kind of that that that that's
5 Antelope Valley, basically, right, that edge of that
6 southwestern portion of Antelope Valley, that's something
7 I'd want to take a closer look at. And if memory serves
8 it also -- some of the population bleeds into Kern
9 County, which is -- we see some pockets there that might
10 also be joined.

11 There's something to keep an eye on, particularly.
12 We can see them right in that just north of the border
13 there. Exactly. Thank you, Jaime. And then scrolling
14 down, look, we know there are significant concentrations.
15 This map is not a surprise to any of you who live in L.A.
16 Throughout the kind of eastern L.A. portion you can
17 probably, yeah.

18 I personally call this the heat map and you can see
19 that the significant concentrations that is also a
20 heavily -- that's a heavily concentrated population
21 overall. So it's highly likely numbers are going to be
22 sufficient there to satisfy Gingles 1 for perhaps
23 multiple districts. And we're going to want to take a
24 close look at that, look at the total population numbers,
25 and then get good advice and analysis on the racially

1 polarized voting to see if the second and third Gingles
2 preconditions are met.

3 But there's obviously within Los Angeles County,
4 several areas of where Latino concentrations are large
5 enough that we'll then want to take a much closer look.
6 We're looking at the African-American population, and
7 maybe you want to just go to that, Jaime, because that is
8 a -- that's a narrower geographical area that we're
9 looking at.

10 In the past, what we have seen, I think, Jaime,
11 correct me if I'm wrong, I don't have the spreadsheet
12 open, but I think the heaviest -- the highest population
13 district in the last map, the highest black CVAP was in
14 the high thirties approaching forty percent if memory is
15 serving. And it was right in this area. Right. So you
16 can see this from Culver City at the Northwestern point
17 down to down into Compton and Carson. Those are areas
18 that we're going to want to take a much closer look at.

19 We're going to want to look at the total
20 populations, look at the racially polarized voting
21 analysis to see if it's if the ability to elect exists.
22 And I suspect that it probably does. We have a current
23 African-American candidate in that region. It appears
24 that from very initial analysis that it might be a
25 candidate of choice for the African-American population

1 there. So that's what we're going to be looking at in
2 that area.

3 And then if you want to call it the Asian population
4 as well, Jaime, which I think you just started with when
5 we first began this meeting. That's great. Yeah. So
6 I'm looking in that area, the San Gabriel Valley. That's
7 going to be -- the numbers appear like they might be
8 sufficient enough to indicate that we want to look
9 deeper.

10 I mean, whether there's -- whether the second or
11 third Gingles preconditions are met, we can't tell you
12 right now. Whether there is adequate cohesion amongst
13 the minority group, I can't tell you. The concentration
14 of Asians here does appear, though, to be somewhere where
15 there's a lot of -- there'll be a need to go deeper and
16 see if we can satisfy the first Gingles precondition.
17 And I think given the concentration of population overall
18 in that area, I think it is likely the first Gingles
19 precondition will be met.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. We have a lot of
21 questions here before you take off.

22 Commissioner Turner?

23 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Just wanted to go
24 back to Commissioner Fernandez. It's kind of my thought.
25 I'm a little bit different. I'm challenged a little bit

1 to think about how to have you work towards kind of
2 mapping that we'd like to see without the population
3 numbers.

4 And I know -- and I appreciate, Karin, your
5 explanation. That helps. It still leaves the almost
6 challenge there for me because, of course, we want what's
7 legal and in the order. And yes, we want to be able to
8 satisfy all of the COIs. So then to say what I prefer
9 without the numbers, I'm still not certain how to go
10 about doing that.

11 We have the court testimony, we have the public
12 input that's there. And what the differentiating factor
13 for me would be based on what the numbers -- what the
14 population would actually tell us we can do. And
15 everything else, I just feel like we would be sending you
16 off to draw things that may not even be necessary.

17 So I know we're trying to see what's best for this
18 time period right now, but I'm thinking about it still
19 differently that we do need to know the population
20 numbers in the VRA. And what's really been helpful for
21 me is to continue to think about the districts and Mr.
22 Becker, how you're talking about who the incumbent was.
23 And this is the area and this is the heavily concentrated
24 populations that's presenting a clearer picture of what
25 we will deal with.

1 But to start asking for the potential drawing of
2 areas. And I know it's all draft, I know it's all
3 potential, but I'm not sure what we're going about in
4 saying I would like to see. Because I want to see what
5 they've told us they want to see. And of course, that's
6 hinged upon what the numbers are.

7 MR. BECKER: I think general -- and others might
8 have some thoughts on this. General direction right now
9 is all I think the line drawers really are looking for.

10 COMMISSIOENR TURNER: Um-hum.

11 MR. BECKER: The things like, yes, we where we see
12 large concentrations of minority populations do your best
13 not to split those.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

15 MR. BECKER: Or if you split them, split them
16 because they're sufficient to form majorities in two
17 districts, those kinds of things.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum.

19 MR. BECKER: Right.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum.

21 MR. BECKER: They might be large enough. I mean
22 right. Right now I think those are the kinds of
23 directions. And Karin and Jaime might have some other
24 getting that kind of thing on the record is really
25 helpful for the line drivers to take their next step and

1 advise you. Again, this is just the very first
2 preliminary step. It's just trying to make best use of
3 our time before the total population numbers come out and
4 are available.

5 Karin and Jaime, do you have other things to add
6 there?

7 COMMISSIOENR TURNER: And before they even respond
8 to that, yes. And I think Karin started out with that
9 when she gave us that, whenever possible, do this,
10 explore the possibility. Even down to the window
11 preference, they can figure out the best options. That
12 all sounds really good and clear for me in her initial
13 direction. And so yeah, I got that part.

14 Go ahead, Karin.

15 MS. MACDONALD: Yeah. Commissioner Turner, I hear
16 you. And thank you for those questions. I think if you
17 had in mind that you wanted to see, let's say, five or
18 six different cities together, we can either do that
19 offline and then we come back and we show you the
20 population or we can wait two weeks and then we can do it
21 online and then it takes longer.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum.

23 MS. MACDONALD: So this basically is just a way of
24 getting ahead and just doing some of these ideas that
25 are -- that you would like to see anyway and just doing

1 those as soon as we have the data again so we can hit the
2 ground running and then we have something to look at and
3 some of these things are just not going to work out.
4 You're completely right. But some of them, they may work
5 out and they may look good to you and then we can work
6 off of them.

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum.

8 MS. MACDONALD: Maybe all of it is going to be
9 great. Maybe none of it is going to be great, but at
10 least we will have looked at some options and that is
11 super important in this process.

12 COMMISSIOENR TURNER: Um-hum. Thank you.

13 MR. BECKER: And there'll be other opportunities to
14 give more direction and much more specific direction.
15 And you know, for instance, what we -- I don't think what
16 the line drawers need right now is try to draw a line
17 here.

18 COMMISSIONR TURNER: Um-hum.

19 MR. BECKER: That's not where we are by any means.
20 But we've got -- L.A. is actually, the maps that Jaime
21 produced of citizen voting age population I think
22 actually are incredibly helpful for visualizing where the
23 Voting Rights Act considerations are likely to play a
24 significant role.

25 And just making clear that -- look at if -- for

1 Voting Rights Act purposes and getting on the record. If
2 we're Voting Rights Act purposes, you have to split a
3 community of interest or split to a piece of political
4 geography that you otherwise might like to keep. But for
5 the Voting Rights Act, just to give that clear
6 instruction, which is certainly consistent with the
7 Constitution.

8 MS. MACDONALD: Yeah, if I may just weigh in one
9 more time really quickly to Commissioner Turner's point.
10 This is really also about making sure that the Commission
11 will give the preliminary direction, because if you look
12 at other processes, other line drawing processes, it's
13 like, the line drawers come in and they're like, here are
14 some options.

15 We don't want to do that, obviously, because you
16 need to tell us what you want to see. So even if it's
17 preliminary, if it's this broad stroke direction and
18 exactly along the lines of the way you were just talking
19 about it.

20 For example, keep certain groups together if you
21 can, you know, take a look. Take all of this into
22 consideration, the kinds of points that Mr. Becker just
23 made. This is all really important. It's coming from
24 you. We don't want this to come from us. So if we could
25 maybe get some of these things together and then we can

1 just get started, we would really appreciate that.

2 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Yeah, everyone, I hate to
3 say this. And yes, there -- we can go into a bit more of
4 why we're doing it this way, but we're way past break.
5 And unfortunately, I think we're going to lose Mr. Becker
6 here.

7 But as we say, looking at these, we have ideas where
8 the districts will probably go. And without the numbers,
9 we can't actually formalize anything. But it is the
10 direction of yes, we indeed do want you to have a look at
11 these areas. That's the that is the level of direction
12 we're getting in right now.

13 So I think we need to take a break and then we'll
14 come back with all our questions. Unless anyone has
15 something they really want to put out there right now, in
16 which case, go ahead.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I mean, we're really hard
18 on a break here, guys. Mr. Becker will be back tomorrow,
19 so we can try back in

20 MR. BECKER: Actually, Friday. Tomorrow we're off.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, Friday. So we can circle
22 back with him. So let's break at this point and we'll be
23 back. You can all fire me as Chair if you want. But
24 I've set half hour lunches so we can get this stuff done.
25 So we'll be back at 1:20. Thank you.

1 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome back to the California
3 Citizens Redistricting Commission meeting today. I hope
4 everyone had a nice lunch. At this point, I see we have
5 a number of hands raised. And I'll turn it back to
6 Commissioner Andersen to facilitate -- continue to
7 facilitate the discussion.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, Chair.
9 Before I start calling on everyone, I just want to say
10 that in an ideal world, yes, we would have had -- we'd be
11 looking at the numbers already and this -- our directions
12 would be much more obvious. Like we could easily say,
13 oh, well, we can't do that.

14 Unfortunately don't have that time. And we are
15 still trying to get the idea that there is a possibility
16 out there our draft maps might be due November 1st. So
17 that is why we're kind of moving this forward in a manner
18 which does seem a little odd. And what I'd kind of like
19 us to do, I'm going to take all the questions, I just
20 was -- is jump into with the layer of the different
21 racial population groups on -- voting age populations on
22 is look at our communities of interest in those areas.

23 And the reason why is the line drawers and our VRA
24 consultants, they are our consultants. We are supposed
25 to be driving this process, the Commission. And so while

1 we've heard all these things, and others from the public,
2 Commission has not given these ideas a voice, which is
3 what we are doing now.

4 And it's as simple as we heard people say they would
5 like to see this and this and this line drawers, let's go
6 ahead and could you consider that in your visualizations?
7 What we did not want to have is visualizations show up
8 and the commission has never said anything. It's just on
9 what the line drawers or the VRA consultants have
10 considered from what they saw. And that's the purpose of
11 this.

12 And I believe if we direct ourselves more to the
13 areas where we certainly know because the Voting Rights
14 Act is number 2, and those are areas where we actually
15 have to say, yes, indeed, we want to follow the Voting
16 Rights Act. We would like you to consider the areas
17 where you're going to have Gingles preconditions, as
18 we've -- we haven't actually as a Commission said that.

19 So that's kind of the purpose of what we're doing.
20 I mean, obviously, that's what we're all indicating.
21 Yes. And that's what our training has all been. But
22 again, we've been taking direction in, and in, and in,
23 and we haven't been voicing it. So now's our time to
24 voice.

25 And with that, I'm going to call on, first,

1 Commissioner Akutagawa.

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Well, just really, I
3 just wanted to -- I think this is what I heard. I don't
4 have a problem that we're -- don't have all the numbers
5 just yet. What I think I did hear is the suggestion that
6 we look at some potential visualizations using, I think,
7 some of the COI input or all of the COI input.

8 Honestly, I would be curious to see what that would
9 look like. Part of the reason why is I think it at least
10 gives us a picture of based on the inputs that we've
11 gotten from those who have written and called and
12 submitted testimony via the tool.

13 It it's a way to just see, just based on testimony,
14 what the potential districts could look like. And then
15 to then refine districts based on the six criteria that
16 we need to use, and in particular the VRA and the
17 population numbers.

18 I also want to just, I guess, if I heard that
19 correctly, I also, in affirming that, I think it'll also
20 give those who are following along with us -- for them to
21 also see what that would all look like when all put
22 together and also to understand then some of the
23 difficult choices that I think we're going to need to
24 make as we move along on really directing and giving
25 guidance as to what we want to see from a line drawing

1 perspective. So I just wanted to just state that.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you. Yeah,
3 that's is -- that's what the visualizations will indeed
4 really be -- show us -- in our face show us.

5 So Commissioner Toledo?

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner
7 Andersen. I guess what's a little bit confusing is that
8 we started off, it sounds like and maybe I misunderstood,
9 but it sounds like we're now focusing on potential
10 racial, ethnic, and other possible VRA communities of
11 interest.

12 But when we first started, the direction was more
13 global in nature. And so it is a little bit -- it's a
14 little bit confusing. And so is it that we're now
15 focusing more on the on the VRA type communities as we go
16 through this and giving direction around VRA?

17 And I guess my other follow up question to that is,
18 wouldn't we very -- couldn't we very simply give global
19 direction? Because I almost think if we give too
20 specific directions about -- too specific and both of the
21 communities that are part of the smaller communities,
22 then it may that we might be able to get the same results
23 if we just give a global direction around grouping VRA,
24 Latino, African-American, Asian, keeping those
25 communities together, then trying to provide

1 visualizations on those rather than going for each one of
2 them.

3 So I'm just thinking maybe we may want to consider
4 giving the global direction around the VRA type issues.
5 So those are my two things. One is just a clarification
6 on whether we're now focusing on the VRA populations and
7 VRA like populations, because I would probably include
8 the LGBTQ community.

9 We've received quite a bit of feedback on that as
10 well. And other communities that are language minority
11 populations. And then whether global direction might be
12 the type of feedback that is needed or if it really truly
13 is specific to communities and within a specific
14 geographic area.

15 COMMISSIONER ANSDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
16 Toledo. I'm going to ask Commissioner -- I mean, not
17 Commissioner -- Ms. Karin MacDonald, to jump in on that
18 one, please.

19 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you so much for those points,
20 Commissioner Toledo. I think that that's exactly
21 correct. There was some specific request -- so there was
22 some specific direction, which is fine, to perhaps, get
23 some visualizations about various communities of interest
24 that -- and input that you've received that may have been
25 conflicting.

1 So we will be able to map that as soon as we have
2 the total population data. And then at least you have
3 that point already covered, you know whether or not those
4 specific areas can be kept together. We would really,
5 really appreciate getting some general directions also.

6 So perhaps in that area where we first started, the
7 more voting rights direction was maybe not as pertinent
8 as it may be in other areas of Los Angeles. It's just
9 that that's where we started.

10 So in general, if we could get some global direction
11 about how to deal with population concentrations, and I
12 believe that Mr. Larson from Strumwasser/Woocher is here,
13 even though I don't see him right now in this -- in the
14 way I have my screen set up. Perhaps he can also weigh
15 in on this. That will be really important for us to hear
16 and very important direction.

17 And then also perhaps some general direction about
18 things like do you in absence of specific direction,
19 would you like us to follow the public input that was
20 received for a particular area? For example, would you
21 like us to take the other criteria into consideration as
22 much as we have information about the other criteria,
23 particularly considering that we've mostly been talking
24 about criterion 4 of course, right?

25 And then come back to you with specific questions,

1 if we don't have a general or a specific direction about
2 it. Like for example, if we have a community of interest
3 that splits a county boundary, could we just map that and
4 then come back to you and say, here is the community of
5 interest.

6 If we were to map that, it would go across the
7 county boundary. So what is more important? But at this
8 point, if you have not weighed in on that yet and given
9 that you don't have the information about the way that --
10 none of us have the information, the way about the way
11 that the population is flowing because we just don't have
12 the data yet.

13 In absence of that, can you give us some general
14 idea of how you would like us to deal with that? That
15 would be super important, and I think we will be able to
16 provide you more feedback and more visualizations that
17 will help you then give more specific direction in
18 October when we come back, if that made sense.

19 MR. LARSON: Yeah. I'll just piggyback on that.
20 Although, Karin, I think you said pretty much everything.
21 But I think one thing that -- it helps to keep in mind
22 the perspective of the line drawers here. So you have
23 already given some specific requests based on the
24 information you've received from the public, and that's
25 extremely helpful. And they're going to go back and make

1 visualizations specifically on those requests.

2 But as you can probably tell from the time of day
3 and the fact that we're doing the whole state in three
4 days, we're just simply not going to get to every area in
5 the L.A. area today or every area of the state during
6 these sessions.

7 And so the line drawers need not only specific
8 direction, but also sort of what I think of as general
9 principles, that when they're looking at an area for
10 which they've not yet received any specific direction
11 from you all, what are the general principles informing
12 the visualizations they're going to put together?

13 And that might apply to the whole state. Something
14 like when in doubt always follow the COI data we've
15 gotten or when in doubt, always keep cities together.
16 When in doubt, try and keep counties separate, whatever
17 it is. But it could also be unique to an area.

18 So when we're in these heavily populated areas in
19 eastern south L.A., the main priority for the line draws
20 is to consider VRA compliance first and foremost. For
21 example, to look for Section 2 where districts where the
22 Gingles first preconditions are met and to provide
23 visualizations only that are that are compliant with
24 those considerations first and then bring it back and you
25 can consider the COI input you received secondarily after

1 that. And Karin, does that summarize what would be most
2 helpful for you all?

3 MS. MACDONALD: Yes. Yes. Thank you so much, Dale.
4 I really appreciate this. And we could also -- you could
5 also still give some more specific direction. Like, for
6 example, we heard some we heard some feedback or some
7 direction about what to do with Ventura that you wanted
8 to see some visualizations there.

9 So aside from the general direction about -- keep in
10 mind that there are population concentrations. And when
11 you are implementing the more specific direction that
12 we're giving you, please just note these things and then
13 bring them back to us and let us know. I think this
14 is -- this will be super helpful.

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Can I just ask a follow up on
16 that -- on my question, Chair?

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Go ahead.

18 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So because I heard a lot of
19 comments from the Commission. I would think that as we
20 would if -- because we can only act as one, so are
21 these -- are we going to be -- and this is a question.
22 Are we going to be taking action on the direction,
23 meaning are we going to -- if are we doing a statewide, a
24 regional, and are we going to once we have the direction
25 actually approving it as a Commission? Because at this

1 point, we're giving a lot of comments and feedback as
2 individual Commissioners. And so I -- so that's my
3 question --

4 MR. LARSON: I mean, there's no need --

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- for the Chair and to --

6 MR. LARSON: -- at this stage to say here is the one
7 visualization we want for this specific area. So one
8 commissioner might request one type of one visualization
9 and another commissioner or another. And the lenders can
10 come back with both visualizations for that area, and
11 that would be discussed in the next phase.

12 So you don't need a consensus right now. You're not
13 drawing final boundaries right now. You're simply
14 providing direction of the types of things you would like
15 to see visualized for the Commission to take a closer
16 look at in the next stage and for VRA counsel to look
17 more closely and see where there might be potential
18 compliance related issues.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do need to jump in --

20 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- just a minute here.

22 Originally, because several of these ideas are in what we
23 were just talking about are line drawing guidelines or
24 general -- the general, hey, we want to do -- we want
25 counties above communities of interest wanted to cross

1 over.

2 We, basically due to our consultant's time frames,
3 which we are trying to work everyone together. We are
4 trying to get some specific information -- well not
5 specific, but more direct information about L.A. County
6 right now. And then we're going to go. So it's a little
7 backwards in that it would have been nice to say, hey, we
8 want to keep city lines together. We want to keep county
9 lines together.

10 As a commission, we actually haven't had that full
11 discussion. And so that's why it's a little bit funny.
12 But so and that's why we're kind of looking at, yes,
13 basically, we do want to look at our Voting Rights Act
14 areas. And it's not that we're switching from what we
15 had just been doing, talking about what we -- in terms of
16 visualization. Sure. Let's see this and this and this.

17 And at this point, it is different ideas. Like if I
18 say one thing, you might go, great, and then,
19 Commissioner Kennedy might say, yeah, I would like see
20 visualization of one part of that and with another area.
21 And that it helps the line drawers to come up with the
22 different possibilities as a Commission will actually go
23 I like oh that makes more sense.

24 So at this point it's getting possibilities out
25 there. And the only reason I sort of talked more about

1 of let's move into, because of time frame, move into the
2 areas, you know, we sort of started up north in the
3 county where the Racial Voting Rights Act is -- it's
4 equally important, but it isn't quite as predominant.

5 And sort of move into areas a little bit more
6 direction. Like I'm just going to give as an example
7 looking here, we have on Jaime's map, we have the Asian
8 population and say the areas we've heard from Walnut and
9 Diamond Bar who said we'd like to be together.

10 And we've also heard similarly and that's clearly in
11 an area where you'd want to consider the Gingles
12 preconditions. But Walnut Diamond Bar are together. And
13 we've heard several people say, I want Walnut, Diamond
14 Bar, and Chino Hills, where other people have said, I
15 want Diamond Bar, Walnut, and West Covina.

16 So that is a kind of direction depending on
17 population and the Voting Rights Act are those where
18 we're kind of working on that just to give the line draws
19 a couple of overlays. You start with population, you do
20 your VRA, but given one choice versus another, we'd like
21 to have communities of interest. That's just in some of
22 those areas. So I was only moving us and wasn't changing
23 what we were doing. It's just let's kind of focus a
24 little bit more on these areas now as we have our Voting
25 Rights Act consultants with us. So that was the --

1 hopefully that clears up that a little bit.

2 Anyway, Commissioner Kennedy?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. This does seem to
4 be a bit confusing and not where I thought we were going.
5 First of all, I mean, it sounded like a few minutes ago,
6 we were being asked to come out and state our feelings
7 about the six preconditions and the order of them. I
8 mean, we've sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution.
9 They're in there. They're in a particular order. We
10 don't have flexibility on that. Let's acknowledge that
11 and move on.

12 Second of all, the other day, my understanding was
13 that we were being asked to, quote unquote, put our
14 thinking caps on and come up with these general
15 principles. And so yeah, I've got my list of general
16 principles or things kind of close to general principles
17 sitting here beside me waiting for the opportunity to
18 share them. And we go right into let's visualize before
19 we even enunciate these general principles. So yeah,
20 it's been a bit confusing. Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Commissioner Sinay?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I hear where everybody is, and
23 I think, I get in a way we're playing in the game we're
24 playing right now. It's kind of what would look good,
25 what -- based on everything you heard, without knowing

1 the numbers, what are some of the things you want to see?

2 And if we go back to the painting analogy, this is the
3 broad -- we got the sketches from the community.

4 Now we're taking those sketches and trying to do
5 broad paint brushes before we go into the specific dark
6 lines. Right. And there's going to be different levels
7 and we're going to get draw a race and paint over the
8 whole thing and all that. But what I do think is
9 difficult is -- and this is why I kept being very
10 annoying -- okay, I'm going to quit saying I'm annoying.

11 The reason I was being so -- is I believe that
12 having the discussions that Commissioner Kennedy was
13 discussing and some of what Commissioner Toledo was
14 saying, we haven't said how do we want to play together?
15 And that's what the playbook was about. And it was and
16 we wanted to kind of put some guardrails up for
17 ourselves.

18 And right now, what you have given us and maybe it's
19 okay, but we haven't been told this is hey, we're just
20 giving you full, empty painting -- empty piece of paper
21 and we're going to -- a canvas. That's the word. Yeah,
22 you've given us an empty canvas and now you're allowing
23 us to paint. Well, we kind of wanted to talk about
24 where -- how do we draw? Are we going to draw within the
25 lines or outside the lines? Are we going to do it in

1 blue or -- there were there were little pieces we wanted
2 a new ball, have given us an empty canvas.

3 And I think just being able to tell us, okay, we're
4 give you an empty canvas and we want you to kind of throw
5 up there what you've heard from the community so that we
6 can start putting the small pieces into a bigger pieces
7 and you still will. Let's not lose the fact that we are
8 going to have this conversations about principles and
9 playbooks and all that.

10 And I think half of us are ready to jump in and
11 throw things up on the canvas. And the other half of us
12 are like, wait, but how are we going to play together?
13 What are some of the rules? What are some of the
14 parameters? And so that's what I'm hearing is just kind
15 of a confusion on the two ways.

16 And I think that you all explained visualization
17 really well in your document, and we kind of got it. But
18 even last meeting I said, well, wait, when are we talking
19 about the playbooks? When are we talking about, as
20 Commissioner Kennedy said, the principles, how are we
21 going to talk about how we're going to play together?

22 And it feels like, I understand we have a lot of
23 consultants and we have to work on their time. But I'm a
24 consultant. We need to figure out what process is going
25 to work for us, the Commissioners, and then they've got



1 to figure out how it's going to work into their time,
2 because this is a little messy right now.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for that summary,
4 Commissioner Sinay. It was actually very, very accurate.
5 And it really is -- and remember, we've heard everyone
6 say be flexible. Be flexible. And we don't want to be
7 too specific in a playbook and lock ourselves in. We do
8 need to have this ambiguity. But you're right, we want
9 to have a little bit more not quite as ambiguous. And so
10 I would go to Commissioner Yee.

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. Just to check in on
12 the playbook. So it's still being drafted, revised,
13 discussed and so forth. The thinking is that it would
14 not actually come into play at this stage, but rather
15 after this stage. So on the line drawing phases, after
16 the visual -- after the preliminary direction, after the
17 visualizations, and then the playbook comes into play as
18 begin the public plans.

19 So we're not even planning to try to discuss and
20 finalize the playbook until probably the end of this
21 month. The meetings the 28th to 29th. So that's the
22 thinking. Now, of course, that's a bit awkward because
23 some of the direction that we're seeking to give right
24 now for visualizations overlaps with the kind of
25 considerations that would be, obviously.

1 But it's not committing ourselves to the kind of
2 playbook rules that we hope to settle eventually. Right
3 now, it doesn't have to follow a visualization, doesn't
4 have to follow all those rules at this point. And we're
5 just putting ideas up for discussion.

6 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Thank you.

7 Ms. MacDonald?

8 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you so much for calling on me.
9 I feel like I should say that I have been available to
10 all of you twenty-four hours a day for the last I don't
11 know how many months, so I just wanted to make that
12 clear. If anybody thinks that I or their Q2 team or
13 anybody on this team has not been available, please let
14 me know because that is honestly news to me.

15 But going back to this specific topic here, I
16 understand and I appreciate all of the feedback and I
17 understand that this is -- it may feel like we're putting
18 the cart before the horse. But a lot of the playbook is
19 just very specific about really giving specific
20 directions. This is really very general just to be able
21 to get started because some of these -- some of these
22 decisions we could either wait until we have a playbook
23 and until we have the data, and then you give essentially
24 the same general direction.

25 You will have the population data already available,



1 but then we have to still go to that process of mapping
2 everything because just because you have the total
3 population data available doesn't necessarily mean that
4 these maps are -- or these visualizations are magically
5 appearing.

6 Somebody still has to sit down, has to map it. It
7 takes some time to put this together so that you can then
8 take a look at it and you can decide whether or not this
9 makes sense. You have received some conflicting
10 directions or instruction -- feedback. Sorry. Some
11 feedback in areas where people are just not in agreement.

12 I think it is worthwhile to perhaps explore that
13 again so that as soon as we get the data, we can show you
14 exactly what you want to see, which is whether or not
15 this actually works out in terms of some of the other
16 criteria. So this is really just to get started.

17 If the Supreme Court tells you that you have to have
18 a draft available on November 1, it would be very tight
19 if we were to delay this conversation. So we're really
20 just trying to just collaborate with you and do what we
21 can right now with the information that we have available
22 and to perhaps just have you talk about some of these
23 things. Like how do you how do you give direction, for
24 example. It doesn't seem like it's necessary to really
25 vote today from my perspective.



1 We're very happy just to get your opinions and just
2 hear from you what you're hearing. And if you can weigh
3 in with some general direction for us, like, for example,
4 follow the Constitution, follow the ranked criteria in
5 absence of more specific direction, that is just
6 enormously helpful and that may be a foregone conclusion
7 that we would still like to hear it from you, because we
8 basically are implementing what you would like us to do.

9 So I hope that makes sense. I apologize that I
10 couldn't magically make the data available earlier, but
11 we are just in a very strange -- in strange times right
12 now, so. Thanks.

13 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Thank you. That's very well
14 said.

15 Commissioner Sinay?

16 COMMISSIOENR SINAY: Am I next or was there are a
17 lot of other people in front of me?

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I just seen --

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm ready to visualize. I
20 mean, I get what we're doing and that it's a blank -- and
21 so why don't you call on me after we finish this
22 conversation? Because getting that this is a blank
23 canvas, we've heard different things and it's been kind
24 of rattling in our brains. This is a time to kind of
25 say, hey, here's something I heard. Does it work? Does



1 it not work?

2 And so I've got some -- I've been listing some. And
3 I think the only piece we haven't said out loud, and I
4 don't know if we need to say to the public, is any
5 conflicts of interest we may have. And as we're drawing
6 the map, like, I'll be a first and say, hey, you know, my
7 family lives in South Bay. I grew up in South Bay, Los
8 Angeles.

9 So I've got my preconceived notions of it. And so I
10 don't know that's -- we need to put that out there or
11 not, but that's why I kind of keep going back to some of
12 that. But I'm ready to visualize whenever you're ready
13 to have me.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Karin, do you
15 want to say something again? Oh, okay.

16 Commissioner Fernandez?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. So I mean, I
18 understand the whole purpose of visualizations, and I
19 still think it's premature. But without the data, my
20 general direction would be to follow the public input
21 that we've received and not that we would have 2,500
22 different visualizations, but it'd be -- we had quite a
23 few that were similar, and if you stacked them together,
24 they didn't conflict with each other.

25 So that would be my I guess general direction would

1 be let's go with what the public input was and if there's
2 some conflicting information, then let's do another
3 visualization of that. And I realize that's very, very
4 general.

5 But at this point, I can't get more specific right
6 now without the data and I just want to make sure I got
7 all of my -- yeah, that's it. So if no specific
8 direction then follow the public input received. That
9 would be my recommendation or what I would like to see at
10 this point.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
12 Fernandez. That is exactly the type of thing that people
13 can say right now. Thank you.

14 Commissioner Kennedy?

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Just thinking
16 about the scene in general. I mean, there are states
17 that started mapping, maybe even finished initial maps
18 before hard current data were out. And I just wanted to
19 ask, are there proxies? Are we in a situation where, no,
20 we don't have the final database, but we do have the
21 actual census results before the prisoner reallocations.

22 And we know that prisoner reallocation is going to
23 affect communities where the institutions are more than
24 the communities where people are being reallocated to. I
25 mean, is there a way to start this with the data that we

1 already do have? Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I don't have anything to say
3 on that one, unless, Karin, do you -- oh, Commissioner
4 Sadhwani, might just jump in about that.

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I mean, I will. I think
6 there are ways to start this now if we really wanted to
7 go out and explore that avenue. But that hasn't been the
8 process that we have been developing, right.

9 I mean, we could have chosen -- and this was
10 actually a suggestion that I had made about a year ago
11 was why don't we have some computer-generated maps based
12 on algorithms that identify the top six criteria and spit
13 them out there?

14 We could spit out, you know, a million maps that
15 way, but we have consistently said that this is a process
16 that is more like an art form that does contemplate both
17 the qualitative and the quantitative. And I think that
18 that's the process that we have -- the path that we have
19 gone down. And so I think that if we want to completely
20 change courses at this point in time, that that would
21 be -- could actually create greater challenges for us to
22 meet our deadline.

23 Given that, I think we've all kind of come to this
24 place of -- we've talked about visualizations October,
25 many weeks over and over, you know, since July and

1 August. And so I -- if there's a desire to completely
2 change courses, I think that would be problematic and
3 would be challenging for us to actually meet our
4 deadline.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fornaciari?

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I would like to defer to
7 Commissioners Sinay because I have some other
8 visualization suggestions too.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Commissioner Sinay,
10 do you want to jump in or are you going to jump in
11 with --

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, I didn't want to jump
13 into visualizations yet. I wanted to -- I'm trying to
14 help, but I'm trying to use my consultant hat in trying
15 to help us get all on the same page. We as a group,
16 we're moving into a new phase and it feels uncomfortable
17 and that's okay. And it's okay for us to keep reminding
18 ourselves, my favorite quote from Commissioner Turner was
19 when someone said, this is the first time I ever did
20 this. And she said, Yeah, it's our first time too, and
21 it is our first time. So we are supposed to feel
22 uncomfortable. And that's why they wanted a citizen
23 redistricting commission. If you're feeling too
24 comfortable, then you need to take a step back and kind
25 of figure out what you're not -- what you might be

1 missing because this is uncomfortable.

2 The piece I want us to look at this a little
3 differently. Where I come from in the world of
4 philanthropy, the biggest concern that people always say
5 is they're always worried about expectations. What
6 expectations are we putting out there for the community?
7 How clear can we be for the community?

8 And what I like about this visualization piece,
9 let's take off our hats as Commissioners and line drawers
10 and put on our hats as ambassadors for the community.
11 And what I think we're really being asked to do is you
12 heard from the community, we have 2,000, 3,000 inputs
13 from the community, from what you've heard.

14 And we're not -- and I get a little nervous because
15 I'm like, yeah, I've heard it, but I don't know what
16 exactly. So when you say there's conflicting, I can't
17 remember exactly what the conflicts are, but what I'm
18 hearing is take -- as an ambassador to the community,
19 we've heard different things.

20 We want to help the community be able to go from
21 where they've given us a little bit of input for their
22 communities of interest, we don't want to jump right into
23 districts because that's going to be jarring. Let's go
24 into putting it into a map, having some visualization for
25 them to see, and then we put the data to that and say,

1 oh, it's not doable. So now let's change it.

2 So not only are we taking baby steps moving forward,
3 but we're also helping those who we're serving and those
4 who have shared their ideas and their passion about their
5 communities, helping walk them through the process so
6 they can say that we have heard them and that we're
7 moving -- we're trying to visualize it.

8 And then when the data comes, they can say, okay,
9 they did listen to me. They did try. It doesn't work.
10 Okay. So it's okay to feel uncomfortable. And it's okay
11 that this isn't perfect. And it's okay not -- let this
12 be your free time to draw it -- I'm going to use the
13 drawing thing again -- and not worry about the data.
14 We're going to be really stuck on data later. But allow
15 yourself to translate what the community said to us.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you,
17 Commissioner Sinay. And it's time to jump in guys. I'm
18 sorry. I'm thinking, okay, map, map, map. That's
19 drawing. We're getting into it. I didn't do enough
20 preliminary discussion. Preliminary about it's time to
21 put ideas up there. It's time to voice those ideas.

22 And I think thank you all, the Commissioners for
23 voicing that now. And we don't have hard and fast rules
24 yet. We're trying to see what we'd like. And
25 Commissioner Kennedy said, let's -- we want to follow the



1 criteria in the Constitution. That's a direction. We
2 want to follow VRA -- the rules by the Constitution.
3 That's a direction. So let's jump right in and start.

4 Commissioner Fornaciari?

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. So before I get started, I
6 want to thank Commissioner Sinay. And I think that was
7 really, really helpful. I mean, I'm feeling
8 uncomfortable, but I'm ready to jump in so I will. And I
9 think this will be really helpful. So the direction I
10 like to give is just to reiterate, I mean, the areas that
11 appear to be -- that they may be VRA areas.

12 I'd like the team to explore those a little more
13 deeply and come back with identifying those areas that
14 might meet the criteria and give us an outline and give
15 us an idea of where the -- where those areas would be for
16 us to consider.

17 Because I think having -- I think taking this
18 initial step before we actually have the data to kind of
19 roughly begin -- have them roughly take some time to
20 roughly begin to look at those areas will really pay
21 dividends later when we have to really get down makes
22 decisions on those topics.

23 So I mean that's the direction I'd like you to give.
24 I think we heard you know maybe we'd like to -- some
25 people would like to see Long Beach stay together. So

1 maybe you can tell us what that looks like. I had one
2 more thing. Well, we are we already talked about 210,
3 north of the 210 in the mountains. So that was already
4 something we talked about. Yeah, I'll stop there.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right. Great job,
6 Commissioner Fornaciari.

7 Commissioner Sadhwani?

8 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. And I probably
9 have lots of directions that I would love to discuss in
10 different areas. I wanted to also just chime in and
11 reiterate Commissioner Fornaciari's perspective. Thank
12 you, Commissioner Sinay. I thought that that was right
13 on.

14 And this is our first time having a business
15 meeting, nonbusiness meeting, right, where we are
16 engaging in what we've heard and beginning to engage in
17 line drawing. So it is uncomfortable. It's new. The
18 path forward is new for all of us. None of us have done
19 redistricting before. And I really appreciate those
20 comments. Thank you.

21 The piece I wanted to bring up was county lines. So
22 I think that in a lot of places, it makes sense to cross
23 county lines when we're talking about Los Angeles, even
24 though part of our criteria is, of course, being
25 cognizant of county lines. But I think we've heard



1 testimony in some instances in which there's perhaps an
2 expectation to cross county lines, right.

3 And I'm thinking about the Pomona Valley area, also
4 sometimes considered the Inland Empire, those areas that
5 included, I believe, some parts of San Bernardino County
6 like Montclair, Ontario, Upland, Claremont, possibly
7 parts of Pomona. I think there had been other testimony
8 that had suggested Rancho Cucamonga all the way over to
9 Altadena or Pasadena that would also be crossing county
10 lines.

11 I think Los Angeles is such a highly populated
12 county that I would be hard pressed to give direction to
13 only stay within county boundaries for Los Angeles,
14 particularly given a lot of the COI testimony that we've
15 received, with the one exception, I think we've heard
16 actually that Orange County boundary feels sacred to
17 communities.

18 I think we've heard a lot of people in Orange County
19 saying don't put us with Long Beach. Similarly along, I
20 feel like we had received somewhat differing testimony
21 about some of the areas like Cerritos, Whittier, et
22 cetera, that have mixed populations. I feel like I heard
23 both. And yet at the same time some people saying we
24 really don't have anything to do with Orange County.

25 So that's for me, I think it's -- I'm just thinking

1 out loud here, that's one of the county line
2 considerations for me is I definitely heard crossing that
3 boundary between L.A. and Ventura, between L.A. and Kern,
4 between L.A. and San Bernardino, all seemed reasonable to
5 communities on the ground.

6 The Orange County one seemed a little bit more -- a
7 little less reasonable, I suppose. So in terms of
8 direction, I would say okay to go across county borders,
9 but definitely trying to see some visualizations on the
10 Orange County boundary that would keep L.A. and Orange
11 separated.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
13 Sadhwani.

14 Commissioner Sinay?

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Okay. So I did
16 hear Ventura say we don't want to be part of L.A. So
17 that was another one of those county lines that -- and it
18 may be that that's the last one who's spoken. So that's
19 picking my mind. So I think we should -- when we're
20 looking at Ventura, Los Angeles, that area, the Simi
21 Valley piece is this is one of those that having a
22 visualization to understand which way Simi Valley could
23 go might be helpful. I do think that it would be
24 interesting to -- and maybe this is -- we haven't heard
25 enough from San Pedro to really understand their

1 relationship with the Los Angeles airport. Long Beach
2 port did send us their perspective and that they want to
3 be with Long Beach. And ports do give grants and work
4 closely with the communities that they're working with.
5 I know that from my work with Holland America line. But
6 San Pedro is a really diverse community that does
7 consider themselves coastal but is also -- does consider
8 themselves port and gateway. So I guess that's more of
9 an outreach question and it would be interesting to hear
10 more from San Pedro on what we've got a few inputs, but
11 just kind of where they see themselves.

12 For visualization, I think it would be helpful to
13 see Palos Verdes all the way up to El Segundo. Well,
14 Palos Verdes all the way up to Santa Monica, as folks
15 have requested. But I would also like to encourage us to
16 look at Palos Verdes all the way to El Segundo, including
17 all of Torrance, because the very first call we got way
18 back in September, and the only reason I remember is
19 because I'm a South Bay girl in raising, was someone from
20 Torrance saying, keep us together, you split us up.

21 And so I would like to see if we keep Torrance all
22 together because it is a community -- they've got the
23 small -- I always forget it has that small coastal piece,
24 but South Bay is really -- the whole City of Torrance is
25 a big part of the South Bay area. So those would be two

1 visualizations for that coastal area. And then just the
2 outreach piece for San Pedro.

3 And I think we brought them up and maybe it just
4 falls under the -- what Neal was saying -- sorry,
5 Commissioner Fornaciari was saying about the gray areas.
6 I did write down a whole list of L.A. VRA areas that came
7 up from communities of interest. I don't know if it's
8 helpful just to submit that to kind of the line drawers
9 or whomever versus me saying them verbally.

10 But there were different communities that
11 mentioned -- mentioned that. And the reason I'm saying
12 it might be a little different than what Commissioner
13 Fornaciari was saying is one, is what do we see with the
14 data, right, with the number data? But another is what
15 are potential VRA communities based on what we hear from
16 the community of interest data?

17 And so it would be interesting to kind of marry
18 those two so that the community can see that we heard
19 them as well as this is what the numbers say. So just
20 give me direction on how to share the list that I kind of
21 pulled up and it might not be accurate.

22 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Okay. Actually, thank you,
23 Commissioner Sinay, because I want to put you on pause
24 there for a minute. And make sure that we're -- now that
25 we're started rolling, we might be going a little too

1 fast for the line drawings -- and line drawing. And also
2 our staff are taking notes. So I just want to clarify
3 from, jumping back to Commissioner Sadhwani, do we have
4 everything Commissioner Sadhwani said?

5 MS. CLARK: I have a really quick clarifying
6 question, Commissioner Sinay. So I guess a question that
7 I have based on your last bit about the VRA, the
8 potential VRA districts or VRA considerations pieces was
9 that could the general direction from that to be like
10 look at the VRA and also how COI inputs complement what
11 we're seeing in the data.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. To me that that's
13 different. What I'm saying is kind of look at them,
14 separate the data. Every time you look at the data,
15 that's going to numbers anytime you'll get -- because
16 both are data.

17 As Karin reminded us, they're both data sets. And
18 so my question is looking at those two data sets
19 separately, where are kind of the overlaps and not the
20 overlaps so that we can show that to the greater
21 community who's taken a lot of time to tell us, hey, this
22 is where we -- sometimes they would say, we think this is
23 a VRA or we know this is a VRA.

24 You guys need to look at VRA, but other times they
25 just said, we're an Asian community. We're fifty percent

1 Asian and forty percent Latino. And so that's what I'm
2 saying is. I would like us to have a visualization
3 separating the two and then bringing the two together.
4 Maybe that's too much work, but that -- that's kind of
5 where I was at.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Does that make sense? Do
7 you need more clarification or?

8 MS. CALRK: I think that we can figure out how to do
9 that. Yeah. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

11 MS. CLARK: Thank you for your clarification,
12 Commissioner Sinay.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And also, do you need any
14 clarification from Commissioner Sadhwani? No. Okay.
15 All right. Yeah, Commissioner Sinay, would you please,
16 though, if you're not too long, just go ahead and read
17 all those areas so the Commissioners have an idea of what
18 your areas you're talking about. You don't have to go
19 into them, but.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sure. And this was just
21 pulling it out from my notes. So my notes weren't always
22 accurate because people spoke really fast sometimes. But
23 anyway, El Serrano, Boyle Heights -- and the El Serrano
24 came up as a Latino community, Boyle Heights and its
25 surrounding neighborhood as a Latino community, Inland

1 South Bay as an Asian community.

2 And then these they asked to be together the
3 gateway -- they called it the Gateway Cities: Santa Fe
4 Springs, Downey, Norwalk, Cerritos, Artesia, Bellflower,
5 South Los Angeles, again, Cerritos is there and Artesia
6 as an Asian community, Southgate, Huntington, Bell, Bell
7 Gardens, Watts, Florence and other Latino communities in
8 that area.

9 Bell, Walnut Park, Vernon, Lynwood, Maywood, Bell,
10 this is the one area that I did feel that the Orange
11 County boundary you could cross was the Diamond Bar,
12 Roland, Walnut. I don't think they're all Orange County.
13 I think parts of those that's L.A. but I could be wrong
14 in my geography.

15 Baldwin Hills, Mid-City, Jefferson City, La Cienega,
16 Montebello with Pico Rivera, Whittier is Armenian.
17 That's why I was asking about the Middle East. And so
18 how are we going to pull that out? But that one was
19 Armenian. I think that was it.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

21 Karin?

22 MS. MACDONALD: I was wondering if I may please ask
23 for clarification from Commissioner Sadhwani and actually
24 Commissioner Sinay. So now you just actually talked
25 about that area that I wanted to clarify whether the

1 Orange County boundary. So that would not be a hard line
2 that you wouldn't want us to cross. I just wanted to
3 verify.

4 Because if we may have to cross that line for
5 population purposes or so forth, then we would be able to
6 do that. And would the direction be to cross, preferably
7 in those areas that Commissioner Sinay and I just
8 outlined? Does that sound right?

9 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Yeah, I think so. Um-hum.

10 MS. MACDONALD: That's great. And thank you so much
11 to both of you. And then the other note that I had was
12 on the Ventura County line. If we need to cross that
13 county line, is there -- are there some preferences about
14 where we may be able to do that or some areas where we
15 may not -- where we should not cross it. Any kind of
16 suggestions that you have are helpful here.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fornaciari,
18 where you going to answer that one or? Yes. So
19 Commissioner Fornaciari?

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I mean, I think we had
21 some testimony. And I think just today, Westlake Village
22 wanted to be with Ventura County. I mean, the testimony
23 about Agoura Hills in Calabasas came really early, and I
24 don't remember what they said. But this little Bell
25 Canyon thing, the only way to get in there is from L.A.

1 I mean, you can't get to Ventura County from Bell
2 Canyon. So it makes sense to keep that with the San
3 Fernando Valley, I believe. I mean, I think we only
4 heard one person provide that testimony, but it's
5 surrounded by an old test site that's impassable. And so
6 I think it would make sense to keep that with the San
7 Fernando Valley.

8 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you so much. And would it be
9 okay for us to just refer to the testimony on those areas
10 and then just follow that testimony and then let you know
11 what we follow, if we're specifying or clarifying on
12 that, is that okay?

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: That would make sense to me.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, that's exactly what I
15 would think, if I was going to give a direction. I would
16 say follow the input that we've received in the areas
17 that -- because several reasons there are very good
18 reasons to cross county lines or cross city lines.

19 I would think the input -- and I would appreciate if
20 they're pointed out then in the visualizations to say,
21 here we cross the county line because this, we across the
22 city line because of that. But essentially they're all
23 the same criteria. So I'd appreciate if we could, when
24 in doubt, use the community of input and show us that.

25 Oh, okay. Commissioner Sinay?

1 Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead, Commissioner Fornaciari.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I just have one more comment
3 about that area. We'll talk about that. So that's my
4 zone and I'm getting the information together. We'll
5 talk about that in more detail. And I think this is
6 partly where leads to.

7 So the step up for me is we're just talking about
8 L.A. County when there's a lot of overlapping things
9 going on outside of there, how we give them direction
10 just in this one place when we -- it is all affected, it
11 all affects each other.

12 But it all specifically brings back the Simi Valley,
13 Moorpark discussions and talk in detail about that and
14 what each of those individual communities is looking for.
15 And so I think that'll help inform to overlapping and
16 crossing and the Ventura County line.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you very much.
18 Actually, I did also want to bring up one point. John,
19 the mapper, said there's a lot more information about,
20 the Orange County, L.A. line. That's an area that really
21 deserves more investigation because there's a lot of
22 communities of interest across that. And so I would
23 appreciate a little bit more information about that and
24 whether that be the visualizations where in terms of we
25 end up doing this, this, this for these reasons and bring

1 that back to us. I think that would be extremely
2 helpful.

3 MS. MACDONALD: Certainly. Commissioner Anderson,
4 thank you so much for that direction also. And that, of
5 course, is going to be the famous hand over piece that we
6 all have to have to negotiate at some point, because at
7 this point we're still -- the expertise lies within the
8 regional mappers and they all have to then work together
9 at some point to put one entire map together. And we
10 will focus on that and we will bring you some
11 visualizations about that area. Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.
13 Commissioner Sinay?

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: We've heard often Please don't
15 split cities. And it feels like there was a lot of
16 cities that were split in 2011. So if there are cities
17 that are split like Torrance and Calabasas, well,
18 Calabasas is Ventura County. Sorry. But just when
19 possible, I think it's better to split counties than it
20 is to split cities. Even though we did get call in
21 asking for my city to be split in half. But on the
22 whole, let's just try not to split cities.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.
24 Commissioner Sadhwani?

25 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Sure. Thank you. And I would

1 agree with that. I mean, as a guiding principle, at
2 least where possible, to keep a city together, even if it
3 goes across county lines. I think we heard that loud and
4 clear from the people of Lancaster, for example, right,
5 who had half of the city broken in half. Though we have
6 heard in several places, I think, not just your city,
7 Commissioner Sinay, we don't want to be kept together.
8 And that's fair, too. But as a guiding principle.

9 I'd really love just to hear a little bit more from
10 other Commissioners about VRA considerations, and I know
11 we don't have that analysis at this point in time, but I
12 think one of the things -- and Commissioner Yee mentioned
13 this earlier in one of his questions to Mr. Becker, where
14 we're looking in broad strokes, here's the Asian
15 community, here's the Latino community, here's the black
16 community.

17 But when you know L.A., you know that those
18 communities are living together, right? And we haven't
19 really examined that overlay. And so I think the
20 direction that I want to give -- and I'm assuming that
21 the -- that our RPV analysts would do this anyway, but is
22 to pay really careful attention to how communities are
23 voting together. For example, it was just mentioned -- I
24 think Commissioner Siany mentioned, Cerritos is
25 somewhat -- is considered a Asian community.

1 And it's true, right, in the Cerritos, Norwalk area,
2 Artesia, Little India is there. There's also a very
3 large Latino community as well. And so I'm really
4 curious to get that analysis of how and when do we
5 maximize one community over another, perhaps? I don't
6 think that's necessarily the right terminology.

7 But where one community is more likely to elect a
8 candidate of their choice, I think not only in that area,
9 but also certainly when it comes to South L.A. I want to
10 see a number of options. I think we've heard loud and
11 clear from communities to please protect the voting power
12 of the black community.

13 One of the key pieces about South L.A., however, is
14 that it's, of course, changing rapidly. And so I think I
15 really want to make sure that we see what our options are
16 there to maintain the voting power for the black
17 community in that region across all of those districts.
18 And exactly how that plays out without packing into one
19 where it could possibly be two districts.

20 I know that's not very specific, but I want to be
21 clear that I do want to see varying options that are
22 available to us. Similarly, we have had a few calls, not
23 a lot, but a few about Koreatown and the fact that it has
24 been split numerous time, I believe, over multiple
25 districts from 2010 and really having -- I don't know

1 whether or not an analysis was done of Koreatown by The
2 State Commission ten years ago, but I certainly think
3 it's worth our while this time around.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

5 Karin?

6 MS. MACDONALD: Yeah. I was just wondering,
7 Commissioner Sadhwani, if I may clarify that direction
8 about the black areas and so forth in that in that region
9 there. Would it be okay to -- for us to follow the VRA
10 attorney's input that we may have -- that we may have
11 access to when we're looking at these areas with --

12 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Absolutely.

13 MS. MACDONALD: Would that be acceptable?

14 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Yes.

15 MS. MACDONALD: Okay.

16 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: I think that that should be
17 the expectation.

18 MS. MACDONALD: Thank you.

19 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: I think you want to just pay
20 really careful attention. And I'd be curious to hear
21 from other Commissioners also on this issue, just about
22 ensuring that we aren't overly packing those districts
23 when we develop them.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'm going to -- also, it's
25 time for all Commissioners to say a little something or

1 other. So if you don't start raising your hands, I'm
2 going to call on you. So I know you've heard something
3 or other, so speak up.

4 And it could be that you'd like to see the different
5 racial voting maps over an area or something like that.
6 But it's time to get a few ideas out here. So who's
7 going be the first guinea pig? I don't see any hands.
8 So I'm just looking through it.

9 Commissioner Yee, you happen to be the first one I
10 see. Wait, wait. I'm sorry. I take that back. I see
11 hands.

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: I think Commissioner Kennedy was
13 first.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Kennedy?

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I have spent over
16 the years a fair amount of time in both Chinatown and
17 Little Tokyo, and I was persuaded by the testimony the
18 other day that it makes sense to group Chinatown, Little
19 Tokyo, and as much of the core of downtown as can be
20 joined with those two.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Yee?

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. So we had quite a bit of
24 testimony about the foothill communities and the San
25 Gabriel Mountains and quite a few people wanting to stay

1 connected with the parks in the mountains. So that is
2 indeed the various cities in the San Gabriel Valley, the
3 large Asian populations there. So how do those two
4 concerns relate to each other -- the Asian communities'
5 populations vis-à-vis the foothill communities and the
6 parks.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.

8 MS. CLARK: If I may? I'm so sorry to interject.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Go right ahead.

10 MS. CLARK: Thank you. Thank you to all the
11 Commissioners who are giving preliminary direction for
12 line drawing. Commissioner Yee, could you please -- is
13 there any specific direction that you have about this
14 area of the San Gabriel Valley and the foothills area?
15 Or I should rephrase part of me -- not necessarily
16 specific direction, but I'm wondering if you could turn
17 the observation you made into a direction, please.

18 COMMISSIONER YEE: Could we see two different -- I
19 don't know. I'm trying to figure out -- they overlap
20 geographically in what they address. So I'm wondering --
21 I don't know. Would one visualization show how one would
22 emphasize one versus the other? Would that be the kind
23 of direction that would help?

24 MS. CLARK: Absolutely. Thank you so much.

25 COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. Thank you.



1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I had Commissioner Vazquez
2 up there.

3 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Pass. I'm still formulating
4 my thought.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.
6 Commissioner Sadhwani?

7 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Sure. I was just going to
8 offer as a possibility for Commissioner Yee. I had the
9 same concern and consideration, right. And certainly I
10 understand the desire of the community to keep together a
11 foothill district. And I heard that loud and clear given
12 the potential VRA considerations, however, for the Asian-
13 American community.

14 I'm also wondering what it might look like to have
15 communities kind of coming northward from out of the San
16 Gabriel Valley and all the way northward. I do also --
17 I'm curious to hear what others thoughts are. In hearing
18 some of the testimony, this is not direction. This is
19 just thoughts.

20 And I'd be curious to hear some general feedback
21 from commissioners. And I'm sure from the public, while
22 I understand the environmental concerns and we certainly
23 heard these are recreational areas that people use, I
24 think given that, my sense is that, you know, whether
25 this ends up being one full district from Altadena to

1 Rancho Cucamonga or two districts or three districts,
2 right, my sense is that so long as it's not broken up too
3 much, that you would get representation that is
4 responsive to the needs of the mountain communities.

5 I mean, the same could also be true for the coastal
6 communities that perhaps if we're not able to keep those
7 cities that lie along a major natural resource such as
8 mountains or ocean, that doesn't mean that we have to
9 break them into 1,000 different districts.

10 It could just be one, two, or three in some of these
11 instances I wanted to offer that from a direction
12 standpoint. I think definitely seeing -- I agree with
13 Commissioner Yee that -- seeing the VRA component and how
14 that might impact the formation of perhaps two to three
15 districts along the mountain range.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

17 And Commissioner Taylor?

18 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. Maybe I can add a
19 little bit to that conversation. I think as it relates
20 to those foothill communities and that 210 corridor,
21 everything has been visualized as east to west. And I
22 guess if we're looking at possible iterations, is there a
23 way to respect those communities and maybe think of that
24 as north to south as well, going slightly south of the
25 210 freeway.

1 Because you still hit some of those communities that
2 have these VRA considerations and AAPI and you still can
3 keep that community intact. It just might create
4 multiple districts, if you think of it from north to
5 south as well.

6 So I think I would like to be able to see or sense
7 what would happen if we had it considered both east to
8 west and north to south. But it's been described mostly
9 to us as east to west and north of the 210. And those
10 cities, Arcadia, Temple City, it goes into Monterey Park,
11 that is a Monrovia -- that is a northeast, south
12 direction.

13 And those are still the same people that use the
14 recreation of those foothill communities when you think
15 of it East or West, if that helps any and maybe sort of
16 addresses what Russell and Sara were speaking to. Thank
17 you.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
19 Taylor.

20 Commissioner Sadhwani, were you also saying
21 something? No? Okay.

22 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: I'm just nodding in agreement
23 with Commissioner Taylor.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Vazquez?

25 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. I think I'm on the

1 same page about wanting to see a north to south versus an
2 east to west visualization. I'll just say with what's on
3 my mind -- so this isn't direction, but a consideration
4 I'm looking at is foothill communities are -- tend to be
5 very different from sort of the valley communities,
6 particularly in terms of income.

7 And just want it -- particularly when you overlay
8 sort of income and then racial voting interests thinking
9 about just how we may be with different tradeoffs, like
10 maybe privileging higher income communities with
11 particular districts depending on those populations.

12 So I think having the contrast of like the north to
13 south, east to west, my consideration will sort of be
14 just thinking about how similar is a community that is
15 structured from north to south. How similar is that
16 community really? So yeah, just again, that's thoughts,
17 not direction.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Those count too.
19 Commissioner Sinay?

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I did forget. I did miss some
21 of the subgroups in my list. And when I looked back we
22 did hear that in Pasadena there, the Lincoln Corridor in
23 Pasadena is a strong Latino community. And then the
24 other one was the 210 corridor was a strong Asian
25 community.



1 But I don't have exactly where -- but it struck me
2 when we're talking about the 210 and the foothill -- the
3 foothill community -- the community of interest that
4 we've heard, we've heard a lot from the foothill
5 communities. But then also, what does it mean the 210
6 corridor or how deep do the corridors go?

7 And so I think that was kind of addressed by what
8 Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Vazquez brought up
9 because there will be complex -- and I still don't know
10 how much we're supposed to -- going back to what
11 Commissioner Vazquez brought up is our personal biases.
12 How do we put them on the table so we know what our
13 biases are and how do we -- and the communities of
14 interest that have called us?

15 There has been some biases that if you go a little
16 deeper, you can maybe understand what the biases and one
17 of the -- so those conversations I feel like we still
18 need to have as well so that we know how to look at all
19 of this data that we have.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
21 Sinay.

22 One thing that we -- which I forgot to mention, we
23 are going to have -- we're taking these directions, we're
24 writing them down -- our staff is also helping write this
25 down. But we might do a quick read back just to make

1 sure that what is being written down is what we intend to
2 be said.

3 So just some clarification because I don't want us
4 to run out, oh, here we are at the break again. So if we
5 could -- if we could kind of do that from either the
6 staff or from the line drawers, and then we could
7 continue on with areas because I know there are a lot of
8 areas through Los Angeles that we could continue on with.

9 Is that okay from -- I don't know who wants to go
10 first if the line drawers or the staff would like to.

11 MS. MACDONALD: I think that would be a staff.
12 Yeah. Marcy's already on.

13 MS. KAPLAN: So let me just close with I think we
14 start -- everyone started to get the hang of this a
15 little bit more after the break. And so it might be
16 easier for Kim to help with the recap right now on that.
17 We do have the notes from earlier, but we're just going
18 back to pull from some of the closed captioning to make
19 sure we're getting from before the break a little bit
20 more accurately.

21 So Kim, if you can help with since we came back from
22 break think we've been working together on this a little
23 bit more to do a bit more of that recap since we came
24 back from break.

25 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you very much.



1 And again, we -- we're sort of evolving through this. We
2 get a little easier and better. I appreciate everyone's
3 indulgence on this.

4 MS. KAPLAN: Okay.

5 MS. BRIGGS: Do I have to appear on camera? Let me
6 just set up real quick.

7 MS. KAPLAN: It's okay. You don't need your camera.
8 Go ahead. Unless you want it. Go ahead.

9 MS. BRIGGS: Okay. From after break, one brought up
10 from Commissioner Toledo, three requests -- excuse me,
11 Andersen. We've heard several people say Diamond Bar and
12 Walnut together. That's one. Some have said Diamond
13 Bar, Walnut, and Chino Hills together. The third one,
14 some said Diamond Bar, Walnut, and West Covina together.

15 I have from Commissioner Sinay for South Bay, are
16 there any conflicts of interest? From Commissioner
17 Fornaciari, I have three visualizations. One, explore a
18 little more deeply and come back by identifying VRA areas
19 for L.A. County. Two, keeping Long Beach together.
20 Three, identifying the area north of mountains, the 210
21 corridor.

22 From Commissioner Sadhwani, I have keeping Pomona
23 Valley, the Inland Empire, some parts of San Bernardino,
24 Upland, Rancho Cucamonga together for the first one. The
25 second one for Orange County, not including with Long

1 Beach. The third, Cerritos, Whittier, and mixed
2 populations not wanting to be with Orange County. The
3 fourth, if you have to cross borders, it makes sense for
4 L.A. and Kern and L.A. and San Bernardino. But for L.A.
5 County and O.C., don't cross borders.

6 Commissioner Sinay, I have Ventura County do not put
7 with L.A. The next visualization from Sinay, Palos Verde
8 to Santa Monica. The next visualization, Palos Verdes to
9 El Segundo, including Torrance. The next one, L.A. VRA
10 areas including the standard definition. And then what
11 comes -- what came from COI submissions in areas like
12 Sereno, Boyle Heights, and surrounding areas, Santa Fe
13 Springs, Bellflower -- she listed a few. I'm sorry. I
14 need to go back into those.

15 From Commissioner Fornaciari, visualization request
16 for Ventura County Line. You can't get to Ventura from
17 Bell Canyon, so it makes sense to keep Bell Canyon with
18 San Fernando Valley.

19 Commissioner Sinay, try not to split cities.

20 Commissioner Sadhwani, follow Voting Rights Act
21 attorney input that members may have access to when
22 looking at these areas, make sure not to overly pack
23 these districts when you develop.

24 From Commissioner Kennedy, group Chinatown, Little
25 Tokyo, and as much of the core of downtown as can be

1 joined with these two.

2 Commissioner Yee, for the mountains and the foothill
3 communities with the Asian community try to create
4 boundaries that keep Asian communities together but
5 respecting the foothill boundaries. Commissioner Yee
6 clarified needing to draw two to three districts along
7 the 10 mountain range.

8 Commissioner Taylor for the 210 corridor and the San
9 Gabriel Valley is considered east to west and also north
10 to south.

11 Commissioner Sinay was speaking on the 210 corridor
12 noting the strong Asian community there and just wanting
13 clarification on how deep the definition of the 210
14 corridor.

15 That's what I have. Please let me know if I missed
16 some.

17 MS. KAPLAN: And just let me add, there was a
18 couple -- thank you so much, Kim. There were there were
19 a couple of the general direction also. So Commissioner
20 Fernandez provided when there's no specific direction to
21 follow the public input that we've received.

22 And then, Commissioner Andersen had noted there are
23 good reasons to cross county lines or cross city lines.
24 And just to point that out in the visualizations here, we
25 cross the county line because of this or because of that.

1 When in doubt, use the community of input and show us
2 that.

3 And then also Commissioner Andersen highlighted
4 getting more information about when John, the mapper, had
5 noted information about the Orange County, L.A. line to
6 highlight that in visualizations as well.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you. And there
8 were some others from before. But I'm going to call on
9 Commissioner Kennedy right now.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Just to say that
11 my recollection is that we would need to add Rowland
12 Height and Hacienda Heights to the Diamond Bar and Walnut
13 visualization. Thank you.

14 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much. And if I may,
15 Commissioner Andersen, just summarize from before the
16 break --

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

18 MS. CLARK: -- the initial -- thank you. So before
19 the break, we also heard about -- and which was primarily
20 and almost exclusively about northern L.A. County and
21 surrounding areas, keeping Antelope Valley together,
22 trying to -- sort of exploring Antelope Valley plus areas
23 north in Kern County. Antelope Valley, plus the Victor
24 Valley area, also starting in northeast corner of L.A.
25 County, moving sort of southwest to include all of

1 Antelope Valley and Santa Clarita Valley and then trying
2 options with Simi Valley and without Simi Valley.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great.

4 Commissioner Sadhwani?

5 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. This is just -- thank
6 you for that recap, Jaime. I mean, this is a question
7 for Commissioners. I know we're often thinking about
8 that area of the Antelope Valley with Santa Clarita,
9 maybe Simi Valley, maybe parts of Kern.

10 And I'm just trying to recall, I feel like we did
11 have minimal amounts, but some testimony which considered
12 connecting the Antelope Valley to parts of San Bernardino
13 and the high desert areas. I mean, is that something
14 others think that we should potentially explore as a as
15 an option?

16 I don't have a strong sense on that, but maybe I
17 know, Commissioner Kennedy, I know is one of the outreach
18 leads for this in Bernardino area. I don't know if that
19 was a larger consideration.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Kennedy, please
21 go right ahead.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks. Yeah, I mean, I've
23 driven between the Antelope Valley and the Victor Valley.
24 It's pretty desolate there in between but the physical
25 geography is very similar. And I think some of the --

1 some of the environmental concerns are going to be
2 similar. So yeah, I would certainly be interested in
3 seeing a visualization that did combine the Antelope
4 Valley with Victor Valley. Thanks.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I was going to say
6 the same. But Commissioner Vazquez?

7 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I agree. And it just
8 was my experience that both of those communities, they
9 have a similar sort of orientation to the rest of their
10 respective county. Is this sort of like, oh, Antelope
11 Valley is very much -- we are not like those people on
12 the other side of the hill like we are the Antelope
13 Valley.

14 And I think somewhat similarly sort of folks in the
15 Victor Valley don't -- they're high desert community, a
16 bit more rural, much more spread out, suburban, et
17 cetera. And we are not like the suburbs in the hills or
18 in the valley down in San Bernardino. So I would like to
19 see what that might look like if we combine these two
20 communities.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

22 Commissioner Fornaciari?

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Ms. Clark, can you turn on the
24 geography again and kind of zoom in that area that you
25 have with those two valleys together?

1 MS. CLARK: One moment, please.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Please.

3 MS. CLARK: I'm going to zoom in first because the
4 terrain can slow down the map a lot, so. So there's
5 double city layers because the terrain layer has the name
6 of the city as well as, of course, the city layer we use
7 in Maptitude. But this general area is the Antelope
8 Valley. This is the L.A. County line, and this general
9 area is Victor Valley. And I'll zoom out a little bit.
10 So again, this area, Antelope Valley, Victor Valley.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you very much.
12 The terrain layer really helps. I have Commissioner
13 Vazquez?

14 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Sorry. No.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I forgot to put my hand down.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'm sorry.

18 Commissioner Taylor?

19 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yeah. So I agree with
20 Commissioner Kennedy, Commissioner Vazquez. I think we
21 have to explore those options. Although the geography on
22 both the far north, when we think of the high desert and
23 the end of Palmdale, Lancaster, Antelope Valley is much
24 similar to how it is on the south with Simi Valley and
25 Santa Clarita.

1 There's similarities between those community
2 members, although there's geography that separates those
3 two. So where do you add or subtract in? Do you add or
4 subtract in the bottom? Which communities have more
5 similarities to each other? Which one are we hearing
6 input that they should be included with as opposed to
7 excluded with?

8 So I think we have to look at both ways because we
9 have to see whether it's more appropriate to fit it in in
10 the far north, in the high desert or fit it in down
11 south, further down south in Santa Clarita or Simi
12 Valley.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
14 Taylor. That's exactly what visualizations are all
15 about.

16 Jaime?

17 MS. CLARK: Yeah. Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.
18 And we have noted that all of the options will be
19 visualizations for your consideration.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

21 Commissioner Sadhwani?

22 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Yeah. This is just another
23 conversation piece for us, really, not necessarily
24 direction. But I think one as I'm looking at these
25 regions and just what I generally know about them,

1 there's also, I think, some socioeconomic differences
2 between them.

3 And certainly I think we had community of interest
4 testimony both from Victor Valley and the Antelope Valley
5 with a real concern about services that they have to go
6 to places like Santa Clarita to access services that
7 aren't available necessarily in their own communities.

8 And I think that that there's multiple ways to think
9 about that, right. And that's not a direction in terms
10 of line drawing, but in terms of decision making that
11 we'll have to make at a future point in time is do you
12 can therefore connect those places that are concerned
13 about the lack of services with where those services are?

14 Or if both of these areas are lacking services, do
15 we keep them together so that they can maximize their
16 representation and hopefully drive more services to them?
17 So again, I think I absolutely agree with Commissioner
18 Taylor. We need to see multiple options here. We've had
19 a ton of calls with varying kinds of testimony for this
20 region. And I think I'm excited to see what the
21 possibilities will be.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Absolutely. Thank you,
23 Commissioner Sadhwani.

24 Commissioner Taylor, do you have another comment?
25 Okay. I'm not hearing anything.

1 Then, Commissioner Sinay?

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: We're up against a break here.
3 So Commissioner Sinay, do you want to go now or do you
4 want to wait?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think mine's quick, but I can
6 wait as well. So Chair, you tell me.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Go ahead and we'll break
8 afterward.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So I had an aha moment when one
10 of the people called in from the Imperial Valley that --
11 sometimes people will call in and say, hey, let's keep
12 looking at the Los Angeles -- the Los Angeles forest, for
13 instance. People will say, keep that all together. But
14 they won't say what type of district -- what type of
15 district.

16 And I think what's important is, is that a state
17 park or is that a federal park or is that a county park?
18 And so there'll be different times when something someone
19 said is pertinent base for a Congressional District, but
20 not for an Assembly District. That was just because the
21 comment in Imperial County was I hear people saying we're
22 a border region, but the border is federally -- is
23 important federally. So to look at it for federally.
24 But when it comes to the state.

25 Yeah. So I just bring that up and I don't know how

1 to share that as, as help. But I think as we are
2 drafting the different map, if you can visualize the ones
3 that are pertinent based on is it a state or is it a
4 federal issue?

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

6 Chair, could I just before we do break, I just want
7 to see if the line drawing team -- do you have enough for
8 about this area? Are you planning on coming back with us
9 or are we saying goodbye to you until tomorrow?

10 MS. MACDONALD: From our perspective, we certainly
11 have enough. And I just wanted to say thank you to all
12 of you for working with us on this. I know it may have
13 felt painful and maybe it was too painful, but this was
14 enormously helpful. And we really appreciate it. And we
15 can't wait to bring you some visualizations back. So
16 from our perspective, I think we will be fine. Thank
17 you.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Well, thank you very
19 much. And we'll say goodbye to our line drawing team and
20 I pass it back to you, Commissioner Fornaciari, to take
21 us to break finally.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I just want to reiterate,
23 thanks to the line drawing team, the staff for taking
24 notes. And yeah, everybody, the VRA attorneys, everybody
25 for help with this. And we're looking forward to picking



1 it back up tomorrow. Let's see, we'll go to break right
2 now and be back at 3:10.

3 (Whereupon, a recess was held)

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, thank you. Welcome back,
5 California. So we are going to transition from our
6 discussion of visualizations to our business meeting this
7 week. Is Anthony there at this point? Okay. I will
8 make an executive decision that we are -- Katy, we're
9 going to get a public comment and on the visualization
10 discussions that we just had.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. In order to
12 maximize transparency and public participation in our
13 process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment
14 by phone on the visual visualization and mapping
15 exercises of this morning. No? Sorry. To call in, dial
16 the telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It
17 is 877-853-5247.

18 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided
19 on the livestream feed. It is 88286102051 for this
20 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID simply
21 press the pound key. Once you have dialed in, you'll be
22 placed in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment,
23 please press star 9. This will raise your hand for the
24 moderator. When it is your turn to speak, you will hear
25 a message that says the host would like you to talk to



1 press star 6 to speak.

2 If you would like to give your name, please state
3 and spell it for the record. You're not required to
4 provide your name to give public comment. Please make
5 sure to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent
6 any feedback or distortion during your call.

7 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when
8 it is your turn to speak. And again, please turn down
9 the livestream volume. And we don't have anyone in the
10 queue at this time. And we will let you know when the
11 instructions are complete.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Katy.

13 MR. MANOFF: And those instructions are complete on
14 the stream, Chair.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Kristian. Wait for
16 Another half a minute or so just to make sure anybody's
17 trying to call in now. There's chance. So just to let
18 folks know where we're headed, we're going to go into
19 item number 3 now. Looks like we have a caller.

20 So Katie?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

22 Caller 2829, if you will please follow the prompts
23 to unmute by pressing star 6 at this time. And the floor
24 is yours.

25 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Hello, this is Renee Westa-Lusk. I



1 have a question regarding the pin map. What are actually
2 the purpose of the pin map? Is it to show where public
3 input came from in that geographical area, or is there
4 other purposes of the pin maps.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So nominally, yes. It is to show
6 the geographic -- so the pin is centered on the
7 geographical centroid of the area where the -- of the
8 community of interest. Okay? So it's not necessarily
9 where the input came from. It's pinned where the center
10 of the community of interest input is -- the center of
11 the map. Does that make sense?

12 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So if you live in Ridgecrest and
14 you give me an interesting point about Kern County, the
15 whole of Kern County, the pin would be in the center of
16 Kern County, not in Ridgecrest, if that makes sense.
17 Does that that help?

18 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. And then what do you do with
19 state wide input that's from statewide organizations
20 that's just giving you feedback advice, but they're not
21 giving testimony about any particular region or part of
22 California?

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So if it's just advice on how we
24 run or run the Commission that goes in the public input
25 area. But if it's advice on maps or on communities of



1 interest and that kind of thing, that would be included
2 in our communities of interest input. And I just want to
3 let you know that we did receive your email today. Thank
4 you very much for that.

5 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. Okay. I still have some
6 other corrections to send you, but I haven't had time to
7 type them up.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, we appreciate that.

9 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. I'll be sending them in the
10 next couple of days.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thanks for calling.

12 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. Okay. Thank you.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Take care. Okay. Well, I don't
14 see any callers -- anymore callers at this point. So we
15 will go into agenda item number 3, Director Reports, so
16 Director Hernandez?

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. And good
18 afternoon, Commissioners and Californians. I will keep
19 my report very short today. I want to talk about the
20 meeting schedule. There have been a few changes that I
21 wanted to point out. And I'll be looking at the agenda
22 further after today's this week's meetings to see where
23 we can make additional changes -- where we need to make
24 additional changes.

25 For example, September 23rd meeting will begin at 1

1 p.m. instead of 4 p.m. The September 28th meeting will
2 be moved to start at 11 a.m. and go till 6 p.m., and the
3 September 29th meeting will remain the same, 9:30 to
4 4:30. But again, I'll be updating the meeting schedule
5 soon.

6 COI input meetings I posted on our website. A
7 summary of our COI input meetings. The total number of
8 speakers that we had for all COI input meetings. If you
9 recall, or if I recall correctly, Commissioner Kennedy
10 indicated that we were in the neighborhood of about 1,200
11 speakers.

12 He was very close, but we actually exceeded that
13 amount and we're at 1,340 speakers. 705 of those were
14 scheduled with an appointment and 635 called in during
15 the meetings. So that information is available on the
16 website for you to take a look at.

17 In regards to our database, I think as mentioned
18 earlier by Chair Fornaciari that our website -- or our
19 database is updated through August 31st. Our staff is
20 continuing to update and upload information, as
21 Commissioner Ahmad mentioned, from hour to hour it
22 changes, there's more being added. So we are making sure
23 that we're removing duplicates, that we're providing map
24 delineations for those that are submitted in letters and
25 do not have a specific map delineation.

1 But we can make one out of it based on their input
2 and then making sure that we're adding our meeting notes,
3 the testimony provided at the meetings, the last few
4 meetings in September. So we're working on those things
5 as we speak. That is the extent of my report for today.
6 Any questions?

7 Commissioner Kennedy?

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Kennedy?

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Just checking to see the
10 status of the transcripts and the hosting of the 2010
11 site.

12 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. In regards to the transcripts,
13 we are finding out that all of the transcribers have had
14 challenges due to COVID. So we are working with our
15 vendor as much as possible to get the transcripts that
16 are needed. We have a spreadsheet that lists those that
17 we do not have. And we're trying to work with them to
18 get them to us as timely as possible.

19 But again, we're finding out that other transcribers
20 are finding themselves in a similar situation where they
21 can't keep up because everyone seems to have gone to Zoom
22 type meetings. And so we're finding that challenge to be
23 very difficult to overcome at this point. In regards to
24 the I believe it was regarding the 2010 website, if I'm
25 not mistaken, we're still looking into the options that



1 we have for archiving that data, that website, I should
2 say. Yes?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Has contact been made with
4 The State Archives about their taking over the posting of
5 that 2010 database? I mean, it seems appropriate. I
6 understand that there are budget issues on our end, but
7 there is certainly active interest among Californians in
8 having access to the materials that were available on
9 that website.

10 The other thing is if you go to the dot ca dot gov,
11 the old website, so much of the content -- some of the
12 content is accessible if you search for it, but it's not
13 accessible if you try to follow -- if you try to click on
14 tabs and follow a trail. We really need to resolve this.
15 Californians need and want access to this. And we need
16 to find a way to make it happen sooner rather than later.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. HERNANDEZ: We're continuing to look into that.
19 As I mentioned before, we've had some challenges with the
20 accessibility. We have to meet certain standards for a
21 website. That's one piece of it. And then also having
22 that website of basically living in a specific location
23 where it still has a functionality. So those are the
24 challenges that we're exploring with them as well as
25 others.

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So we have made contact with
2 The State Archives?

3 MR. HERNANDEZ: We have made contact on our
4 continuing conversations on how to do so --

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you.

6 MR. HERNANDEZ: -- how to move forward with it.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sadhwani?

9 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. I just wanted to
10 really appreciate Commissioner Kennedy and his continuing
11 to raise this. I mean, we have heard loud and clear from
12 the public. And so I just really appreciate you not
13 letting that slip through the cracks. I think I probably
14 would have. So I really appreciate that.

15 I'm wondering, Alvaro, is there a particular staff
16 member that's working on this issue? And if not, can we
17 maybe just assign someone to really take this on as their
18 project?

19 MR. HERNANDEZ: Now, there is a specific staff
20 member assigned to this issue and has been since the
21 beginning. Again, countless calls, countless emails.
22 And that's kind of where we are right now, unfortunately.

23 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Okay. Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: If I could follow up just by
25 repeating something that I've said in relation to other

1 issues. I praised the outreach team the other day and
2 said, it'd be really great if we were getting regular
3 reports that really conveyed to us the extent of their
4 work. Because I was hearing things that I was really
5 thrilled with. But I was I was a bit disappointed that
6 we hadn't heard about them before.

7 And I guess I'm feeling in some ways the same about
8 this. I appreciate your desire to keep your report
9 short, but I don't feel like we're getting the level of
10 information that we need on an ongoing basis. Thank you.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. It's a fair point. I
12 think that I will just echo that too. The information we
13 got from the field leads was really, really impressive in
14 that -- in just more opportunity, provide more insight
15 into what's happening. This will provide the entire
16 Commission with better understanding what the staff are
17 dealing with. So thank you, Commissioner Kennedy. Any
18 more questions for Director Hernandez? Okay.

19 Director Ceja?

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh, wait. Can I --

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Fernandez?

22 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: And maybe -- yeah, that's
23 okay. I'm number 7 of 8, so I get ignored a lot.

24 Anyway, just to follow up on what you just said, Chair,
25 as well as Commissioner Kennedy, when I was on the school

1 board, the board members always had questions of follow
2 up.

3 So what we did is we actually had like a running
4 list of everything that we had asked and then the
5 superintendent, they would follow up every meeting to
6 update us instead of us having to ask for that
7 information because it's still pending, it would be the
8 superintendent would bring that up.

9 So I'm just asking if Director Hernandez can put
10 this on his list in terms of the 2010 website as well as
11 status of transcripts to just be something that is -- and
12 also the COI paper tool now that I'm on that -- now that
13 I'm on a roll, if we can just put that as part of your
14 report, that would be great. Thank you.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI:

16 Well, since you brought it up, the COI paper tool.

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: Okay. I will share where we are
18 with that. So we had to go back to the Office of State
19 Printing to make some additional changes. The U.S. Post
20 Office did not like our first iteration, and we thought
21 it was good to go. It wasn't. We've sent it back. And
22 Office of State printing is working on that to get it
23 back to the U.S. Post Office. We can't move forward
24 until the U.S. Post Office gives the green light. Then
25 we can go to print and start shipping out the

1 information.

2 We do have a list of all the different groups that
3 we're going to be sending out the COIs to, including the
4 prisons, county sheriffs, different entities, law
5 enforcement entities that we're sending it out to, as
6 well as public libraries and others. So that is the
7 status. So I apologize and I will continue to provide
8 this information as requested, whether there is action on
9 it or not.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay? You're
11 muted.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY? Sorry. I lowered my hand, but
13 I didn't unmute. At what point do we decide that
14 investing in the paper tool is for not? Or are we
15 looking at it as a marketing tool that will raise
16 awareness that this is available for next time?

17 I mean, the -- we're getting very, very close
18 because then it's going to take a couple of weeks to get
19 it printed and get it out to folks. And then yeah, we
20 can tell them they have a two-week deadline, but it takes
21 them a couple of weeks to get it out. So now we're a
22 month out and then processing it, we've got to input it
23 all into our database. So I do want us to think through
24 when we have to cut our losses and put it into lessons
25 learned.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Is that something the Materials
2 Committee is going to think about?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I have a response, Chair.
4 Is that okay?

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. My hands kind of up.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. I'm sorry.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: That's okay.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: That's not in my line of sight.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: That's all right. My
11 suggestion would be to possibly have the outreach staff
12 reach back out to California Department of Corrections,
13 as well as the youth detention and the sheriffs, and see
14 if we can get those paper COI -- paper or whatever you
15 call them, paper COI out to those facilities and then
16 have them mail it back to us instead of waiting for the
17 post office to tell us what the correct coding is.

18 Because I agree, I mentioned this last time too, is
19 we are down to the wire and it's been since probably
20 three or four months we've been waiting for this to be
21 finalized. So to say it's been frustrating is probably
22 putting it mildly at this point. Thanks.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Turner?

24 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum. And to add to that,
25 perhaps it will go without saying, but because of the few

1 months delay when we look at should it still go to print,
2 hopefully we're looking at a reduced amount and not the
3 same amount because we wouldn't expect the same response
4 for this last minute as opposed to it's been out there
5 all along. So just another thought when we're -- if
6 we're able to go to print still.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, yeah. Thanks for
8 that input and thought. And I guess I just ask the
9 Materials Committee to consider that and coordinate with,
10 Commissioner Fernandez, with your suggestions?

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, in terms of the
12 materials, we've already passed it on to the outreach and
13 to the executive director. So our piece of it is done in
14 terms of coming up with the language and the document.
15 And that's what I meant when I said for the -- we've
16 handed off about three months ago. So there isn't --

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So who's going to make the
18 decision? I mean, who should be the decision maker as to
19 whether we need to cut our losses, I guess, is my
20 question.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, hopefully when they
22 report next time, we'll have further information. Also,
23 as I mentioned, I would recommend that we reach out
24 directly to corrections and the other contacts that we
25 gave -- provided and see if they can mail that back to us

1 instead of having a postage -- return postage

2 information. I don't want to --

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

4 COMMISSIOENR FERNANDEZ: -- speak for them, but I

5 don't think that it would be too difficult for them to

6 do. So I'm thinking there's something we can move

7 forward with it without the postage, I believe. But we

8 just have to reach out to the specific agencies.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: But Marcy -- I mean, Director
10 Kaplan, that seem doable?

11 MS. KAPLAN: Yes. And I can have Alvaro elaborate
12 on this, because we have been working with them to look
13 at alternative solutions for return. So we have been in
14 communication in regards to that exact topic,
15 Commissioner Fernandez.

16 Alvaro, if you want to share a little bit more?

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: Yes. And one of the alternatives is
18 that we ship them the information without the envelope to
19 return or an empty envelope for them to put the document
20 in. And they return it in a box that we provide to them,
21 along with a shipping label that they send back to us.
22 So trying to expedite that process along with a cover
23 letter on how that should be sent back to us. So that is
24 something that we're definitely looking at to move
25 forward with for the prison industries at this point.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Akutagawa then
2 Commissioner Sinay.

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I appreciate
4 everything that's been done. And I can definitely feel
5 and share the frustration that the Materials Committee, I
6 think Commissioner Fernandez and Kennedy have had. I
7 have a concern and I just want to perhaps see whether or
8 not this is something that others would be agreeable to.

9 I think based on some of our other experiences,
10 we're looking at the -- at other entities -- other
11 agencies to play along with us in a way. And our
12 capacity or our ability to speed things along is going to
13 be only as fast as the others who are, A, willing to
14 respond and B, willing to work within the timeline that
15 we have, which is quickly, as Commissioners Sinay and I
16 had said, closing on us.

17 And so I think just so that this doesn't go on
18 indefinitely, I think we should determine what is a date
19 that at which point, if we don't have any resolution or
20 any way to have it out in a reasonable amount of time,
21 then we might just have to say, like she said, this is
22 just going to become one of those 2030 lessons learned
23 kind of things.

24 Because I'm just thinking we're quickly moving
25 through September. I can't believe we're already now in

1 mid-September. If all goes well, maybe you might be able
2 to get something out next week. That'll give them how
3 long, a week, maybe two weeks? Are we going to continue
4 to receive communities of interest input through the
5 month of October?

6 What is our real time frame in which we will -- I
7 don't want to say stop taking COI input, but is there a
8 time frame where we're going to have to stop taking COI
9 input because we're going to be receiving COI input on
10 potentially the line drawing that we're doing, and that's
11 going to change things up.

12 So I guess I just want to just put this out there
13 that -- do we just need to have a drop-dead date that
14 we're just going to say once it passes this time frame,
15 we're just not -- it doesn't make sense to do this.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. That's a great suggestion,
18 Commissioner Akutagawa.

19 Commissioner Sinay?

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry I did it again. I just
21 want to say that this wasn't just the outreach. I mean,
22 it wasn't just the Materials Committee, but it was also
23 the Incarcerated Individuals Committee that worked really
24 hard on creating those relationships and getting a plan
25 together. And part of that plan included a video and

1 lessons -- and it wasn't just sending out a form.

2 And I just feel like there's been a couple of times
3 that committees have worked all the way to a certain
4 point and then have has moved it over to staff. And I'm
5 not -- and I think what's happened is we've given you the
6 hardest part. But I really do feel that we need to
7 capture this and lessons learned and try to figure out
8 how to do it differently because we are moving fast and
9 there is no time to kind of -- I don't know.

10 So it's the program. It was a program or a strategy
11 with incarcerated individuals and it's not called the
12 prison complex or any of that. So let's just be careful
13 how we word it.

14 Marcy, I see that you have --

15 MS. KAPLAN: I just really want to clarify. I don't
16 want to derail this, but we have been carrying that
17 through the entire -- since that was passed over, staff
18 have been fostering and following up and meeting ongoing
19 with all of this context that you had provided in order
20 to gather addresses, and in order to facilitate a process
21 and how this would actually work, working on a script,
22 Fredy has that, in order to start working with our
23 videographer, for that to be going out -- we followed
24 through on that process.

25 So just that has continued and is right to this

1 point to be implemented as we get our next -- this last
2 little hang up with the tool. So I just wanted to
3 clarify that that has all continued.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks for that. I mean, I think
5 for me, I guess I would just say -- okay, Commissioner
6 Fernandez, I see your hand.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you. My
8 recommendation at this point would -- for me, it's very
9 important, and I know for Commissioner Sinay because we
10 were part of the incarcerated population for The State
11 facilities. It's very important for us to get this out
12 to those facilities. And my recommendation would be to
13 get that out to them as soon as possible.

14 And in terms of how long we will be receiving
15 communities of interest input and in my position, it's
16 all the way until we have final maps. I know that's kind
17 of going beyond the line drawing, but I would say at
18 least till mid-December.

19 But again, it's moved so slowly that I don't want to
20 say let's wait two more weeks because now two more weeks
21 we're further behind and trying to start a new process.
22 I would like to see us move forward and working with
23 those state facilities of incarcerated population to get
24 the information out to them either with envelopes or
25 without envelopes. However they get it back to us would

1 be great.

2 If they if they ship them, at least for the
3 California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation,
4 they have an interoffice mailing system. They can mail a
5 model Sacramento, it's on 15th and our street right down
6 the street from here, we can go pick up all of the
7 information. So it's really not that difficult and it's
8 not that far to get the information.

9 And if we have good communication and relationship
10 with them, it should be something that we should be able
11 to do hopefully -- I don't want to say rather easily
12 because it hasn't been easy so far. I thought it was
13 going to be easy.

14 But I just really feel that we just need to at least
15 do it for that population because we voted as a
16 commission to exclude those counts from the facilities
17 and place that population back at their last known
18 residence. I do feel strongly about at least reaching
19 out and attempting to get their feedback. Thank you.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Please, either, Alvaro or Marcy,
21 please have this as one of the items on your report out
22 at our next meeting. Let us know where we're at and
23 what's your recommendation for moving this forward.
24 Thank you.

25 Any other questions for Director Hernandez?

1 Okay. Director Ceja? Is he with us?

2 MR. CEJA: Yes, I am. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Can
3 you hear me?

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes.

5 MR. CEJA: Perfect. So I apologize to jump in my
6 car, take my mom somewhere. But I am here listening and
7 participating. I don't have much to report myself. The
8 only thing that I will say is that we met -- or I met
9 with the Outreach Committee and from that meeting, came
10 up with a process to report out.

11 So from now on both Outreach and Communications will
12 be reporting similarly. So I'll have a longer report
13 every time. I'm taking inspiration from what you covered
14 today. I'll have things that I update you on until they
15 fall off my to do list.

16 But part of that strategy or reporting out was going
17 to be covering what we've done communications wise for
18 every zone and then covering what every contractor that
19 we have doing the advertising is doing for each one of
20 those zones. So I'll compile that report and have it
21 ready for the next meeting.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Any luck with placing contracts?

23 MR. CEJA: So we have one more pending approval.
24 But aside from that one, all the other billboard and
25 radio contracts are up and running and they've had to

1 modify a lot of the schedules because of billboard and
2 radio spot availabilities. So I'll share all that at the
3 next report. Some of the plans have shifted
4 dramatically.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: How about the language -- the in-
6 language contract for the in-language work we're going to
7 do that Commissioner Kennedy was asking about last time,
8 where does that stand?

9 MR. CEJA: The ethnic media contract was signed and
10 sent over to OLS where we're waiting for approval for
11 that. That one and the -- one of the billboard contracts
12 are the only ones pending. Everything else has been
13 approved. So we have the magazine contract moving
14 forward as well.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

16 Commissioner Fernandez has a question.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Just real quick,
18 Fredy. Thank you for the information. I just thought of
19 this this morning, but any update on that individual that
20 was going to do a documentary on redistricting? I just
21 thought of that the other day.

22 MR. CEJA: Yeah. Good question. I actually reached
23 out a month ago and have not heard back. I'll check back
24 again. I think that they've disappeared.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, he missed a great meeting

1 today.

2 Commissioner Sadhwani? I'm sorry.

3 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: It's okay. I think
4 Commissioner Sinay and I are often confused.

5 Fredy, this is super exciting. I haven't seen or
6 heard any of the media bias as of yet. So I think in the
7 future I would love to just like, see a picture of a
8 billboard, or listen to a radio ad or something like that
9 if they're available.

10 MR. CEJA: Yes, of course. I did send some of the
11 proofs, but I will send more. I do have a -- I'm
12 downloading all the radio spots and the artwork for the
13 billboard, so I will definitely share that with you as
14 well, as well as LED pictures for billboard that are out
15 there.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So what was the issue with the
17 billboards, Fredy? I forgot. You told us on Friday, but
18 there was -- what was it, the recall or something that
19 got all the billboard space?

20 MR. CEJA: Yes. So because some of our contracts
21 are taking so long to get approved by OLS. A lot of the
22 real estate out there for billboards was taken up by the
23 recall campaign. And the airwaves, of course, were the
24 same thing. So we've had to shift around some of those
25 buys to really September and October, because also we

1 don't know when our final deadline will be. So I have
2 those conversations with the contractors this week to
3 sort of plan for that. Depending on how the California
4 Supreme Court rules that might also affect our media
5 buys. And we'll have to allocate a lot of those
6 resources for September, October, bleeding into November.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. But you'll have a more
8 detailed update on the 23rd?

9 MR. CEJA: Yes, sir. Correct.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Ahmed, did you have
11 a question?

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Oh, I was just going to add
13 that Fredy did send over those ad proofs -- radio ad
14 proofs. And when I listened to it, it was very TV like.
15 The person's voice was very soothing, and it made me
16 really want to get involved with redistricting.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Oh, very good. Yeah.

18 MR. CEJA: I have more samples. They're male,
19 female, different nationalities. And yeah, it sounds
20 really professional. Really great. I'll share those as
21 well.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Very good. Any other questions
23 for Director Ceja? Thank you.

24 Thank you, Director Ceja.

25 Director Kaplan?



1 MS. KAPLAN: Hi. Thank you, everyone. I just
2 wanted to share that we did post the COI meeting recap
3 from the last few COI meetings as well as the COI tool
4 update from this last week. Also, per your direction,
5 posted the outreach presentations that staff had provided
6 to the Commission on the August 31, September and
7 September 11 Commission meetings.

8 We are working together as an outreach team to
9 identify gaps in areas that staff have been targeting as
10 well as where we have not been receiving COI in addition
11 to the sectors that staff are still continuing to grow
12 outreach in.

13 We, as Fredy mentioned, we will be working closely
14 with the Outreach and Engagement Committee, and so I will
15 be providing further details to them on the particular
16 areas where staff is continuing to focus.

17 I also just want to highlight that we did push out
18 information about the COI tool, drawmycacomunity
19 training and staff has focused this week on a deeper
20 level to follow up with contacts and engage with new
21 stakeholders as well to promote that opportunity. Right
22 now we do have five requests, but there are many that are
23 about to come in.

24 So just some specific updates I even got today on
25 doing one strictly particularly in Spanish. Another

1 focusing on the Filipino community as well as tribal
2 communities. And what staff have been also discussing
3 with stakeholders, and we discussed internally, is how
4 can we encourage organizations to collaborate together to
5 have a broader audience for some of these trainings. So
6 that's what has been successful in some of these
7 conversations so far.

8 I did also mention in the past that the K-through-12
9 curriculum that Sacramento County Office of Education
10 developed, along with the L.A. County Office of
11 Education, has been distributed to districts statewide.

12 This Friday is Constitution Day and Sacramento
13 County Office of Education was planning on doing an in-
14 person event with the local sports team. And because of
15 COVID, that was -- they did have to cancel that, but
16 they're doing a push on social.

17 And so I've been talking with Fredy, so we are going
18 to do a push of that curriculum as well and working with
19 our field needs to also be following up with school
20 districts as well as other PTA and other contexts to
21 promote. Now that school is back in session to promote
22 the curriculum, as well as how parents and families can
23 also get engaged and use the tool to submit input to the
24 Commission. Along with that, I have also highlighted
25 that I have been in communication with the Secretary of

1 State's office.

2 They are launching a two-week high school voter
3 engagement week, so they are going to be able to
4 integrate in some way some of the redistricting
5 information, including the curriculum. And so I'll have
6 a better update on that as well. They've obviously been
7 very busy with the recall, so I'll get a little bit more
8 information on the level in which they're able to
9 incorporate redistricting as well in that two-week
10 engagement.

11 But I also wanted to highlight that we are now, as
12 schools coming back in session for higher ed, going to be
13 targeting additional outreach for the training with
14 students as well and campuses across the state.

15 I mentioned in a previous meeting that we met with
16 U.C. Office of the President, and also I've been in
17 communication with CS users there's been some transition
18 in staff, so identifying the right staff to push things
19 out at the statewide level. But leads are now also
20 focusing at the local level to engage with the particular
21 campuses as well.

22 And then just also highlighting that we've been
23 working closely with the Language Access Subcommittee on
24 a recap of the interpretation during the COI input
25 meeting. So I will have something that we'll be posting

1 today that the subcommittee will be going over on our
2 Friday meeting. So I'll defer to them. Thank you.
3 That's my report.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Director Kaplan.
5 Commissioner Andersen?

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEB: Thank you for that, Marcy.
7 I'm just wondering, the high school curriculum is that --
8 I don't know how detailed and how voluminous it is -- if
9 it's not too much, could we get copies of it?

10 MS. KAPLAN: Yeah, I believe I've sent it out. If
11 not, I will send it. I think Fredy is posting it on
12 the -- will be posted on the website if it's not already.

13 COMMISSIOENR ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.

14 MS. KAPLAN: And apologies if I had not sent that to
15 you all. I will send it right now. And it will also be
16 on the website as well.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

18 MS. KAPLAN: It goes through -- you'll see it when
19 you go through it. But we did work with them on the
20 companion activities that teachers will focus on with
21 students to tie in the COI tool. And so there's really
22 this -- they're learning about the process in general.
23 They're focusing in on California.

24 And then they have this opportunity to also really
25 apply what they're learning in a real-life scenario,

1 because it's happening right now. So that was kind of
2 exciting to get that. Make sure that we have the COI
3 tool in the -- in as the training as well in their
4 resource pages at the bottom.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Akutagawa?

6 COMMISSIOENR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I mean, I think this
7 is really great and I'm so excited to hear about it. I'm
8 just curious, is this going to be something that's going
9 to be a continued part of the curriculum beyond, I guess,
10 redistricting and this year?

11 MS. KAPLAN: I believe so. But I can clarify. I
12 think this is a module that they could continue to
13 incorporate. But I can clarify that as well, how that
14 works when curriculum like this becomes developed.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Very good. There's a lot going
16 on. So thank you for that. Are there any other
17 question?

18 Yes. Commission Akutagawa?

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Sorry, I forgot to ask one
20 more question. I was just curious, and I don't know,
21 Director Kaplan, if you have something that you could
22 show us. Just eyeballing it or just from what you
23 recall, do you know if the COI tool inputs are increasing
24 now that we're getting closer and closer to line
25 drawing -- the actual line drawing.

1 MS. KAPLAN: So this is actually something we have
2 talked internally about on how we can more closely
3 evaluate outreach that's happening and the COI input that
4 we're seeing. So just anecdotally from Fredy noting the
5 input that we've gotten just over the weekend to the
6 Voter's First email, we are seeing, I believe it was an
7 increase of over 100 from the COI tool, which that may
8 also include some of the input from the COI input
9 meetings, but also just working more closely with Tony so
10 we can -- all of our work overlaps so that staff can be
11 able to -- as they continue to look at gaps, where are we
12 seeing the COI come in so that we can pivot when needed
13 and see what's working effectively in one region. And
14 that really -- really we saw an increase and how can we
15 replicate that somewhere else? So this is something we
16 are now that we have the database up that we can work
17 more closely and also had discussed this with the
18 Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee as well. So thank
19 you for raising that.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sorry about that. Okay. From
21 Fredy, nearly 200 COI come in this weekend via mail.

22 Commissioner Sinay?

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I had the privilege of going to
24 go to the San Diego Access Center with Andrew, with
25 staff. So I can officially say I've met one staff person



1 in person and it was a wonderful experience. I took him
2 to lunch afterwards and we strategized in all sorts of
3 things.

4 I can't even tell you how big the San Diego Access
5 Center is. I mean, I really should just move my office
6 in there cause they've got like six empty offices in
7 there. Yeah. Andrew and I were looking at it like,
8 wait, why aren't we in here? And we were invited, and
9 their staff person was very welcoming and said, yeah,
10 move in. He thought by himself most of the time. We
11 were actually the first guests that they have had. So I
12 just wanted to put it out there for anybody speaking that
13 they need office space to get work done in San Diego, The
14 State access center is quite nice. Oh, but bring your
15 laptop.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I think, Commissioner Yee went to
17 the one in Oakland; is that right? Has anyone else had
18 an opportunity to go to one? Not yet. Yeah. I'm
19 looking forward to trying to get over to Oakland to take
20 a look.

21 Okay. If there are no other questions for Director
22 Kaplan, then we will move on and we'll thank her and her
23 team, and thank Fredy and his team, and Alvaro and his
24 team. And move on to Chief Counsel Pane.

25 Counsel Pane: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon,

1 Commissioners. I just wanted to give you a little bit of
2 an update. The first is, as you know, the Strumwasser
3 team has filed on behalf of the Commission a reply to the
4 Secretary of States and the Legislature's responses.

5 Our hope is that we would hear from the California
6 Supreme Court by October 1st, just given their previous
7 time from the last filings and when we received a
8 response. So our hope is that October 1st would be sort
9 of the end time from which we would hear.

10 We don't anticipate the Supreme Court scheduling
11 oral argument. So it would just be a motion or
12 essentially a decision on the pleadings. But I will keep
13 you posted on that if things change. But our hope is
14 that it's -- by October 1st, we know what our final
15 deadlines are.

16 Secondly, just want to give you a brief update as to
17 the status of the litigation contracts. Followed up with
18 Strumwasser on their litigation contract. I hope to hear
19 from them soon. On Gibson & Dunn I received substantive
20 edits back. The legal team here has produced proposed
21 responses and I anticipate providing those to the Legal
22 Affairs Committee. And we can -- they can give further
23 direction on what the final response would be to Gibson &
24 Dunn.

25 Right now, we wanted to make sure before we made



1 this proposal -- final proposed solutions to the Legal
2 Affairs Committee that we have Department of General
3 Services, because they do look and approve a lot of the
4 contracts that are deal breakers. We wanted to make sure
5 that any proposals or counters aren't any dealbreakers
6 for them.

7 So it's been ten days I think we're going to -- Raul
8 has proposed -- has followed up with them to inquire as
9 to the status. I think maybe as a strategy we're going
10 to be reaching out just to Legal Affairs just to schedule
11 something regardless. And it would have been more
12 helpful to get -- hear from DGS on any proposed counters.
13 But I think we need to keep this moving. So I'm going to
14 be reaching out to the Legal Affairs Committee for next
15 steps on any responses. And with that, does anyone have
16 any questions?

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So all the deadline for input to
18 the Supreme Court has passed, right --

19 COUNSEL PANE: Yes.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- for (indiscernible).

21 COUNSEL PANE: The 13th was our reply due date and
22 we were the last ones to respond to -- we had an
23 opportunity to reply to the responses from the
24 legislature and the Secretary of state.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. And I see we received a

1 couple of motion --

2 COUNSEL PANE: (Indiscernible).

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- opposition letters from a --

4 COUNSEL PANE: Um-hum.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- couple of counties.

6 COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. Yeah.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And I mean, those two we received
8 recently but there were others from a few other counties
9 to.

10 COUNSEL PANE: I think Napa filed one and Los
11 Angeles County, I believe Solano was another one that had
12 filed. And I could be for getting a fourth one.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: San Benito.

14 COUNSEL PANE: Thank you.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Okay. Are
16 there any questions? Well. Thank you. Appreciate it.

17 COUNSEL PANE: Oh, it looks like Commissioner
18 Andersen has a question.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Just a quick one.
20 Any word on the -- I can't remember the name of the
21 bill -- having to do with Bagley-Keene?

22 COUNSEL PANE: So thank you, Commissioner. 8361 has
23 passed both the Senate and the Assembly. It is awaiting
24 the governor's signature. It's anticipated that the
25 governor will sign it. Nevertheless, we have a draft

1 proposed support letter that we will be sending to the
2 governor to encourage him to sign the bill.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Very good.

4 Commissioner Sinay?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Was that the youngest or the
6 oldest that just screamed?

7 COUNSEL PANE: That was the youngest. I can't
8 believe you heard that. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I think that was Anthony.

10 COUNSEL PANE: I will now mute.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Oh, you embarrassed Anthony.

12 COUNSEL PANE: This is the reddest I think I've been
13 on camera. Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. That's why I closed my
15 door. Because I got background noise too.

16 Commissioner Kennedy?

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Just
18 wondering if we have any -- if anything has come up on
19 the radar as far as litigation in other states that might
20 slow down the process or present any sort of obstacle in
21 our path going forward?

22 COUNSEL PANE: I'm not aware of any. But you know,
23 we haven't -- well, we can look into that to see if there
24 is any pending litigation other states that could have a
25 ramification on us. I think maybe where you're going,

1 Commissioner, is sort of the census data and the quality
2 of the data.

3 And I think you've been following this as well.
4 Each individual state is a little bit of a laboratory on
5 how that's how that gets how that affects individual
6 states. But yeah, I will we can look into that and
7 report back on that as well.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I don't see any other questions
9 at this point. So thank you for those reports.

10 Katy, if we could please take public comment on
11 agenda item 3.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The
13 Commission will now take public comment on agenda item
14 number 3, Director's Report. To give comment, please
15 call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number
16 88286102051 for this meeting.

17 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to
18 enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions
19 have been read previously in this meeting and are
20 provided in full on the livestream landing page. And we
21 do not have any callers in the queue. And we will let
22 you know when the instructions are complete.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Please do. Thank you. So just
24 to let the Commissioners and the public know where we're
25 headed today, I'm going to -- we're going to end at 4:30



1 today. We've got a long two days yet. We've got a
2 long -- a potentially a long two days coming up.

3 And for those of you who didn't appreciate my half
4 hour lunch, you're really not going to appreciate the
5 fact that I added an extra session at the end of those
6 days if we need them. I'm hoping we don't need them.
7 But I wanted to have it there just in case.

8 We'll start with the subcommittee reports and see
9 how far we get. But at 4:30 will adjourn for the day
10 because there will be time -- we'll start with -- we'll
11 start with the business meeting on Friday. So if we go
12 longer --

13 MR. MANOFF: Chair, we do have a caller.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes, I see that. Thank you. If
15 I go out on Friday or Saturday, it'll be not because the
16 business meeting is going longer, but because of the
17 directions to the line drawers are going longer, if that
18 makes sense.

19 So yeah, Katy, go ahead.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

21 Caller 2829, if you will, please follow the prompts
22 to a mute at this time. The floor is yours.

23 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yes. This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I
24 just want some clarification of terms regarding the legal
25 action the Commission is doing to, I guess, petition the



1 California Supreme Court to extend the date by which the
2 maps -- the final draft maps have to be completed and
3 vetted by the public, et cetera. What do you call that
4 legal action? Is it actually a lawsuit? Or is it a
5 petition of a court? I just wanted some clarification.
6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I am going to hand it off to
8 Chief Counsel Pane.

9 COUNSEL PANE: So I'm sorry. The question was about
10 our filing or the filing -- the reply that we made. So
11 there was an emergency RIT petition that originally the
12 Commission filed and then The Secretary of State and the
13 legislature in the Padilla case were able to file a
14 response, and then we were allowed to file a reply to
15 that response. As far as what we call it, is that --

16 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yeah.

17 COUNSEL PANE: Is that helpful?

18 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Yeah, because I've heard people
19 refer to it that the Commission sued.

20 COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. So --

21 MS. WESTA-LUSK: The Supreme Court for an extension
22 so --

23 COUNSEL PANE: Right.

24 MS. WESTA-LUSK: -- you could get it till January
25 14th. I'm talking about the recent action.

1 COUNSEL PANE: Right.

2 MS. WESTA-LUSK: I don't really know how to describe
3 that and I don't consider that suing the Supreme Court or
4 whatever.

5 COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. So I mean -- I think maybe one
6 way to couch it is that the case was Legislature v.
7 Padilla. So technically, those are the two main parties.
8 But the Supreme Court invited or allowed for the
9 Commission to come in to ask for further time if we so
10 chose. And the Commission made that call to do that. So
11 it was essentially a request for a later extension for
12 that time.

13 MS. WESTA-LUSK: So it's not really classified as a
14 lawsuit, so to speak?

15 COUNSEL PANE: Well, no, it is a formal pleading
16 with the California Supreme Court. So it is part of a
17 lawsuit. But I would say maybe -- and I think maybe this
18 might have been the context in which this might have been
19 brought up. I don't know. But the Commission isn't
20 suing a particular party.

21 It's much more -- it sounds more like what's
22 referred to as declaratory relief, where we're asking the
23 Court to clarify something they have already said. And
24 what we're saying -- and they've already said -- they've
25 already used terms like additional federal delay.

1 And then we're -- and the Commission is saying so
2 California Supreme Court, we understand that to mean
3 January 14th, for example. And they're going to confirm
4 whether that's the that's the correct interpretation.

5 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. Okay. Thank you very much
6 for that --

7 COUNSEL PANE: Sure.

8 MS. WESTA-LUSK: -- for explaining that.

9 COUNSEL PANE: You're welcome.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you. Okay. Well,
11 Government Affairs Committee?

12 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO? I don't believe we have any
13 substantive update. So I think we can move to the next
14 subcommittee.

15 VICE CHAIR SADHWANI: Anthony covered it.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Finance and Administrative
17 Subcommittee?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything
19 substantive to update, do we?

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I don't think so.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Gantt Chart?

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No update at this point,
24 Chair.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Outreach and Engagement?

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Staff gave all the updates. We
2 are working to just be able to have reports that make it
3 easier for everyone to know where we're at.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you. Materials
5 Development?

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No further updates.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Although we are looking at
8 the language, Commissioner Kennedy, for what the 2010
9 Commission used on the -- with the final maps. So we're
10 reviewing that information.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: If you drafted -- you got your
12 first draft for the final report done yet? Okay.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. We have the 176
14 districts drawn already. I'm not sure what the purpose
15 of this meeting was.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.

17 Data Management? I don't see -- oh, Commissioner
18 Turner?

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: No updates to report this
20 time. Thank you.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. COI Tool?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No update at this point.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Incarcerated Populations Federal
24 facilities.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We did receive a response

1 from the Department of Justice on behalf of the Bureau of
2 Prisons, basically telling us that they were not able to
3 provide us with the information that we requested. I
4 think there was a little bit of a misunderstanding on
5 their part as to exactly what we were asking for.

6 I am going to draft a letter back to them on that
7 just to clarify that we're asking for exactly what they
8 said we couldn't have. But we are now past the deadline
9 that we had set for getting that data set.

10 So our focus will remain on laying the groundwork
11 and doing some legwork to hopefully ensure that the 2030
12 Commission can have access to the data that they need in
13 order to treat individuals in federal custody the way --
14 the same way that individuals in state custody will be
15 treated by the 2030 Commission. Thank you.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you. Okay. I guess,
17 Commissioner Kennedy, you're still up with Lessons
18 Learned. And Commissioner Ahmad.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Keep them coming.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Cyber Security, I don't
21 have anything substantive to update. I don't know if
22 Commissioner Taylor has anything to add.

23 COMMISSIOENR TAYLOR: No. I agree, Commissioner
24 Fornaciari. Just remember that we are the one ability
25 for some points of contact. So be careful with your

1 computers and what you open. Thank you.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Kennedy?

3 COMMISSIOENR KENNEDY: And just again, a reminder
4 that I think our understanding is that it's the Security
5 Subcommittee --

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: That's right.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: -- to do so. So to the
8 extent that we are looking at in-person meetings, at some
9 point we want to hear from the Security Subcommittee on
10 security arrangements.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, so my apologies. I was
12 focused on Cyber. Yeah. We do have an update. We
13 expect to have a security conversation in a closed
14 session at the end of tomorrow to talk about what our
15 proposed security strategy is for in-person meetings, so.

16 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you, Neal. I think the
17 stealth me always keep that close to the vest.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Yes. So we will get some
19 more information out to you all before that. Thank you.
20 And we'll remember Director Hernandez and to the next
21 chair, Commissioner Sadhwani, if you all could remember
22 to change the title of our subcommittee on subsequent
23 agendas, that would be -- that would be helpful.

24 Legal affairs Committee?

25 COMMISSIONER YEE: Nothing to report, but it sounds



1 like we'll be meeting soon to continue shepherding the
2 litigation contracts.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. And then Line Drawing
4 Guidelines subcommittee pretty much gave your update
5 earlier, but did you -- do you have anything you wanted
6 to add? Actually, what's the name of your subcommittee?
7 It's the? Commissioner Yee and Turner?

8 COMMISSIOENR YEE: Mapping Playbook Subcommittee.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. We need to fix that. And
10 did you have anything to add?

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: No. So I'm meeting with
12 Commissioner Turner tomorrow, where we'll get some
13 feedback to the next draft from VRA counsel and I plan on
14 bringing it before the whole Commission September 28th or
15 29th.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Let's see. So we're not
17 quite done with item agenda -- item number 4 because we
18 will address K in closed session tomorrow, so.

19 COUNSEL PANE: So a point -- just a point of
20 clarification there, Chair. We could finish -- we could
21 go into closed session on its own statutory authority
22 basis. So --

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

24 COUNSEL PANE: -- we are free to close 4(K). We can
25 even have nothing to report on 4(K). We could report

1 something out out of closed session on Friday if and when
2 that's needed.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

4 COUNSEL PANE: So there's no need to hold 4(K) open
5 if we can have on some statutory basis.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. So then it would need to
7 take public comment on it. Can I talk about one other
8 item and then take public comment on all of it? Or do I
9 need to do public comment right now?

10 COUNSEL PANE: I mean, you can -- as long as we're
11 covering public comment for each agenda item, that's up
12 to you. So if there's another item and you want to do
13 public comment for item 4 as well as another one, that's
14 fine.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, because I do -- I want to
16 just briefly, if we can, talk about -- touch on future
17 meeting dates and agenda items. Which is not in 4. But
18 we'll lump it all together if that's okay. So if you --
19 if you all take a look at the -- where is it -- the
20 handouts. Am I in the wrong handouts?

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I don't see it under the 9/15.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Oh, it's under the 9/17 handouts.

23 COUNSEL PANE: It is under the 18th in-person
24 meeting --

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I don't have it.

1 COUNSEL PANE: Is this what we're talking about?

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Why did I get sign up with
3 Facebook thing? I got a pop=up.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I got the same thing. I think
5 it's a bad link.

6 COMMISSIOENR FERNANDEZ: So don't look into the
7 light, Chair.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, no kidding. Okay. If you
9 go to the 18th -- okay. Yeah, I think we talk about this
10 now because posted under the wrong day.

11 COUNSEL PANE: So another option is you could pull
12 up the document you wish to discuss and you could display
13 it --

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

15 COUNSELL PANE: -- if you so chose.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. I will do that.

17 COUNSEL PANE: I'm sorry. Share screen, I think, is
18 the exact option.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: What is it called? So what are
20 you guys seeing? Are you seeing --

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: We see the in-person meeting
22 discussion.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. I can't see it. Oh.
24 Okay. All right. Operator error. Okay. So I wanted to
25 take a moment to have a -- just a conversation, if we

1 could. Yeah, I apologize you haven't had an opportunity
2 to read this document. I thought it was going to be
3 posted in today's thing.

4 But I wanted to have a conversation about in-person
5 meetings for line drawing. We've had a number of touched
6 on this topic a number of times. There's been
7 commissioners who expressed interest in doing it. We've
8 given Director Hernandez direction to begin to schedule
9 it.

10 But we just -- in a conversation that Commissioner
11 Sadhwani and I had with Director Hernandez in planning
12 for this meeting and discussing those dates, we really
13 wanted to check in with the Commission and just check in
14 and see if there is -- first, if there is a desire and a
15 commitment to meet in person for these line drawing
16 meetings.

17 And if there is a desire and a commitment, what
18 would that what do we want those -- what would those
19 meetings look like in this in this environment? I think
20 it's a good opportunity to have this conversation at this
21 point since we just went through a day of kind of some
22 experience of what it would look like.

23 I mean, it's going to get a lot more detailed and
24 in-depth, of course, down the road. But we've done this
25 over Zoom and we know what that looks like. But I just

1 want to open it up and see and ask, what's the interest?
2 What's the commitment to in-person line drawing meetings?

3 The idea would be so we would host a series of
4 meetings in Sacramento and we would alternate between
5 Sacramento and Southern California. We don't have
6 locations in Southern California as of yet. It's still a
7 bit of a challenge to get locations. But I just want to
8 take the pulse of the Commission at this point because it
9 is a lot of work.

10 So Commissioner Kennedy?

11 COMMISSIOENR KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Two
12 questions on this. One, is there a possibility of going
13 beyond Sacramento as far as "Northern California"? I
14 mean, could something be organized in the Bay Area?
15 Could something be organized farther north? Just wanted
16 to put that on the table.

17 Second of all, I think at some point I had mentioned
18 or we had discussed the possibility of having respective
19 Northern California cohort and Southern California cohort
20 meeting in separate locations, but the cohorts together
21 as much as possible. So just wanted to see if that's
22 still something that's out there as a possibility. Thank
23 you.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I think those are both
25 possibilities. But I think that the -- so yes, those are

1 all possibilities. We can design this however we would
2 like. But I think the first question we need to ask is
3 what is the level of interest?

4 I mean, if we don't get enough folks who are either
5 willing to travel in their area to meet together and/or
6 travel to the opposite ends of the state, I mean, if
7 folks just aren't willing to do that for whatever reason,
8 right, health reasons, family reasons, whatever the case
9 may be, if folks just aren't -- if we don't get enough of
10 the commitment level to have folks travel, then it's a
11 lot of money and a lot of effort to plan these meetings
12 without the payback we're looking for.

13 So for instance, I mean, for -- we invited Alvaro --
14 or Director Hernandez invited folks to come to Sacramento
15 on the 28th and 29th and just haven't gotten pretty
16 lukewarm kind of interest in that for instance. So
17 that's what kind of inspired me to throw this question
18 out there at this point and just understand the pulse of
19 the Commission.

20 Commissioner Sinay?

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm strongly for it -- for us
22 to meet in person during line drawings, especially after
23 today's experience, because it's really hard -- because
24 we need the full map up there. So it's taking up most of
25 the screen so we can't really see each other. And a lot

1 of it is that is body language or just agreeing with each
2 other, especially as we're moving into the line drawing
3 piece.

4 It's like, okay, yeah, yeah. Even now, it'd be
5 easier for you if we were all together. You could say
6 thumbs up, thumbs down. But it's hard to say thumbs up,
7 thumbs down right now because we. Yeah, we've got your
8 document onscreen, which is. Okay. I'm not harassing
9 you. So I'm for it to create a hybrid environment in
10 both Northern California and Southern California.

11 I do understand keeping it simple and having the
12 same location in Northern California and Southern
13 California just because it is a lot of equipment, it's a
14 lot of figuring out all the logistics of it. And I'm for
15 it. I'm committed.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. I think I have
17 Commissioner Fernandez, then Commissioner Turner.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I'm for it as well.
19 I just wanted to note that.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

21 Commissioner Turner?

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I think it's worth the work.
23 I'm for it.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Others? Oh, I see,
25 Commissioner Yee, then Toledo.

1 COMMISSIONER YEE: All for it. It's what I thought
2 we would be doing when I signed up for this.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

4 Commissioner Toledo?

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm also for it. I agree with
6 Commissioner Yee. Are you looking for a motion or are
7 we -- are you looking to approve this or are you looking
8 for just consensus at this point, or some kind of straw
9 poll?

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. No, it's a straw poll at
11 this point. I just, first of all, wanted to make sure we
12 had a critical mass, if you will, of enough folks to make
13 it worthwhile. When I was thinking half, it's probably
14 should be more than half, I would think, but this half,
15 the commission committed to attendance, these in-person
16 meetings.

17 It's clear everyone can't make the meetings or the
18 meetings, and that's fine. They would still be held
19 virtually. I just first want to get a sense of the
20 commitment. It sounds like we've got interest in meeting
21 together.

22 Commissioner Sadhwani?

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. Thank you. I wanted
24 to be just really transparent that for myself, my October
25 or fall schedule kind of broadly speaking, is a little

1 chaotic. So I'm going to -- I definitely have a strong
2 interest to meet whenever possible, but I definitely will
3 also be using the virtual option just so that I can make
4 all of my commitments.

5 But that being said, I think part of the
6 conversation with Alvaro and staff has also been -- it's
7 a lot of work and so maybe there's a cutoff date, right?
8 And I think that's going to require responsiveness from
9 Commissioners and staff. If we know that we have three
10 days of meetings coming up in Southern California,
11 perhaps there's a cutoff date for RSVPing like one week
12 in advance so they know to really firm up all of the
13 logistics.

14 And if there's not enough people to make a decision
15 to have the ability to make the decision to cancel that
16 one, if there's only going to be two people traveling. I
17 think, and Alvaro can jump in here, but I think that that
18 was some of the concern and was ensuring that the
19 Commissioner feedback about availability and when people
20 will be traveling will be communicated in a timely way.
21 So I just wanted to raise that as our responsibility to
22 staff as well.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. It's a great point. And
24 Director Hernandez just messaged me saying that ten of us
25 have committed to traveling on the 28th. So I guess his



1 latest prompt got us going. That'll be outstanding.

2 That'll be ten of us together for that meeting.

3 Commissioner Akutagawa?

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I mean, I'll come in
5 person whenever I can. I do want to just say out loud, I
6 think there's going to need to be some thought put into
7 how we manage hybrid meetings, because I think one of
8 the -- well, I have several reasons why I think the Zoom
9 meetings work.

10 Particularly, I'm also not only selfishly am I
11 thinking about just the kind of juggling that I do. But
12 also I'm thinking about Commissioner Vazquez and then my
13 other personal family reasons as well, too. But I think
14 for me, I don't know, we could call it equity.

15 We could call it just in terms of just
16 organizational culture or group dynamics. One of the
17 things that I've never liked about hybrid meetings is
18 that you always have some people who are in person have a
19 certain kind of dynamic versus everybody else.

20 I mean, these are all the jokes and the means that
21 you see on YouTube about like when people are in a room
22 and then people are on a phone call and all the repeating
23 and other things that go on and things like that, that is
24 still real. And I do feel like that is something that we
25 need to be thoughtful about and to think about then if

1 there is a portion of the commission that is in person
2 together in the room versus those who are on Zoom and
3 participating via electronic means, how do we ensure that
4 we don't create a sense of we're not in on the joke
5 because we're not there in person?

6 And that's for me, a really huge concern. And I
7 just want to just put this out there. And that's part of
8 the reason why I've been opposed to or not -- I shouldn't
9 say opposed. I mean, I knew what I was getting into and
10 I'm committed to -- if doing it in person, and I realize,
11 I think, I've gotten a little spoiled because being able
12 to be on Zoom, I could literally just like roll-up to the
13 computer and then just started.

14 It's been easy. Like going to a meeting means you
15 have to like do a lot more to get to a meeting and stuff
16 like that. But aside from that, I -- one of my big
17 concerns is how do we ensure that people feel like they
18 are included and equitably so in a way that they are not?

19 There's not an in-group and there's not an outside
20 group. And so I just wanted to just put that out there.
21 And I think that that just requires some thoughtfulness
22 on our part to ensure that that sense doesn't happen, you
23 know?

24 Pros and cons of Zoom, one of the pros is that it
25 has equalized a lot of things for people because we're

1 all a Brady Bunch and if somebody wants to say something,
2 you could say it via chat. But for the most part, you
3 know, everybody is saying it and everybody is hearing it
4 and everybody is in on the same joke. And so I'll just
5 stop there.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

7 Commissioner Sinay?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just want to say, because
9 I've gotten to chats on this. The San Diego Access
10 Office is really big for one-on-one like meetings, but
11 their conference centers really small. But there is a
12 potential -- because Alvaro's also lobbying for this to
13 have the Southern California one in San Diego. There
14 probably is a potential to find another meeting space
15 within The State building because it's a state office
16 building or there's other locations in San Diego that we
17 can find.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Let's see, we're up
19 against -- we're getting to be up against a break at this
20 time. And so you all haven't had a chance to kind of
21 look at what I wrote or think about this, and so I think
22 at this point I'm going to table this conversation, and
23 we can circle back to it in the morning on the 17th. And
24 I will take public comment. It's posted on the 15th now,
25 this document. So take a look at it and see what you all

1 think. And we can talk about it on the 17th.

2 So Katy, we could take public --

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- comment on -- we would like to
5 take public comment on agenda item 4 on this conversation
6 and general public comment.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: For items not on the
8 agenda?

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Commission will now
11 take public comment on agenda item 4 on the conversation
12 in regards to in-person meetings and for general public
13 comment for items not on the agenda at this time.

14 To give comment, please call 877-853-5247. Enter
15 the meeting ID number 88286102051 for this meeting. Once
16 you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the
17 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been
18 read previously in this meeting and are provided in full
19 on the livestream landing page.

20 And we do have caller 6252 in the queue, if you will
21 please follow the prompts to unmute at this time by
22 pressing star 6. And the floor is yours.

23 MS. HUTCHINSON: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
24 This is Helen Hutchison with the League of Women Voters
25 of California. And I have a quick question, kind of



1 clarification from your discussion at your last meeting
2 on the public map presentation sessions. And I wanted to
3 clarify that the thirty -- the proposal is for thirty
4 minutes for statewide maps and that would be per map.

5 So if an organization wanted to present multiple
6 maps, an assembly map, a congressional map, a senatorial
7 map like that, that they would get an hour and a half.
8 So is that correct?

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'm going to pass that to -- are
10 you waving at me, Commissioner Andersen? I kind of see a
11 big black blob. So Commissioner Andersen?

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I seem to be having issues
13 with the background and stuff. So I'm not actually
14 waiting. But that's still being worked on the actual
15 details of that. But it was not like it per map. It was
16 actually more like per group, depending on what
17 presentation you were going to do.

18 MS. HUTCHINSON: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: But again, that's still
20 draft and we haven't discussed that because there will be
21 the redistricting tool available, which is different this
22 time than it was last time. So that's why it's a very
23 different situation.

24 MS. HUTCHINSON: Then we would strongly advocate
25 that it would be thirty minutes per map, that discussing

1 a full statewide district map would take up to thirty
2 minutes. And so we would advocate for thirty minutes per
3 map. Thank you very much.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for your input. We
5 appreciate it. And then I guess I would ask the line
6 drawing team, when do we -- do we have an idea for -- to
7 let the public know when we're going to come to a
8 conclusion on what that looks like? Or when we're going
9 to have a conversation to make that decision. I'm going
10 to ask you, Commissioner Andersen, since I don't see
11 Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: She ducked the question.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: She ducked out.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, we actually have to
15 get together on that and see when we can put that on,
16 given, we have to agendize it as well.

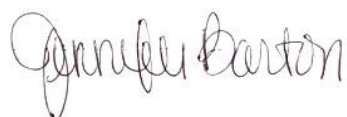
17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, we can probably have
18 that conversation in the context of the agendas that we
19 have in place now. So it's more of a matter of when you
20 guys are ready. Okay. Well, with that, and I see that
21 we have no other callers in the queue, I am going to
22 adjourn this meeting and we will reconvene at 9:30 a.m.
23 the 17th.

24 (Whereupon, the Public Input Meeting adjourned
25 at 4:30 p.m.)



CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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



JENNIFER BARTON, CDLT-247

January 10, 2023
DATE

