

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Transcribed By:

Melanie Berry



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

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

STAFF

Alvaro E. Hernandez, Deputy Executive Director  
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel  
Marian Johnston, CRC Staff Counsel  
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant  
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director  
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach  
Ann Marx, Outreach Coordinator

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator  
Katy Manoff, Comment Moderator

LINE DRAWING TEAM

Karin MacDonald, Q2 Data & Research, LLC  
Jaime Clark, Q2 Data & Research, LLC

ALSO PRESENT

ASL Interpreter  
Captioner

PUBLIC COMMENT

Helen Hutchison, League of Women Voters of California  
Donna Johnston, CACEO

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P R O C E E D I N G S

4:00 p.m.

1  
2  
3 CHAIR YEE: Welcome to a regular business meeting of  
4 the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. I am  
5 Commissioner Russell Yee, here in my hometown of Oakland,  
6 and I believe this is the 31st full commission business  
7 meeting thus far. We labor on.

8 Ravi, can we have the roll call, please?

9 MR. SINGH: Yes, sure. Commissioner Ahmad?

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

11 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa?

12 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Here.

13 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

15 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Presente.

17 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

19 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

22 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani?

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

25 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor?

3 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I am present.

4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner? Commissioner  
5 Vazquez? Commissioner Toledo?

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

7 MR. SINGH: Thank you. And Commissioner Yee?

8 CHAIR YEE: Here.

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

10 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ravi. Let's start with  
11 general announcements. Today's meeting is scheduled to  
12 go forward to 8:00 p.m. I am not anticipating going over  
13 time, so hopefully we'll end by 8:00, if not before. Any  
14 other announcements? Commissioner Kennedy?

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Today  
16 being the first year anniversary of the first meeting of  
17 the first eight, I wanted to take a moment and  
18 acknowledge that. It's been an incredible year. I truly  
19 value all of you and really wanted to express my thanks  
20 also to Raul, Marion, to Amanda Saxton, Joe Porchi, and  
21 the staff of the State Auditor's office for helping make  
22 all this possible in the beginning, and for all the staff  
23 and the chosen ones for joining us and making this the  
24 successful exercise it has been. So thank you, Chair.

25 CHAIR YEE: Bravo. Thank you, Mr. Kennedy. How

1 time flies. Okay, any other announcements? If not,  
2 let's go to public comment. Katy, opening public  
3 comment, please.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. In order to  
5 maximize transparency and public participation in our  
6 process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment  
7 by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided  
8 on the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When  
9 prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided on the  
10 livestream feed. It is 87442883536 for this meeting.  
11 When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply press the  
12 pound key.

13 Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a  
14 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press  
15 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.  
16 When it is your turn to speak you will hear a message  
17 that says the host would like you to talk and to press  
18 star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your name,  
19 please state and spell it for the record. You are not  
20 required to provide your name to give public comment.

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



1           And we do have a caller at this time. Caller with  
2 the last four 6252, if you will please follow the prompts  
3 to unmute by pressing star 6. Caller 6252, the floor is  
4 yours. Go ahead.

5           MS. HUTCHISON: Thank you so much. This is Helen  
6 Hutchison, H-E-L-E-N-H-U-T-C-H-I-S-O-N, and I'm with the  
7 League of Women Voters of California. Thank you again  
8 for the opportunity to speak today. I want to call  
9 attention to a letter from the League of Women Voters  
10 that was posted on your website yesterday concerning  
11 testimony and representations about communities of  
12 interest. I don't want to read the entire letter right  
13 now, but I want to emphasize two particular points. The  
14 first is that in order for you to achieve your goals, to  
15 guarantee that everyone has a voice in redistricting,  
16 it's really imperative that you allow and give weight to  
17 input from community based organizations and coalitions  
18 who speak for these community based organizations who  
19 have historically been left behind in our democracy.

20           And then the second point is that there is a lot  
21 about the redistricting process that is quantitative.  
22 But there is also a critical part, and that is when you,  
23 as individuals and as a commission, are going to have to  
24 use your judgment, your human judgment, to decide what  
25 weight to give to any particular testimony. It is a

1 critical piece of your responsibility that you assess the  
2 motivation behind testimony and whether its purpose is  
3 really to enhance or impede representation.

4 CHAIR YEE: Thirty seconds.

5 MS. HUTCHISON: Thank you, all, so much.

6 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Ms. Hutchinson. I believe  
7 that item actually will be coming up today in the Public  
8 Input Design Committee report and consideration of group  
9 input at communities of interest meetings.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That was all of our  
11 public comment at this time.

12 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's move along with our  
13 director's reports. And today we will be going through  
14 the agenda in order, so I will start with our Executive  
15 Director's report. Director Fernandez.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair Yee, and  
17 good afternoon, Commissioners. Before I get started, I  
18 want to wish a happy 100th birthday to my grandmother,  
19 Mama Julia. Feliz cumpleaños y casigas bien. It's  
20 because of her that we are here in California, that we've  
21 immigrated to California. So I wanted to wish her a  
22 happy 100th birthday. Now, I'll get into the staff and  
23 personnel items.

24 We are going to recommend, or we have recommended,  
25 to the Finance and Administration Subcommittee, a



1 candidate for the data manager position. The candidate  
2 is a graduate of the Claremont McKenna College and  
3 received data science training with the Data Science  
4 Bootcamp in San Francisco. The candidate started as a  
5 student and became a teaching assistant at the boot camp  
6 where the candidate taught DL, ML, Python, Kairos, SQL,  
7 D3, JS, Flask, and GIT. I don't know what they all mean  
8 to be honest with you. Sounds impressive, though.

9       The candidate's most recent jobs were as data  
10 scientist with Autodesk and with the Democratic National  
11 Convention legal team working on voting counts and  
12 analysis. The candidate has worked with the qualitative  
13 and quantitative data, data coding and programing for  
14 high level analysis. The candidate has managed a team of  
15 to design and implement a data collection and analytics  
16 framework for Autodesk customer facing virtual assistant  
17 chat box.

18       References noted that the candidate works well with  
19 fast paced environments, is flexible and creative,  
20 communicates and collaborates to complete projects  
21 successfully. So I will defer to the Finance and  
22 Subcommittee -- Finance and Administration Subcommittee  
23 to make the motion.

24       I want to go ahead and move on to the field support  
25 staff. The outreach staff has submitted recommendations

1 to the Finance and Administration Subcommittee as well to  
2 hire a field support staff to continue our outreach  
3 efforts, and I'll defer to the Outreach Director to  
4 provide some background on those individuals and also to  
5 the Finance and Administration Subcommittee to make a  
6 recommendation.

7       Lastly, the communications staff. The  
8 Communications Director and I will be interviewing to  
9 bring on board, hopefully, staff to help with the various  
10 communication and outreach efforts, including the  
11 website. There's a tremendous need to have someone doing  
12 that. Freddie is only one person. Freddie and Cecelia  
13 have been doing a tremendous job, but we need another we  
14 need some more help there. Okay, are there any questions  
15 on staffing? Very well, I will move on.

16       In regards to the in-person virtual hybrid COI input  
17 meetings. As we have reported over the last couple of  
18 weeks, our outreach staff continues to reach out to local  
19 governments and community organizations to schedule  
20 possible venues. We're still hearing that some counties  
21 are not fully open back up, and now we're seeing and  
22 hearing the news of COVID case increases in the various  
23 different counties. I believe it's the Delta variant  
24 that is what is going on and so some counties are  
25 imposing mask and others are imposing other type of

1 restrictions. So I, at this point, I don't anticipate  
2 that it's going to be a statewide directive, so the  
3 requirements will be different from county to county.  
4 We had planned originally to all of us wear masks at  
5 these events, though many have already been vaccinated,  
6 but that was the direction that we were going. But there  
7 are people who would be attending who don't or won't wear  
8 a mask and could lead to possible conflicts at the  
9 venues. In fact, just yesterday we heard from one  
10 contact that folks in their county will not, I repeat,  
11 will not wear a mask and will not get vaccinated either.  
12 So there might be an issue if we require masks in those  
13 particular counties. I don't want staff to be in the  
14 middle of that situation should we encounter it, so I  
15 think we need to be very realistic about the COVID  
16 situation and whether we should risk the health and  
17 safety of the Commissioners, of the staff, and  
18 Californians who are attending.

19 I've heard from a number of Commissioners. I've  
20 also heard from staff that, you know, there are concerns  
21 about the proposed travel and in-person meetings that  
22 we're proposing for August. I know many of you have been  
23 waiting anxiously to get out there and talk to people and  
24 meet people and get to know California and I totally  
25 understand it, but I have to think of the staff. I have

1 to think of the health and safety of everyone involved  
2 and there are just too many issues at this point that we  
3 can't ignore. The risks are too high and so I'm going to  
4 recommend that we not do in-person COI input meetings and  
5 continue with our virtual meetings to mitigate these  
6 risks that we're hearing about. The meeting that we have  
7 scheduled tomorrow, just kind of to put things in  
8 context, is completely full with appointments. So I  
9 think we've kind of established ourselves in doing these  
10 virtual meetings and I don't think we'll have a dip in  
11 the number of people participating. I think the numbers  
12 will continue to increase. So I've spoken with the  
13 Public Input Design Committee and shared my concerns and  
14 so I will defer to the committee to make a recommendation  
15 if they so choose.

16 I also wanted to mention that if we do move forward  
17 with the virtual meetings, I am going to propose that we  
18 do four-hour meetings rather than six-hour meetings. I  
19 think the four-hour meetings are working well. We're  
20 filling them up and we're getting a lot of public input  
21 in those meetings. So that would be my second  
22 recommendation. And again, I've discussed this with the  
23 Public Input Design Committee, and they will bring forth  
24 a recommendation as well. Any questions? Okay, I will  
25 continue regarding the travel.

1           We are still working on the travel policy. The  
2 Finance and Administration Team Subcommittee and I met  
3 this afternoon and we're still working on some of the  
4 details. We're waiting to hear back from the travel  
5 store or the travel folks to give us more information on  
6 how we're going to schedule the travel when we are doing  
7 that travel, so that's forthcoming.

8           I'm going to move on to the next item, which is the  
9 budget. We are still working on that as well. We don't  
10 have anything for you today, but we are working on that  
11 and getting the information in an easy to read format.  
12 That concludes my report, Chair.

13           CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Director Hernandez. Do you  
14 wish to -- did the various subcommittees wish to go ahead  
15 with votes on the various measures now or wait till your  
16 subcommittee reports? Finance and administration, we had  
17 some personnel proposals. Commissioner Fornaciari, do  
18 you want to go now?

19           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, no. Well, I  
20 think -- I mean, we need to hear about the other two  
21 candidates before we go ahead with the -- with moving for  
22 a vote.

23           CHAIR YEE: Okay, so I'll just wait till your  
24 subcommittee report. And then the travel  
25 recommendation -- I'm sorry, which subcommittee? Is that

1 public input? Do you want to discuss that further or  
2 seek a motion now?

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, we can discuss that  
4 now. Commissioner Ahmad, is that okay?

5 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, I think there was one  
6 piece that's coming out of outreach, which is the group  
7 presentations, correct?

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Right. The group  
9 presentation conversation will start there, but as far as  
10 traveling to the --

11 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: In person.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Deciding whether or not  
13 we're going to have in-person public input meetings or  
14 not, I think we can have that conversation now since  
15 Director Hernandez teed it up. I mean, I guess I'll just  
16 share where I'm coming from. Yeah, it's tough. I mean,  
17 I'm torn. You know, I really want to get out there and  
18 be with Californians who want us to travel and want us to  
19 interact. You know, it seems pretty clear we're not  
20 going to get guidance from the state and so -- then that  
21 puts each individual county doing their own thing at this  
22 point and you know, things are changing minute by minute.  
23 Commissioner Ahmad told us a story about mask guidance in  
24 Santa Clara County changing between the time she went  
25 into her office to set things up and by the time she left

1 her office. I'm really torn. I think it's unfortunate.  
2 I think I have to go with Director Hernandez's  
3 recommendation. I mean, there are boots on the ground.  
4 You know, their team is talking to the counties, trying  
5 to find venues. You know, they've shared with us the  
6 struggle of finding venues that are open, you know, and  
7 then the issues that Director Hernandez brought up too.  
8 You know, if we're going to require folks to wear masks  
9 and then we're going to also become the enforcer of that  
10 requirement and we're putting folks at risks and I don't  
11 think the Commission wants to be in that position either.  
12 But Commissioner Ahmad or others, you know, whatever. I  
13 mean, if you guys, you know, share your thoughts.

14 CHAIR YEE: Perhaps we could have a motion first and  
15 then the second and then other discussion.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Yeah, I guess I'll  
17 move to accept Director Hernandez's recommendation that  
18 we do not hold in-person public input meetings and  
19 revisit the travel question in September.

20 CHAIR YEE: Okay, do we have a second?

21 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I will second that so we can  
22 have a conversation about it because I am also very torn.

23 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Ahmad. Okay,  
24 discussion. You know, with the Delta variant, it seems  
25 like, of course, no one knows what the course of things

1 will take. But for planning purposes, we almost have to  
2 assume the worst, right? It's like you can't just be  
3 optimistic and then wait and see. You have to almost  
4 assume the worst and plan accordingly because of all the  
5 factors involved, you know. That's super disappointing,  
6 no question about it. And really, there is nothing to --  
7 that can replace meeting people in person and seeing  
8 places in person, but here we are. Commissioner Sadhwani  
9 and then Commissioner Ahmad.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you so much for  
11 raising this and for all of the work that's gone into  
12 thinking about a plan or no plan. You know, I do wonder  
13 if there's a third way. I've mentioned this before. I  
14 mean, a part of it, and I think -- I think the letter  
15 from the League of Women Voters, to some extent, speaks  
16 to this. We're getting a lot of input about different  
17 areas that many of us don't know and I understand the  
18 restriction on not being not being able to go and see  
19 people themselves in those places, but at a minimum I  
20 would still want to go and see those places, you know, to  
21 understand where boundaries lie, to understand the  
22 difference between one neighborhood and another, and to  
23 be able to provide, you know, to look at some of these --  
24 these quantitative, excuse me, qualitative pieces of  
25 information that we're receiving. That is not ideal, but



1 I think it's still potentially one option that I'd like  
2 to see us at a minimum consider for anyone who feels like  
3 they would be able or willing to do so. And you know, I  
4 just anecdotally, I can certainly say, like, you know,  
5 I'm very -- still very much hopeful that schools are  
6 going to reopen come August, and you know, for my  
7 children, like, camps are open, summer schools are open.  
8 But of course, that's with a very compliant group of  
9 youngsters who wear masks. So I certainly understand  
10 that putting the Commission in the position of having to  
11 enforce and police the mask mandate would not be ideal.  
12 My understanding is the 2010 Commission also dealt with  
13 security issues as well, just of a different nature. So  
14 I would just add this as something to consider.

15 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad and then  
16 Commissioner Taylor and then Commissioner Fernandez.

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair and as I said,  
18 I'm so torn between this question just because I know I'm  
19 being called in to work my regular day job. So it's  
20 confusing, you know. If one aspect is work from home,  
21 which is the commission, the other side is reporting in  
22 person for a job that can be done at home. I don't know  
23 how it will look when it comes to planning with this  
24 patchwork style that we have right now in California with  
25 each county deciding. And what happens if we're unable

1 to have in-person meetings in certain counties versus  
2 other counties allowing in-person meetings? Does that  
3 look like we are unfairly prioritizing in-person presence  
4 in certain areas versus other areas? I don't know. So I  
5 am really hoping that I can hear everyone else's thoughts  
6 on this, on how we should proceed as a group, at least  
7 for the immediate future. Things can change, hopefully  
8 for the better. And you know, this conversation might  
9 not even be necessary in a month or so. But as of right  
10 now, I'm really hoping that we can have a conversation  
11 about what everyone's thoughts are.

12 CHAIR YEE: Mr. Taylor.

13 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Thank you, Chair. I have a  
14 few thoughts on a few points. I'll begin with, much like  
15 the rest of our Commissioners, I'm sort of disappointed  
16 that we can't actually have meetings in place with the  
17 communities that we're hoping to hear input from. But I  
18 agree with Commissioner Sadhwani in that it doesn't  
19 prevent us from traveling as we are engaged in this  
20 meeting. Right now I'm traveling and I already am  
21 looking at these counties through a different lens -- the  
22 lens of the public input that we've received. So I don't  
23 think that it bars us from traveling if we have to set up  
24 some form, or you know, some way for us to categorize our  
25 traveling. I think that that's another possibility. But

1 I don't I don't want to discourage our limitations of the  
2 mask limitation from our traveling. I still think we can  
3 get some use out of traveling.

4 My second point goes to what Commissioner Fornaciari  
5 brought up. I don't want us to overlook the security  
6 issues of bringing -- of a bus coming to a meeting,  
7 people coming to a gathering or a call and then we have  
8 some that want to wear masks and some don't and how do we  
9 enforce that? Because it would take more than a minimum  
10 staff to enforce that if we were to have some rules. And  
11 then the safety, you know, how will we go about not  
12 having a mask rule? So I do think that has some  
13 significant concerns. I agree with Commissioner Ahmad in  
14 that whatever we decide, it should be universal to all of  
15 our zones. I would hate for us to have in-person  
16 meetings in one zone and not, because of whatever reason,  
17 and then it appears as if we favor a zone or another. So  
18 I think that is something also for us to consider and I  
19 will unraise my hand as soon as I can successfully do it.  
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Taylor.  
22 Commissioner Fernandez.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I  
24 agree with both Commissioner Sadhwani and Commissioner  
25 Taylor and Commissioner Fornaciari. You had mentioned

1 that Californians want to see us. I want to see them as  
2 well, so I would really -- I'm very saddened if we go  
3 this route, but I understand. Can -- as a commission we  
4 can meet in person. So I mean, that's another -- maybe,  
5 a hybrid of maybe having a full commission meeting just  
6 us in a specific zone. And then if we choose to venture  
7 out, that's another option as well. But part of it is  
8 that not only do I see all Californians, I want to see  
9 all of, you know, our fellow Commissioners and staff.  
10 That'd be nice, especially before we get to the joint  
11 session. It would be nice to actually be together. So  
12 that's kind of, my kind of a hybrid suggestion. Maybe  
13 have some meetings just for the Commission in specific  
14 zone areas so we can venture out and meet and see some of  
15 these areas. Obviously, we won't be able to visit every  
16 corner and place in California, but it'd be nice if I  
17 could visit more than what I've visited so far in my  
18 life. Thank you.

19 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any other discussion?  
20 Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. You know, it's not  
22 like I didn't expect this, but it still, you know, it  
23 saddens me, especially because as Director Kaplan and  
24 Director Hernandez know, Executive Director Hernandez,  
25 know I've been planning the first two weeks, the first

1 two weeks in August to be gone from the family, celebrate  
2 my birthday and celebrate Commissioner Fornaciari's  
3 birthday at all sorts of different places and the  
4 calendar is set up so we have weekends in places like the  
5 Central Coast. I already had all these dreams. But  
6 yeah, the number one concern needs to stay on safety and  
7 health and I would hate for us to create the reason for  
8 an outbreak somewhere.

9       Also, yes, Commissioner Sadhwani, there was security  
10 issues in 2010, and I personally think there's some of  
11 the same people. Unfortunately, the pandemic, COVID  
12 vaccines, masks have all been politicized and depending  
13 where people are on the politicization of it or how we --  
14 if we're all wearing masks, we're not wearing masks, or  
15 making them wear masks. All those different things are  
16 going to be interpreted and it's just going to make our  
17 process messy. You know, it's going to be noise that --  
18 we're already going to have enough noise. And on the  
19 flip side, I do think it's important to see some of these  
20 places, especially the ones that we know least of,  
21 because the geography does make a difference. Where  
22 folks are makes a difference. So I like the hybrid  
23 approach. I think it's going to be critical. I keep  
24 telling people I can't believe how well we do know each  
25 other, considering we don't. We might walk right by each

1 other if we were in in person. But yeah, we'll pass each  
2 other and be like, wait, is that you? But I do think  
3 it's important to meet in person before we do the line  
4 drawing. The line drawing is going to be a lot and we  
5 need each other. I always go back to one of the quotes  
6 someone said once is we've got each other, we've got to  
7 trust the fourteen of us. We know what we're doing and  
8 we'll move forward together. And now the fourteen of us  
9 have a whole team behind us, which is amazing. So yeah,  
10 I mean, there's a lot of different pieces and I just  
11 think security and health -- because it is working now, I  
12 think I would be in a whole different boat if it wasn't  
13 working, but because some of the things we're doing is  
14 working and this allows staff, lead staff and other  
15 staff, to keep working on outreach versus working on  
16 logistics. I could support it, especially if we do a  
17 hybrid.

18 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I'm  
20 recalling that, at one point, we were talking about a  
21 model where we all might be in a location, you know, with  
22 six feet distance between each of us and have like a  
23 speaker's microphone facing us and people would come one  
24 at a time. So we weren't talking about a whole  
25 auditorium full of people, but we were talking about

1 giving people that ability to see us and give us the  
2 ability to see them. So yeah, I'm with Commissioner  
3 Sadhwani and Taylor and others, looking for a way that we  
4 can make some of this happen that, you know, that is more  
5 than just the current status quo, but you know, does not  
6 unduly increase risk, whether health or physical safety.  
7 Thank you, Chair.

8 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any further discussion on  
9 the motion? We have a motion on the screen, Director  
10 Hernandez. Okay, once again, we need to take public  
11 comment on this, so Katy, we can take public comment on  
12 the motion on the floor.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, it looked like  
14 there was Commissioners raising their hands.

15 CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry. Let's see your hands again.  
16 I'm sorry, my screen's --

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yeah, there were several.

18 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Fernandez then Sadhwani.  
19 Fernandez then Sadhwani.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Fornaciari is spelled  
21 incorrectly on the motion and then it's meetings --  
22 plural meetings in the motion.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I do that on purpose  
24 just to test you.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. I appreciate

1 feeling needed.

2 CHAIR YEE: Second line, meetings. Commissioner  
3 Sadhwani?

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: So I just wanted to get a  
5 little clarity on how we're going to move forward from a  
6 process standpoint. It sounded like there were several  
7 of us who would be interested to explore some sort of  
8 hybrid solution. Should we amend this motion to reflect  
9 a hybrid solution? Or if we want a hybrid solution,  
10 should we vote no on this and then have a second motion?  
11 Just a question for you, Chair, on how you'd like to  
12 handle that?

13 MR. PANE: So my recommendation on that is,  
14 Commissioner Sadhwani, you could certainly request the  
15 motion's author to see if they might be amenable to a  
16 friendly amendment. If so accepted, then the motion  
17 could be adjusted or altered. If not, then we would  
18 probably proceed and then certainly Commissioners are  
19 free to have their own motion.

20 CHAIR YEE: Actually, counsel, I was hearing that.  
21 The idea of travel might involve business meetings or  
22 other such meetings, but at input meetings -- input  
23 meetings I was hearing that we want to keep things fair  
24 and square for all the different zones, all the different  
25 counties, so I wasn't hearing a proposal to make any of



1 those hybrid. I think that's what I heard. So we still  
2 would, perhaps, look into the possibility of travel, but  
3 not involving input meetings. Commissioner Akutagawa  
4 then Fernandez.

5 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Chair Yee, I just want  
6 to confirm that that is the same thing that I heard. I  
7 think the point being to keep it as fair as possible, but  
8 the possibility of utilizing the business meetings in  
9 different locations to still travel to the locations so  
10 that we can understand some of these areas. So yes,  
11 you're correct.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, actually, I was -- I  
14 would like to have -- if we're going to have the  
15 meetings, just the Commission and the staff, I'd like to  
16 have at least one person so that we can go to those zones  
17 because we don't have -- we're not going to have eleven  
18 business meetings in August, but we are going to have  
19 eleven. COI meetings for public input meetings. So I  
20 was more hopeful by zone to at least get in a meeting.  
21 I'm not sure how everyone else feels about that.

22 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez, are you thinking  
23 of them as input meetings by zone or simply business  
24 meetings by zone?

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: As long as we get eleven,

1 we can mix it up so that it's one per zone. It doesn't  
2 have to be all input meetings. It doesn't have to be all  
3 business meetings that will have different locations. It  
4 would -- I'd just like to have even that are in the  
5 different zones, personally.

6 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari and then Ahmad.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So is -- is the proposal  
8 then for the input meetings? They would be not open to  
9 the public, but the Commissioners would just be in the  
10 zone in a venue that's not open to the public, and that  
11 would give us an opportunity to travel? I mean, I  
12 just -- I'd be kind of curious from, you know, how that  
13 would change the model of what the outreach staff has  
14 been working on. I mean, what is -- I'm curious about  
15 their feelings toward their ability to find venues at  
16 this point that could accommodate that model, if that, in  
17 fact, is the model that we're talking about?

18 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Ahmad and then Fernandez.

19 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: That was actually my exact  
20 question of if we are just taking ourselves and our  
21 laptops and going to different zones and just joining in  
22 as if we are at home but not open to the public? I just  
23 think I just need more clarity on if someone is  
24 recommending that.

25 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Basically, yes, so that we  
2 can actually meet in person as a commission. And in  
3 terms of how that would affect staff, in terms of finding  
4 venues, they would obviously need to -- it could open it  
5 up because it would have to -- it could be a smaller  
6 venue now versus having, you know, having to receive  
7 public input, which with who knows how many Californians  
8 coming to provide testimony. So it could be a smaller  
9 area room, whatever the case may be.

10           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

11           COMMISSIONER SINAY: Alvaro is raising his hand.

12           CHAIR YEE: Okay.

13           EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, thank you. I  
14 just wanted to say that staff will probably have more  
15 opportunity as we push things out further, as things may  
16 change in September or October, to find venues for  
17 meetings. So I think that would be something that we  
18 could definitely work on. I do also want to mention that  
19 we're not really sure what the rules are going to be come  
20 October.

21           As far as Bagley-Keene and the requirements for  
22 public meetings, et cetera, et cetera. So that's  
23 something that we'll need to consider as we move forward  
24 because we may have to open it up for people to join. So  
25 just wanted to mention that as well.

1 CHAIR YEE: Yeah, I'm thinking that the motion would  
2 still hold and apply, even if we did this remote  
3 presence, nonpublic forum. Commissioner Kennedy then  
4 Sinay then Fornaciari.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Sinay's hand was  
6 up first. I'll ask that she go first and then I'll jump  
7 in.

8 CHAIR YEE: Sure. Commissioner Sinay then Kennedy.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm just curious from legal  
10 counsel, can we all meet together and not allow public in  
11 or would we be exploring the area together but we'd each  
12 be in our own hotel room during the meeting? I mean, is  
13 there a legal consideration about having a public meeting  
14 and not letting public in?

15 CHAIR YEE: Ms. Johnston. I'm sorry, we can't hear  
16 you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Marian, it looks like  
18 your microphone is not, you know, I would go into your  
19 audio settings, make sure that you have the correct  
20 microphone selected in the little carat in your audio  
21 settings next to the microphone.

22 MS. JOHNSTON: Can you hear me now?

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can hear you now.  
24 Speak up. Oh, maybe it's your headset.

25 MR. PANE: So maybe I could just jump in for a

1 minute, Commissioner. So right now, you can meet and you  
2 and other Commissioners are able to meet without any  
3 requirements of publicizing a location. And so you --  
4 there is no legal concern with that. It would be, I  
5 think Commissioner Ahmad mentioned this. It's as if  
6 you're all in -- it's no different right now than if  
7 you're in your living room or your home and you're  
8 joining a meeting. The fact that you are in the same  
9 room, even with other Commissioners, does not necessitate  
10 a, for example, a public invitation.

11 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner -- or Marian.

12 MS. JOHNSTON: What I was trying to add is that --  
13 after the first.

14 CHAIR YEE: I believe the counsel is saying that  
15 after October 1st, things may change.

16 MS. JOHNSTON: It will change.

17 CHAIR YEE: It will change.

18 MS. JOHNSTON: Unless there's another executive  
19 order.

20 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy, then Fornaciari,  
21 and then Fernandez.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Looking at  
23 the schedule and keeping in mind Director Hernandez's  
24 mention of, you know, the farther out the dates, the  
25 easier it is to arrange. I'm wondering because zone K

1 and Zone F are currently scheduled for two of these  
2 meetings -- so F would be the first on the fourth, but if  
3 that one were not in this new modality and if we move --  
4 I mean, what I'm looking at is we could take that -- the  
5 first two weeks of August, do some minimal reallocation,  
6 keeping in mind that eight at the K and F are already on  
7 the schedule for later in the month, and essentially  
8 start whatever the new modality is on or about the 20th  
9 of August, which would give us, you know, essentially  
10 three more -- almost three more weeks to see how we're  
11 doing. Just a thought. Thank you.

12 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Fornaciari, Fernandez,  
13 then Sinay.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I was just going to  
15 say, conceivably then we could just book a hotel room and  
16 meet in the little hotel ballroom and not have to find a  
17 venue.

18 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Good suggestion, Mr.  
20 Fornaciari, and the intent would be, for me personally,  
21 would be to have these traveling meetings prior to  
22 receiving the census data. So I would hope that we would  
23 do this prior to middle of September and not wait beyond  
24 October 1st, which the -- then you having to publicize  
25 your location may come into effect. So mine would be

1 sooner rather than later. Yeah, and we could just from  
2 our rooms, but I would prefer to be together but that's  
3 all right. We can figure it out.

4 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I liked what Commissioner  
6 Kennedy was saying, but one of -- but he skipped over  
7 zone B, which their only meeting is on August -- on  
8 August 9th and then we have a full commission meeting.  
9 And that is a huge region that we don't know and it would  
10 be good to have two days there. So I -- I originally  
11 when I saw that it was up in Zone B and then we had a  
12 full meeting, I was excited just for that -- that  
13 opportunity to see more of it.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Yeah, that --  
16 that was not eloquently included in my mention of  
17 reworking a little bit in the second and third week, so  
18 if we -- if we moved B to the 20th and -- so B and then  
19 D, so northeast and then Sacramento. We could move G  
20 down between kind of -- between E and F, you know, that  
21 sort of thing. I'm thinking that as long -- if we start  
22 on the 20th, we can get to the 2nd of September with the  
23 zone K meeting having done all eleven zones. That's the  
24 idea.

25 CHAIR YEE: Okay, very exciting possibility there.

1 I believe the motion is -- doesn't preclude that at all.  
2 Motion is -- only concerns in-person public input  
3 meetings and so we're still free to locate ourselves  
4 anywhere, right? So if there are no amendments to the  
5 motion, let's go ahead and take public comment on the  
6 motion. No amendments? Okay, Katy. Oh, I'm sorry,  
7 Commissioner Ahmad.

8           COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I just want to clarify. The  
9 motion does read we do not hold in-person public input  
10 meetings. Are you saying that in person doesn't include  
11 Commissioners or does?

12           CHAIR YEE: I'm thinking it doesn't, because an in-  
13 person public input meeting is a meeting that's a public  
14 meeting.

15           COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Oh, I was reading it as in  
16 person as in we are persons and in person. I don't know  
17 if there's language, Commissioner Fornaciari, that you  
18 and I or that we can come up with that's more explicit so  
19 there's no question about that.

20           CHAIR YEE: How about public in-person meetings?

21           COMMISSIONER AHMAD: There you go. That works if  
22 Commissioner Fornaciari --

23           MR. PANE: So Chair, on that I mean, I think we  
24 don't -- they are public meetings, right? So we wouldn't  
25 want to say they're not public meetings. I think -- I



1 think maybe what we would -- but if I could make just a  
2 recommendation? If we say, you know, you could say that  
3 maybe we do not hold -- you could say in person -- maybe  
4 in person availability for the public during those public  
5 input meetings. Or you could say -- you could tweak the  
6 that we do not hold -- let me see in person public input  
7 meetings.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: How about open?

9 CHAIR YEE: It's an open meeting still, right?

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: How about virtual? Continue  
11 to hold virtual public input meetings.

12 MR. PANE: That's another way to get at it.

13 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Le Mons.

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, I think somebody said  
15 it already, but I was going to recommend that we change  
16 it to virtual. Just say motion is to accept Executive  
17 Director's recommendation that we hold virtual public  
18 input meetings in August and revisit for September.  
19 Provided, of course, the Executive Director feels like  
20 that's the intent now or I'm sorry, Commissioner  
21 Fornaciari.

22 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari and then  
23 Commissioner Ahmad. How do you feel about that?

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm good with that.

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes, I still hold my second.

1 CHAIR YEE: That we hold virtual public meetings,  
2 yeah, in August and revisit for September. Commissioner  
3 Fornaciari.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think -- you know the  
5 staff and Director Hernandez likes guidance from us to be  
6 clear and in through motions. So I mean, I would be open  
7 to amending this motion to include guidance for them to  
8 do what we were talking about. I don't know exactly how  
9 to say it, but you know, figure out how to -- how to  
10 enable the Commission to meet in every -- in every zone  
11 before October 1st.

12 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Sadhwani then  
13 Kennedy.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I think Commissioner  
15 Sinay had her hand up for a moment.

16 CHAIR YEE: I'm sorry. No? Okay, Commissioner  
17 Sadhwani then Kennedy.

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry. I was just going to  
19 suggest perhaps adding, and now it's fallen out of my  
20 mind, but and direct staff to identify and book locations  
21 for the Commission to meet in August across all zones.

22 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Kennedy then Le Mons.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. It seems  
24 that we're no longer accepting the Executive Director's  
25 recommendation, so I'm thinking we strike that from the

1 motion.

2 CHAIR YEE: Oh, I see. Okay, Commissioner Le Mons.

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, I was -- I want to  
4 support the motion the way it is. I think that it's two  
5 separate points and I think what you've been trying to do  
6 so eloquently, Chair, throughout this discussion is the  
7 Commission getting together is not germane to this point  
8 here. This is about the public and the public input  
9 meeting based on the issue of the Delta variant and mass  
10 management and all of those things.

11 So this can be a very clean motion that can remain  
12 exactly as it is and be voted on and another motion can  
13 be offered by any Commissioner that wants to put forward  
14 a motion that directs our business meetings, that directs  
15 us meeting and zones or all of those things. I think to  
16 try to fold all that into this motion is kind of making  
17 it convoluted unnecessarily. That would be my  
18 recommendation, is move forward with this motion, which  
19 doesn't impede any of the beautiful suggestions that  
20 Commissioners have made about us being able to see the  
21 regions and all of that stuff. I think is a separate  
22 point.

23 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa.

24 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I would -- I would  
25 agree with what Commissioner Le Mons just said and I

1 would also, just for additional or further clarification,  
2 add after revisit for September, instead put revisit in  
3 person meetings, you know, for September or something to  
4 that effect so there's clarity.

5 CHAIR YEE: Okay, let's see. To be even more  
6 precise how about that we hold only virtual public input  
7 meetings in August. Maybe strike the do there. We don't  
8 really need the do. Hold only virtual -- yeah. Okay,  
9 how does that look to you, Commissioners Fornaciari and  
10 Ahmad? Do you want to keep the Executive Director's  
11 recommendation language? Commissioner Akutagawa.

12 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Sorry. I think it's my turn  
13 now, Commissioner Fernandez. Revisit in-person meetings,  
14 plural.

15 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioners Fornaciari and  
16 Ahmad, how does it look?

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I actually am feeling like  
18 we don't need the last phrase about September at this  
19 point and I'd like to include the -- leave the Executive  
20 Director's recommendation in there.

21 CHAIR YEE: Okay, so we can change that.  
22 Commissioner Ahmad, are you okay with that?

23 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah, that's fine.

24 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: It's the exact same thing that

1 was first there anyway.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Le Mons. Okay, we  
3 are ready for public comment. Thank you for waiting,  
4 Katy.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, sure. The  
6 commission is now taking public comment on the motion to  
7 accept the Executive Director's recommendation that we  
8 hold only virtual public input meetings in August on the  
9 floor. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and  
10 enter the meeting ID number 87442883536 for this meeting.  
11 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the  
12 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been  
13 read previously in this meeting and are provided in full  
14 on the livestream landing page. We do not have anyone in  
15 the queue at this time, Chair.

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you, Katy. We will wait a  
17 moment. Any last discussion, thoughts? Thank you to the  
18 staff. I know it's been a rollercoaster. Planning,  
19 unplanning. If we do change the dates will that take  
20 another motion? I think it will, so that will require  
21 another proposal at some point.

22 MR. PANE: Chair, are you referring specifically to  
23 locations and dates for particular meetings?

24 CHAIR YEE: Yes, because we approve the schedule as  
25 it is now, right?



1 MR. PANE: Yeah, I would agree with you. If we were  
2 to do that, we would want to entertain a motion for that.

3 CHAIR YEE: Okay, so we'll probably want to wait  
4 until that's worked out in a bit more detail. Okay, if  
5 there are no public comments, Commissioner Kennedy.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I just wanted to say that  
7 I've got written out where we could shift things and fit  
8 within that August 20th to September 2nd, all eleven  
9 zones.

10 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm pretty sure when we  
12 made the motion to adopt the schedule, but we gave the  
13 staff latitude to change meetings as they felt needed, So  
14 I don't think we need to vote on that.

15 CHAIR YEE: Okay, and we can do some research on  
16 that and figure that out, but that would be a separate  
17 motion in 18. So let's go ahead with current motion.  
18 There are no public comments. Let's go ahead and take  
19 the vote by Director Hernandez.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, Chair, we'll  
21 begin the vote. Commissioner Ahmad?

22 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
24 Akutagawa?

25 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

2 Andersen?

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

5 Fernandez?

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Sadly, yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

8 Fornaciari?

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

15 Sadhwani?

16 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

20 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

22 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

24 Commissioner Vasquez? Commissioner Yee?

25 CHAIR YEE: Yes.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Motion passes.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Thank you, everyone. So that  
3 related to the Executive Director's report and  
4 recommendation. I'm thinking that if we have  
5 recommendations about the meeting schedule, as well as  
6 possible in-person business meetings or meeting  
7 attendance, that should probably come up in a different  
8 subcommittee report, perhaps. So perhaps give that some  
9 thought for later in the week, if you'd like to propose  
10 that today. At this point, let's see. The Executive  
11 Director's report, is that complete or is there anything  
12 else?

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, that's complete,  
14 Chair. Thank you.

15 CHAIR YEE: So let's move on to the Communication  
16 Director's report. Director Ceja.

17 DIRECTOR CEJA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Can everyone  
18 hear me? Perfect. Everyone looks so sad right now.  
19 I'll start out with an announcement for the bid for radio  
20 and billboard advertising. We did receive the bids late  
21 last week. We're in the process of scoring them, so we  
22 should have decisions made by Friday afternoon. So  
23 that's good news. That's again for radio and billboard  
24 advertising. Bids for social media and for the newspaper  
25 ads, those are two separate bids, are due on Friday. I



1 just received one for social media earlier, so those are  
2 also moving forward. And just a reminder, in order to  
3 get the services up and going, up and running, we do  
4 require those contracts to be in place. So as soon as we  
5 finalize the selected contractors, we'll forward them to  
6 our administrator to get the ball rolling.

7 Also good news, we have four interviews, as our Executive  
8 Director mentioned tomorrow for the Communications  
9 Coordinator. This position will be in charge of updating  
10 the website and doing, like, graphic design. And I'm  
11 happy to announce that all four candidates are very  
12 familiar with Nation Builder, so there will not be a  
13 learning curve and they'll be ready to jump right into  
14 it. Facebook ads. We did have finally the ability to  
15 start posting Facebook ads, so if you've noticed any  
16 online this week, we did publicize the COI meetings for  
17 this week. So the engagement for social media is through  
18 the roof and I'll share that report shortly. And the  
19 idea here, again, is to start reaching out to folks who  
20 probably have never heard of the Commission or don't have  
21 a connection to the commission. And we started to see  
22 the numbers through the week or actually through the  
23 weekend, start rising and people were starting to engage,  
24 asking those questions, asking us how they can get  
25 involved. So slowly we'll have those people trickle into

1 our database and be part of our newsletters and all our  
2 announcements.

3       So jumping right into the social media report.  
4 Facebook now has a total of 971 likes, but here's the  
5 important part. As far as post reach, we went up 1,274  
6 percent this past week. And as far as post engagement,  
7 like people actually liking or sharing, it went up 384  
8 percent.

9       As far as Instagram is concerned, we now have 188  
10 followers. That went up roughly ten percent and the  
11 accounts reached 4,020 percent increase, and then content  
12 interaction, again people liking or sharing, went up by  
13 243 percent.

14       Twitter now has 1,568 followers. The impressions  
15 went up by 117 percent. Our visits went up to 9,297.  
16 That's 135 percent increase. And our mentions went up by  
17 seven percent.

18       LinkedIn also had some activity. We posted the  
19 Communications Coordinator job description on LinkedIn,  
20 so we did see some activity increase there too. We did  
21 get good candidates out of it and it was free, so I was  
22 happy about that. We had fifty-seven new followers.  
23 That's a ten percent increase and 275 new page views.  
24 And for YouTube, we had fifty-eight subscribers and 1,779  
25 views. So that's social media and that report is online.

1 I also wanted to mention that, in addition to the  
2 phone calls that we've gotten at our COI meetings, we've  
3 also had emails come in. So in the month of June, 69  
4 individuals wrote in COI input and we received that  
5 through email. And in July, 110 people -- Ravi had to  
6 update that number just before the meeting because they  
7 keep coming in. So that total for the last two months is  
8 179 COI submissions that we have in our email and we will  
9 be integrating into the air table.

10 And lastly, interviews. We had fifteen mentions in  
11 articles this past week. We spoke to the L.A. Times with  
12 Charity. We spoke to the ACORN newspaper, which is out  
13 of Simi Valley. Commissioner Kennedy spoke to the  
14 Southern California Newsgroup. Commissioner Toledo spoke  
15 to KZZH out of Humboldt. I spoke to Calmatters.  
16 Commissioner Akutagawa spoke to the Voice of Orange  
17 County. Commissioner Yee wrote in to Bloomberg News.  
18 And then I spoke to the Bakersfield Californian. That is  
19 my report for today.

20 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Any questions for Director  
21 Ceja? Okay.

22 Commissioners, you might see your face on a  
23 billboard. Okay, if there are no questions, let's move  
24 on to Outreach Director's report.

25 Director Kaplan.

1           DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Hi. Good afternoon, everyone. I  
2 just wanted to highlight some of our recent COI input  
3 meetings. The Commission held the Communities of  
4 Interest Public Input Meeting on July 15th for L.A.  
5 County. There were fifty-three speakers in total. Most  
6 of the callers were focused on Long Beach and the San  
7 Fernando Valley, although there were callers discussing  
8 San Gabriel Valley, Antelope Valley, Gateway communities,  
9 West L.A. and South L.A. We had five Spanish speakers  
10 that received interpretation services, and we had one  
11 Farsi speaker that decided to give their input in English  
12 rather than Farsi.

13           On 7/17, we held a community of interest input  
14 meeting for Zone C, which is Alameda, Contra Costa,  
15 Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano  
16 Counties. There were thirty-seven speakers total. The  
17 majority of the speakers focused on Contra Costa and  
18 Alameda Counties and some callers gave input on San  
19 Francisco County and Marin.

20           On 7/19, the Commission held a community of interest  
21 input meeting covering zone B, which was Calusa, Glenn,  
22 Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, and Tehama  
23 Counties. There were twelve speakers total. The  
24 majority of speakers gave input from Butte, Shasta, and  
25 Siskiyou, and a speaker had mentioned Glenn and Tehema a

1 few times, but no callers from those counties gave input.  
2 One speaker mentioned Modoc and Humboldt County in Zone A  
3 and another caller from Zone A discussed Trinity County.  
4 There were no callers from Plumas County.

5 On 7/20, the Commission held the Community of  
6 Interest input meeting for Zone G, which is Alpine,  
7 Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, and Tuolumne  
8 Counties. There were seventeen speakers total. Callers  
9 commented on the following counties: Mariposa, Mono,  
10 Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne. And the Commission is  
11 hosting additional upcoming meetings, including on 7/22,  
12 for Zone E, which is Monterey, San Benito, San Luis  
13 Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Ventura. There  
14 are forty-two people registered and the registration is  
15 full for that meeting. The commission will be -- people  
16 will still have the ability to call in the day of the  
17 meeting.

18 On 7/24, the meeting is focused on Zone J, which is  
19 Orange County, and these registration numbers are as of  
20 last night. There are seven people registered for that  
21 meeting.

22 On 7/29, the Commission will be focusing on Zone C,  
23 which is Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San  
24 Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano County. There are zero  
25 people registered.

1           And on 7/Thirty, focusing on L.A. County, there are  
2 four people registered, and 7/31, focused on Zone I, and  
3 there are eleven people registered. We've seen with all  
4 of the COI input meetings that registration goes up  
5 significantly closer to the date and we've also had an  
6 additional increase in same-day callers who are not  
7 registered as well.

8           I also just wanted to highlight, in the handouts for  
9 today, there is an updated flier for the COI input  
10 meetings. Additionally, the flier includes information  
11 about language access. The Commission has approved  
12 providing automatic interpretation in Spanish at all  
13 August and September COI input meetings, which includes  
14 an audio listen only line and interpretation of public  
15 input.

16           The Commission is providing automatically for  
17 additional languages and those are noted in the flier on  
18 specific dates. I also want to update the Commissioners  
19 that we are on track to have that language access set up  
20 for the first August meeting on August 4th and  
21 communications with our Director of Administration. And  
22 I also want to flag that request for interpretation of  
23 public input for other languages not noted on the flier  
24 or in the meeting tab must be requested by email at  
25 [interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov](mailto:interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov) on the registration form

1 or by calling our offices at 916-323-0323. And we've  
2 included this on the flier, it's also on the website, and  
3 we will be submitting the flier for translation as well.

4 I wanted to provide an update on the COI tool. As  
5 of this week, there are 586 registered users. 624 COIs  
6 have been submitted by members of the public. An  
7 additional 276 COIs have been submitted by the line  
8 drawers, which are from the COI public input meetings.  
9 Two of the 162 new COIs are in non-English languages.

10 I also just want to provide some outreach updates.  
11 Staff has spent significant amount of time focused on  
12 securing venues, which, based on the decision that was  
13 made tonight, we still will be able to utilize for the  
14 Commissioners to meet. And we are also focused on  
15 additional hiring as Commissioner, as Director Hernandez  
16 noted. We've identified two candidates for the four  
17 field staff positions, one for Northern California and  
18 another for Southern California, which have been  
19 recommended to the Finance and Administration  
20 Subcommittee. I will defer to them during the report out  
21 for approval, but I can provide some background now for  
22 the Northern California field staff position. This  
23 candidate comes to us with a background, including  
24 community facing public service, with both the California  
25 Employment Development Department and the New York State

1 Department of Health as they dealt with the COVID-19  
2 crisis during the last year. She was also very involved  
3 in an Odyssey mentoring program at Sacramento State,  
4 where she had many duties both behind the scenes and  
5 involving recruitment and outreach. This candidate has a  
6 master's in political science from CSU Sacramento and a  
7 bachelor's in government from CSU Sacramento.

8 The second candidate would be for a Southern  
9 California field staff who would cover San Bernardino,  
10 Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties. Most  
11 relevant to the commission's work, this candidate spent  
12 more than a year working with the U.S. Census Bureau as a  
13 partnership specialist, establishing partnership  
14 agreements with local businesses and community groups,  
15 and coordinating, organizing, and attending a variety of  
16 community outreach events. While the candidate has a  
17 great deal of additional, relevant analytical and  
18 promotional experience for census workers, given her  
19 background in virtual and/or in-person event logistics,  
20 organizing, and flexibility needed to be a great part of  
21 the commission's team. She has a bachelor's degree from  
22 Havana University and a master's degree in management and  
23 marketing.

24 I also just want to highlight additional outreach  
25 efforts from the outreach team, focusing on the



1 communities of interest input meeting and sharing  
2 information about the COI input tool and other ways to  
3 engage. Staff is focusing on giving additional lead  
4 time, as much as two weeks out, to notify stakeholders of  
5 upcoming public input meetings. This has been highly  
6 effective in the central California areas and field staff  
7 are implementing this for other outreach as well.

8 I also want to highlight, working together with the  
9 communications team, we have finalized the Digital Action  
10 Toolkit for stakeholders. This is complete and it's on  
11 the handouts for today's meeting and will be going out to  
12 our email list this week. I know I'm going through a lot  
13 of stuff. And the outreach to team has begun using Air  
14 Table to track our contacts and outreach efforts, which  
15 has been a useful tool for us to be able to track efforts  
16 and will be continuing to migrate some of the contacts  
17 that we've been tracking thus far.

18 I also want to take a few minutes to introduce  
19 Ashley Howick, our Northern California field lead, who  
20 joined the team at the beginning of July. And Ashley is  
21 on, so I'll pass it over her to quickly introduce herself  
22 and share a little bit about herself.

23 MS. HOWICK: Hello, Commissioners. I'm Ashley. I  
24 am very excited to be joining the staff and to be a part  
25 of the redistricting process. I am currently finishing

1 up my bachelor's degree in political science from UC  
2 Davis. I grew up in the Bay Area and the East Bay cities  
3 of San Ramon and Dublin and have loved living in  
4 California my entire life and being able to enjoy all the  
5 vastly different landscapes the state has to offer.  
6 While working for The City of Fremont as their census  
7 coordinator, I performed a lot of outreach for the city.  
8 I was very involved with many diverse organizations  
9 there, such as Islamic groups, the senior centers, the  
10 libraries, the Sikh community and they also have a very  
11 strong Afghan community there that I partnered with. I  
12 really enjoyed that role, so I like that in this  
13 position. As the Northern California field lead, I am  
14 able to carry over a lot of the skills and techniques I  
15 used while working in Fremont, but with a much more  
16 widespread area. I feel very strongly that everyone  
17 should be given a voice and have access to equitable  
18 representation, so I am really looking forward to being  
19 able to spread the word about the Commission and help all  
20 the communities of interest within California be  
21 respected in terms of their districts. So I am excited  
22 to be on this redistricting journey with you all. Thank  
23 you.

24           DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Thank you, Ashley. I also now  
25 wanted to introduce Ann Marx, our outreach manager, who

1 will also be going over an additional handout from  
2 today's meeting, which is a summary of phase one efforts.  
3 So Ann, I will pass it over to you to share your screen.

4 MS. MARX: I'll do that in just one second. I can  
5 add that since Director Kaplan gave -- received the data  
6 about the upcoming meeting, we've already received more  
7 registrations. So those are literally going up all the  
8 time. So hopefully some of you had a chance to take a  
9 look. This is a phase one summary document that we put  
10 together, together with the communications team. And  
11 Cecilia worked on really hard and Freddy also. I was  
12 able to help with it and hopefully, it's just something  
13 that can be a tool for you if needed later on, looking  
14 back, that summarizes all of the work that you all did  
15 during that beginning phase. So let me go ahead and  
16 share that. Okay, so you're able to see that screen at  
17 this point. Okay, great. So you can just see we've got  
18 thirty-four of the fifty-eight counties. You heard that  
19 data, but I think when you see the list of all of the  
20 counties that you reached, it really is impressive. And  
21 a large number of meetings in some, and in some of our  
22 smaller counties, just fewer perhaps. And then again,  
23 some of these phase one numbers that you had heard with  
24 more than 7,000 people being reached through the  
25 redistricting basic presentations. That was great. All

1 of our outreach materials, the email list that the  
2 communications team is managing, more than 11,000 people  
3 at the end of June. So most of these numbers are  
4 reflective of at the end of June or what we knew to be  
5 true as of July 31st, but at the end of June, because we  
6 were grabbing that snapshot. You've seen some of the  
7 social media data, but again, everything is here together  
8 in one place, two sided, highlighting the access and  
9 inclusion work that everybody wanted with and our  
10 outreach materials, all of the languages being available,  
11 the translations of material, and then we had more at  
12 least seven Commission presentations that were either in  
13 Spanish or fully interpreted for the redistricting basics  
14 and then it was available on YouTube as well. And just a  
15 real great demographic of outreach as well, where there  
16 was work being put into a lot of different communities.

17 So at that time, we had 483 people who had already  
18 submitted input online and that number is -- now we're  
19 well over double that in just less than the next month.  
20 So I'm really excited and hopefully a tool that you all  
21 may be able to use at some point if you, as your final  
22 reports are looking back and if there are questions, I'm  
23 happy to take any.

24 CHAIR YEE: Any questions for Ann or Marcy?  
25 Commissioner Akutagawa.

1 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I'm just wondering if Ms.  
2 Kaplan can submit some kind of written report of all the  
3 things that she mentioned. It's just hard to keep track  
4 of everything she said. I do also appreciate this  
5 document, too, but I just want to ask and see if we could  
6 get a written version of what she just reported on?  
7 There's a lot of numbers.

8 MS. MARX: Yes, I can do that, yeah.

9 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Anything else on outreach?  
10 Commissioner Kennedy.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I just wanted to say that,  
12 you know, I'm seeing a lot of social media posts going  
13 out about registration deadlines specifically, but I'm  
14 not seeing similar social media posts going out about the  
15 deadline for interpretation requests, and just wondering  
16 if we might see an uptick in people availing themselves  
17 of the opportunity for interpretation if we were to put  
18 out social media posts highlighting those deadlines and  
19 not just the registration? Thank you.

20 CHAIR YEE: Anything else? If not -- let's see. We  
21 have about seven, eight minutes before our break. Chief  
22 counsel to you want to get started at least or do as much  
23 as you can?

24 MR. PANE: Chair, actually, I'm just going to be  
25 rather brief. I didn't have much to report out for this

1 time.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's go ahead, please. You may  
3 go ahead then.

4 MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair. I just want to again,  
5 thank the work of the Strumwasser team, which your team  
6 has been very helpful this past couple of weeks in  
7 helping to navigate various legal issues. And I also  
8 want to thank Marion as well for the Legislative updates.  
9 You all have been getting those. And again, we just look  
10 forward to getting this legal team working with all of  
11 you. We've had one retired annuitant. He's well and  
12 working with our contracts administrator, Raul.  
13 Unfortunately, we've had a little bit of a delay in our  
14 second, and I mentioned that I'm still ironing those  
15 details out. But the legal team is working really well  
16 and if you have any questions, I'm happy to answer them.

17 CHAIR YEE: Questions for Chief Counsel? Okay. If  
18 not, let's go ahead and take public comment to close out  
19 item three. This is all the director's reports. So  
20 Katy, public comment, please.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The  
22 commission is now taking public comment on agenda item  
23 number 3. And to give comment, please call 877-853-5247.  
24 Enter the meeting ID number 87442883536 for this meeting.  
25 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the

1 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been  
2 read previously in this meeting and are provided in full  
3 on the livestream landing page. We do not have any  
4 callers in the queue at this time, Chair.

5 CHAIR YEE: Okay, I'll wait just a moment. After we  
6 come back from break, we'll jump right into all our  
7 subcommittee reports and we'll just go A to N with those.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Those instructions are  
9 complete on the stream, Chair.

10 CHAIR YEE: Okay, Very good. There are no public  
11 comments, So let's go ahead and go to break. Let's see.  
12 Kristian, is it better if we just stay on schedule and  
13 come back at 5:45?

14 MR. MANOFF: It's up to you.

15 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's stay with a fifteen-minute  
16 break then. Let's come back at 5:40.

17 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 5:25 p.m.  
18 until 5:40 p.m.)

19 CHAIR YEE: Welcome back to our business meeting of  
20 the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. I'm  
21 Russell Yee, and I'm sharing this meeting here on agenda  
22 item number 4, subcommittee updates. We'll take them in  
23 order. So we'll start with Government Affairs, census  
24 subcommittee, Commissioners Sadhwani, and Toledo.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. I don't really have

1 anything too much more to update. We, of course, as a  
2 Commission made a decision to move forward with our  
3 request to the Supreme Court for a map adoption date. We  
4 did receive, just prior to this meeting, a letter from  
5 the CACEO asking to speak with us about that decision.  
6 We haven't had a chance to follow up with them yet, but  
7 certainly anticipate doing so or anticipate directing our  
8 legal team to do so. I'm not sure exactly what the  
9 nature of their request would be. Commissioner Toledo,  
10 anything else?

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: We did have the letter to  
12 the -- on the trail language and I don't know if Anthony  
13 is here to speak on the letter because he drafted it.

14 MR. PANE: Sure. Thank you, Commissioner. I wanted  
15 to just highlight for all of you, it's the subcommittee's  
16 attempt to try to capture, I think, the Commission's will  
17 for supporting that draft trailer bill language. So  
18 certainly would welcome thoughts as to how to address or  
19 to whom to address the letter. One option is to address  
20 it to the Senate Pro Tem and the Speaker's office.  
21 Another option is to send it to various committees. It's  
22 a little trickier because this, as you all may know, is a  
23 draft trailer bill, which means it does not have an  
24 assigned home right yet, an Assembly bill or Senate, so  
25 it doesn't have a sponsor right now, an author, and it's



1 one of those that can move very quickly after a seventy-  
2 two-hour period, it can be voted on. So it moves very  
3 quickly, so would certainly welcome any input from the  
4 Commissioners as to maybe from a strategic point of view  
5 what might be your recommendation for addressees, but  
6 otherwise -- and as well, if you have any thoughts or  
7 recommended changes, as well, in the letter.

8       COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Again, I would just point out  
9 that this Commissions been pretty vocal on the need to  
10 improve the open meetings rules, especially as outlined  
11 in the trailer bill, so we want to be able to express --  
12 to advocate for the changes and to the modernization of  
13 the rules so that other commissions can benefit in the  
14 future and other -- and other bodies can benefit from  
15 them in the future, as well as the public, of course,  
16 because ultimately that's -- that's probably the most  
17 important element of all of this. So if there's any  
18 feedback on that letter, please put it on to our counsel,  
19 to Anthony, and we will identify where to send it and  
20 figure out how to get the most -- most advocacy for this  
21 issue. It may be that we'll work with our communications  
22 team to convert this into a press release of sorts as  
23 well, because ultimately it is advocacy as opposed to a  
24 policy stance, right? And maybe just telling a story  
25 about these changes have helped us be able to

1 meaningfully engage the state a little bit more. So if  
2 you have any thoughts around this, please feel free to  
3 share them with Chief Counsel and we'll all think through  
4 how we can -- how we can do that. I know it's an issue  
5 that's of particular importance to many of you on the  
6 Commission and we've heard you loud and clear. We want  
7 to advocate, but we also want to stay within our --  
8 advocate and make it relevant in terms of  
9 Commissioners -- our work and our charge.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think I might just add on  
11 to that a little bit. You know, I think Marian brought  
12 up earlier that October 1st -- you know, the trailer bill  
13 could potentially, if passed swiftly, could potentially  
14 change the outlook for us for October in light of our  
15 previous conversation about in-person, hybrid, et cetera.  
16 But as Marian had mentioned, as of right now, come  
17 October 1st, if Bagley-Keene is lifted we would be  
18 mandated to go back in public. I don't know if that's  
19 going to be the case or not and so you know, I'm also  
20 wondering and just kind of thinking out loud here if  
21 perhaps Marcy and I hate to put you on the spot here, but  
22 I know you have the contacts with the Governor's office  
23 and know them. Perhaps you could assist in just doing  
24 additional outreach to the Governor's office to ask if  
25 they're anticipating an extension of the executive orders

1 for Bagley-Keene? Certainly we have done a letter.  
2 We've asked for a specific carve out for the Commission.  
3 We haven't seen that yet. It would be helpful for our  
4 planning purposes, I think, if we can have a sense of  
5 what's to come in October. I'm happy to work with you on  
6 that, Marcy, but I know you have the contacts so it might  
7 just be more effective coming from you.

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And if I can answer that just  
9 really briefly. Just in terms of time constraints,  
10 right, meeting in person requires a level of logistics  
11 that just takes a little bit more time to plan and  
12 operationally, and so in terms of meeting our deadlines  
13 and whatnot, a hybrid model is likely the best option for  
14 getting our work done swiftly as possible. And so it's,  
15 of course, pushing for -- advocating for -- for  
16 flexibility as we work through this in a pandemic. We're  
17 still in the pandemic and will continue to be in one  
18 until more individuals are -- are vaccinated.

19 CHAIR YEE: And the letter is in today's handouts in  
20 Form A. Anything else for Government Affairs?

21 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think that's -- that those  
22 are the two main issues at this point.

23 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Vazquez and then  
24 Commissioner Fornaciari.

25 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Thank you. I appreciate the

1 committee's work on this. I, in terms of being  
2 responsive to counsel's question about strategic,  
3 strategy on who to address the letter to. I definitely  
4 recommend the leadership so that the speaker, in  
5 particular, especially from some of these things do go  
6 pretty quickly. I'm also wondering -- would be open to  
7 hearing why not, but I think also, maybe because these  
8 things go so quickly, if it might just make sense to also  
9 include the governor's office in this letter. Again,  
10 because these things could be passed and go to the  
11 governor's desk at the eleventh hour before we have a  
12 chance to sort of respond and make our case again to the  
13 governor with something that's on his desk. And then I  
14 think in terms of communications, because this is policy  
15 advocacy, I definitely recommend sending a copy of the  
16 letter, once it's finalized, to the staff at the Little  
17 Hoover Commission, because this is very much in line with  
18 a report that they put out last month that they've been  
19 promoting and that I have personally liked and helped  
20 promote that -- that speaks to this very issue. So they  
21 could be -- they and -- they're a couple of disability  
22 rights advocates who have been pushing this issue that I  
23 have contacts with that I could also help put us in touch  
24 with to amplify our message.

25 CHAIR YEE: If there was someone else, I lost track.

1 Okay, anything else for Government Affairs?

2 MR. PANE: Chair, if I could just make, maybe make  
3 one request or certainly seek Commissioners Sadhwani and  
4 Toledo's input on this.

5 CHAIR YEE: Sure.

6 MR. PANE: Is it is it fair to say that maybe I  
7 could work on making final adjustments and we could send  
8 it out? Okay, thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I would love that. Thank  
10 you.

11 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Let's move on to Finance and  
12 Administration, and this will be the time to revisit the  
13 possibility of optional travel. Finance and  
14 Administration, we can start with that or other items you  
15 have.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: How about we start with  
17 the job posting approval? So I make a motion that the  
18 Commission approve the hiring of the data manager and the  
19 two outreach coordinators -- no outreach -- no, zone --

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Field support -- field  
21 support staff for the northern and southern areas. How's  
22 that?

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's it.

24 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'll second that.

25 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Motion has been made by

1 Commissioner Fornaciari, seconded by Commissioner  
2 Fernandez. Discussion. Director Hernandez, do you have  
3 that motion? Perhaps you could display it for us?

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: One second, Chair.  
5 I'm going to check my spelling. Here you go, Chair.

6 CHAIR YEE: Motion is that the Commission approves  
7 the hiring of the data manager and the two field support  
8 staff for the northern and southern areas.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Let's get an A in there  
10 too -- manager. Okay.

11 CHAIR YEE: Maybe we should say the recommended data  
12 manager, I mean, because this is a specific person,  
13 right?

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: People, and it's PM,  
15 Alvaro.

16 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Fernandez.  
17 Okay, I'm sorry, approve the hiring of the recommended  
18 data manager and two field support staff. Okay.

19 Commissioners Fornaciari and Fernandez, all good? Any  
20 further discussion? Commissioner Kennedy and then  
21 Commissioner Andersen.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Recommended.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen? No other  
24 discussion. Let's go to public comment on the motion on  
25 the floor. Commissioner Akutagawa? I'm sorry.

1 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Just a quick question. Is it  
2 northern and southern California zones or does it need to  
3 be more specific? Does it matter also?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: These were not specific to  
5 zones. There were more areas -- larger areas composed of  
6 multiple zones.

7 CHAIR YEE: Katy, sorry. Go ahead with the public  
8 comment, please.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Commission is now  
10 taking public comment for the agenda item on the floor.  
11 To give comment, please call 877-853-5247. Enter the  
12 meeting ID number 87442883536 for this meeting. Once you  
13 have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment  
14 queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the  
15 beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the  
16 livestream landing page. Chair, we do have a raised hand  
17 at this time.

18 CHAIR YEE: Okay, let's take this call.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Caller 0110, if you'll  
20 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.  
21 Caller 0110, go ahead. The floor is yours.

22 MS. D. JOHNSTON: Good evening, Commissioners. This  
23 is Donna Johnston. I am the president of CACEO. I don't  
24 know if this is the proper time to speak on this item.

25 CHAIR YEE: So this is the item concerning hiring

1 staff. So if you are -- it is specific to this motion  
2 only. So if you're commenting on that, this is the time.  
3 If not, then this is not the time.

4 MS. D. JOHNSTON: All right. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That was all of our  
7 public comment at this time.

8 CHAIR YEE: Okay, I believe we can go to the vote  
9 then.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: We'll begin the vote  
11 now. Commissioner Ahmad?

12 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
14 Akutagawa?

15 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
17 Andersen.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Pass.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
20 Fernandez?

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
23 Fornaciari?

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?



1 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

5 Sadhwani?

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

10 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

12 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

14 Commissioner Vazquez?

15 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee?

17 CHAIR YEE: Yes.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Back to Commissioner

19 Andersen.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN Yes.

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you. The

22 motion is passed. Thank you.

23 CHAIR YEE: Thank you for referring to these staff

24 additions. Okay, Finance and Administration, further

25 items?

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I did want to bring up that  
2 we, as Executive Director Hernandez mentioned, we're  
3 working on the travel policy and part of that policy also  
4 may bring in Concur Travel, which is who we'd go through  
5 for hotel, car rental and airline reservations. So I  
6 just want to urge Commissioners that if you haven't  
7 already submitted the form to get your I.D. badge, if you  
8 can please do that. Administrative Director, Raul  
9 Villanueva, sent out an email to all of us. It's dated  
10 June 29th at 12:02 p.m. So if you can please search your  
11 emails and submit that form, that would be great because  
12 they'll use that information to set up accounts for all  
13 the Commissioners. And Chair Yee, you wanted to -- did  
14 you want to discuss the direction in terms of staff or  
15 travel of just Commissioners during the next month or a  
16 month-and-a-half?

17           CHAIR YEE: Sure.

18           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

19           CHAIR YEE: So now, in fact, I'll go ahead and make  
20 a motion. I would like to move that we direct staff to  
21 arrange for one travel venue for available Commissioners  
22 in each of the eleven zones for meetings before October  
23 1st, and I just chatted you that language, Director  
24 Hernandez. So arrange one travel venue for available  
25 Commissioners in each of the eleven zones for meetings

1 before October 1st.

2 Do I have a second?

3 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Second.

4 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani.

5 Discussion? So these are not meeting -- we're not  
6 arranging for meeting venues. We're arranging for venues  
7 for Commissioners to be, during what will be -- some  
8 Commissioners to be, during what will be still virtual  
9 meetings. Commissioner Kennedy.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, just we're calling  
11 comment and I forget who it was from but suggesting that  
12 we try to accomplish this before we receive the census  
13 data. So I would -- I would suggest that we move the  
14 date up by at least one week, if not two. Thank you.

15 CHAIR YEE: Okay. I'm not wedded to October 1st.  
16 It was just the date I'd heard from previous discussion.  
17 So you're suggesting September, Commissioner Kennedy?

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: As I mentioned earlier, if we  
19 made some minor modifications to the August schedule, we  
20 could start with Zone B on Friday the 20th. That would  
21 be a change. So G would drop down to the following week.  
22 Keep the Zone D input meeting on Saturday, the 21st as it  
23 is, the Zone A meeting on Monday the 23rd as it is, Zone  
24 C on Tuesday the 24th as it is, Zone F on Wednesday, the  
25 25th as it is. Thursday would be the Zone G meeting that

1 was displaced by the Zone B meeting. Keep the Zone E  
2 meeting on Friday the 27th. Shift the Zone H meeting  
3 that would have otherwise been on August 12th to August  
4 28th, and then keep the I, J, and K meetings on the 30th,  
5 1st, and 2nd. And that way we cover all eleven zones  
6 between August 20th and September 2nd.

7 CHAIR YEE: So September 2nd. And by the way, I've  
8 been informed by Chief Counsel Pane that the earlier  
9 language about scheduling these meetings does include a  
10 discretion for staff to make the changes that is needed.  
11 So we don't need a motion concerning changes. Let's see,  
12 Commissioner Fernandez.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, I -- I appreciate  
14 Commissioner Kennedy's wanting to move the dates out, but  
15 I would suggest that maybe we keep the -- the B and H the  
16 week of the 9th, only because there's been so much  
17 literature and announcements and material for these new  
18 dates that are also associated with language -- languages  
19 for the specific dates. And so if we kept -- if we kept  
20 the two dates that you're referring to, Mr. Kennedy, it  
21 would be the -- the week of August 9th, and then we would  
22 jump to the August 20th, as you mentioned. So it would  
23 only be a couple of days that we would so keep and then  
24 we could still -- you could skip the following week  
25 because that's Zone K will already have a meeting later

1 on. So I'm just going to recommend just for all the work  
2 the staff has put into it to keep the dates.

3 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, and I'll just also  
5 offer in addition to that, thought was put into travel  
6 time between zones with these dates and in trying to --  
7 to go from zone to zone in one day, from some of the  
8 zones to other zones in one day is difficult. So I think  
9 that they've worked out a schedule that will enable a  
10 reasonable travel schedule. So I just offer that we  
11 would leave it to the staff to kind of figure out those  
12 kinds of details.

13 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

14 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I -- I think this was said in  
15 a way by Commissioner Fernandez, but I would ask that we  
16 don't move any dates around either and keep the dates as  
17 it is, because I think with all of the publicity that  
18 we've been trying to do and the outreach work that we've  
19 been doing, I think every time we move a meeting, I think  
20 it just creates more confusion and at this point, at  
21 least for the August meetings, we should, as best as we  
22 can, try to keep it as it is, because hopefully we're  
23 seeing increases in participation and that will also mean  
24 that people are trying to organize callers and people to  
25 call in for the meetings as they are scheduled. A shift

1 in date or a shift in zones could end up, you know,  
2 really just maybe messing up the efforts that we're  
3 asking, you know, Californians to do in terms of making  
4 plans to call in, especially at this point.

5 CHAIR YEE: Director Hernandez.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, just wanted to  
7 get clarification on what we're talking about here.  
8 We're talking about the Commissioners traveling to these  
9 different locations, having the COI meeting virtually,  
10 but they're all in one location. Is that correct?

11 CHAIR YEE: Available Commissioners, yeah.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Available  
13 Commissioners, yes. Because we had also planned,  
14 originally the schedule was to have Commission meetings  
15 in those particular areas as well. So that's what the  
16 schedule currently that we have proposed previously,  
17 that's what it shows. So you would have the COI input  
18 meeting and then the following day on some of these you  
19 would have the Commission meeting in that same location.  
20 So those things were kind of already mapped out. As  
21 Commissioner Fornaciari indicated, travel time was  
22 considered in the process as well, so I would also  
23 support not changing the dates if at all possible.

24 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Kind of not related to

1 this, but kind of related to this. If we do travel and  
2 if everybody brings their laptops, then I don't believe  
3 there's the need for the videographer to have to travel  
4 if we all can log in from our laptops, since we won't be  
5 receiving live public input. I have to defer to  
6 Kristian, but I think that's correct.

7 CHAIR YEE: So Kristian, the proposal is basically  
8 just to have an available venue in different zones for  
9 Commissioners to be, as we participate in meetings the  
10 same way we're doing it now. So does that sound  
11 technically -- I mean, as long as there's strong Wi-Fi  
12 wherever we are, technically, that isn't actually  
13 different than what we're doing right now, I believe. Am  
14 I missing anything?

15 MR. MANOFF: As long as everybody is in a place  
16 where they are isolated from the other members so that  
17 you don't have an echo problem for audio. So everybody  
18 would need to be in their own room or in their own  
19 location or with headphones on.

20 CHAIR YEE: Right. Okay, that sounds like the way  
21 to go. Okay, let's see.

22 Director Hernandez, can we have the motion  
23 displayed?

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes. Just for  
25 clarification, was that October 1st date changed or not?

1 CHAIR YEE: I think we're still discussing that.  
2 I'm not wedded to that date. I'm just -- that was just  
3 the date I heard.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: There was a motion,  
5 yeah.

6 CHAIR YEE: Would anyone like to -- so I heard  
7 September 2nd from Commissioner Kennedy. Anyone want to  
8 propose a date? Commissioner Fornaciari.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, mid-September, like  
10 September -- I will propose a specific date. Oops,  
11 maybe. September 17th.

12 CHAIR YEE: September 17.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We should, you know, that  
14 should be before the census data gets to us, I believe,  
15 and give us plenty of time to hit every zone.

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez then  
17 Andersen.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm just wondering if  
19 should we put language in there? I mean, if things get  
20 worse and we're directing staff to do this, sort of maybe  
21 we're like a contingency in there in case it gets worse  
22 and we can't travel. I mean, it's back to where we used  
23 to be just so that we don't have to come back?

24 CHAIR YEE: Indeed. Well, let's think. Can anyone  
25 think of some phrasing for that quickly? What would be



1 the -- what would be the decision point or what would be  
2 the -- Commissioner Toledo.

3 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Just thinking maybe if you  
4 just add a little clause, like, as practicable to arrange  
5 for one travel venue -- as practicable for available  
6 Commissioners or something like that. And then I'm just  
7 wondering also, do we need to put a date at the end? Can  
8 we leave it a little bit more open ended or -- and I'm  
9 fine either way. I'm just wondering if we need to be, or  
10 if we want to just say, during public input sessions and  
11 just keep it broader in case we need some more  
12 flexibility. Understanding that, then our goal is to  
13 have it done by September 17th.

14 CHAIR YEE: That's fine. We're just trying to give  
15 staff something specific enough to actually be  
16 actionable.

17 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And I'm fine either way. I'm  
18 just also thinking, you know, lots could happen from now  
19 till September.

20 CHAIR YEE: Okay, so two changes, then. Arrange for  
21 one travel venue as practicable. And so that's an  
22 attempt to cover the COVID possibilities for available  
23 Commissioners in each of the eleven zones for meetings.  
24 So we just say during the public input phase. But that  
25 might be ambiguous for the mapping phase. During Phase

1 2? By the end of phase two? Okay, let's do that. By  
2 the end of phase 2. Okay. Commissioner Sadhwani, does  
3 that look okay to you?

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure.

5 CHAIR YEE: Any further discussion? I'm wondering,  
6 Chief Counsel, the language as practicable, I mean,  
7 that's pretty vague. Does that cover our contingencies  
8 adequately?

9 MR. PANE: Yes, Chair, because I think -- I think  
10 the discussion has been about COVID and whether safety  
11 concerns make it practicable to essentially effectuate  
12 the motion. So I think that does give you the wiggle  
13 room that Commissioner Toledo was referring to.

14 CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. Okay, no further  
15 discussion, let's go to public comment on motion on the  
16 floor.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The commission is now  
18 taking public comment for the motion on the floor. To  
19 give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and enter the  
20 meeting ID number 87442883536 for this meeting. Once you  
21 have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment  
22 queue. The full call-in instructions have been read  
23 previously in this meeting and are provided in full on  
24 the livestream landing page. And we do not have anyone  
25 in the comment queue at this time.

1 CHAIR YEE: Okay, we'll wait just a moment. Finance  
2 and Administration, was this the final item for you?

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, I think so Chair.

4 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. Okay, there being no public  
5 comments, let's go ahead. Any further discussion? If  
6 not, let's take a vote.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: We'll begin the vote  
8 now. Commissioner Ahmad?

9 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Abstain.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
11 Akutagawa?

12 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Abstain.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
14 Andersen?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
17 Fernandez?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner  
20 Fornaciari?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy?

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons?

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: No.

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

2 Sadhwani?

3 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor?

7 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Abstain.

8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo?

9 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner?

11 Commissioner Vasquez?

12 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: No.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee?

14 CHAIR YEE: Yes.

15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay. The motion

16 does not pass.

17 CHAIR YEE: Does not pass.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion does not

19 pass.

20 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fernandez.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Does it have to be a

22 special vote or is it a regular vote?

23 MR. PANE: Commissioner Fernandez, it does not

24 require a special vote, but the Constitution requires

25 nine votes for official action for the Commission. So it

1 doesn't have to be a particular makeup for those nine  
2 votes, but we do need to have nine votes and we are one  
3 vote shy.

4 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Well, thank you for the  
5 discussion and the consideration. Hopefully we'll find  
6 some other way to see more of California.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Chair, may I ask?

8 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani, yes.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: While it is not an official  
10 policy or plan of the commission, would it be impossible  
11 for Commissioners to travel if they so chose to do so? I  
12 mean, is that -- I guess we still don't have a travel  
13 policy, so I'm -- I guess I'm just curious about -- I  
14 understand if the full commission doesn't want to support  
15 travel for all of us necessarily, but I guess from a  
16 budgetary perspective, is there any prohibition on us  
17 traveling? Or can we clarify that there is not a  
18 prohibition on some of us traveling?

19 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: It is something we -- we  
21 talked about with regard to the travel policy, right, so  
22 I think that would be kind of a policy decision of the  
23 Commission as to whether or not the Commission would  
24 support Commissioners traveling individually to -- to see  
25 the state, I guess. Does that make sense, I guess?

1           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right, and so is there a  
2 draft of that policy at this point or is there something  
3 that we can?

4           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We're going to have a  
5 draft, a final draft tomorrow and we'll bring it forward  
6 next week. So I'm speaking for Alicia, I mean,  
7 Commissioner Fernandez, who will bring forward next week.  
8 I don't know when it will be finalized.

9           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, we did -- we did meet  
10 on it today and we've just been going back and forth on  
11 it because there is so much up in the air. I mean, we do  
12 have different scenarios and that's one of the scenarios  
13 in terms of Commissioners traveling to different parts of  
14 the state in order to familiarize themselves with the  
15 with the state. So that is one of the scenarios that  
16 will have and will bring forward next -- is our meeting  
17 next Wednesday? I can't remember the date or is this --  
18 okay, so next Wednesday. And we're making changes and  
19 hopefully by Friday we have a draft that we can share  
20 with the Commissioners and then also post reviewing prior  
21 to that -- to that meeting next week.

22           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That sounds great. And I'm  
23 also just wondering then from my colleagues, right, like  
24 is there a -- would there be a desire to vote no on such  
25 a travel policy that would allow other Commissioners to

1 see the state? I mean -- I mean, I'm asking about the  
2 travel policy and I know that Commissioners Fernandez and  
3 Fornaciari are doing a lot of work to put this together,  
4 and yet at the same time, I don't want them to expend all  
5 of this time and then -- obviously we just had a vote  
6 that didn't pass, which is fine, but you know, is there a  
7 sense that people want a prohibition on travel?

8 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, with the travel  
10 policy, there's different scenarios that we could, you  
11 know, and it's up for discussion just like the other  
12 policies. So we could always edit pieces out, whatever  
13 the case may be, but I mean, you're right in terms of  
14 travel policy, but I believe there's still some costs  
15 that the Commissioners will incur or have incurred. So  
16 we have, some of us have submitted travel claims already.  
17 So this is just, I guess, formalizing the policy and it's  
18 more of a state policy, as well, in terms of what's  
19 allowable versus not allowable. Again, the different  
20 scenarios that we have, those would be more of the ones  
21 that are up for discussions of the ones we want to  
22 include, but in terms of the rest of the policy, it would  
23 just be a general travel type policy. Because we don't  
24 know, in six months we have the maps or down the road if  
25 there's litigation and we have to travel because of that

1 or whatever the case may be. So it's something that we  
2 want to bring forward that is not just going to relate to  
3 today, but it will relate for the next ten years,  
4 possibly, or eight years or however long we are  
5 Commissioners until the 2030 Commission is appointed.

6 MR. PANE: And Commissioner, if I could just add in  
7 too, there is a State of California expectation that each  
8 individual state entity does adopt some sort of travel  
9 policy. There is some discretion left to individual  
10 departments, and so we, the Commission, would want to  
11 express its will on exactly what that policy is for the  
12 commission.

13 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner La Mons.

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah, I wanted to answer  
15 Commissioner Sadhwani's question directly. I want to  
16 say, first of all, that my vote didn't reflect a desire  
17 to prohibit Commissioners from traveling at all. I  
18 actually felt that we should lean in that direction.  
19 There is no current prohibition on our traveling, and I  
20 think it should be perfectly fine for Commissioners who  
21 want to do that and there is a mechanism for  
22 reimbursement on that travel. So I think that's  
23 commission business and I certainly would support the  
24 flexibility of Commissioners being able to do that as  
25 necessary to support our work. So that's my position.



1 CHAIR YEE: Well, right. I mean, right now it's  
2 kind of an implicit policy that anybody is free to travel  
3 to Sacramento, for instance, you know, to our  
4 headquarters for any meeting and the Commission would  
5 cover the costs for that. But you know, if one of us  
6 decided to take a tour of all the counties, you know,  
7 that's that would be something different. Okay, so we'll  
8 look forward to that travel policy and further discussion  
9 of the matter then. Let's move on to item four C. I'm  
10 sorry, Commissioner Sinay, you had?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: It's all right. Two things. I  
12 don't think that the northern California folks realize  
13 that the southern California folks have not been given  
14 that same okay to travel up to Sacramento and such. So I  
15 think for equity sake, it's been really hard sometimes  
16 seeing how folks that are up, at least if Commissioner  
17 Fernandez, when she wants to go into them, into the  
18 office and gets to know everybody, but I will be honest,  
19 I have asked and said, it's coming, the policy's coming,  
20 so that it's not a fair statement that folks from  
21 southern California have been told just wait. So I just  
22 want to put that out there because I don't want that. I  
23 think the northern California folks kind of need to  
24 understand that it hasn't been equitable. I wanted to  
25 bring up another issue that does come under -- under this

1 subcommittee. Way back when, in November, October, we  
2 had all said if we submitted our time sheet, we had set a  
3 date and we did a motion on what dates we'd turn in our  
4 time sheet, and I believe it was like the fifth. We said  
5 really early, then it would be submitted as a batch.  
6 Well, I submitted my time sheet late and I apologize to  
7 the new woman. I'm forgetting her name. I apologize to  
8 the accountant. And she had responded back, well, don't  
9 worry because we're doing batches on the 15th now and  
10 you'll all get paid a week into the following month. And  
11 that is -- we have a motion in place and so if it's going  
12 to change, that's way too long to wait for money. So I  
13 just wanted to -- I brought it to her attention and to  
14 the Executive Director's attention that this was a motion  
15 before most of the staff that we have now, all the staff  
16 that we have now we're in place. But that if that's  
17 going to change, it needs to come to us.

18 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez, are you  
19 responding directly to that concern? Okay, and then  
20 we'll go to Commissioner Le Mons.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair.  
22 Commissioner Sinay, in terms of the batch, I was just  
23 made aware of that. I think last week she sent me an  
24 email and I responded. I won't share my response to you,  
25 but she has overturned her decision to hold it as a

1 batch, so that will not be happening moving forward. I  
2 did -- she was made aware of the 5th of the month and to  
3 not hold the time sheets because it's not equitable for  
4 anyone to wait a whole month-and-a-half after I guess  
5 your services have been provided, right? So that should  
6 not be happening moving forward. So I just wanted to  
7 make sure that you knew that.

8 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Le Mons and then  
9 Commissioner Sinay.

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Well, I was going to --  
11 Commissioner Fernandez already addressed. Since I had a  
12 conversation and I was told that -- that she wasn't aware  
13 at the time of what we had voted on and so she was  
14 addressing a process to me, what we had previously voted  
15 on. So that was something that was shared directly with  
16 me. But that wasn't why I raised my hand originally.  
17 The reason I raised my hand originally is I just wanted  
18 clarification because I wasn't aware that the Southern  
19 California Commissioners couldn't travel. So that's, you  
20 know, clearly from my comments earlier, I wasn't aware of  
21 that. So I just wanted some clarification. I never  
22 recall being told that I couldn't travel, so to  
23 Sacramento or anywhere for that matter, but particularly  
24 not to Sacramento. So could someone please clarify that?

25 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm just going to clarify  
2 by saying I was never aware of such a policy and actually  
3 Commissioner Sadhwani, was at about two weeks ago, came  
4 up to one of our meetings and traveled. And just FYI, I  
5 do tend to go to the headquarters office, but I'm only  
6 Fifteen miles away, so I don't incur any per diem for  
7 going into headquarters. But in terms of Southern  
8 California, I don't think it's been prohibited.

9           CHAIR YEE: Well, perhaps the travel policy can  
10 address that in specific, and then that will be clearer  
11 for everyone. Commissioner Le Mons.

12           COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I mean, I appreciate  
13 it sort of being punted. No, I don't appreciate it being  
14 punted. Something has been declared as either an  
15 implicit policy or some directive that was given to  
16 Commissioners. At least that was my interpretation of  
17 what we shared just a few minutes ago, that Southern  
18 California Commissioners did not have the authority to  
19 travel. So that came from somewhere. So to punt it to  
20 the policy subcommittee at this point is not satisfactory  
21 to me. I'd like to understand where that's coming from  
22 because either there's some email to that effect or  
23 something or someone was told their per diem was not  
24 going to get paid, but that's a pretty bold declaration.  
25 And I'm saying that as a Southern California

1 Commissioner, I have never been told that and it has  
2 never been implied. So that doesn't mean it isn't the  
3 policy, but I'm trying to figure out where that came  
4 from. And I'd like to really know.

5 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Andersen then  
6 Commissioner Sadhwani.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: One, I totally agree with  
8 Commissioner La Mons, and you know, I was up in  
9 Sacramento very first, you know, those times. My  
10 understanding has always been, you know, if you want to  
11 come to a meeting, just let everyone know and make sure  
12 that they can arrange for the right number of stations to  
13 be there. And so that was always my understanding about  
14 travel and any other -- other than that, I have no idea  
15 where that's coming from. And then on the pay, I was  
16 actually one of the first because I saw all my things.  
17 And it did go through the way we all voted on the fifth  
18 and change to the 15th is not okay. But then and I just  
19 want to make sure, because we have been doing it sort of  
20 on a rotating basis. That's okay. Oh, I think I froze.  
21 Hopefully not. We voted that the whole group do  
22 everything by the 5th, and if you're after the 5th, then  
23 it's late. So I -- you know, I don't want it changing  
24 and then being just sort of rotating unless there's a  
25 reason you get paid more quickly if you do it that way,

1 then it's okay. But otherwise, I mean, no, you can't  
2 just change the policies we voted on. So I definitely  
3 want to go back to that and say, look, we said everything  
4 in by the fifth or on the 5th and then you can -- if  
5 you're after that, then it's like as it's gotten to which  
6 that makes sense, you keep to the next month. But then  
7 they were kind of going to go in and so you wouldn't get  
8 it, like you said, six weeks later. I would like both  
9 these issues to be kind of addressed.

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioners Sadhwani, Fernandez, and  
11 then back to you, Commissioner La Mons.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I think in terms of the  
13 travel policy, if I did come to Sacramento several weeks  
14 ago, it was unclear. So at this point in time, I've paid  
15 for that myself. I haven't put in for reimbursement  
16 because every, like, week after week we've been told a  
17 travel policy is coming. And so I just haven't put in  
18 for reimbursement because I don't know what's  
19 reimbursable per se. And I know Alvaro did share with me  
20 in, like, a long book of the state's policies and  
21 procedures, and it wasn't entirely clear what was  
22 reimbursable, what is not. I certainly do not want to do  
23 anything that would, you know, take money from the budget  
24 of the Commission if it's not authorized by the  
25 commission. And there have been comments said in the

1 past like, well, you know, Commissioner Sadhwani flew up  
2 there and someone else just took the train. And so  
3 hearing that for me, that made me feel a little sensitive  
4 about it. So I just personally paid for that and have  
5 not submitted for reimbursement for any of the items  
6 because I don't know what's covered and what isn't. And  
7 you know, I think for me it was a lack of clarity. And  
8 that's why I ask about the travel policy, because it's  
9 not clear to me what we, as a commission, want to approve  
10 or do not want to approve. And I think that ultimately  
11 it does still come back to us to do that and of course,  
12 within the state guidelines for travel, but I don't think  
13 we have that at this point in time.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I just wanted to let  
16 Commissioner Andersen know that I have addressed that,  
17 the fifth of the month. She wasn't aware of what our  
18 prior policy said, that if you turn in your time sheet by  
19 the fifth, it would be processed. So how the state works  
20 is, it works in batches, so however many -- you have to  
21 kind of catch their, I forget what they call it, but if  
22 you if you turn it in by the 10th and you'll get paid by  
23 the middle of the month and then the next batch cycle is  
24 after that. So that's why we set the fifth, so that by  
25 the middle of the month, we would have our checks. So if

1 you're after that date, don't expect it by the middle of  
2 the month. And again, I've already addressed it with  
3 her. I will confirm, though, also.

4 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner La Mons, I think your hand  
5 is down now, so let's go to Commissioner Sinay.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I lowered my hand, but I  
7 didn't. Sorry. I keep doing one or the other. It was  
8 never a policy fed, but it was inferred by comments made  
9 by staff and others. And La Mons, Commissioner La Mons,  
10 it always has been kicked back to well, the policy is  
11 coming and at that point, you can travel. There was even  
12 a joke once saying, you can always come, but it's on your  
13 dime. So it wasn't very welcoming and it might have been  
14 a joke, but it still felt like, wait, I don't know what's  
15 getting paid, what's not, as Commissioner Sadhwani said.  
16 So I'll just wait till the policy comes.

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and I don't want to  
19 speak for Commissioner Fornaciari, but I'm going to kind  
20 of speak for Commissioner Fornaciari, so correct me if  
21 I'm wrong. I have never heard that. Had I heard that,  
22 there would have been more urgency to this travel policy.  
23 The only reason we started working on the travel policy  
24 was because we were going to start traveling in August,  
25 so wanted to be more concrete with all of the policy. So



1 I -- I'm not saying, you know, we weren't dragging our  
2 feet on this. I just didn't realize that some of you  
3 have been given that type of information. And that's  
4 honestly -- this is a first that I've heard of it as  
5 Commissioner La Mons mentioned.

6 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Andersen and then La Mons.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. We actually  
8 were -- Raul did a whole presentation on what gets paid  
9 for and how you fill out the form and I guess I wasn't  
10 paying that much attention so I had to go back and he  
11 sent it out to everybody again. So we've had -- yes, you  
12 know, here's, you know, for parking, for mileage. You  
13 don't get -- you don't get gas but you get mileage? You  
14 know, here's your airfare or your train or your, you  
15 know, the car, you know, and it's all spelled out. And  
16 we all got that and we had to sign it too. So I know it  
17 was a long time ago, but that included everything in it.  
18 So if anyone's been implying that, well, no, you can't --  
19 that is something, like, I agree with Commissioner La  
20 Mons. We've got to clear this up now.

21 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner La Mons.

22 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Thank you, Commissioner. You  
23 took the words right out of my mouth. I was like, I  
24 remember Raul walking us through all of this. We had all  
25 of that. So that's why I was so befuddled, to be honest

1 with you, because I explicitly remember just him walking  
2 us through what we needed to do. And so anyway, thank  
3 you, Commissioner Sinay, tonight for the clarity and at  
4 least somebody -- and Commissioner Sadhwani, for  
5 answering my question, because I think that when -- I  
6 think this is important because there is conflicting  
7 information that you're receiving outside of what we were  
8 specifically told was reimbursable. So I make a motion  
9 that you submit your travel expenses for reimbursement.  
10 Thank you, Chair.

11 CHAIR YEE: Is that an actual motion?

12 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: No, I don't think that's  
13 necessary. I think that Commissioner Sadhwani can do  
14 what she needs to do based on what we heard so far with  
15 the plan.

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Fornaciari.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I'm really, truly  
18 sorry that we're having this confusion. Commissioner  
19 Fernandez and I, you know, would have had this policy  
20 done and out by now if we knew there was that confusion.  
21 Because, and we just said it today, we felt the travel  
22 pass wasn't critical to get out there because anybody  
23 could travel to Sacramento. We were under, you know, we  
24 felt anybody could travel to Sacramento right now to our  
25 meetings. They're free to do it. And I'm so sorry we've

1 had this confusion. You'll see as one of the nine  
2 scenarios that when we approve our proposals, that when  
3 we approve the travel policy, it is approved for all  
4 Commissioners who travel to our meetings wherever they  
5 are. Sorry about this. We'll get it straightened out  
6 and I apologize for the confusion.

7 CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.  
8 Okay, any further discussion or any action needs to be  
9 taken at this time? If not, let's move on to item 4C,  
10 GANTT chart subcommittee. Commissioners Kennedy and  
11 Taylor.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair, there is nothing  
13 significant to report at this point. We are awaiting the  
14 outcome of our vote to petition the Supreme Court for a  
15 January 14th deadline. We can, once we have an outcome  
16 of that, we can make adjustments as needed. Thank you.

17 CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. Any discussion? If  
18 not, we'll go to 4D, VRA Compliance. Commissioner  
19 Sadhwani and myself. Commissioner Sadhwani.

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Well, we have -- there will  
21 be more coming to you shortly, I think. Commissioner  
22 Andersen and I are also going to be sharing a document  
23 that is posted with proposed dates for line drawing. And  
24 I think we're -- we're beginning to get to a phase in  
25 which line drawing and VRA work will begin to come

1 together. As we discussed in, I believe it was our last  
2 meeting, Mr. Becker is working with the line drawing team  
3 to use American Community Surveys data, which is  
4 currently available, to conduct an assessment of those  
5 areas in which we anticipate our PV analysis, racially  
6 polarized voting analysis, would be needed. The call for  
7 racially polarized voting analysts is out currently. He  
8 did give us an update that he has one applicant right now  
9 but anticipates receiving several more before the close  
10 of that call, which is Friday evening. And so we will  
11 look for their recommendation on who to use as an RPV  
12 analyst. If you recall, we set up the contract in such a  
13 way so that they could solidify who they want to use and  
14 we could move forward in a more timely fashion. I think  
15 that's about it. Commissioner Yee, any additional  
16 updates?

17 CHAIR YEE: I think that's it. So the commission's  
18 role in that process will simply be to approve, or not,  
19 the recommended RPV analyst and the contract. It's a --  
20 it's an invoice item on the on the VRA counsel contract,  
21 so the cost is simply passed through.

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: That's correct. And if  
23 everyone's comfortable, we were kind of assuming that,  
24 similar to the way Finance and Administration typically  
25 reviews all of the applicants and takes a look at the

1 selected person of staff, that we could do the same thing  
2 and provide a recommendation for the full commission.

3 CHAIR YEE: Okay, any discussion? If not, we'll to  
4 4E, Outreach and Engagement. Commissioners Sinay and  
5 Fornaciari.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Sure. We're shifting  
7 gears a little bit, but we're circling back to a  
8 conversation we began a few meetings ago and didn't quite  
9 come to a conclusion on, and that's about the meetings in  
10 August that we had penciled in and whether or not we were  
11 going to set aside time specifically for groups to  
12 provide input. Again, we've touched on this conversation  
13 a couple of times. We haven't reached a conclusion on  
14 it. I think we need to reach a conclusion both for  
15 ourselves and to help all Californians, whether they're  
16 part of a group or not, to kind of understand where we're  
17 headed. We got a letter from the League of Women Voters  
18 that touches on this topic a little bit today, also  
19 touches on our line drawing strategy. But today we're  
20 going to focus the conversation on our community of  
21 interest input. So Commissioner Sinay has put some  
22 thoughts together and there is an attachment. Let's see  
23 what it's -- 4E, that kind of highlights the thoughts.  
24 Well, she and I and Andrew talked about. Antony, sorry.  
25 Sorry about that, Anthony. And so at this point, I'll

1 invite Commissioner Sinay. I don't see you. Are you  
2 here?

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. So again, as  
4 Commissioner Fornaciari said, we are only looking at  
5 phase two, the public input phase, and when you read  
6 this, I know it can be a little confusing because we  
7 never bring up the word group or community based  
8 organization or any of the others, and that  
9 purposefully -- was purposely done because everybody uses  
10 those words in different ways. And so we went back to  
11 the old political science roots and to Alex de  
12 Tocqueville and John McKnight and used associations. We  
13 do have a proposed motion. Do you want me, Chair, to  
14 read the proposed motion and then explain the whole  
15 background or which way would you like it to go?

16 CHAIR YEE: Let's hear the motion.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. The proposed motion is  
18 that all associations are welcome to submit their  
19 communities of interest to the Citizen Redistricting  
20 Commission using all the publicly available methods,  
21 including, but not limited to, the COI tool and the COI  
22 input meeting. The current rules for public input apply  
23 to all individuals and associations. Only if the  
24 Commission has clarifying questions on any COI will the  
25 person or entity who submitted the COI be invited by the

1 Commission to a public meeting to clarify.

2 CHAIR YEE: Okay, so you're making that motion. Do  
3 we have a second?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I'll second it.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was hoping you would  
6 considering.

7 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Director Hernandez.

8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Could I have the  
9 motion sent to me, please?

10 CHAIR YEE: It's in the handout for 4E.

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Oh.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So the idea here is, we wanted  
13 to ensure that we created the most inclusive policy  
14 possible. We had started going down a road where we were  
15 saying 501(c)(3) or this or that. And the truth is, we  
16 want to be open to all association, all collectives of  
17 individuals who feel that they have something to share  
18 with us. And we -- and for that reason, we're welcoming  
19 all associations. But we've been using the same policy  
20 for public input in phase one, as well as in phase two,  
21 where every entity or every individual gets the same  
22 amount of time. So we've been using the three-minute  
23 marker, unless it's two different languages. If you need  
24 it translated, then it's six minutes. And so we want to  
25 keep everything open and allow for people to continue to

1 participate and everybody to know that they are able to  
2 participate. Later on, we'll be looking kind of at the  
3 line drawer's timeline, and in that timeline we're  
4 excited because it kind of built our question as we're  
5 looking at the COIs and we do need clarification, how do  
6 we ask for clarification? And that's where we kind of  
7 guessed here. The main thing we wanted to make sure is  
8 by inviting someone to come and speak to us because they  
9 need to clarify something, we are not endorsing their  
10 community of input or the organization. We're getting  
11 the clarification. And so that's how we kind of thought  
12 this all through.

13 CHAIR YEE: Okay, discussion. Commissioner Toledo  
14 and then Commissioner Vasquez.

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm a little bit confused by  
16 this. My understanding is any Californian and any  
17 organization -- anyone can give input on communities of  
18 interest. And we haven't really put it -- and we haven't  
19 created a restriction. In fact, we've been doing  
20 significant outreach and communication through social  
21 media and otherwise of the three newspapers to encourage  
22 Californians to participate. So I'm not understanding  
23 why we need to make that more explicit that associations  
24 are welcome to some input. I think -- I thought that was  
25 just a given in terms of clarifying questions. So I'm



1 just wondering if this motion has more to do with the  
2 clarifying questions and maybe outlining a procedure for  
3 that rather than the association piece? So I'm just --  
4 maybe Commissioner Sinay or Commissioner Fornaciari can  
5 just add a little more clarity around this and maybe I'm  
6 just the only person confused. That could be, too.

7 CHAIR YEE: Mr. Vasquez then Commissioner Fernandez.

8 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah, I guess my point of  
9 consideration, I'd love to hear the discussion and other  
10 folks thoughts on this -- on this motion. The first  
11 thing that came to mind for me was I know we've had --  
12 we've had discussions in the past about sort of how do we  
13 weigh the various types of public input that we get? And  
14 there were some -- there's been discussions at several  
15 points about how do we know if these folks have been  
16 paid, you know, if they're plans are politically  
17 coordinated. You know, knowing that's a loaded term and  
18 probably not the one I want to use. But I think we've  
19 just we've had discussions about how we weigh public  
20 input. And my concern with -- my concern with creating a  
21 policy like this that attempts to cover, sort of, groups  
22 who I think are really going to be proposing probably  
23 what they view as unity maps. I'm concerned that  
24 they're, like, their organizing strategy could be viewed  
25 in a negative light because it will be consistent. They,

1 like, they'll start to get organizers and if we only got  
2 three minutes each, we'll get communities to come out  
3 here and give the same type of public input. And so I'm  
4 just, on the one hand, like, I'd be very interested to  
5 see, like, how much does the community show up to give  
6 that kind of public input and endorse this type of map.  
7 And on the other hand, I'm a bit concerned that, like,  
8 that incentivizes very well-funded organizing and  
9 community input and how we, as a commission, will  
10 interpret that. I'm just like, I'm concerned about how  
11 we view political savviness in this process and what  
12 we're doing to incentivize that or disincentivize that  
13 and how we're interpreting it, whichever way it goes.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. And I think, I  
16 believe this motion was brought forward because of the  
17 entire confusion initially on our schedule we should  
18 group. Group meetings for COI input. But again, the  
19 group meetings was for further discussion in terms of the  
20 map process, the map drawing where unity maps. And I  
21 agree with Commissioner Toledo that we've already heard  
22 from groups during their three minutes. I think I'm  
23 going to guesstimate that maybe like half of the input  
24 that we would receive, some of it verbally, are from  
25 groups and they're able to submit it within a three

1 minute time frame. So I kind of feel like we're  
2 already -- we already have that process. I don't know  
3 why we need a motion. And then in your motion, you said  
4 only if the Commission has clarifying questions on any  
5 COI will we invite them back. I guess this question is  
6 for Anthony, Chief Counsel Pane. Is that the only way  
7 for us to get clarification on any community of interest  
8 input that we receive where we have questions other than  
9 during the meeting asking for clarifications? I think I  
10 just feel that now there's -- we probably have quite a  
11 few where we need additional information and if the only  
12 way for us to obtain clarifying verification on that is  
13 through a public meeting, that could be time consuming  
14 versus being able to send an email or phone call or  
15 something like that. So I just need clarification on  
16 that process.

17 MR. PANE: Sure. So on that, Commissioner, I'll  
18 defer to Commissioner Sinay as well on this, if this is  
19 the understanding. But my understanding of that piece is  
20 not -- it is more to address the conditions when the  
21 Commission may invite particular associations and what  
22 those conditions would be, i.e. if they if the Commission  
23 has clarifying questions. Not that that's the only or  
24 exclusive way to do it. It's more of what are the  
25 conditions under which the Commission may invite an

1 association. And I think the theory there is we wouldn't  
2 the Commission wouldn't be doing it to, for example, ask  
3 a particular association to make a presentation as much  
4 as it would only be doing it if the Commission had  
5 clarifying questions to ask. To assess right now all of  
6 the ways that the Commission is free to reach out to  
7 individuals or associations, I would have to provide  
8 input on that at a later date. I wouldn't be able to do  
9 that right now off the cuff. But I believe that's the  
10 intent of that phrase there.

11 CHAIR YEE: It would be a question of whether such  
12 clarification would constitute public input. I mean,  
13 input on redistricting matters, right? So part of the  
14 issue here, I think, relates to --

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can we respond to the  
16 questions, Chair?

17 CHAIR YEE: Okay, I'm sorry. Commissioner Sinay.  
18 Yeah, please.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just because there were so many  
20 different ones before we lose them.

21 CHAIR YEE: Sure.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So yes, I'm going to go  
23 backwards. A can of worms was opened up when, on the  
24 calendar, there was dates put in there for community  
25 groups and the public saw that. We never quite took that

1 off. We never quite discussed it. And groups had asked,  
2 wait, so are you doing it? Are you not doing it? And so  
3 we had said, we really need to address this piece. I  
4 think, Commissioner Vazquez, your question is brilliant,  
5 and that's one that I've been staying up at night, just  
6 thinking about, the weighing -- weighing public input and  
7 how we're going to do that. And that's kind of a  
8 different conversation than this one. So I don't want  
9 it. And then also the unity map question, that's a  
10 different conversation than this one as well. We are  
11 only talking -- we're really trying to clean up the  
12 confusion about what happened when we said we were going  
13 to have dates and times for community groups. And we're  
14 saying basically we're open to every association  
15 participating and participating in the different vehicles  
16 we have. And so we were just trying to clarify all that.  
17 Do we need a motion or not? The Chair had asked us to  
18 please come back to this to the group with a clearer  
19 definition of what was meant by "groups" and we chose to  
20 define them as associations because groups was getting  
21 very loaded. And again, someone said, well, let's just  
22 do 501(c)(3). Well, the NFL, the National Football  
23 League, is a 501(c)(3) so yeah, there's all these ways  
24 around it and so we said let's make it as broad and  
25 inclusive as possible. And we, you know, we all three of

1 us read the letter from the League of Women Voters and  
2 the pieces that are about community of interest public  
3 input. We think we're on the same page, that we want to  
4 be open to neighborhood associations, as well as labor,  
5 as well as commerce, as well as nonprofits, as well as  
6 large collaborations or collective actions. So we're  
7 being as open to everybody, but everybody right now has  
8 the same rules.

9 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Toledo.

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And I want to thank the  
11 Commissioner Sinay for the clarification. I think that  
12 helps. And I think our last statement is an important  
13 one, is that we've -- we've not excluded any group and  
14 not restricted any group as a commission. And I don't  
15 believe that we, at this point, are intending to do so.  
16 So maybe it's -- maybe -- I don't know if we need a  
17 motion, but maybe it's just a statement on that. All are  
18 welcome to provide feedback, to provide input. We have  
19 interest input and that just to reaffirm -- a  
20 reaffirmation of what we've been doing and what we've  
21 been saying in our outreach efforts.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And if the NFL wants to submit  
23 a community event, they're welcome to as well. I'm sorry  
24 I singled them out.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Absolutely. I mean, anyone is

1 welcome to submit, right, whether it's 501(c)(3), a for  
2 profit. I mean, we've had advocacy groups, we've had  
3 political action committee, we've had all kinds of people  
4 give us input and to restrict people's and groups First  
5 Amendment rights would be -- we would need to think about  
6 that a little bit further. So I wouldn't want to  
7 restrict anybody from being able to give us input because  
8 ultimately, it's on us to weigh that input.

9 CHAIR YEE: Sure, but another reason this comes up  
10 is because the 2010 commission did this, right? They set  
11 aside a couple of meetings for -- no, they didn't? I  
12 stand corrected.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: They set time aside for the  
14 line drawing and for collective efforts that had map and  
15 sometimes they've been called unity maps. So that's why  
16 we keep saying that's about line drawing.

17 CHAIR YEE: I see.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Right now, we're talking about  
19 community of interest public input sessions.

20 CHAIR YEE: Right. Okay. Further discussion?  
21 There is a motion on the table. Commissioner Fornaciari  
22 and then Toledo.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'll yield to Commissioner  
24 Toledo.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I just have a quick question,

1 whether this policy has received legal review and gone  
2 through legal -- our legal counselor?

3 MR. PANE: Yes. So Commissioner Toledo, I have  
4 reviewed it. There isn't anything improper with anything  
5 that's in the document. Is it something that could be a  
6 motion? Yes. Is it a policy? Is it largely a policy  
7 statement? Yes. It's also possible, frankly, to have a  
8 motion that does express a policy, and there's nothing  
9 inappropriate about that either. So it really is very  
10 much a policy discussion and a policy call on the  
11 commission's part. You could do either way.

12 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

13 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

14 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I'm just wondering if it's  
15 going to cause more confusion because we have been doing  
16 it and now it sounds like we haven't been doing it.

17 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa, could you  
18 clarify that? Have been doing what and not doing what?

19 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Well, whether by motion or  
20 just making it a statement, policy or otherwise. It  
21 seems like it, or it implies to me, that this is  
22 necessary because we have not been doing something.  
23 Whereas I believe we have been accepting testimony,  
24 public input testimony on communities of interest from  
25 any organization, any group, any association, whatever



1 name you want to put to it. And so I think I'm, you  
2 know, are we trying to put a solution to a problem that  
3 wasn't there that then is going to create another  
4 problem? So basically, are we -- do we have a solution  
5 and looking for a problem?

6 CHAIR YEE: So you're saying it is basically just  
7 ratifies our current practice.

8 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I mean, if that's what --  
9 yeah, if that's how you want to position it, then maybe  
10 that's where the clarity needs to be because I feel like  
11 right now -- I mean, we by practice and by statements we  
12 have said we will accept it from everybody and that's  
13 what we've been receiving. We've been receiving letters,  
14 we've been receiving public input at meetings. You know,  
15 some people saying exactly the same thing. In other  
16 cases, others saying, you know, slightly different  
17 nuanced ways based on what they do or their particular  
18 interest, but essentially saying the same thing, you  
19 know, and they could still be also an organized group as  
20 well, too. Yeah, I mean, we could formally say it and  
21 say, you know, we're officially saying what we've been  
22 doing, but I don't know. I mean, is it again, are we  
23 looking for a problem to say we have a solution for?

24 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So as Commissioner Sinay

1 said, you know, we kind of opened up a can of worms and  
2 we want to provide clarity because we started the  
3 implication was that we were going to have group specific  
4 public input meetings. And what we're trying to get at  
5 is, you know, the current process we're using right now  
6 is enabling everyone to participate. So by doing that,  
7 provide some clarity that we're not going to be hosting  
8 groups of specific public input meetings in this phase.  
9 It doesn't mean we wouldn't do it, you know, host  
10 meetings for unity maps down the road. That's another  
11 conversation. But we want to provide clarity for this  
12 phase that the community of interest input phase that we  
13 won't be hosting association specific public input  
14 meetings.

15 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

16 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Can we just say that? Like,  
17 why do we need this whole policy? I guess -- I think  
18 that's what's confusing me. Can't we just say, look, for  
19 public input, for COI input, we're not going to but  
20 for -- my understanding is that for the line drawing, the  
21 unity map presentations would likely occur or at least  
22 that's still to be discussed, but I think that that's  
23 what the group presentations were supposed to be for the  
24 for the unity maps. But for the COI input, it was not  
25 supposed to be. But can we just say -- I don't want to

1 say oops, I mean, it's not that, but it's just making  
2 that clarification and just saying we're just putting  
3 clarification rather than this policy.

4 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes, we can do that, and  
6 that's fine. There was a long discussion. We've had a  
7 number of long discussions about this. It was going in a  
8 bunch of different directions and we were trying to  
9 provide some clarity here and apparently that clarity  
10 didn't come through. But I'd like to just offer a  
11 different motion, if that's okay, Commissioner Sinay?  
12 That the Commission will not be hosting group specific  
13 public input -- community of interest input meetings.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: But I do think that it is  
15 important for us to -- I did hear Commissioners at that  
16 time we were having that group conversation, what we  
17 don't want. Someone said, I don't want to hear from  
18 chambers. We don't necessarily want to hear from  
19 Chambers, but we want to hear from nonprofits or we don't  
20 want we want to hear from 501(c)(3) and maybe we don't  
21 remember that and we don't realize the things that we say  
22 because we're just thinking out loud, but those are  
23 dangerous comments that can be used out of context and  
24 that was why the Chair had asked us, please come back  
25 with a definition of what groups is. And we wanted to be

1 very open, not just for the community, but for us as a  
2 commission to say, hey, we've been saying we're open to  
3 everybody. And that means everybody. That means we  
4 can't be biased and say we're not going to hear from this  
5 group or this group. And we have been saying it out loud  
6 in our meetings and that's dangerous and that's not okay.  
7 That's not what our intent has been. But that was why  
8 this became very this came forward and we were asked to  
9 please really define what we mean and be clear on our  
10 words and have it down that they were open to everybody  
11 and everyone, any collective of individuals can come to  
12 us to share with us. Collective of individuals from  
13 California. But so I'm okay going that way, Commissioner  
14 Fornaciari, but I am afraid that we are leaving ourselves  
15 open because different Commissioners have said this is a  
16 group, this isn't a group, and we're saying everybody who  
17 this is association is broad.

18 CHAIR YEE: We have four minutes before our required  
19 break. So at this point, the motion is standing as  
20 originally proposed, unless you wish to modify,  
21 Commissioner Sinay.

22 Commissioner Toledo.

23 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah, I just wanted to comment  
24 on what Commissioner Sinay just said. I think if  
25 individual Commissioners are saying one thing or another

1 in the course of a meeting, that's one thing, but the  
2 Commission only acts as one, so the Commission -- and the  
3 Commission has never said that it would restrict language  
4 or any comment from any one group at this point. And I  
5 don't anticipate that it would, but I just wanted to make  
6 that comment that the Commission has been open to anyone  
7 willing to give public comment on any issue in terms of  
8 redistricting matters during our public input sessions.

9 Thank you, Commissioner Yee.

10 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sinay, is your hand still  
11 up?

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm sorry, were you talking to  
13 me?

14 CHAIR YEE: Is your hand up? Just checking. It's  
15 not? Okay. Well, the motion remains on the floor as  
16 originally proposed. We've had discussion.

17 Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner Fornaciari, do  
18 you wish to proceed with comment on the vote?

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I just want to check back  
20 in with Commissioner Sinay. Do you want to accept my  
21 change?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes, I will accept your change.

23 CHAIR YEE: Okay, let's have that displayed, please.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So just for  
25 clarification, the amendment was to delete what was

1 previously provided and just state the Commission will  
2 not be hosting group community of interest meetings. Is  
3 that correct?

4 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I'm just wondering, I mean,  
6 because both Commissioners Sinay and Fornaciari did a  
7 great job of defining what associations are. So instead  
8 of groups, maybe associations, but I appreciate,  
9 Commissioner Fornaciari, the Commission will not be  
10 hosting either group or association community, I don't  
11 know how you want to put it. But do we also need to put  
12 something as we have always -- as we have -- something to  
13 the effect of as we have. Oh gosh. Something to the  
14 effect that all associations are welcome to submit their  
15 communities of interest, as has been our policy or  
16 practice. Just to kind of meld the two because they  
17 don't want it to seem like we're shutting the door so you  
18 can't call us. No, we do want you to call us. I don't  
19 know. It's just -- it does get kind of confusing, all of  
20 it.

21 CHAIR YEE: Okay, Chief Counsel, then Commissioners  
22 Vasquez, Akutagawa, and Andersen, but we're going to be  
23 on break real soon.

24 MR. PANE: I'll pass, Chair, but thank you.

25 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Vazquez.

1           COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: I wonder -- this feels like a  
2 not great policy statement, this sort of new amended one.  
3 And so I'm actually wondering if, I think this was  
4 suggested or implied earlier, could we just release a  
5 statement since we're we really are trying to just  
6 reiterate current policy? Could we not just ask Director  
7 Ceja to come up with something to that effect that is a  
8 reiteration of our current policy?

9           CHAIR YEE: We certainly can. Commissioner  
10 Andersen, very quickly.

11           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'd like to say for  
12 clarification, the Commission will not be hosting group  
13 communities of interest meetings for longer periods of  
14 time than the allotted three minutes, six minutes with  
15 interpretation.

16           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

17           VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I'm just going to go with  
18 what Commissioner Vazquez says. I would just agree with  
19 what she suggested.

20           CHAIR YEE: So referring to Director Ceja?  
21 Commissioner Sadhwani.

22           VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Does this need to be policy  
23 as in vote? I think what Commissioner Vazquez said. I  
24 think that simple enough.

25           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Sadhwani.

1           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I agree. I don't think we  
2 need a motion on this. We spent a lot of time developing  
3 our policy and Chief Counsel Pane can remind us of what  
4 that was called. It's like the legal requirement of time  
5 meet something or other. That is our policy and that  
6 applies both uniformly to individuals and groups and  
7 period. And if it's necessary for Fredy to put out such  
8 a statement, that's fine. But I, I mean, I think it was  
9 developed in such a way to be fair and equitable for  
10 anyone who wants to submit their testimony and I would  
11 stand by that policy. I don't think it's necessary to  
12 move forward with this motion.

13           CHAIR YEE: Okay. We have to go to break. So when  
14 we come back, we will take this back up. So we'll come  
15 back at 7:26.

16                       (Whereupon, a recess was held from 7:11 p.m.  
17                       until 7:26 p.m.)

18           CHAIR YEE: Welcome back to the homestretch. And we  
19 do have a hard stop at eight, so let's keep that in mind  
20 as we progress through these items. At this time, we  
21 still have a motion on the floor concerning associations  
22 and community of interest input meetings. Commissioner  
23 Sinay, it's your motion. Do you wish to proceed to vote  
24 or do you want to withdraw the motion?

25           COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm okay withdrawing the motion



1 because I think we have gotten clarity among ourselves  
2 and with the public.

3 CHAIR YEE: Okay, and Commissioner Fornaciari?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm fine with that too. I  
5 guess we're going to go forward with Fredy making a press  
6 release or something.

7 CHAIR YEE: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So what do we need to do  
9 here?

10 CHAIR YEE: So perhaps the Outreach and Engagement  
11 Committee, subcommittee can then work with Fredy to  
12 generate that release. Okay, the motion has been  
13 withdrawn. Anything else for Outreach and Engagement  
14 subcommittee? Commissioner Fernandez.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: No. I'm just wondering, do  
16 we need to have a press release? We've kind of discussed  
17 this thoroughly. I just don't think we need a press  
18 release then in the regular policy that we had. I just  
19 think it's more work on staff when maybe we don't need  
20 it.

21 CHAIR YEE: Well, as was mentioned, you know, it  
22 kind of got started when we had the schedule that the  
23 mentioned group input, right. Commissioner Toledo.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Maybe we just say something  
25 very simple. I like in the one pager that was provided.

1 There's a statement there that says the Commission wants  
2 to hear from all Californians. And I would just say and  
3 previous to that it says including but not limited to  
4 government. It specifies what associations are included,  
5 but not limited to government entities, faith based.  
6 Just so that they're saying something like the Commission  
7 is -- the Commission reaffirmed its commitment to  
8 ensuring that it wants to hear from all Californians or  
9 something like that. Very basic.

10 CHAIR YEE: Director Ceja.

11 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah, we're going to be putting  
12 together the newsletter for the upcoming month next week,  
13 so maybe we can include a blurb in there and then have  
14 the Chair address that in their opening statement.

15 CHAIR YEE: Sounds like a good plan. Okay, anything  
16 else for Outreach and Engagement. If not, we'll move  
17 along to Language Access. Commissioners Akutagawa and  
18 Fernandez.

19 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: I thought we were sunsetted.  
20 Sunsetted, yeah.

21 CHAIR YEE: Oh, my goodness. You know, that was  
22 probably less than fourteen days ago, so it was still on  
23 the agenda. Okay, moving right along. 4G Materials  
24 Developments. Commissioners Fernandez and Kennedy.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I guess it's me. Okay. We

1 do not have anything new to report. Still waiting on the  
2 paper COI communities of interest tool that has been  
3 handed over to staff. And the last I heard, they were  
4 working with the post office on postage.

5 CHAIR YEE: Okay, anything else? We go to 4H,  
6 Website. Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor.

7 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: If Commissioner Kennedy is not  
8 here, then I guess I'll make a quick update. Nothing  
9 tantamount to report. However, we do have a list of  
10 recommendations that we passed on the staff. So the  
11 onboarding of an analysis to help with that, to help with  
12 the website development would be appropriate, and we are  
13 definitely for that. Thank you. That's all.

14 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fornaciari.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I just like to try to  
16 get a little bit of clarity. The folks have called in  
17 about getting the this site is dangerous. The  
18 clarification that Commissioner Andersen gave at her  
19 meeting. I just clicked a link somewhere to go to our  
20 website earlier today and I got the warning that it's a  
21 bad website, don't go there. And the address was  
22 https:// and then no www. So I'm just wondering, Fredy,  
23 what's happening there and is there something we can do  
24 to fix that?

25 CHAIR YEE: Director Ceja.

1           DIRECTOR CEJA: So I checked in. Commissioner  
2 Andersen brought that to my attention a few weeks ago,  
3 and I checked in with Nation Builder. They said that if  
4 our address does not include the www and it's not  
5 recognized because it doesn't match up directly to our  
6 website. So you'll get that message that says that it's  
7 not safe to visit. So we've made it a point to include  
8 www in all of our latest collateral materials. And so  
9 I'll keep changing everything that I see on the website  
10 to a www so that when people link onto it, it's included  
11 on there and it'll take you directly to our website.

12           CHAIR YEE: Okay, anything for website? If not,  
13 we'll 4I, Data Management. Commissioner Ahmad and  
14 Turner.

15           COMMISSIONER AHMAD: We have nothing new to report.  
16 As you all know, we just voted to hire a data manager.  
17 And as we get that process moving forward, we're hoping  
18 that we can eventually ease off the agenda for our  
19 subcommittee.

20           CHAIR YEE: Okay. Anything else for Data  
21 Management? Commissioner Akutagawa.

22           VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Just a quick question, Marcy.  
23 Director Kaplan had mentioned using airtable. So is  
24 airtable up and running? Only because, you know, we've  
25 all been waiting to find out what's going on and people

1 have been asking about seeing the input. So I meant to  
2 ask that earlier, but I forgot.

3 CHAIR YEE: Director Kaplan.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We are using the free version  
5 right now, so we are not. And to add to that, I would  
6 just clarify that it's separate airtable bases for the  
7 outreach work versus the community of interest input data  
8 management piece of it. So I encourage everyone to  
9 actually make their own table and play around with. It's  
10 pretty cool software, but it's two separate bases that  
11 we're working with within our organization.

12 CHAIR YEE: Director Kaplan.

13 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah, so just to add, ours is a  
14 contact list not related to COI or anything like that.

15 CHAIR YEE: Okay, anything else for Data Management?  
16 Now, we go to 4J, Community of Interest Tool.  
17 Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy.

18 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Actually, I believe that was  
19 noted in Director Kaplan's report. We are seeing  
20 continued increases in the use of the tool, but I think  
21 it was included. Sorry, that's what I meant by there's a  
22 lot of numbers.

23 CHAIR YEE: Okay, moving on to Cybersecurity. I'm  
24 sorry, Commissioner Fernandez.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Before we do --

1           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Sorry. I was having problems  
2 finding unmute and start video buttons. I did inquire  
3 with Statewide Database about the status of the access  
4 sites, and so I just wanted to report back the response  
5 from Statewide Database on that, which is that they have  
6 hired access site managers for each location and are  
7 working to have them furnished, set up and ready to open.  
8 Most recently hired site managers are still setting up  
9 their locations. They are "nearly ready" to receive  
10 members of the public and a more definitive timeline for  
11 opening will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. So I  
12 thought that was important for colleagues to be aware of.  
13 Thank you.

14           CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Fernandez.

15           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I just wanted to  
16 bring up, was it in yesterday's meeting that a few of the  
17 callers were saying that they went into the communities  
18 of interest tool and they couldn't link multiple counties  
19 together to draw their map? So I just want to flag that.  
20 And if they are able to do that, then there's it's not  
21 simple enough for them to understand or for any of us to  
22 understand. So there might be an issue there, and I  
23 don't know if we can bring that forward.

24           CHAIR YEE: It was also splitting counties, I  
25 believe. Okay. Moving on to 4K, Cybersecurity.

1 Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I don't have anything with  
3 regard to Cybersecurity. I would just encourage everyone  
4 to be safe considering the case rates are going to the  
5 roof at this point.

6 CHAIR YEE: Okay, moving on to 4L, Incarcerated  
7 Populations Federal Facilities.

8 Commissioners Kennedy and Turner.

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

11 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. 4M, Lessons Learned.  
12 Commissioners Kennedy and Ahmad.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'm toggling back and forth  
14 between the agenda and the Zoom. We have placed on the  
15 agenda planning tool our request to hold a one year on  
16 Lessons Learned session. I'm seeing from the document,  
17 proposed plan and dates for first phase of line drawing,  
18 that the August 10th meeting is likely to be very full in  
19 relation to line drawings. So I guess what we're looking  
20 to is, if there aren't other urgent matters to be taken  
21 up on August 5th, we would be interested in being able to  
22 dedicate the August 5th short meeting to the Lessons  
23 Learned discussion and we do have a list of discussion  
24 questions that Commissioner Ahmad and I are working on.

25 CHAIR YEE: Very good. And then to floor and line

1 drawing subcommittee. Commissioners Andersen and  
2 Sadhwani.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Well, thank you very  
4 much. We have a document, which I'm going to ask, Chair,  
5 do you have it on your screen so you can share it?

6 CHAIR YEE: This is 4N in the handouts.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, it is in handouts,  
8 correct.

9 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, I could pull that up.  
10 Do you want me to share? I don't know if I can share  
11 screen. Oh, I can. Would you like me to do that?

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, please.

13 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: All right. Let me put down  
14 some of the other things.

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Are you seeing that?

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: What are you seeing?

18 CHAIR YEE: A bunch of data.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Data.

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Is that better?

21 CHAIR YEE: There you go. There you go.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: There you go.

23 CHAIR YEE: That's it.

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry about that.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Do you want to walk



1 through, Sarah, or do you want me to?

2           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Either way. Sure. How  
3 about I get us started and then if you want to jump in  
4 when I am sure to fail somewhere along the way? So you  
5 know, in anticipation of moving out of our phase two of  
6 communities of interest input sessions, we wanted to  
7 begin to float some ideas for how we will handle line  
8 drawing and some of the many questions that need to be  
9 answered and pieces of information that need to be  
10 gathered. This document was developed in coordination  
11 with the line drawing team after actually a couple of  
12 different discussions, as well as with staff, with  
13 Alvaro, and Anthony as well. So for August 10th, I think  
14 we reported this previously, that the VRE subcommittee is  
15 also working on adjointly with Mr. Becker, an analysis of  
16 potentially a heat map. We're not exactly sure what  
17 format that's going to take. So that would come out on  
18 the 10th, as well as a conversation about our first  
19 criteria of equal population. And with that, we need to  
20 have a conversation about population deviation. If you  
21 recall way back when I think it was Justin Levitt had  
22 prepared a presentation talking about population  
23 deviation and how there are some general guidelines and  
24 standards that we need to be thinking about when it comes  
25 to deviations of equal population from district to

1 district. So we'd like to have additional training,  
2 conversation, and also a recommendation. We haven't  
3 received what that recommendation is yet from our  
4 attorneys, but we're certainly going to be asking that of  
5 them in advance of that meeting. Also on August 10th, if  
6 possible, if airtable is set up and running and our data  
7 management is underway, we'd also like to schedule --  
8 begin to schedule several opportunities in August for the  
9 Commission to receive all of our community of interest  
10 submissions and to discuss them and to provide a debrief.  
11 So we will work with the line drawers to figure out what  
12 the best way will be to ensure that everyone has had a  
13 chance to review submissions through the COI tool, as  
14 well as submissions through the input sessions, and  
15 really just have an opportunity for us to talk about what  
16 we're hearing, right, with the acknowledgment that, you  
17 know, what stands out in my mind might not stand out in  
18 your mind. And just trying to share with each other  
19 regionally, from a regional perspective, of what we're  
20 hearing and what we think might be important. And I  
21 think that will also give that a great opportunity for  
22 the communities to weigh in and say, hey, you missed out  
23 on mine. Or what about this other aspect?

24 In September, as we're winding down the community of  
25 input sessions, we wanted to plan three days in which we

1 can not only debrief but specifically to provide  
2 direction to the line drawers of what we want to do. And  
3 this would happen before census data is released,  
4 probably before the VRA, racially polarized voting  
5 analysis and assessments have been done, but really to  
6 take all of the information that we've gathered thus far  
7 and then begin to put some shape to it. What do we want  
8 to do as a commission? What are some agreements that we  
9 may or may not have? And that all leads us into October.  
10 Again, we're anticipating the redistricting database to  
11 be available by September 23rd. The line drawers have  
12 said that they need a couple of days just to kind of get  
13 everything together. They'll take the direction from us  
14 on September 15th through 17th to October. And again,  
15 we'll come back October 4th, 5th, and 6th to really start  
16 sketching in public. The process that we thought would  
17 work best is to work with the line drawers to the regions  
18 that they have been assigned. So there are four  
19 different individuals, as I'm sure you've noticed from  
20 our communities of input sessions, Jamie, John, Willie,  
21 and Tamina. We would work with them one at a time to  
22 start to sketch out -- here's what we're thinking for Los  
23 Angeles. Here's what we're thinking for the Inland  
24 Empire, Orange County, San Diego, et cetera. And that  
25 really this would be an iterative process. And I think

1 this might be an older version because I think that there  
2 was actually something more here, but in any case, this  
3 would be an iterative process. So we would meet for  
4 three days and then we would be off for two days --  
5 actually off for three days so that the line drawing team  
6 can go back and develop some visualizations of what we're  
7 thinking. Recognizing that we might not all be on the  
8 same page every single time, maybe it's possible to  
9 develop more than one visualization, and these are  
10 regionally focused. And then the next week we would come  
11 back and do the same thing again and again until we get  
12 to a point when we --

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Froze again. No, did Sarah  
14 freeze again? Now, we can't hear you.

15 CHAIR YEE: Sarah, we lost you for about twenty  
16 seconds. We can't hear you now.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Now, we can't hear you.

18 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Jane, do you want to take it  
19 away?

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: If mine holds, I've been  
21 also jumping back and forth. Basically, I'm just going  
22 to sort of do a quick, actually, Sarah, could you go back  
23 up? Can you just move back up? Essentially, the August  
24 months would be we're looking at what we have. What do  
25 we think, is kind of that overall as much as we can,

1 hoping that the airtables up. We don't quite know when  
2 the airtable will be actually able for us to use it.  
3 Then as those last couple of days of September, the idea  
4 is that we look at the line drawing and if you recall,  
5 remember the first time we did our line drawing training  
6 and they had some districts kind of draw on force and we  
7 looked at those. This is pre-that. We're actually  
8 going -- we'll have our communities of interest up there.  
9 It will sort of say, you know, I'm kind of thinking about  
10 this for those areas. And that's what the September  
11 meetings are about.

12 Now, we hope at some point that we would be getting  
13 the RPE, so the VRA analysis that we could add in is a  
14 layer. And then in October, we're actually for the first  
15 time, if you go up all that, these sort of weeks of  
16 October, we're hoping to put those together. And the  
17 very first part would be to give the line drawers in each  
18 area this is kind of what we're thinking, right? And  
19 then they'll go off. We look at Los Angeles and they'll  
20 go off and do kind of an idea based on what they heard  
21 and each of those areas on four, five, and six. And then  
22 we post that the week before the October 12, 13, 14, do  
23 the whole process again, because really, it's, this is  
24 what we're thinking. That would be line drawers saw as  
25 well. Oh, no, no, no, we want to do something different.

1 So that would change each week with the visualizations.  
2 Now, these are not from scrap maps at all. These are --  
3 is the Commission thinking this? What does it look like?  
4 The line drawers, are we communicating back and forth on  
5 the same level? And doing this until we do the full  
6 process, until we come down to the idea, we think, hey,  
7 this looks kind of good enough, let's actually draft one  
8 up and have a look at it before we say let's go to a  
9 draft map. And then, as Sarah was saying, the release of  
10 the draft maps, again, our dates will vary and we have to  
11 wait until we hear from what they say. But remember that  
12 the draft map is that fourteen-day freezing, nothing  
13 happens. And then we will start that and keep on going.  
14 And that will bring us to when we're actually going to  
15 put out a draft map, fourteen days later, then we'll  
16 return to the public input sessions for feedback. With  
17 December, coming back then to another open line drawing  
18 session. And again, all of this you can't put based on  
19 any of this until we hear back from the Supreme Court.  
20 So and the notice we're thinking it'll be held in hybrid  
21 format. We don't know. We don't know. That's basically  
22 what we're thinking. And we're hoping that this is going  
23 to get dates on the calendars now. And as we get closer  
24 and more solidified, they'll become -- we can fill in  
25 exactly what happens when with agendas. But this is more

1 to give everyone an idea. Let's get dates on that  
2 calendar. So again, and if you might notice a couple of  
3 conflicts, that's September 15, 16, 17. I know the 15th  
4 through the 16th is Yom Kippur. We think the 15th is  
5 actually just a -- it's a business meeting where we're  
6 going to take on most of the 16th and 17th.

7 CHAIR YEE: Oh, dear. We lost Jane.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I was done.

9 CHAIR YEE: Okay, very good. Lots of good work  
10 there. Let's get some quick comments. Commissioner  
11 Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a couple of things. Since  
13 the 15th is already a business meeting and it is Yom  
14 Kippur, can we move it to the 13th, 14th, and 15th just  
15 so that we can be more accessible? Marian, you're not on  
16 mute, so we're getting some feedback.

17 Also on the October 4th, 5th, and 6th, John's areas  
18 have skipped Imperial County. Inland Empire sometimes  
19 includes Imperial County, and other times it doesn't, so  
20 we probably want to be a little more clear because  
21 Imperial County is not going to be happy if it says  
22 Inland Empire, Orange County, San Diego, and they're not  
23 in that. And then I was -- are we --where are we  
24 putting? I'm going to open the can of worms, but where  
25 are we putting dates for associate? Are we going to have

1 the associations present to us or not? So when are we  
2 making that decision? And where do we put that on the  
3 map? Because I think we need -- they need to know the  
4 dates and we need to know the dates if we're going to go  
5 that direction. So that's a conversation that we're  
6 going to let you all decide and bring a recommendation to  
7 us. You're welcome to borrow anything. And then if on  
8 the 10th, the air table's not working, can we still use  
9 that time to have conversations, even if the data is not  
10 there? Just because so many people have taken notes and  
11 stuff, I wouldn't want to lose that opportunity. So that  
12 was a lot of different things.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay, I'm going to go  
14 backwards.

15 CHAIR YEE: Very quickly, please.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, let's look at what  
17 we have. We don't -- we're only looking at the stuff we  
18 heard verbally and that would sort of make that at a  
19 higher level than everything else. So we really want to  
20 wait until we get the COI. One of those days is going to  
21 be here and it might not be the 10th, it might be the  
22 next week, but the 10th we have all that other work. So  
23 it's actually the week after the August that will really,  
24 really start getting into looking at the course. Because  
25 we'll be doing that, you know, the deviation and the



1 other period things. Yom Kippur, I don't know if we want  
2 to do for -- the reason why we waited a little bit is  
3 because we've just had COI input meetings virtually every  
4 day the week of September before that, and so including  
5 Saturdays. So we kind of wanted to give the staff a  
6 little bit of time off before we hit three days. It was  
7 originally the 14th and we kind of moved that. That's  
8 one thing. And then the -- oh, yeah, we've got it on  
9 the -- what areas were doing. That was just -- we  
10 weren't being quite clear about that.

11 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Commissioner Kennedy, quickly,  
12 please.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Just a quick reminder that  
14 the reason we shifted from the 14th is that is the day of  
15 the recall election. And as we're discussing getting  
16 dates on the map, I would suggest that we put the 18th on  
17 our calendars just in case we need it. I think that  
18 discussion that week is going to be a very substantive  
19 discussion, and I would foresee that we might need to  
20 have that extended through Saturday. Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: September 18?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

23 CHAIR YEE: Commissioner Akutagawa.

24 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, actually, I would also  
25 suggest -- I think we should honor, you know, Yom Kippur

1 and avoid the 15th and 16th. And as painful as it may  
2 be, actually shift to 17, 18, even the Sunday, the 19, if  
3 we have to for that.

4 CHAIR YEE: Okay. This is a draft document, so  
5 please continue to give your input to the subcommittee as  
6 they continue to develop the schedule. Commissioner  
7 Fernandez.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, and just since the  
9 line drawers, thank you very much, are taking the  
10 schedule forward so I can just let it go. And if we  
11 could also maybe include a few days in there for business  
12 meetings. I just want to make sure we don't lose sight  
13 of that. So I'm stepping away from the schedule and I'm  
14 so happy to hand it off. Thank you. Thank you. Thank  
15 you.

16 CHAIR YEE: Okay. Anything else for line drawing?  
17 Will there be anything for public input design or for  
18 legal affairs tonight?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, there will not be, Chair.  
20 We actually covered our topic earlier on in the  
21 conversation today.

22 CHAIR YEE: Thank you. And legal affairs, I think  
23 you're the chair this month, Commissioner Toledo.  
24 Nothing? Okay, then why don't we go to Commissioner  
25 Fernandez. No? Okay, then I think we can take public

1 comment for item number 4, as well as closing public  
2 comment for today all together. There will be no closed  
3 session today.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right.

5 CHAIR YEE: Just one second, Commissioner Ahmad.

6 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: I just wanted to make sure that  
7 everyone remembered from earlier on, our ED talked about  
8 shortening the meetings from six hours to four hours for  
9 all of the remaining COI input meetings. Just wanted to  
10 make sure we remember that as the agenda for the meeting  
11 is from two weeks, today is due today to be posted so  
12 that one will reflect the four-hour meeting.

13 CHAIR YEE: Good reminder. Okay, Katy.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Commission is now  
15 taking public input on the public comment on the  
16 remaining items on the agenda. To give comment, please  
17 call 877-853-5247. Enter the meeting ID number  
18 874428835364 for this meeting. Once you have dialed in,  
19 please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full  
20 call-in instructions have been read previously in this  
21 meeting and are provided in full on the live stream  
22 landing page. At this time Chair, we do not have anyone  
23 in the queue.

24 CHAIR YEE: We'll wait just a moment. So our next  
25 full commission meeting will be a week from today,

1 Wednesday, July 28th, as a 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
2 meeting. And let's see, Commissioner Akutagawa.

3 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Hopefully the person  
4 from the California Election Officers Organization will  
5 also call back in.

6 CHAIR YEE: Yes, I believe we have her now.

7 VICE CHAIR AKUTAGAWA: Oh, good.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we do. We do have a  
9 caller with their hand raised and she did call in  
10 earlier. Caller 0110, if you'll please follow the  
11 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. Caller 0110, go  
12 ahead. The floor is yours.

13 MS. JOHNSTON: Thank you very much. This is Donna  
14 Johnston, the CACEO, California Association of Class and  
15 Election Officials president, and I would like to talk to  
16 you a little bit about the letter that we sent. I don't  
17 want to belabor the point of the entire letter. It's a  
18 rather lengthy letter. The CACEO does recognize the  
19 challenges that you are facing with the 2020 census  
20 delays as well as us. We at the county level are dealing  
21 with Board of Supervisors lines, and we appreciate and  
22 understand the time constraints and the opportunity to  
23 try to get as much public input as possible into this  
24 process. However, counties typically have four months to  
25 complete the complex task of assigning voters to proper

1 sets of districts, according to the residents. We  
2 understand that in speaking with or with Legislative  
3 folks, that there is no desire from the Legislature to  
4 push back the June 7th, 2022 election, which is something  
5 we all discussed and thought might be a possibility. And  
6 really, there's not an appetite for this from the  
7 registrars, as we currently only have eleven days between  
8 the June 22 election finishing and our certification date  
9 and the start of the November 22 election. And during  
10 that time we'll be implementing our school, municipal and  
11 special district lines at that point in time. So we do  
12 welcome the opportunity to discuss with the Commission  
13 how we can, however we balance these duties that you have  
14 and that we have for the best possible outcome at all.

15 CHAIR YEE: Please continue. Go ahead, caller.

16 MS. JOHNSTON: So at this point, it would be really  
17 great if we could have -- if we could possibly schedule a  
18 meeting to discuss this further. Thank you very much.

19 CHAIR YEE: Thank you and thank you for your  
20 patience.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our  
22 public comment at this time.

23 CHAIR YEE: Yes. Is there anything else on anything  
24 else? When we next convene for business, you will be  
25 under the able leadership of Commissioner Akutagawa.

1 There being no further business, this meeting is  
2 adjourned with a minute to spare.

3 (Whereupon, the Public Meeting adjourned at  
4 7:59 p.m.)

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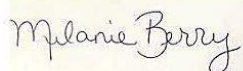
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

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



February 18, 2023

Melanie Berry