

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

ZONE E - PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Transcribed by:

Delores Gantlett

APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

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

STAFF

Alvaro Hernandez, Deputy Executive Director
Marian Johnston, CRC Staff Counsel
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Sulma Hernandez, Outreach Coordinator

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

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

LINE DRAWING TEAM

Tamina Ramos Alon, Q2 Data & Research, LLC
Andrew Drechsler, Haystaq DNA

INTERPRETERS

ASL Interpreter
Captioner

Also PresentPUBLIC INPUT/COMMENT

Sally Hibbert, Conejo Valley
Liana Bran, District 25
Brendan Pringle, Visit SLO CAL, San Luis Obispo
Bob Tiffany, District 4 Supervisory, San Benito
Claudia Bill-de la Pena, City Council, Thousand Oaks
Miriam Gonzales, Thousand Oaks, Ventura
Lucas Zucker, CAUSE, Central Coast
Jennifer Jones, Simi Valley
Scott Landsman, Simi Valley
Graham Watts, Thousand Oaks
Christina Villasenor, City Council, Santa Clara Valley
Gabino Aguirre, City Council, Santa Clara River Valley

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENT (continued)

Richard Moore, Simi Valley
Rodney Rhodes, Simi Valley, Moorpark
Shawn Terrace, City of Ventura
Adam Haverstock, CV COC, Thousand Oaks
Brian Chong, City Council, Moorpark
Larry Felchier, Simi Valley
Laura Espinosa, City Council, VC, Santa Paula,
Marcie Kraft, Simi Valley
Chris Lopez, 3rd District, Monterey County
Lydia, Santa Clara, VC
Pam Campo, Simi Valley
Laura Marty, AAUW, Orcutt Township
Hyman Rousseau, Gilroy
Cesar Lara, CLC, Monterey Bay
Aurelio Salazar, Jr., ad 30
Cynthia Salas, City Town Hall, Santa Paula,
Chris Barrera, LULAC, Monterey, San Benito
Dennis, City of Ojai, Ventura County
Molly Kern, COC, San Luis Obispo
Sandra, Arroyo Grande
Gabriela Torres, Oxnard
Linda Gould, Simi Valley
John Phillips, Central Coast
Stacey Vanderchoff, Ventura County
Kyrill Ershov, Moorpark
Amy, Ojai
Chris Nunez, Oxnard
Amisha Deyoung-Dominguez, Greater Oxnard

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P R O C E E D I N G S

4:00 p.m.

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3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Good morning, California. I'm
4 Neal Fornaciari. And I would like to welcome you, and
5 thank you for tuning in to the California Citizens
6 Redistricting Commission Communities of Interest Input
7 Meeting for July 22nd, 2021.

8 Myself and Commissioner Ray Kennedy will be
9 cohosting today's meeting. So I'll start by calling the
10 meeting to order. And ask Ravi to call roll, please.

11 Mr. SINGH: Thank you, Chair.

12 Commissioner Kennedy.

13 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Here.

14 Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

16 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

20 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

21 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present.

22 Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Toledo.

23 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

24 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner.

25 Commissioner Vázquez.

1 Commissioner Yee.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

3 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

5 Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

6 Commissioner Andersen.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

8 Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Fernández.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Presente.

10 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Fornaciari.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I am here.

12 MR. SINGH: Roll call is complete, Chair.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Ravi.

14 I will start by sharing a little bit about the
15 Commission. Every ten years after the Federal Government
16 publishes updated census information, California must
17 redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate,
18 State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization Districts
19 so that the districts correctly reflect the state's
20 population.

21 In 2008, California voters authorized the creation
22 of the Commission when they passed the Voters FIRST Act.
23 It authorized the Commission to draw new district lines
24 for State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of
25 Equalization Districts. In 2010, the Congressional

1 Voters FIRST Act added the responsibility of drawing
2 Congressional districts to the Commission. The fourteen-
3 member Commission is made up of five Republicans, five
4 Democrats, and four not affiliated with either of those
5 two parties.

6 The Commission must draw the district lines in
7 conformity with strict, nonpartisan rules designed to
8 create districts of relatively equal population that will
9 provide fair representation for all Californians.

10 When we receive the census data, the Commission
11 begins drawing maps using six line-drawing criteria as
12 outlined in the California Constitution. One of these is
13 minimizing the divisions of counties, cities,
14 neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent
15 possible. We can obtain the city and county information
16 from those jurisdictions, but we need the neighborhood
17 and community's interest information from Californians
18 directly.

19 That's why we have launched these communities of
20 interest input sessions to get valuable information from
21 you directly. We encourage all Californians to
22 participate in this process.

23 If you would rather submit a community of interest
24 input over the internet, you can do so from our website
25 or by visiting, DrawMyCACommunity.org, that's

1 DrawMyCACommunity.org. Skip the Line. Go Online.

2 Now, I will call on all Commissioners to introduce
3 themselves and to say hello. To see the biographies for
4 all fourteen Commissioners for additional information, or
5 to sign up for our emails, please visit our website at
6 WeDrawTheLinesCA.org, that's www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org.

7 Please also follow the California Citizens
8 Redistricting Commission on social media. You can find
9 us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube
10 at WeDrawTheLinesCA, that's @WeDrawTheLinesCA, as in
11 California. There you will find a lot of useful
12 information about redistricting and updates on the
13 Commission.

14 I will begin by asking my Co-Chair, Commissioner
15 Kennedy, to introduce himself.

16 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner
17 Fornaciari. I am Ray Kennedy. I'm joining today's
18 meeting from my home in Morongo Valley. Morongo Valley
19 is an unincorporated Joshua Tree Gateway community in the
20 rural area of Southern San Bernardino County. I've lived
21 here for a little over a year after being in Palm Springs
22 for fifteen years. And I've had the pleasure of working
23 with Commissioner Fornaciari, leading the outreach effort
24 to the Central Coast Counties.

25 So thank you. Welcome, everyone. And looking

1 forward to hearing from you all.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.
3 Commissioner Ahmad.

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Hello, everyone. And thank you
5 for joining us today. I'm very excited to hear about
6 your communities of interest and looking forward to
7 today's meeting.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Hi. Good afternoon,
10 California. Looking forward to hearing about communities
11 of interest in the Central Coast, particularly Monterey.
12 I spend a lot of time there. And so looking forward to
13 hearing what you all have to say.

14 (Audio interference)

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Andersen.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Good afternoon, California.
17 My name is Jane Andersen. I'm a Commissioner coming to
18 you from -- well, I live in Berkeley, California, just a
19 little bit north of your area. And I'm really looking
20 forward to hearing from everyone on the Central Coast
21 about what your communities of interest are, and what you
22 have to say for the Commission.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

24 Commissioner Fernández.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: (In Spanish, not

1 translated)

2 Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Alicia Fernández from
3 Yolo County. I'm looking forward to hearing about your
4 communities. And I've got to tell you, some of my
5 favorite places to visit are these counties in Zone E.
6 I've had my son, plus many nieces and nephews that have
7 gone to some of the schools in your area. So looking
8 forward to hearing from you.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you. Commissioner Le Mons.
10 Okay. No Commissioner Le Mons.

11 Commissioner Sadhwani.

12 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Good afternoon, everyone.
13 My name is Sara Sadhwani. I'm calling in today from my
14 home in La Canada, just near the Angeles National Forest
15 in Los Angeles County. Really excited to be here, and
16 learning more about the Central Coast. Thank you.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: (In Spanish, not translated)

19 Hi. Those further north on the coast from the
20 southern coast, I am Patricia Sinay, and it is an honor
21 to serve you from San Diego.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Taylor.

23 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon. I echo the
24 sentiments of my fellow Commissioners. I am Derric
25 Taylor, an LA County resident. I live in the City of Los

1 Angeles. Anxious to visit the Central Coast with my
2 seventeen-year-old, exploring these colleges, nudging him
3 in that direction, so I'm anxious, or eager to hear
4 feedback and input from this region. Thank you.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Toledo.

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: (In Spanish, not translated)

7 My name is Pedro Toledo, and I'm from Petaluma,
8 California. That's where I live, in Sonoma County, in
9 the heart of Wine Country up in and Northern California.
10 I'm looking forward to hear all of your community of
11 interest input, and enjoy the evening with you. Thank
12 you very much for joining us today.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Let's see. I don't believe
14 Commissioner Turner is able to join us tonight. I don't
15 hear her.

16 So Commissioner Vázquez; I expect she'll be joining
17 us later.

18 Commissioner Yee.

19 COMMISSIONER YEE: Good afternoon, California. And
20 especially the Central Coast, and especially those in
21 Monterrey, because we owe our existence to you, you're
22 where California got started way back when, first capital
23 of California, and the Constitutional Convention there
24 that created the state.

25 I'm here in Oakland, my hometown. And I'm very

1 jealous of the Steinbeck Museum in Salinas, because
2 somehow in Oakland we haven't come up with anything
3 comparable for our native writer, Native Son writer, Jack
4 London. So I hope to be inspired by your museum, to
5 someday create something honoring him. Thank you.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Le Mons.

7 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Buenos tardes. Good
8 afternoon, California. I'm sure, yeah, my name was
9 probably caught earlier. I got a little distracted, so
10 my apologies. Really looking forward to hearing from all
11 of you today. I'm hailing today from -- still in Los
12 Angeles -- trying to get home to the Coachella Valley,
13 hopefully tomorrow. So I'm looking forward to all of
14 your input. And welcome.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, everyone. I'm Neal
16 Fornaciari. I'm coming to you from Tracy in San Joaquin
17 County in the Central Valley. I'm very excited about our
18 meeting this afternoon, and hearing what's important to
19 all of you in the Central Coast counties.

20 So this meeting is primarily for the communities' of
21 interest testimony focused on Monterey, San Benito, San
22 Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Ventura
23 Counties and surrounding areas. However, anyone in
24 California can call to provide input.

25 General public comment will take place at the end of

1 the meeting. Although the Commission has divided up
2 California into eleven zones, that in no way is related
3 to or reflective of redistricting lines or boundaries.
4 The Commission created these zones to assist
5 Commissioners and staff in their outreach efforts only,
6 and not as an indication of planned boundaries.

7 Today we are joined by our Line Drawing Team,
8 Haystaq DNA, and Q2 Data & Research, LLC, who will be
9 displaying a map of the areas that attendees describe.
10 Please start with the area you would like to discuss and
11 be as specific as possible about the boundaries of where
12 your community is located. It is our goal to find the
13 area on the map you would like to discuss prior to your
14 testimony. If you are within a specific neighborhood of
15 a large city, please mention it by name. Once we are
16 able to locate your area, your three-minute timer will
17 begin. Attendees will not be able to share their screen.

18 We are joined today by Katy, our comment moderator,
19 who will be introducing attendees when it is their turn
20 to speak. When you join the meeting, please use the
21 raise hand button at the bottom of your screen to enter
22 the queue.

23 If you have registered for a timeslot, we encourage
24 you to call in during your appointment time slot. When
25 it is your turn to speak Katy will be identifying you by

1 your unique ID number. You will be reconnected to the
2 session with the ability to enable your audio and video.
3 The comment moderator will assign you a speaker order
4 number before you begin speaking. So please make note of
5 this for future reference. You will be able to use this
6 number to identify your community of interest testimony
7 on our website at a future date.

8 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time
9 limit. There will be a warning at thirty-seconds and
10 fifteen-seconds remaining. At the beginning of your
11 input, you will see a map on the screen. Please remind
12 the mapper what area you would like to see on the screen,
13 and be as specific as possible about the boundaries of
14 where your community is located.

15 Registration is not required to participate in this
16 public meeting. The public has the option of calling in
17 during this meeting and to get in the queue to speak.
18 The call-in information and access code is listed on the
19 live stream.

20 While there are no clear rules on how to define your
21 community of interest, we've identified ways for you to
22 describe your community. Begin with your city or county.
23 Mention the street names and the significant locations in
24 your neighborhood to help us identify the parameters of
25 your community. What are your shared interests? What

1 brings you together? What is important to your
2 community? Are there nearby areas you want to be with in
3 a district? Are there areas you don't want to be in a
4 district with? Why or why not? Has your community come
5 together to advocate for important services, better
6 schools, roads, or health care centers in your
7 neighborhood?

8 Also, we invite you to use the communities of
9 interest tool to draw a map and describe your community
10 by visiting, DrawMyCACommunity.org. Skip the Line. Go
11 Online. Submit your community of interest input today.

12 We will now begin the public input session, and I
13 will pass this over to Katy, our comment moderator.

14 We will start with people who are registered and
15 then open the phone lines, if there is time, before the
16 next session.

17 I do want to make one comment before we start. We
18 have -- all of the appointments have been taken for this
19 session. And so we will take the appointments before we
20 take phone calls. But I want to encourage those who are
21 calling in to go to DrawMyCACommunity.org. Skip the
22 Line. And Go Online.

23 With that, I'll turn it over to Katy, our comment
24 moderator, to read the instructions.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

1 Welcome to the public input session. Please use the
2 raise your hand button at the bottom of your screen to
3 enter the comment queue. When it is your turn to speak
4 you will be identified by your assigned unique ID number,
5 which you were emailed yesterday, you will be reconnected
6 to the session with the ability to enable your own video
7 and/or audio.

8 You will then be assigned a speaker order number
9 before you begin speaking. Please make a note of your
10 speaker order number for future reference.

11 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time
12 limit, there will be a warning at thirty-seconds and
13 fifteen-seconds remaining. It is the Commission's goal
14 to find the area on the map you would like to discuss
15 prior to your testimony. If you are within a specific
16 neighborhood of a large city, please mention it by name.

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

24 Right now in the queue we have 005. And up next
25 will be 007. 005, I will be promoting you now. 005,

1 your speaker order number is number 1, if you will please
2 make note of that for future reference. You can now
3 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
4 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of
5 what area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
6 yours. The floor is yours, 005, if you will unmute
7 yourself. Your speaker order number is number 1, if
8 you'll please make note of that.

9 MS. HIBBERT: Hello?

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Hello.

11 MS. HIBBERT: Okay. I got a little confused here,
12 but I'm doing good.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. If you'll
14 please let the mapper know what area you would like to
15 discuss. The floor is yours.

16 MS. HIBBERT: Okay. Thank you. I am living in the
17 Southern Ventura County area, actually adjacent to Los
18 Angeles County along the 101 Corridor, and in Westlake
19 Village portion of Ventura County, actually within the
20 city limits of -- the City of Thousand Oaks. Does that
21 help?

22 MR. MANOFF: Yes. Thank you. Go ahead, please.

23 MS. HIBBERT: Okay. My time is starting.

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

25 MS. HIBBERT: Okay. Thank you. Good afternoon. My

1 name is Sally Hibbert (ph.), and my husband and I have
2 been residents of the Conejo Valley area in Ventura
3 County for over fifty years. We are districted now for
4 the 26th Congressional District. Since 1986, we have
5 resided in the Ventura -- excuse me -- in the Westlake
6 Village portion of the City of Thousand Oaks, which abuts
7 the Ventura and LA County line. In fact, LA County is
8 only 1.8 miles from my home.

9 I mention these geographic markers in order for you
10 to better understand just how physically close we live to
11 LA County. However, I wish to make it extremely clear
12 that under no circumstances do either of us identify as
13 LA County residents. All of our public services,
14 including schools, courts, library, hospital, fire
15 department, sheriff, et cetera, are totally based within
16 Ventura County.

17 We are proud residents of this county and do not
18 want our area to be reapportioned off to be attached
19 elsewhere. Since we have lived in Thousand Oaks for so
20 long, we have a clear recollection of the days when our
21 city was split into separate Congressional districts
22 instead of like it is now with all Conejo Valley folks
23 having the same representative.

24 In the past there were clear district lines drawn
25 right through our city, much to the detriment of our

1 area. The two political parties were each represented on
2 the opposite sides of that very line. This was often
3 difficult for people to deal with, never knowing which
4 representative they needed to approach for their
5 assistance. We were a divided city for our Congressional
6 representation, and which, this did not provide a
7 positive balance or fairness for area voters.

8 There are many mutual services and identifying
9 characteristics which provide powerful reasons to retain
10 the status quo for the 26. One of the biggest is our
11 very extensive open space land, which rings our entire
12 city and provides essential recreational activities as
13 well as beauty to our landscape.

14 Unfortunately, this has also provided us with the
15 negative aspects of being very vulnerable to wildfires.
16 There are also numerous economic activities that bind us
17 directly to Ventura County, with the wonderful
18 agricultural land being very important. We can easily
19 obtain fresh-grown items within a very few miles of my
20 home right from the Ventura fields.

21 Our medical insurance is through Kaiser Permanente,
22 and they have built a large new facility in Ventura where
23 we get our services.

24 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

25 MS. HIBBERT: We do not use LA County services at

1 all. The Congressional redistricting for the City of
2 Thousand Oaks needs to remain as a whole and attached to
3 the base of Ventura County. Therefore, please retain the
4 status quo --

5 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

6 MS. HIBBERT: -- of this 26th District. Thank you
7 very much for allowing this opportunity.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

9 MS. HIBBERT: You're welcome.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
11 now will be 002. And up next will be 006. Oh. I
12 apologize. I'm going to have to recant that. What I
13 just said, my queue was scrolled down incorrectly.

14 Right now will be 007. And up next will be 018.
15 007, I will be promoting you now. 007, your speaker
16 order number will be number 2, if you'll please make note
17 of that for future reference.

18 MS. BRAN: Okay.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You can now enable your
20 audio and video in the lower-left corner of your screen.
21 If you will please remind the mapper of what area you
22 would like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

23 MS. BRAN: Yes, hello. My name is Liana Bran (ph.).
24 I live in Simi Valley -- the Simi Valley portion, which
25 is right now in District 25. I live on the far-west end

1 of Simi Valley, near Tierra Rejada Boulevard. And I
2 would like to discuss our -- the redistricting for Simi
3 Valley.

4 We are currently, a portion of our city is in CA 25,
5 the entirety of the rest of CA 25 is in Los Angeles
6 County. And because of that Simi Valley has been utterly
7 ignored. We have issues in terms of services, we have
8 issues in terms of voter registration, of types of
9 voting, of veterans services, and a lot of other things,
10 and representation being tied to Los Angeles.

11 And if you look at the entirety of what is CA 25
12 right now, there is a very large portion of it which is
13 even in the Santa Clarita, Palmdale, and Lancaster. So
14 for the office of our current representative is in Santa
15 Clarita, there is a very small office in Simi Valley
16 which is manned by one person three days a week, but we
17 can get utterly no services out of it.

18 During COVID, in particular, there was
19 misinformation coming out from our Congressional
20 representative, because all of the information for LA
21 County was completely different than it was for Ventura
22 County. And therefore, there was confusion where to get
23 vaccines, there was confusion about where to be tested,
24 there was confusion about most everything.

25 Aside from that, also, currently not all of Simi

1 Valley is represented by CA 25. There is a portion
2 across the street from my house where it's the Julia
3 Brownley, District 26. So my suggestion and my fervent
4 hope is that we put Ventura County sections with Ventura
5 County residents, it would it would help us tremendously
6 in terms of being able to advocate for infrastructure,
7 for everything.

8 Right now, our Congressional representative is
9 working on infrastructure stuff, and he's talking about
10 the 14 Freeway, which is fifty miles away from us. So it
11 really just doesn't -- it just really -- we don't feel
12 like we're being represented. So I really hope that
13 through this redistricting you'll really --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MS. BRAN: -- consider our Ventura County lines,
16 because the -- that's the only way. We've had voter
17 registrations lost. We had -- we've had people sent Los
18 Angeles County voter --

19 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

20 MS. BRAN: -- registration forms. So please, I just
21 really hope that you'll consider putting Simi Valley
22 together, all of the city together, and putting it all
23 with Ventura County. Thank you.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Mr. Bran.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right

1 now will be 018. And up next will be 002. 018, I will
2 be promoting you now. 018, your speaker order number
3 will be number 3, if you will please make note of that
4 for future reference. You can now enable your audio and
5 video in the lower-left corner of your screen. If you'll
6 please remind the mapper of what area you would like to
7 discuss today. The floor is yours.

8 MR. PRINGLE: Can you hear me?

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

10 MR. PRINGLE: Okay. Perfect. Yeah. I am
11 representing the San Luis Obispo County area, so just
12 that whole county region. And should I start?

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

14 MR. PRINGLE: Okay. Members of the Redistricting
15 Commission. My name is Brendan Pringle; I am the
16 Director of Operations for Visit SLO CAL, the countywide
17 destination marketing and management organization for the
18 entire San Luis Obispo County. As we define in our
19 strategic plan, we provide leadership in destination
20 management and community engagement to enhance the
21 quality of life for residents, and quality experience for
22 visitors.

23 The countywide tourism industry represented more
24 than two billion in annual economic impact, pre-pandemic,
25 and that number is still 1.2 billion as of 2020. We

1 support more than 2,000 lodging properties, several
2 thousand nonlodging partners, and there are 18,000 San
3 Luis Obispo County jobs.

4 It's critical that our county is kept whole and not
5 divided between multiple Assembly, Senate, or
6 Congressional districts, so that we can effectively
7 advocate and represent it. Over the years, we've been
8 able to develop strong partnerships with elected
9 officials and their staff in these districts, based on
10 the relationships that we have with our lodging community
11 and tourism partners.

12 Our lodging and nonlodging partners span from the
13 north end of the County all the way to the southern
14 border with Santa Barbara, and we all share one common
15 interest of inspiring travel and fostering our unique
16 experiences to create lifelong ambassadors and economic
17 growth for San Luis Obispo County.

18 Through our unified voice, we can protect and
19 promote the county's tourism industry, and enhance our
20 quality of life. As we like to say, tourism is economic
21 development, and we are at the heart of it. By keeping
22 the County whole and not divided, we can ensure that our
23 industry is heard. Thank you for your consideration.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for your input.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right

1 now, we have 002. And up next will be 006. 002, I will
2 be promoting you now. 002, your speaker order number is
3 number 4, if you'll please make note of that for future
4 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
5 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
6 yours.

7 MR. TIFFANY: Good afternoon. Yes. I'm going to be
8 speaking on San Benito County, the entirety of San Benito
9 County. There we go. Okay.

10 Good afternoon. My name is Bob Tiffany, and I'm
11 speaking on behalf of San Benito County. I'm currently
12 the supervisor for District 4 in San Benito County, and
13 I've been a lifelong resident. I was the fourth
14 generation to run my family's business, Tiffany Motor
15 Company, started in 1910, the oldest Ford dealership in
16 California. Suffice it to say, that I have very deep
17 roots in San Benito County, and I know it and the
18 surrounding area extremely well.

19 With that said, I realize that some of you may not
20 be all that familiar with our county. It's certainly
21 much more on the map than it used to be, but there are
22 still a significant number of people that seem to think
23 we're somewhere in the San Joaquin Valley. We're
24 definitely not. San Benito County is located roughly
25 fifty miles inland from Monterey, and an equal distance

1 south of San Jose. We're part of the Central Coast area.

2 Our county is strongly agriculturally based,
3 although we have an increasing amount of light
4 manufacturing that's moving into our area. Nevertheless,
5 we currently have roughly sixty percent of our working
6 population commuting out of the county, the majority to
7 the north along 101 to Silicon Valley.

8 Demographically, well over half of our residents are
9 Latino, and our population is just over 60,000 people.
10 San Benito County and our cities of Hollister and San
11 Juan Bautista share many common interests with their
12 neighbors in Gilroy and South Santa Clara County in the
13 Salinas, Monterey area, just to the west of us, and with
14 Watsonville in the Pajaro Valley and Santa Cruz County.

15 Agriculture, of course, is one of the primary things
16 we have in common, but we are also connected due to our
17 traffic flow along the major transportation corridors,
18 primarily north along 101 into the west along 156.
19 Hollister and San Benito County residents both work and
20 shop in Gilroy, Morgan Hill, San Jose and up the
21 Peninsula, as well as in Salinas, Monterey, and
22 Watsonville.

23 Conversely, very few people commute to or do
24 business in Los Banos, or other parts of the San Joaquin
25 Valley, which is physically separated by a mountain range

1 in Pacheco Pass. So although geographically San Benito
2 County is adjacent to both Merced and Fresno Counties to
3 the east, it is in no other way connected to that area
4 and we should not be aligned with them during the
5 redistricting process.

6 The relationships with our neighbors to the west and
7 north go much further. The local governments of the Tri-
8 County area of San Benito, Monterey, and Santa Cruz work
9 closely together on many issues, focusing on
10 transportation, education --

11 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

12 MR. TIFFANY: -- health care, social services,
13 agriculture, and broadband. We collaborate together on
14 numerous boards and commissions. The Association of
15 Monterey Bay Area Governments, and the Monterey Bay
16 Economic Partnership are just three examples. And
17 lastly, while dealing with the --

18 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

19 MR. TIFFANY: -- pandemic, our county's health
20 department has worked hand in hand with the health
21 departments of Monterey, Santa Cruz, and Santa Clara
22 counties, since we all recognize how interconnected our
23 communities and workforces are. We need to be part of
24 the status quo. Thank you for our time.

25 MR. MANOFF: Time.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
3 now we have 006. And up next, we will have 003. 006, I
4 will be promoting, you know. 006, your speaker order
5 number will be number 5, if you'll please make note of
6 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
7 mapper know what area you would like to discuss today.
8 The floor is yours.

9 MS. BILL-DE LA PENA: Good afternoon. I'm here to
10 discuss map E (ph.), specifically the City of Thousand
11 Oaks and Ventura County.

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

13 MS. BILL-DE LA PENA: I'm Claudia Bill-de la Pena,
14 mayor of the City of Thousand Oaks. And I'm here to
15 represent the city, and about 130,000 residents. The
16 City of Thousand Oaks is in Ventura County, between LA
17 and Santa Barbara counties. As you develop new maps, we
18 ask that Thousand Oaks be kept whole, and within the
19 boundaries of Ventura County as we share the same common
20 interest in, for example, open space, agriculture,
21 wildfire risk, economic development, and regional problem
22 solving.

23 Thousand Oaks is surrounded by open space and
24 agriculture, and in fact, there are 15,000 acres of
25 protected open space within our planning area. And we

1 have joint powers with the Park District, it's called
2 COSCA, it is a joint partnership with the Conejo
3 Recreation and Park District, which currently owns and
4 manages over 12,000 acres of open space, and we have more
5 than 150 miles of trails.

6 The city's open space abuts the Santa Monica
7 Mountains National Recreation Area, and we are active
8 supporters of wildlife preservation. Unfortunately
9 though, due to our geography, vegetation, and climate,
10 Thousand Oaks is designated as a very high wildfire
11 severity zone. And like our sister cities in Ventura
12 County, we are prone to public safety power shutoffs.

13 Ventura County is known as the technology corridor.
14 Thousand Oaks is home to Amgen, Takeda, Atara, Capsida.
15 Although the city is along the same U.S. 101 Corridor to
16 the San Fernando Valley, which is the City of LA, we are
17 actually vastly different, in urbanization, terrain as I
18 just described, density, and size, and we are not suited
19 at all for LA boundaries.

20 So Thousand Oaks shares common issues and problem
21 solving with Ventura County in the areas of water
22 resources, air quality, stormwater management, energy
23 conservation, public safety, broadband and even our
24 support of the Naval Base Ventura County, keeping our
25 boundaries with in Ventura County is absolutely essential

1 in collaborating on common solutions.

2 In fact, we ask that we maintain our existing
3 boundaries because they support the cities --

4 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

5 MS. BILL-DE LA PENA: -- our ability to provide
6 resources and services to residents for the next decade,
7 and beyond that. So again, we ask that Thousand Oaks be
8 kept whole as we are right now, and not become part --

9 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

10 MS. BILL-DE LA PENA: -- of LA County. Thank you
11 very much.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now, we will have
14 003. And up next, we will have 004. 003, I will be
15 promoting you now. 003, your speaker order number will
16 be number 6, if you'll please make note of that for
17 future reference. And if you'll please remind the mapper
18 of what area you would like to discuss today. The floor
19 is yours.

20 MS. GONZALES: Hello. I would like to also address
21 the City of Thousand Oaks in the eastern part of Ventura
22 County.

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

24 MS. GONZALES: Thank you very much. My name is
25 Miriam Gonzales (ph.), and I live in the City of Thousand

1 Oaks in Ventura County. I'm a citizen who has been very
2 involved in our local General Plan Amendment process.
3 The City of Thousand Oaks is addressing all of the
4 elements in our General Plan. We started with a month's
5 long process of evaluating our land use plan, and citizen
6 input on the housing element will begin soon.

7 Participating in this process as a citizen has
8 really brought home how much being a resident of Thousand
9 Oaks defines our individual identities. We have a unique
10 history of a semi-rural town. We all love our city and
11 see it as a unique and beautiful place to live.

12 So I know that communities of interest, you're
13 looking for specific communities of interest, but I would
14 like to argue that the City of Thousand Oaks is, in
15 itself, a community of interest. One of the lessons I've
16 taken from this process is how much it is constrained by
17 state legislation.

18 I'm urging the Commission to keep the City of
19 Thousand Oaks whole so that our interests are represented
20 by a single voice in the State Assembly and State Senate.
21 I am also urging the Commission to keep Thousand Oaks
22 within Ventura County when it draws its boundaries.

23 Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have
24 coalesced as a county in our response and the development
25 of services, specifically pandemic related. In addition,

1 our county -- to our county services, we have developed
2 new, shared mutual aid societies throughout the county
3 that especially have brought our Spanish-speaking
4 communities together. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And thank you. Right now
7 we have 004. And up next will be 010. 004, I will be
8 promoting you now. 004, your speaker order number is
9 number 7, if you'll please make note of that for future
10 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
11 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
12 yours.

13 MR. ZUCKER: Great. I'll be speaking to the whole
14 region, six-county region, but particularly the areas of
15 Oxnard, Santa Maria, and Salinas.

16 Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Lucas
17 Zucker. I'm the policy director for the Central Coast
18 Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy, commonly known
19 as CAUSE. Since 2001, we work to represent working-class
20 immigrant communities of color in the Central Coast to
21 advance social, economic, and environmental justice.

22 And over that time, we have engaged in voting rights
23 advocacy in city, county, state, and federal
24 redistricting processes throughout the region. And today
25 we submitted detailed written comments about communities

1 of interest in the Central Coast region to ensure the
2 working-class immigrant communities are fairly
3 represented.

4 The Central Coast is a region of vast disparities
5 between predominately White and predominantly Latino
6 communities. Communities built on luxury tourism, and
7 communities built on industrial agriculture, and
8 communities who enjoy our region's greatest environmental
9 assets, and those who face our greatest pollution
10 threats.

11 Central Coast has three main clusters of majority
12 people of color communities which should be kept together
13 and reflected in districts. The first is in Western
14 Ventura County, where we have the communities of the
15 Oxnard Plain and the Santa Clara Valley, including the
16 Cities of Oxnard, Port Hueneme, El Rio, Santa Paula,
17 Fillmore, and Piru.

18 The second is the Northern Santa Barbara County,
19 particularly the communities of Santa Maria, Lompoc, and
20 Guadalupe.

21 The third is in the Salinas Valley of Monterey
22 County, and the Pajaro Valley of Santa Cruz County,
23 including the communities of Salinas, Watsonville,
24 Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield, and King City.

25 These are working-class agricultural communities

1 where the majority of our region's farm workers live,
2 they much higher rates than other cities in the region of
3 immigrant families, linguistic isolation, and disparities
4 in health, education, and housing, often double the rates
5 of the regional average, all of which are barriers to
6 civic participation and representation.

7 They're also impacted by shared environmental
8 justice challenges, like groundwater depletion, oil and
9 gas development, and heavy pesticide exposure, that's
10 uncommon in some of the more affluent parts of the
11 region. Redistricting must reflect these communities of
12 interest in order to adequately represent the needs of
13 the Central Coast immigrant, agricultural communities, on
14 issues spanning from farm worker rights to pesticide
15 exposure.

16 Communities like Oxnard, Santa Maria, and Salinas
17 are the largest cities in our region by population. But
18 our region's centers of political power have historically
19 been in smaller communities with more financial
20 resources, like Thousand Oaks, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz,
21 and Monterey. Whenever possible, districts must protect
22 the voting rights of communities with less political
23 power by grouping them together to maximize their
24 representation.

25 An example where our current districts fall short is

1 in Ventura County, where the City of Oxnard is split into
2 two Assembly districts, with the larger part divided from
3 the nearby majority Latino Santa Clara Valley. Cracking
4 what could potentially would be --

5 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

6 MR. ZUCKER: -- a majority people of color district
7 in Western Ventura County. The outcome has been
8 political representation for Oxnard, typically based in
9 the more affluent majority White areas of Santa Barbara
10 and Thousand Oaks. We provided extensive statistical
11 data and mapping visualizations on the Central Coast
12 region --

13 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

14 MR. ZUCKER: -- in our written comments submitted by
15 email. And will be happy to discuss these further with
16 Commissioners if you have any questions. Thank you so
17 much.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for your input, and
19 just to let you know that we did receive your document
20 today. So thank you for that.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have 010.
22 And up next, we will have 016. 010, I will be promoting
23 you now. 010, your speaker order number is number 8, if
24 you'll please make note of that for future reference.
25 You can now enable your audio and video in the lower-left

1 corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the
2 mapper of what area you would like to discuss today. The
3 floor is yours. 010?

4 MS. JONES: Hello?

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello. The floor is
6 yours.

7 MS. JONES: Thank you very much. My name is (audio
8 interference). I would like to address Simi Valley, the
9 City of Simi Valley.

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

11 MS. JONES: My name is Jennifer Jones (ph.), and I
12 am a resident of Simi Valley. I am hoping that we can,
13 if possible, keep Simi Valley and Moorpark together as a
14 community of interest. We have several joint
15 organizations with Simi Valley and Moorpark. We have
16 several community interests together. We are prone to
17 wildfires, water resource, we also share our first
18 responders' resources, our Police Department also helps
19 out with the Moorpark Police Department when they need
20 assistance; the same thing with the Fire Department.

21 We also have a realtor organization that is Simi
22 Valley-Moorpark. We have a forest organization that's
23 Simi Valley-Moorpark. And if my estimate is correct, my
24 understanding from just kind of glancing at the numbers
25 from ten years ago, and then taking into consideration

1 the natural progression of people moving, it seems like
2 District 26 may be over the 760,000 constituents they're
3 allowed to have.

4 And I know that we have a sliver of Simi Valley that
5 is in the 26th District. And I hope that you will take
6 into consideration the joint communities of interest, our
7 joint organizations, and a -- if the 25th is to expand,
8 which I think it should, you will include the rest of
9 Simi Valley and all of Moorpark, because I think it will
10 be beneficial. We also have some synergy with Santa
11 Clarita as well. And that's pretty much all that I have
12 to say. Thank you for listening to me.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
15 now we have 016. And up next, we will have 001. 016, I
16 will be promoting you now. 016, your speaker order
17 number will be number 9, if you'll please make note of
18 that for future reference. You can now enable your audio
19 and video in the lower-left corner of your screen. If
20 you'll please remind the mapper of what area you would
21 like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

22 MR. LANDSMAN: Hello? Can you hear me?

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can. Go ahead.

24 MR. LANDSMAN: Hi. My name is Scott Landsman (ph.).
25 And I've been a long-time resident of Simi Valley, and

1 that's the district, or the area that I would like to
2 speak about. Your previous speaker took some of my
3 talking points. But I think it's really important, just
4 like some of the other speakers have brought up the
5 similarities in other communities and how important it is
6 to keep those communities together so that their voices
7 are heard and not diluted.

8 And so I would like to make that same plea for Simi
9 Valley, and even for the Moorpark area as well, in that
10 we have a lot of shared values and shared interests, and
11 it's really important that our voices be heard in that
12 way, and not by -- and not be diluted.

13 So it's just a very basic statement that I have as,
14 like I said, most of the other speakers have taken my
15 talking points. But that's what I'm hoping for, is that
16 the Commission will consider keeping all of Simi Valley
17 together, and even possibly incorporating Moorpark as
18 well. Thank you for your time.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have 001.
21 And up next will be 012. 001, I'll be promoting you
22 know. 001, your speaker order number is number 10, if
23 you'll please make note of that for future reference.
24 You can now enable your audio and video in the lower-left
25 corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the

1 mapper what area you would like to discuss today. The
2 floor is yours.

3 MR. WATTS: Yes. Thank you. My name is Graham
4 Watts (ph.). I'm calling regarding Thousand Oaks. As
5 we've heard prior, from prior speakers, Thousand Oaks in
6 Ventura County has its top contributor and partner with
7 the Ventura County Fire Protection District, is prone to
8 fires, power outages, and a number of local hazards.
9 Working collectively with our police department, fire
10 department, and other agencies, including Southern
11 California Edison, Thousand Oaks is able to be responsive
12 to the needs and businesses of the community in Ventura
13 County. That would not be the case in LA County.

14 Thousand Oaks is surrounded by open space. Public
15 safety is a top priority, as well as environmental
16 programs and advocacy for Thousand Oaks. Thousand Oaks
17 is one of the safest cities in the entire nation, and
18 maintaining that partnership with our public safety
19 agencies is part of that.

20 The other important part is a responsive local
21 government, whether it's the school district, the city
22 itself, or the park district, all of our local agencies
23 are ethical, they follow up on all individual residential
24 concerns, have outstanding customer service, and are
25 responsive to the needs of our residents, as a local

1 government provider.

2 The ten cities in County of Ventura collaborate on
3 transportation, tourism, economic development, and have
4 had an excellent track record in working collectively
5 with the county, state, and federal agencies related to
6 COVID response.

7 Thousand Oaks is the first city in Ventura County
8 when coming from LA County. We are the home of the LA
9 Rams, and we're very proud of that, and our university at
10 California Lutheran University. We have an outstanding
11 park system, outstanding school system, and take great
12 pride in the preservation of our local response, programs
13 and needs. And we'd like to maintain that, whether it's
14 infrastructure, transportation, or beyond. I thank you
15 for your time.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Mr. Watts, before you sign off,
17 you mentioned ten cities in Ventura County.

18 MR. WATTS: Correct.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Can you can you name off those
20 ten cities, or are they just ten incorporated cities in
21 Ventura County?

22 MR. WATTS: There are ten cities in Ventura County.
23 You heard about a couple of them, Simi Valley, Moorpark,
24 Camarillo, Port Hueneme, Oxnard, Ventura, Ojai, Santa
25 Paula, and Fillmore. I believe I covered them all.

1 There are some unincorporated pockets, but I believe
2 those are the ten cities, and they all, collectively,
3 work with the county on a variety of programs and issues.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Very good. Thank you.

5 MR. WATTS: Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have 012.
7 And up next will be 017. I would like to invite 008,
8 013, 014, I would like to invite those I just listed to
9 please use the raise your hand button at the bottom of
10 the screen as you have appointments during this session.
11 Again, that was 008, 014, and 013 I do see your hand.
12 And 017, your hand was up, now it's down. So I will --
13 all right, now it's up. Perfect.

14 012, I will be promoting you now. Wait. I
15 apologize. I think 008 just got -- 008, your speaker
16 order number will be number 11, if you'll please make
17 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
18 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss.
19 The floor is yours.

20 MS. VILLASENOR: Yes. Thank you. I am looking to
21 discuss Ventura County, the Santa Clara Valley along the
22 Highway 126 Corridor, of the Cities of Santa Paula, and
23 Fillmore, and the unincorporated area of Piru.

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

25 MS. VILLASENOR: Please. Thank you so much. Hello.

1 Good afternoon, Commissioners. My name is Christina
2 Villasenor. I am a current City of Fillmore Council
3 Member and a lifelong community member of the Santa Clara
4 Valley, also known as the Heritage Valley. In terms of
5 our common --

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And it appears we are
7 having some connectivity issues now.

8 MS. VILLASENOR: Oh.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 0080 -- oh, there you
10 are. You're back. And you did freeze.

11 MS. VILLASENOR: Okay.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: So we will -- I would
13 assume to start over. Yes, we will just start the clock
14 over. Just start over from the beginning.

15 MS. VILLASENOR: Okay. Thank you so much. Hi.
16 Again, my name is Christina Villasenor. I am currently a
17 Fillmore City Council Member, and a lifelong resident of
18 the Santa Clara Valley. And I'd like to note our
19 community of interest. The Valley, Santa Paula,
20 Fillmore, and Piru, is a predominant, seventy-five to
21 eighty percent Latino, Mexican, and Mexican-American
22 working-class community with deep roots in agriculture
23 from a hundred-plus years ago.

24 Families throughout these three communities, they
25 have intermarried throughout generations, and thus

1 there's common familiar roots spread across the valley.
2 For one example, my family, my father is from Santa
3 Paula, his family came in 1939 as farm workers. My mom
4 is from Fillmore, her family came also in the early-1930s
5 as farm workers, and they met at the local community
6 college, at Ventura College. This is a common story,
7 from fifty years ago to be repeated throughout the years
8 since.

9 Some of our common characteristics, as I mentioned,
10 Ventura College is our community college theater here in
11 the Santa Clara Valley, and there's a small satellite
12 campus in Santa Paula that students from Fillmore and
13 Piru also attend too. You know, we wanted to mention
14 also sort of what are the common things.

15 Yes, we do have common sport leagues. People, you
16 know, kids play across Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru in
17 different -- in different sports. There's a Heritage
18 Valley, or Santa Clara Valley Youth Track Team. Our
19 shopping, whether it's groceries, supermarkets,
20 boutiques, and restaurants, this is all integrated
21 throughout the Santa Clara Valley. We have a Heritage
22 Valley Tourism Bureau, the Fillmore & Western Railroad,
23 which runs from Fillmore to Santa Paula and back.

24 And also you can sort of -- and you could put into
25 a -- into a blank, you know, I belong to the Santa Clara

1 Valley "Blank" Club, and just sort of fill in the blank.
2 So we're doing -- there's also the Santa Clara Valley
3 River Conservancy. We have one common hospital, Santa
4 Paula Hospital, which is part of the Ventura County
5 Medical Center. And more commonly, our local chambers of
6 business are starting to work more together, also to have
7 sort of integrated businesses across the Santa Clara
8 Valley.

9 And you know, this is, as mentioned previously by
10 Mr. Zucker from CAUSE, that we have been historically
11 also a community that --

12 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

13 MS. VILLASENOR: Thank you. That that particularly
14 during this pandemic has seen the disparities in health
15 care, in terms of -- in terms of farm worker health, in
16 terms of economic ability --

17 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

18 MS. VILLASENOR: -- and mobility. And so we want
19 you to consider keeping this valley together, the Santa
20 Clara Valley together. Thank you so much. And also to
21 connect it westward towards Ventura and the Oxnard area,
22 not east towards Palmdale, Lancaster, or anywhere in that
23 sort --

24 MR. MANOFF: Time.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now, I would like
2 to go to 012. And I do not believe they meant to lower
3 their hand previously. So right now will be 012. And
4 then up next will be 013. Yes, 012, I do see your hand.
5 So right now it'll be 012. And then up next will be 013.

6 012, I will be promoting you now. 012, your speaker
7 order number is number 12, if you'll please make note of
8 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
9 mapper know what area you would like to discuss today --
10 or you can also enable your audio and video in the lower-
11 left corner of your screen. And if you'll please let the
12 mapper know what area you'd like to discuss today. The
13 floor is yours.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello. I would like to
15 discuss Simi Valley. First of all -- and I'm only
16 mentioning this because I've heard other people mention
17 this when they speak about their communities. I'm a
18 person of color. I'm a Black American. And I moved to
19 Simi Valley in 2006, you know, I'm not exactly knowing
20 what to expect, but since then, my family has been met
21 with friendship, and love, and support unlike anything
22 that -- you know, that I've seen in a community ever
23 before.

24 And it is a problem for us to not be connected with
25 parts of the -- of Simi Valley. So I am just -- I'm

1 asking if the people who are making the decisions would
2 consider uniting the entirety of Simi Valley in one
3 district, and then also combining us with Moorpark.

4 There is a sisterhood that we have with Moorpark,
5 and everyone has mentioned the joint organizations. But
6 we have so many organizations that are Simi Valley-
7 Moorpark. And we are -- Simi Valley isn't just a city,
8 we're a family. And Moorpark is our sister, and we just
9 would like to be united with our family.

10 My youngest child goes to a school, and the school
11 is so incredibly diverse. You know, it's not enough to
12 say that we have Latinos at our school. We have people
13 whose heritage is from Peru, Argentina, Chile, you know,
14 like -- Mexico, it's just vast. And we have all
15 different shades and colors at this one school, and we
16 all love each other. And we just -- we just deserve
17 to -- we've had a rough year, everybody's had a rough
18 year since last year, and we deserve to be able to be
19 together and unite with our sister so that we can
20 continue to do whatever we possibly can to make every
21 member of our community strong. Thank you.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
24 now we have 013. And then up next will be 014. 013, I
25 will be promoting you now. 013, your speaker order

1 number will be 13, if you will please make note of that
2 for future reference. You can now enable your audio and
3 video in the lower-left corner of your screen. If you'll
4 please remind the mapper of what area you would like to
5 discuss today. The floor is yours.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would like to discuss Simi
7 Valley.

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

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. I've lived in Simi
10 Valley for over fifty years, and this is a very safe
11 community, and we enjoy a lot of things here. We also
12 join with Moorpark. I've heard other speakers before me
13 and they are also talking about joining with Moorpark.
14 We've had part of Simi Valley cut off from CA 25. And I
15 would ask you to please add that to CA 25. And then I
16 would request that you consider joining Moorpark to CA
17 25.

18 And having family up in the Santa Clarita Valley, I
19 also believe that we have interest with them, and that
20 they are part of our family and have the same type of
21 interests. They believe in law and -- law and order.
22 They believe in open space. And I just believe that we
23 have a lot of things in common, and would like to see us
24 all stay together in CA 25.

25 And with regard to our current Congressperson, I

1 believe that Simi Valley is being very well represented
2 by that Congressperson. And I know that it's a large
3 district, but I believe that we have been very well
4 represented and feel that we're listened to. Thank you
5 so much.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have 014.
8 And up next will be 017. Right now it's 014. And up
9 next will be 017. 014, I will be promoting you now.
10 014, your speaker order number is 14, if you'll please
11 make note of that for future reference. You can now
12 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
13 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper what
14 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Good evening. Can you hear
16 me?

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Yes. I'd like to
19 speak about Thousand Oaks and the Conejo Valley. We are
20 a unified city. And I -- I'm on the School Board, but
21 I'm speaking on behalf of myself, not the School Board.
22 But I do want to say that the Thousand Oaks area is
23 united. We have many organizations called Conejo Valley.
24 We represent most of the Conejo Valley, if not all of it.
25 And I am the -- I am asking that because of the unified

1 of the school district, the town, the city, that we keep
2 Thousand Oaks as a whole entity and do not divide it,
3 break it apart. And that's pretty much my comment.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So is -- are you still there? I
5 have a quick question.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I'm still here.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Great. So Conejo Valley,
8 does that include other towns behind -- besides Thousand
9 Oaks?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Conejo Valley includes
11 Westlake Village, Oak Park is part of the valley, and the
12 western part of Agoura.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And then, of course, Newbury
15 Park as well, which is part of Thousand Oaks.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Thank you.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
19 now we have 017; I will be promoting you now. 017, your
20 speaker order number is 15, if you'll please make note of
21 that for future reference. You can now enable your audio
22 and video in the lower-left corner of your screen. And
23 if you'll please remind the mapper of what area you would
24 like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

25 DR. AGUIRRE: Yes. Thank you for this opportunity.

1 Commissioners, thank you for providing me the opportunity
2 to testify today. I am Dr. Gabino Aguirre NAJERA, former
3 member of the California Citizens Redistricting
4 Commission serving between 2010 and 2020. Thank you for
5 taking on this challenging and exciting task to ensure
6 every person is able to nominate and elect the candidates
7 of their choice.

8 I reside in the City of Santa Paula in Ventura
9 County. When I was elected mayor and council member in
10 my city, I became acutely aware of gerrymandering and how
11 it negatively impacts meaningful citizen input with dire
12 consequences for local residents, including environmental
13 racism. Thank you for ensuring that gerrymandering
14 doesn't come back to California.

15 My area of concern and my community of interest in
16 the Santa Clara River Valley here in Ventura County; the
17 Santa Clara River is the only remaining wild river in
18 California.

19 On November the 18th, 2014, there was a chemical
20 explosion in this pristine and environmentally sensitive
21 area at a wastewater facility that left employees and
22 first responders, many of them firefighters, with serious
23 injuries that affected their ability to continue working.
24 The winds were calm on that day, but if there had been
25 easterly winds, they would have blown highly hazardous

1 contamination up the Santa Clara River Valley towards its
2 60,000 residents with tragic results. This was Ventura
3 County's largest environmental disaster.

4 Around the same time, our residents were able to
5 defeat a proposal to install a peaker plant in the River
6 Valley, which would have, again, negatively impacted the
7 environment where mostly our -- mostly Latino and farm
8 worker residents. A project similar to the chemical
9 facility mentioned above is now coming back to the same
10 location where the chemical explosion occurred, which
11 proposes to open an industrial waste treatment facility
12 that would potentially lead to 180 daily round trips of
13 trucks delivering hazardous waste for treatment at this
14 facility.

15 We once again have to play defense in confronting
16 well-founded corporations that put profit over human
17 life. We are counting on you to maintain this community
18 of interest together the Santa Clara Valley.
19 Unfortunately, our area has historically lacked political
20 clout due to the cracking and packing of citizens, voters
21 that have largely neutralized our voting power, and our
22 political power. This lack of political power bodes ill
23 for us as we challenge and oppose this attack on our
24 living environment.

25 To conclude, the area in question is the Santa Clara

1 Valley, and a map, and a specific demographic and
2 economic information --

3 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

4 DR. AGUIRRE: -- has been submitted by the Santa
5 Paula Latino Town Hall, of which I am past president. We
6 would like for you to keep our valley together, and by
7 extension, group our valley with other farm worker and
8 agricultural areas --

9 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

10 DR. AGUIRRE: -- in the Oxnard Plains and the Santa
11 Barbara areas of the Santa Maria Valley as proposed by
12 CAUSE, the Central Coast United for a Sustainable Economy
13 (sic). So we want to thank you for allowing us to
14 provide this input. And thank you for your service.

15 MR. MANOFF: Time.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have 015; I
18 will be promoting you now. 015, your speaker order
19 number is 16, if you'll please make note of that for
20 future reference. You can now enable your audio and
21 video in the lower-left corner of your screen. And if
22 you'll please remind the mapper what area you would like
23 to discuss today. The floor is yours.

24 MR. MOORE: A Hello. My name is Richard Moore
25 (ph.), and I live in Simi Valley. I'm a retired teacher.

1 And I think Simi Valley and Moorpark should stay
2 together. They share similar geography and geology. We
3 share a College Board, and that's where my kids went to
4 college.

5 We have lots of groups that connect both between
6 Simi Valley and Moorpark. And Moorpark seem to grow out
7 of Simi Valley. So we share recreation areas, and we
8 share a lot of other things, a lot of our social groups
9 are connected, and also the demographics are similar. We
10 have the same types of people. So I really think that
11 Simi Valley and Moorpark should stay together and not be
12 divided up.

13 It doesn't matter where, but they should stay
14 together. They're a cohesive group and shouldn't be
15 divided. Thank you very much.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I'd like to invite those
18 in the queue to use the raise your hand button at the
19 bottom of the screen, those remaining in the queue. 036,
20 I see your hand, I will be promoting you now. And 023,
21 you will be next. 036, your speaker order number will be
22 number 17, if you'll please make note of that for future
23 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
24 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
25 yours.

1 MR. RHODES: Good evening, panelists. My name is
2 Rodney Rhodes (ph.). And I'm calling in about Simi
3 Valley and Moorpark. As many of the speakers have said
4 already, the synergies of our two communities are vast.
5 I called in last week when you were discussing LA County
6 because the particular interest group that I'm
7 representing is the equestrian community, which spans
8 Simi Valley, Moorpark, but also into Santa Clarita and
9 Palmdale.

10 But I want to talk specifically about our
11 communities here in Ventura County. The Simi Valley,
12 Moorpark, we share demographics, but we also share a lot
13 of interest, as some of the speakers have said. My
14 particular interest in the equestrian community, we have
15 concerns over land use, open spaces, and animal rights
16 and we think that by being joined together in districts,
17 we have a louder voice in affecting outcomes on any
18 legislation regarding those things.

19 I've always been puzzled that a small sliver of Simi
20 Valley that contains about a third of the horses between
21 Moorpark and Simi Valley was exited out of one of the
22 Congressional districts, and thereby isolating or
23 separating our communities.

24 I want to tell you about something that happened
25 recently. In California we have fires, in Simi Valley

1 and Moorpark we have horses, and occasionally these two
2 things meet. You'll remember the fire that raged by the
3 Reagan Library. In that particular stretch of land there
4 were about 1,000 horses, and the citizens of Simi Valley
5 and Moorpark rallied together, formed our test, emergency
6 response teams, rushed into the fire. We were able to
7 save all but one of those horses.

8 Our communities, our people, we work well together
9 and we have shared interests. And I would love to see
10 Simi Valley kept whole. And I would love to see a
11 community -- Simi Valley's community and Moorpark's
12 communities join together. Thank you for your time.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
15 now we have 023. And then up next will be caller 0406.
16 023, I will be promoting you now. 023, your speaker
17 order number will be 18, if you'll please make note of
18 that, for future reference. You can now enable your
19 audio and video in the lower-left corner of your screen.
20 If you'll please remind the mapper of what area you would
21 like to discuss today. The floor is yours.

22 MS. TERRACE: Okay. The area I'd like to cover is
23 in Ventura County, and specifically it's the City of
24 Ventura. My name is Shawn Terrace (ph.). I'm a veteran
25 of the United States Marine Corps. I have lived here for

1 the past twenty-six years, and I enjoy this coastal city
2 so much that I plan on living out the rest of my life
3 here.

4 The City of Ventura has 110,000 people. The
5 county's seat is located within the City of Ventura. The
6 biggest employer in Ventura County is the Naval Base
7 Ventura County with 19,000 employees. And the second-
8 largest employer in the county is Ventura County itself,
9 with 8000 employees.

10 Since you will have to add either cities or
11 unincorporated areas to each Congressional district,
12 because California lost one seat as a result of the 2020
13 Census, I hope that you put the entire City of Ventura in
14 its sphere of influence, and our next door neighbor, the
15 City of Oxnard, into the 26th Congressional District,
16 since that district represents most but not all of those
17 areas right now.

18 Both Oxnard and Ventura are coastal cities, so we
19 are communities of interest, along with the other coastal
20 cities located in the 26th Congressional District, which
21 is Port Hueneme, and the Naval Base Ventura County. The
22 District also includes three state beaches and parks,
23 specifically the San Buenaventura State Beach, the
24 McGrath State Beach, and Point Mugu State Park.

25 If you have to add more to the 26th Congressional

1 District besides the City of Ventura sphere of influence,
2 and the City of Oxnard, I would recommend that you
3 consider either adding the City of Malibu, which is
4 another coastal city located right next to the Naval Base
5 Ventura County, or include the entirety of the City of
6 Simi Valley.

7 Lastly, I want to encourage you to not gerrymander
8 the districts to favor one political party over another.
9 Thank you for the opportunity to speak to your
10 Commission. That concludes my remarks.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have caller
13 0406. And then up next, we will have caller 9616.
14 Caller 0406, if you will please follow the prompts to
15 unmute; caller 0406, you are unmuted. I have a couple of
16 brief instructions for you. Your speaker order number
17 will be 19, if you'll please make note of that for future
18 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
19 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
20 yours.

21 MR. HAVERSTOCK: Yes, I'd like to discuss the City
22 of Thousand Oaks in Ventura County.

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

24 MR. HAVERSTOCK: Good evening, Commissioners. My
25 name is Adam Haverstock. I am the director of Government

1 Affairs and Tourism for the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber
2 of Commerce in the City of Thousand Oaks. I am speaking
3 on behalf of our over 800 business members in the
4 Thousand Oaks area.

5 Thousand Oaks is a unique community of interest that
6 has its own identity, and that identity is similar to
7 that of Ventura County and definitely different from that
8 of Los Angeles. Many residents moved to Thousand Oaks to
9 escape the urban sprawl found in LA. Residents in
10 Ventura County, including Thousand Oaks, have twice
11 approved ballot questions to limit development in the
12 county.

13 We often hear from residents: Don't turn Thousand
14 Oaks into the San Fernando Valley, when referring to
15 urban sprawl or growth. Additionally, as many have said,
16 our county has many joint powers or other shared services
17 among the ten cities: law enforcement service, fire
18 service, health care service, and our Office of
19 Education, to name a few.

20 Few, if any, Thousand Oaks residents would identify
21 themselves as Angelinos. They are from Ventura County,
22 plain and simple. Please keep the city and community of
23 interest of Thousand Oaks whole, and include Thousand
24 Oaks in Legislative districts with the other cities in
25 Ventura County. Thank you.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have caller
3 9616. I will invite those in the queue to press star 9
4 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. We
5 still will have a few minutes past this next caller. We
6 will not have enough for all of those hands, maybe. But
7 we will see.

8 So we will start with caller 9616. And then up next
9 will be caller 8532. Caller 9616, if you will please
10 follow the prompts to unmute; caller 9616, your speaker
11 order number will be 20, if you'll please make note of
12 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
13 mapper know what area you would like to discuss today.
14 The floor is yours.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, I would like to discuss
16 San Luis Obispo County area.

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

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. There is the 35th
19 District, California, there is a geographical boundary
20 between the City of San Luis Obispo and the cities to the
21 north along Freeway 101, such as Santa Margarita, and
22 such as Atascadero. This boundary is locally known as
23 the "Grade" (ph.).

24 During the last redistricting, it was a purely
25 partisan, gerrymandered boundary drawn in which the

1 California State University Campus of Cal Poly San Luis
2 Obispo was included in the politically conservative
3 Supervisorial District 5, and in such a manner to dilute
4 the conservative vote north the Grade. There's
5 absolutely no connection, either politically or
6 geographically, between the college campus of Cal Poly
7 and the agricultural, and cattle lands, and the peoples
8 to the north of the Grade, absolutely no connection.

9 It was a purely partisan political move, which
10 violates all five following state guidelines for
11 redistricting, such as:

12 "Number one, to the extent practical, districts
13 must be geographically contiguous. Two, to the
14 extent practical, districts must maintain the
15 geographic integrity of neighborhoods and
16 communities of interest. Three, to the
17 practical, districts must minimize division in
18 cities or census-designed places -- that's
19 census-designated places. Four, boundaries
20 must be easily identifiable, and if possible,
21 bound by actual artificial barriers. Five, to
22 the extent practical, districts must not favor
23 or discriminate against any political party."

24 This particular gerrymandered section is a small
25 area between District 5 and the Cal Poly Campus, which is

1 really part of -- should be part of San Luis Obispo, the
2 City. So I would say that this needs to be removed.
3 This gerrymandered part of the district needs to be moved
4 and put in -- the Cal Poly Campus should be put in the
5 area of the City of San Luis Obispo, and then
6 Supervisorial District, it should be removed from that,
7 so that we have a continuous boundary. And that's about
8 it.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for your input. I just
10 want to let you know that this Commission is focused on
11 statewide districts, and I would encourage you to also
12 provide that input to the process for Supervisorial
13 districts in San Luis Obispo County. Thank you for
14 calling.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
16 now we have caller 8532. And up next will be caller
17 3580. Caller 8532, if you will please follow the prompts
18 to unmute; caller 8532, you are unmuted. I have a couple
19 of brief instructions for you. Your speaker order number
20 will be 21, if you'll please make note of that for future
21 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
22 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
23 yours.

24 MR. CHONG: Good evening, and Buenos tardes,
25 Commissioners. I would like to speak regarding the City

1 of Moorpark. My name is Brian Chong. And I serve as
2 assistant to the City Manager, for the City of Moorpark.
3 I'm here today to speak officially on behalf of Moorpark.

4 On the one hand, our community of approximately
5 37,000 is easy to define because there are official legal
6 city limit lines that describe our community down to the
7 millimeter. The first point I want to share that it's
8 also easy, do not split up Moorpark. Do not split up our
9 community into two different Congressional, Senatorial,
10 or Assembly districts.

11 On the other hand, our community can be more
12 difficult to define on a map because of the system of
13 green belts that separate Ventura County's ten cities.
14 As such, I'd like to share with the Commission how
15 Moorpark best fits in, Legislatively, with nearby
16 communities.

17 And that brings me to our second point. Moorpark
18 belongs with Ventura County, not the San Fernando Valley,
19 not Los Angeles, which is a twenty-minute drive away.
20 Not Santa Clarita, which is a forty-five-minute drive
21 away, or if you left right now in the evening rush hour,
22 a lot longer than that.

23 You've already heard from many previous speakers how
24 Moorpark enjoys close relationships with our surrounding
25 Ventura County cities. I'd like to offer a few more

1 governmental examples that have not yet been shared.
2 Moorpark City Transit is operated by the City of Thousand
3 Oaks, our Moorpark City Transit busses are stored
4 overnight and refueled at the City of Simi Valley Transit
5 Maintenance Facility.

6 Within the Southern California Association of
7 Governments, our district includes Moorpark, Thousand
8 Oaks, and Simi Valley. Within the League of California
9 Cities, our regional division includes all of Ventura
10 County's ten cities and none in Los Angeles County. In
11 fact, that both SCAG, and League, our region is
12 represented by a Moorpark City Council Member.

13 These geographies are not my mistakes. They are a
14 reflection of the reality that the Legislative interests
15 of Moorpark are closely aligned with those of Thousand
16 Oaks, Simi Valley, Camarillo, and the rest of Ventura
17 County. And we respectfully request that the
18 Commission's efforts recognize this.

19 Finally, and repeating our two points. Number one,
20 do not split up Moorpark. And number two, Moorpark
21 belongs with Ventura County. I want to share a fact that
22 Californians in any community will uniquely appreciate,
23 and that's if you visited Moorpark in and out and ask
24 where people are from, they will tell you, I am from
25 either: Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, or Simi Valley. Thank

1 you for the time.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, would you like
4 me -- do we have time to do one more?

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. That's okay. We'll go
6 ahead and have one more caller. Thank you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. Caller 3508,
8 if you will please follow the prompts to unmute; caller
9 3508 you are unmuted. I have a couple of brief
10 instructions for you. Your speaker order number will be
11 number 22, if you'll please make note of that for future
12 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
13 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

14 MR. FELCHIER: Yes. Can you hear me okay?

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

16 MR. FELCHIER: Very good. Mapper, you can leave it
17 in the same area, for Simi Valley, Moorpark. I'm just
18 calling in regarding that area.

19 My name is Larry Felchier (ph.). I live off of
20 Sycamore in Cochrane, just south of the 118. And I just
21 wanted to say that I agree with what the last several
22 people have stated in Simi Valley, that -- I believe that
23 Simi Valley and Moorpark should be -- remain together.
24 They should not be cleaved off. They should not be part
25 of Los Angeles. That there is a great symmetry that

1 there is with respect to both of those communities, as
2 they've talked about, and then just from that whole area
3 right there, you know, my physician is in Agoura, you
4 know, my other physicians are in Thousand Oaks.

5 And then as someone else was saying earlier on, when
6 it came to coronavirus, there's a lot of confusion. And
7 that I was able to go ahead and get my shots in Ventura
8 County. Whereas, with my job I cover five different
9 counties, but I was not able to partake in any of the
10 others, but Ventura County was really the best area and
11 it was where I was able to receive my services.

12 So again, I would like to state that Simi Valley and
13 Moorpark have a great symmetry. They have a lot of
14 shared, different community elements, and I think that
15 should remain the same.

16 And I also agree that the representative that we
17 have in Congressman 25, we're well-represented in Simi
18 Valley, and I'd like to maintain that. So that's all I
19 wanted to say. Thank you so very much.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you so much for joining us,
21 and for your input.

22 At this point, we're up against the break. We will
23 be breaking until 5:45. When we return from break, we
24 will start with individuals who are registered for an
25 appointment time slot, and then open up the phone lines

1 if there's time. Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, a recess was held until 5:45 p.m.)

3 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Welcome back to the California
4 Citizens Redistricting Commission's Communities of
5 Interest Input Meeting, focusing this afternoon on Zone
6 E, the Central Coast Counties.

7 We also encourage you to visit our communities of
8 interest tool to draw a map and describe your community.
9 That tool is accessible at DrawMyCACommunity.org.

10 I'll pass this over to Katy again, our comment
11 moderator, to continue with public input. We will start
12 with those who registered and have appointments for this
13 session, and then open the phone lines if there is time
14 before the next session. Katy, take it away. Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much, Chair.

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

1 The Commission will be enforcing a three-minute time
2 limit. There will be a warning at thirty seconds and
3 fifteen seconds remaining. It is the Commission's goal
4 to find the area on the map you would like to discuss
5 prior to your testimony. If you are within a specific
6 neighborhood of a large city, please mention it by name.

7 Once we are able to locate your area, your three-
8 minute testimony will begin. Attendees will not be able
9 to share their screen. At the end of your public input,
10 or at the end of your time, you will be reconnected in a
11 listen- and view-only mode. At the beginning of your
12 input, please remind the mapper what area you would like
13 to see on the screen.

14 Right now it will be 019. And up next will be 029.
15 019, I will be promoting you now. 019, your speaker
16 order number is number 23, if you will please make note
17 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let
18 the mapper know what area you would like to discuss
19 today. The floor is yours.

20 MS. ESPINOSA: Ventura County, please, the City of
21 Santa Paula. Good afternoon, Commissioners.

22 My name is Laura Espinosa. I'm a former council
23 member, and I am currently president of Santa Paula
24 Latino Town Hall, who has been in existence twenty-five
25 years in the Santa Clara Valley. We are located in the

1 Santa Clara River Valley in Ventura County. Neighboring
2 cities are Fillmore, Oxnard, Port Hueneme; unincorporated
3 neighbors are El Rio, and Piru, and Nyeland Acres.

4 We have over 200,000 Medi-Cal recipients, primarily
5 living in the cities that I just described of Oxnard,
6 Santa Paula, Port Hueneme, Fillmore, Piru, El Rio, and
7 Nyeland Acres. Our residents are low-income with low
8 educational attainment rates. Employment is mostly
9 agriculture and essential work, with little opportunity
10 for high-paying jobs in these communities.

11 There are over 40,000 Latino or indigenous farm
12 workers spread throughout the identified areas, the
13 Native American community hold Sweat Lodges' religious
14 practices in Santa Paula. The Catholic religion is also
15 the primary religious affiliation among the largely
16 Latino community, with several Catholic churches in the
17 region, which are community hubs.

18 Santa Paula, very important point, was subject to a
19 U.S. Department of Justice Section 2 Voting Rights
20 lawsuit that was settled in 2002. The City of Santa
21 Paula admitted voting was racially polarized, where the
22 Latino community was and has been unable to elect
23 candidates of choice due to voter dilution. That is why
24 we want to maintain the communities that I identified,
25 because we want to keep those compact, because of the

1 power to elect our candidates of choice for which the
2 U.S. Constitution guarantees us a vote, and the ability
3 to do so would be greatly diluted if we are separated as
4 we are now.

5 I have voted in every election since I was eighteen
6 years old, I'm now sixty-six and have never seen a state-
7 or federal-elected official that looks like me or is from
8 my community. Other COI criteria that bind our group
9 include respect for the environment.

10 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

11 MS. ESPINOSA: The Santa Clara River Valley is
12 bordered by the Santa Clara River, the last remaining
13 wild river in California, and Los Padres National Forest
14 in Los Angeles to the east and the beach communities to
15 the north.

16 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

17 MS. ESPINOSA: We have a track record of fighting
18 two power plants in Oxnard and Santa Paula. It is
19 vitally important that we stay together so that we have a
20 voice in this valley. Thank you for your attention.

21 MR. MANOFF: Time.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
23 now we have 029. And up next will be 032. 029, I will
24 be promoting you now. 029, your speaker order number
25 will be 24, if you will please make note of that for

1 future reference. You can now enable your audio and
2 video in the lower-left corner of your screen. If you'll
3 please remind the mapper of what area you would like to
4 discuss today. The floor is yours.

5 MS. KRAFT: Good evening. Thank you very much for
6 taking the time to hear my thoughts. My name is Marcie
7 Kraft (ph.), and I am speaking about Ventura County,
8 specifically Simi Valley.

9 I have been a resident of Simi Valley since 1996.
10 Through that time, I've been relatively active in my
11 community. I remember clearly the first day coming over
12 the 118 Freeway, driving away from the San Fernando
13 Valley and seeing this vast expanse of land as you come
14 over the hill. And if you've never experienced that, I
15 encourage you all to do it because it is just -- it's
16 astounding how beautiful it is.

17 And it was such a beautiful change from Los Angeles
18 County. And I never looked back. And it really speaks
19 to who we are here in Simi Valley. We are about saving
20 our open spaces. We've had a thing called SOAR. We
21 believe, you know, in protecting our farmlands, we don't
22 want to have the urban sprawl. We have much more in
23 common with our neighbors, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks,
24 Camarillo. Our court system is the Ventura County
25 Superior Court. Our fire department is in Ventura

1 County. Our taxes are collected by Ventura County.

2 Everything that we do is with Ventura County.

3 And yet, our Congressional district is with Los
4 Angeles County. It is such a clear example of
5 gerrymandering because all of a sudden, we're part of
6 Porter Ranch, we're part of the San Fernando Valley,
7 we're part of Santa Clarita Valley. People in Simi
8 Valley don't go to Santa Clarita Valley unless they're
9 going to Magic Mountain. That's probably pretty much the
10 only time.

11 If you were to say, Santa Clarita Valley to many
12 folks in Simi Valley, they would not know where it is.
13 If you say Magic Mountain, they know that. But we have
14 zero association with Santa Clarita Valley. So the fact
15 that we're in a Congressional district, that we share a
16 Congressperson with that large Los Angeles group is
17 just -- it was mind boggling to me when I -- when I
18 learned of it.

19 So you have an opportunity now, the folks that
20 have -- you volunteered to be on this Commission. And I
21 know that, you know, your hearts are in the right places
22 and you want to do what's right by the constituency of
23 California. And this is an opportunity for you to
24 correct this wrong. Put us back with Ventura County, put
25 us with the same health department that covers all the

1 rest of the area, right.

2 The mask mandate was a perfect example. Los Angeles
3 County went to a mask mandate last week, or a week and a
4 half ago.

5 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

6 MS. KRAFT: We're still not in a mask mandate. We
7 have a mask -- a mask -- suggested that we wear masks. I
8 wear masks, but we don't have a mandate yet. So we have
9 two completely different health care systems. So please,
10 correct this wrong.

11 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

12 MS. KRAFT: Put Simi Valley back with Ventura
13 County. Thank you very much for listening tonight.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
15 now we have 032. And then up next will be 028. 032, I
16 will be promoting you now. 032, your speaker order
17 number will be 25, if you will please make note of that
18 for future reference. And if you'll please let the
19 mappers know what area you would like to discuss today.
20 The floor is yours.

21 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you. I'd really love to zoom in
22 on Monterey County as a whole, with maybe showing a
23 little bit closer to the Santa Cruz side on the north
24 end.

25 Good evening, everybody. My name is Chris Lopez. I

1 am a Monterey County Supervisor representing the 3rd
2 District. So when you look at this map in front of you,
3 Salinas is our main city, there near the word San Benito,
4 just to the left of that, and the center would be the
5 City of Salinas. And I represent everything from there
6 all the way south. So my district is the size of the
7 State of Rhode Island. I don't touch the coast, but
8 you'll see that I touch Kings, Fresno, Kern, San Benito,
9 San Luis Obispo Counties.

10 But my request this evening, my ask is that you
11 strongly consider creating the stronger ties that have
12 existed for a long time between Monterey, Santa Cruz, and
13 San Benito Counties. You know, for me, I was born and
14 raised in this district in the deep part of South County.
15 For me the -- Watsonville is home, you know, Watsonville
16 is where my parents were, where they migrated south. My
17 uncle wound up in Gilroy, and I've got family in the
18 Hollister area.

19 For us, those three regions are inter-tied, and the
20 reason I say that is there's a very strong mountain
21 range, the Gabilans (ph.) run between Monterey County and
22 San Benito County, that really sets us apart from the
23 rest of California, focusing all of our commute, our
24 purchase trips, our communities of interest, specifically
25 amongst the Latino community, northward into the

1 strawberries of Santa Cruz that provide the economy that
2 fuels our region, which is agriculture.

3 Obviously, my district is the Salinas Valley, so we
4 do primarily lettuce, but the further north you go,
5 you're looking at strawberries. It's agriculture which
6 makes this area thrive, and the connections, we call
7 ourselves a Tri-County region, San Benito, Monterey,
8 Santa Cruz. We're extremely close knit.

9 And so as I look at this process and understand that
10 you have tough decisions to make. One, I want to thank
11 you for your service, for stepping up to serve in this
12 capacity. But two, really just want to ask that you
13 continue to focus on the districts, sort of as they've
14 been carved. I really believe that especially the Senate
15 districts for -- that represent the Salinas Valley should
16 include parts of Watsonville, parts of those communities
17 that are primarily Latino, and agriculture, in their
18 nature and in their base.

19 Here, as a member of Southern Monterey County, and
20 as a person who came up knowing the background of the
21 politics, I worked for Simon Salinas, who was one of the
22 first to challenge the City of Salinas, Salinas v.
23 Salinas, to require districted votes, making sure that
24 Latinos were represented on the -- in the communities in
25 which they were a majority of the population.

1 So for us, the politics are deep, they're real. And
2 we're asking you to make that consideration real. You
3 know, for my districts --

4 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

5 MR. LOPEZ: -- knowing that we need to continue to
6 have that connection to our neighbors that we already
7 have those deep connections with. I just ask that you
8 consider that northward spread into the regions of
9 Watsonville, Morgan Hill, San Benito, Gilroy, where our
10 communities are --

11 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

12 MR. LOPEZ: -- inter-tied. Again, thank you for
13 your service. And I appreciate your consideration.
14 Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
16 now we have 028. And up next will be 040. 028, I will
17 be promoting you now. 028, your speaker order number is
18 number 26, if you'll please make note of that for future
19 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
20 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
21 yours.

22 LYDIA: Hi there. I'll be discussing Ventura
23 County, Santa Paula.

24 Hello everyone. My name is Lydia (ph.), and I'm a
25 resident of Ventura County, the Santa Clara Valley,

1 including communities like Santa Paula, Fillmore, and
2 Piru are an important community of interest in the
3 Central Coast. The Santa Clara Valley should be kept
4 together and ideally united in the same districts as the
5 nearby Oxnard Plain, including the communities of Oxnard,
6 Port Hueneme, and El Rio.

7 We are a community of interest because we are a
8 majority working class farm worker community. Many of
9 our community members facing disparities in education,
10 housing, and health care, not to mention come from an
11 economically disadvantaged background.

12 The Santa Clara Valley is majority Latinx, with some
13 families living for generations. It's also composed of
14 immigrant families, children of immigrants, and families
15 with citizen and undocumented individuals. Our
16 communities speak Spanish and indigenous languages like
17 Mixteco, Zapoteco, and Purépecha, to mention a few. And
18 the Santa Clara Valley has also been disproportionately
19 impacted by pollution, pesticides, and groundwater
20 depletion.

21 Our community is different from surrounding
22 communities like Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Camarillo,
23 Ojai, or Malibu. Residents from these cities are
24 socioeconomically advantaged, have access to quality
25 education and services, and are not impacted by having

1 the industries like agriculture or oil and gas. So for
2 this reason, I ask that you keep the Santa Clara Valley
3 together in the same district as the Oxnard Plain. And
4 thank you for your time.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Well,
6 wrong paper. Huh. Sorry. Right now we have 040, and up
7 next 041. 040, I will be promoting you now. 040, your
8 speaker order number will be number 27, and if you'll
9 please make note of that for future reference. You can
10 now enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner
11 of your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of
12 what area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
13 yours. You are unmuted.

14 MS. CAMPO: Hello?

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello? Go ahead.

16 MS. CAMPO: Hi. Thank you. Good evening,
17 Commissioners. My name is Pam Campo (ph.), and I have
18 been a resident of Simi Valley for forty-nine years. And
19 thank you for hearing my comments. I ask that the Cities
20 of Simi Valley and Moorpark, so I'm speaking of at this
21 point, are combined within the same district in Ventura
22 County for the purpose of shared community interests.
23 Many of us have always referred to our cities as -- of
24 Simi Valley and Moorpark, as our sister cities.

25 This is because we share a lot of the same programs,

1 information, and deal with many of the same issues within
2 the County of Ventura. It just makes sense to bring the
3 two cities together within the same district as we are
4 now -- as we are not now; and not separated by two
5 different counties with different representatives as
6 what's happening now.

7 So residents from both ask: Why are we separated
8 within -- in and outside of Ventura County if we reside
9 in the same county? So I can't see a single reason, or
10 share a reasonable answer to that question. I hope that
11 your decision will not be strictly based on politics, but
12 on reality and common sense, and how the same
13 representation can serve the shared interest of Simi
14 Valley and Moorpark residents within Ventura County.
15 Thank you.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
17 now we have 041. And up next will be 030. 041, I will
18 be promoting you now. 041, your speaker order number
19 will be 28, if you'll please make note of that for future
20 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
21 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
22 yours.

23 MS. MARTY: Thank you very much. I would like to
24 discuss the Santa Maria Valley area of Santa Barbara,
25 specifically the Cities of Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and

1 Lompoc.

2 My name is Laura Marty (ph.), and I'm a resident of
3 the unincorporated Orcutt Township of the Santa Maria
4 Valley. I am also a college professor of sociology and a
5 member of several local organizations, including the
6 Santa Maria Lompoc Branch of the NAACP, or the National
7 Association for the Advancement of Colored people, and
8 the Santa Maria branch of the American Association of
9 University Women, or AAUW. In all of these roles and
10 experiences, I have learned that as a Latino majority
11 county, Santa Barbara County needs a Latino-majority
12 district.

13 Together, the cities of Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and
14 Lompoc in the Santa Maria Valley could be that Latino
15 majority district. These three cities form an important
16 community of interest in Santa Barbara County. Santa
17 Maria, Guadalupe, and Lompoc are a community of interest
18 because the majority of the population are immigrant
19 families with a much larger share of Latinx residents,
20 immigrants, and Spanish, and indigenous language speakers
21 than the surrounding region.

22 My community experiences and work have taught me
23 that the communities of Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and
24 Lompoc are much stronger together than apart. As a
25 community of interest all three cities can make greater

1 contributions, not only to their own improvement and
2 growth, but also to the improvement and growth of Santa
3 Barbara County and the State of California at large.

4 Together, the cities of Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and
5 Lompoc can thrive. Thank you very much for considering
6 my comment this evening.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
8 now we will have 030. And up next will be 031. 030, I
9 will be promoting you now. 030, your speaker order
10 number is number 29, if you'll please make note of that
11 for future reference. You can now enable your audio and
12 video in the lower-left corner of your screen. And if
13 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
14 like to discuss today. The floor is yours. 030?

15 MR. ROUSSEAU: Hello?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: There you are.

17 MR. ROUSSEAU: Hey.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're going to want to
19 mute your other device.

20 MR. ROUSSEAU: Okay. Let's see which one is --
21 okay. Can you hear me?

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can.

23 MR. ROUSSEAU: Okay. One moment, I'm going to turn
24 off one.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: There you go.

1 MR. ROUSSEAU: Okay. I'm sorry.

2 MR. MANOFF: 030, are you logged into the meeting
3 twice? If so, could you please log the other computer
4 out of the meeting, or device? Stand by.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hold on one moment. Let
6 me promote the other one. Let's do that. 030, we have
7 promoted your other link. You should now be able to
8 enable your audio and video on the other device. Are you
9 there?

10 MR. ROUSSEAU: Yes, I'm here. Can you hear me?

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can. Perfect.
12 The floor is yours.

13 MR. ROUSSEAU: Okay. My name is Hyman Rousseau
14 (ph.), and I'm a business person of forty-three years,
15 furniture business here in Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and
16 Gilroy in particular. And I'm speaking to address the
17 area of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, San Benito County, the ties
18 between this community, and as well as into Watsonville.

19 And I would like to say, I'll say, also that I have
20 served on the School Board for sixteen years here in
21 Gilroy, Gilroy Unified School District. And I have been
22 involved in the community over the many years that I have
23 been here. Our business employs thirty-six people who
24 live and work in all these areas that I'm describing.

25 And we have a common interest. I'm speaking in

1 favor of, you know, maintaining the district
2 representation as we have in our communities here, that
3 not to break them up. Although I will say Gilroy is
4 actually -- in particular, is broken up in two different
5 Congressional districts, and it would be ideal if it were
6 represented in one, although we have ties to both north
7 and south; to the San Jose to the north, and ties to
8 Salinas to the south, and surrounding communities
9 adjoining to Santa Cruz.

10 And so I would like to say that, that the
11 communities here, we would like to help maintain what we
12 have in this community. The representation that we're
13 able to have at the state level has been -- well
14 represents us. And we have -- you know, we are
15 represented, we have a heavily Hispanic community here as
16 well, and Spanish-speaking in -- you know, in many
17 businesses down here. And so again, I would like to say
18 that I do support maintaining that --

19 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

20 MR. ROUSSEAU: -- as we have down here in terms of
21 our Assembly, Senatorial district. And I would like to
22 thank you for giving me this --

23 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

24 MR. ROUSSEAU: -- opportunity to present.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 030, real briefly, your

1 speaker order number was number 29, if you will please
2 make note of that just in case that was missed in the
3 shuffle at the beginning.

4 Right now we have 031. And up next will be 034.
5 031, I will be promoting you now. 031, your speaker
6 order number will be number 30, if you will please make
7 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
8 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss
9 today. The floor is yours.

10 MR. LARA: Yes. Good afternoon. Cesar Lara, with
11 the Monterey Bay Central Labor Council, and the map is
12 perfectly positioned here in the Monterey, Santa Cruz,
13 and San Benito County.

14 So good afternoon. My name is Cesar Lara. I was
15 born and raised by farm workers here in the northern part
16 of the Central Coast. And I serve as the executive
17 director of the Monterey Bay Central Labor Council. We
18 represent over 80 unions, and 37,000 union members and
19 their families across Monterey and Santa Cruz County.

20 And the community of interest I would like to share
21 is the Latino community of Salinas, where I live, and our
22 neighboring cities. Many of our residents are farm
23 workers who drive the agricultural community of the
24 Salinas and Pajaro Valleys. Our communities access
25 health care through Clinica De Salud, and Natividad

1 Hospital. And also, Salud Para La Gente.

2 As you look to draw new maps, I thank you for taking
3 the time to learn about the current maps, the current
4 district lines, and hear the input from the community on
5 whether these lines serve our needs.

6 On the Assembly map, you can scroll into Salinas
7 that we are represented in districts with our sister
8 cities, all of whom are across county lines. We share
9 districts with Gilroy to the northeast in Santa Clara
10 County, Hollister to the east in San Diego County, and
11 Watsonville to the north in Santa Cruz County. We are
12 deeply connected to these sister cities, economically and
13 socially.

14 Each city population is majority Latino, and its
15 workforce is connected to the agricultural industry, or
16 even connected religiously, as our Catholic Diocese
17 stretches the three counties of Monterey, Santa Cruz, and
18 San Benito, what we call the Tri-County area. Hopefully
19 you could unite these cities in all -- in all three plans
20 going forward.

21 As the census data will show that the Latino
22 population continues to grow in our communities, in
23 Salinas alone, Latinos account for eighty percent of the
24 population, ensuring the Latino community and the farm
25 worker workforce are represented as a collective

1 community of interest, overrunning the needs to situate a
2 district within county lines.

3 So I thank the district for this event and this
4 opportunity. Thank you very much.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
6 now we have 034. And up next will be 020. 034, I will
7 be promoting you now. 034, your speaker order number is
8 31, if you'll please make note of that for future
9 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
10 area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
11 yours.

12 MR. SALAZAR: Ah, yes. I'll be talking in regards
13 to Assembly District 30, and Senate District 12.

14 My name is Aurelio Salazar, Jr. I currently serve
15 on the Hartnell College Board of Trustees over the last
16 five years. Also a former Monterey County Planning
17 Commissioner for the County Monterey, serving there a
18 total of eleven years. I have a bachelor's degree and a
19 master's degree from San Jose State University. As part
20 of my master's thesis, it was specifically on
21 gerrymandering, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and
22 redistricting in Monterey County between 1960 and 1990.

23 I've been involved in the redistricting process here
24 locally in 2000, and in 2010 I served on the
25 Redistricting Committee for the Hartnell College

1 Community District, and the Salinas Union High School
2 District. So I want to thank you for your work.

3 In terms of -- in terms of Assembly District 30 and
4 Senate District 12, I just wanted to speak in favor of
5 keeping those two as they are or with minimal changes.
6 I'd typically like to talk about our respective counties
7 as having its own unique geopolitics, and I mean by
8 geographic politics, as it relates to our local housing,
9 transportation, environmental, and labor issues.

10 One that specifically comes to mind was Assembly
11 Bill 1783, our Farm Worker Housing Act, which allowed the
12 streamlined process to build quality farm worker -- farm
13 worker housing. And so again, I just want to just want
14 to thank you for all the work that you're doing. It's
15 very important to the Latino community in terms of having
16 the ability to elect representatives that have similar
17 experiences around common issues, and being able to
18 represent us and create policy change that ultimately
19 impact and improve the quality of lives for the residents
20 in our Assembly and respective Senate district seats.
21 Thank you.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
23 now we'll have 020. And up next, we will have 033. 020,
24 I will be promoting you now. 020, it appears we may have
25 some connectivity issues. I will try again. Oh. It

1 took it that time. 020, your speaker order number will
2 be number 32, if you'll please make note of that for
3 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
4 know area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
5 yours.

6 MS. SALAS: Yes; Ventura County, the City of Oxnard.
7 Hello, my name is Cynthia Salas. I'm a member of Santa
8 Paula Latino Town Hall. I live in Oxnard, California. I
9 would like for the Commissioners to consider creating a
10 new district as it includes the following cities:
11 Fillmore, Santa Paula, Port Hueneme, Piru, El Rio, and
12 Nyeland Acres, Oxnard.

13 Even though I'm not here in my professional
14 capacity, I serve as the equity service manager for the
15 Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity.
16 Understanding the needs of the entire county is one of my
17 core responsibilities. Ventura County is 42.7 percent
18 Latino, of which 30 percent speak Spanish at the home, in
19 addition to other indigenous languages, including
20 Purépecha, Zapateco, and Mixteco, just to name a few.

21 There are 40,000 Latinx and indigenous farm workers
22 spread throughout the identified areas. Most are
23 undocumented immigrants from Latin America, the majority
24 being from Mexico alone. Ventura County, the expense to
25 live in this county is extremely expensive. Anyone

1 wanting to live here has to make an average of \$37 per
2 hour. Our farm workers make an average of \$14 per hour,
3 which will result in high poverty rates in -- and results
4 in challenges and hardships in securing food, housing,
5 and access to health care.

6 Therefore, securing these areas as a new district
7 would allow representation and a voice at the table when
8 it comes to bringing resources, changes in policies, and
9 implementations of laws that protect the welfare of our
10 Latinx indigenous communities for the areas identified.
11 We want to make sure that they have a secure --
12 representatives that were -- that will improve their
13 community.

14 We have a track record of fighting as a collective
15 community for the -- as a result of the placement of two
16 power plants in Oxnard and Santa Paula. Latino
17 organizations such as Santa Paula Latino Town Hall and
18 CAUSE have worked together to protect our environment
19 from big oil interests in support of immigration rights,
20 as well as our sacred Native American communities and
21 their land that is considered sacred.

22 Our communities, as a result of these oil
23 industries, also have the highest rates of asthma,
24 childhood obesity rate --

25 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

1 MS. SALAS: -- and families living in tight quarters
2 which, again, results in disparities that were amplified
3 during the pandemic. I also want to share that the
4 importance of having these communities together will
5 secure federally --

6 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

7 MS. SALAS: -- elected officials be present, given
8 that in Santa Paula in 2019, the only local hospital in
9 Santa Clara Valley was proposed to close, and it was the
10 community along with Clinicas del Camino Real, and
11 federally qualified health centers that secured that this
12 did not --

13 MR. MANOFF: Time.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
15 now we have 033. And I invite 022 to use the raise your
16 hand option at the bottom of your screen to enter the
17 comment queue. I see your hands there. So right now
18 will be 033. And up next will be 022. And then I invite
19 the callers that have called in to please press star 9 to
20 raise your hand indicating you wish to comment.

21 033, I will be promoting you now. 033, your speaker
22 order number will be number 33, if you will please make
23 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
24 let the mapper know what area you would like to discuss
25 today. The floor is yours.

1 MS. BARRERA: Can you hear me?

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, we can.

3 MS. BARRERA: My point of interest is Monterey
4 County and San Benito County. Okay. My name is Chris
5 Barrera, president of the LULAC Salinas Council 2055.

6 When people ask what redistricting is and why it's
7 important, the answer is simple, it's about power.
8 During the census, LULAC reached that -- preached that
9 your participation was your voice, similar to how people
10 often say "Your vote is your voice".

11 For this reason, I would argue that redistricting is
12 just as important as voting. Basically, citizens are
13 given the power to create boundaries which shape voting
14 blocs, so if someone wants to strengthen a certain party
15 while weakening another, they can draw voting lines that
16 favor one party over another. So this affects your day-
17 to-day life by potentially skewing the voting bloc in
18 which you live one way or the other.

19 The goal is to ensure that these lines are drawn
20 equitably, ensuring equal representation, and not
21 silencing the voices of certain voters simply because
22 they had the misfortune of living in a district that was
23 shaped to protect a certain party.

24 Recently, Monterey County has been actively
25 recruiting people of all walks of life to participate in

1 the Redistricting Committee. So those voices I mentioned
2 get a fair say in each election until the next census
3 count, which happens every ten years. So in short,
4 redistricting determines just how meaningful your voice
5 will be, and it is locked in for ten years.

6 If we do not find enough people that represent
7 various different communities, sadly, only one group will
8 have the power I mentioned, and we all lose. Evidenced
9 by recent voter turnout and the resulting more
10 representative government we've seen at the state and
11 local level, we must not lose the gains our community has
12 made.

13 For these reasons, I urge you to keep the historic
14 Latino community in the Central Coast whole, with the
15 four COI Cities of Hollister, Salinas, Watsonville, and
16 Gilroy intact. This is a crucial district and has been
17 historically represented by Latinos who are really
18 shaping policy that benefits all, whether in the Central
19 Coast or Central Valley, rural agricultural communities
20 face historic barrier to participation.

21 We need and deserve to be recognized and heard. I
22 urge you to please maintain the Latino community of
23 interest and our ability to elect our preferred
24 candidates. I respectfully ask that you maintain the
25 lines of Assembly District 30 --

1 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2 MS. BARRERA: -- of Gilroy, Watsonville, Salinas,
3 and Hollister in the same Congressional and Senate
4 districts. Thank you for your time and service.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
6 now we have 022. Then I invite those who have called in
7 to press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to
8 comment. So right now we have 022. And then up next
9 will be caller 1642. 022, I will be promoting you now.
10 022, your speaker order number will be 34, if you will
11 please make note of that for future reference. You can
12 now enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner
13 of your screen. And if you'll please let the mapper know
14 what area you would like to discuss today. The floor is
15 yours.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. Can you please show the
17 border between Santa Cruz and Santa Clara Counties?
18 Thank you.

19 Like many of my colleagues in Silicon Valley, we
20 live in neighboring Santa Cruz County because of the lack
21 of housing that's available in Silicon Valley. Other
22 directions that we could have moved to, we chose to go
23 southwest to Santa Cruz for the beautiful mountains and
24 the beaches, and to give some room for my three boys to
25 grow, which this means, though, that I commute every day

1 from Santa Cruz up the 17, through up into Silicon
2 Valley. This allows me to have housing, which is a big
3 problem for the younger generation up in this area where
4 housing is so expensive.

5 And I think that this connection is a vital thing
6 that I'd like the Commissioners to consider. I recently
7 noticed that in the last year the value of my house up in
8 the Santa Cruz Mountains in Felton, California, has
9 raised thirty-five percent, which I think is
10 representative of the recent acceptance of hybrid work,
11 which is going to become more and more prevalent over the
12 years. And from Silicon Valley commuters becoming more
13 comfortable living further away. And I can attest to the
14 neighbors and folks that live around me and are moving
15 into the area are representative of this.

16 And also of UC Santa Cruz, which has developed an
17 extension center in Santa Clara, they call the UC Santa
18 Cruz Silicon Valley Campus. And our region from Santa
19 Cruz to Silicon Valley is a really a hub of technology,
20 science, and research, and this connection is only going
21 to get stronger as hybrid work becomes more normal in the
22 post-COVID era. And I hope that you draw districts to
23 reflect the strong connection. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
25 now we have a caller 1642. And up next will be caller

1 0023. Caller 1642, if you will please follow the prompts
2 to unmute. Caller 1642, also, speaker order number 009.
3 Again, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute by
4 pressing star 6. Oh. Unique ID Number 009, you're
5 speaker -- caller 16 -- last four with the 1642, if
6 you'll please press star 6 on your telephone keypad.

7 Caller 1642, you are unmuted. I have a couple of brief
8 instructions for you. Your speaker order number --

9 DENNIS: Okay.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Your speaker order number
11 will be 35, if you will please make note of that for
12 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
13 know what area you would like to discuss today. The
14 floor is yours.

15 DENNIS: Okay. Can you pull up the City of Santa --
16 the City of Ojai, and Ojai Valley, and the Cities of
17 Santa Paula and Fillmore in the Santa Clara River Valley?

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

19 DENNIS: My name is -- okay. My name is Dennis.
20 I'm a resident of Santa Paula. I'm calling to keep the
21 Ojai and Santa Clara River Valleys together as they were
22 in 2011. My city is currently partially nestled within
23 the Ojai Valley in CD 26, AD 37, SD 19, together, we make
24 up the rural communities of Ventura County, both the Ojai
25 and Santa Clara River Valleys have long histories of

1 being agricultural hubs, particularly for citrus.

2 The Santa Clara River Valley used to be a major
3 region for growing and cultivation of walnuts. Fifty
4 percent of all of Ventura County is agricultural acreage
5 is now irrigated with water from the Santa Clara River.
6 Communities around the valley still produce lemons and
7 limes. The Ojai Valley has a number of family farms,
8 many of which date back a century, and boast its own
9 variety or of the Pixie tangerine.

10 In short, please keep Ojai and Santa Clara River
11 Valleys whole and together. Thank you for your time.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
13 now we have caller 0023. If you'll please follow the
14 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. Caller 0023, your
15 speaker order number will be number 36, if you will
16 please make note of that for future reference. And if
17 you'll please let the mapper know what area you would
18 like to discuss today. With that, the floor is yours.

19 Hello? Can you hear me? Caller with the last four
20 0023, can you hear me? You are unmuted. Hello, caller
21 0023, you are unmuted. Can you hear us? Caller 0023;
22 Can you hear me? Hello? How about I try removing the
23 permission to talk, and let's see if we can start over?

24 0023, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute.
25 Caller 0023, you are unmuted. Can you hear me? Caller

1 0023, you are unmuted. Can you hear me? Caller 0023,
2 I'm going to suggest that you dial back in at this time;
3 appears to be having some connectivity issues, may be
4 reception related. Hello? Can you hear me? No. Okay.
5 I will recommend that you call back in.

6 At this time I will be going to caller 3941. Caller
7 3941, if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute;
8 caller 3941, you are unmuted. Your speaker order number
9 will be number 37, if you will please make note of that
10 for future reference. And if you'll please let the
11 mapper know what area you would like to discuss today.
12 With that, the floor is yours.

13 MS. KERN: Thank you. Today, I'd like to talk about
14 the San Luis Obispo County and Northern Santa Barbara
15 County region.

16 My name is Molly Kern. I'm representing the San
17 Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce. And I'm calling today
18 to thank you all for your service on this Redistricting
19 Committee, and also to advocate that you consider San
20 Luis Obispo County and Northern Santa Barbara County as
21 one community in your deliberation.

22 The communities are intertwined geographically. We
23 share so many industries, including agriculture, tourism,
24 and aerospace engineering leading our economies. And
25 most importantly, citizens in each area, sort of all of

1 San Luis Obispo County, and then specifically Santa
2 Maria, Orcutt, Guadalupe Bay, and Lompoc in Northern
3 Santa Barbara County live their lives across county
4 lines. Whether it's for medical care, jobs, childcare,
5 education, the communities are intertwined with people
6 are regularly crossing the county boundaries.

7 Economically, we also work together with other local
8 chambers of commerce through the Santa Maria area and in
9 the Santa Fe County area to advance our shared
10 prosperity. And we request that you consider keeping
11 these communities together as one region, and weigh it in
12 your deliberations. Thank you so much.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
14 now we have caller 9480. And up next will be caller
15 7651. Caller 9480, if you will please follow the prompts
16 to unmute; caller 9480, you are unmuted. I have a couple
17 of brief instructions for you. Your speaker order number
18 will be 38, if you will please make note of that for
19 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
20 know what area you would like to discuss. The floor is
21 yours.

22 SANDRA: Okay. My name is Sandra (ph.), and I'm
23 calling from Arroyo Grande. And I would like to discuss
24 the boundary areas for redistricting of San Luis Obispo
25 County and Monterey. I encourage everyone to really keep

1 San Luis whole, do not join us with Monterey County, as
2 the needs of Monterey County and us are very different,
3 and we don't know anything about -- I mean, not that we
4 don't know anything. We do know some things, but their
5 needs are very different, and we do not want to lose our
6 representation in Sacramento for Senate and Legislature.

7 As it is we have very minimal representation
8 already. Please don't put us at a further disadvantage.
9 Thank you so much.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
11 now we have caller 7651. And I do invite those in the
12 queue that have called in, to please press star 9 on
13 their telephone keypad indicating they wish to comment.
14 And right now we do have a raised hand with caller 7651;
15 if you will please follow the prompts to unmute. Caller
16 7651, you are unmuted. Your speaker order number will be
17 39, if you'll please make note of that for future
18 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know what
19 area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

20 MS. TORRES: Okay. Can you hear me?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can. Go ahead.

22 MS. TORRES: Oh. Okay. My name is Gabriela Torres
23 (ph.), and I'm from the City of Oxnard, which is located
24 in Ventura County. And I wanted to come in to share
25 about my city.

1 Oxnard is a vibrant community consisting of
2 agricultural workers who immigrated to our city since the
3 early 1900s. Our community is located within Ventura
4 County and is deeply rooted in traditional immigrant
5 roots of Mexico, with generational families residing in
6 the boundaries of our city.

7 We have seen the children of immigrant workers born
8 and raised in Oxnard attend college and come back to
9 Oxnard to serve their communities through their
10 professions. We have a city that is the home of the
11 strawberries. You will drive to the City of Oxnard and
12 appreciate its agricultural fields, and downtown
13 festivals, and parades. The majority of Oxnard residents
14 attend one of the local churches, which has served as a
15 spiritual home for many generations and brought the
16 community together.

17 We are a community that is committed to service and
18 helping one another. During this time of the pandemic,
19 Oxnard was the epicenter of all the impacts related to
20 the pandemic within Ventura County. Nonetheless, the
21 community has stood together and helping one another
22 through all circumstances. The Oxnard community is
23 committed to justice and serving one another.

24 We become beacons of hope and uplift all people
25 throughout all the segments of Oxnard. We have a

1 beautiful beach that many of our residents and children
2 visit and enjoy a beautiful time with one another. You
3 will often see children and youth throughout our parks
4 practicing soccer. Families live throughout the City of
5 Oxnard and are proud to be able to remain in a city in
6 which their parents or grandparents arrived and settled
7 in when they immigrated to the United States.

8 There are strong family ties in the City of Oxnard.
9 However, Oxnard families become divided when they are
10 asked to vote for a State Assembly member into office.
11 Oxnard has never had a Latino or Latina Assembly member
12 who resides in Oxnard due to our city being divided
13 between Assembly District 37 and 44.

14 The district boundaries divide our residents and
15 families in important elections such as an Assembly
16 member who will represent the interests of our community.
17 During these times of a commitment to social justice and
18 equity, I'm respectfully asking the Commission to keep
19 our entire Oxnard community together and no longer
20 separate our homes and families in Oxnard in the State
21 Legislature.

22 How could it be that entire families have different
23 Assembly members representing their needs based on a ZIP
24 code of Oxnard in which they reside? As you will be
25 considering boundary lines, I pray that you will have the

1 discernment to draw lines that bring forth justice, and
2 keep Oxnard families together in one district.

3 Thank you so much for choosing this very important
4 work for our state. It's very much appreciated. And
5 thank you so much for taking the time to listen to my
6 comment.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. At
8 this time I invite caller 0023 to press star 9 on their
9 telephone keypad; and 0023, if you'll please follow the
10 prompts to unmute. Can you hear me?

11 MS. GOULD: Yes, I can.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Wonderful.

13 MS. GOULD: You all can hear me now?

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can. Your speaker
15 order number was 37, and I think we are sticking with
16 that. It didn't get reassigned. Yes. So 37 is your
17 speaker order number, if you'll please make note of that
18 for -- or 36, I apologize, 36, if you'll please make note
19 of that for future reference. And if you'll please let
20 the mapper know what area you would like to discuss.
21 With that, the floor is yours.

22 MS. GOULD: Thank you very much. And thank you to
23 all of you who are taking the time to do this, and
24 listening to us, because you have a very important job
25 representing us. And I really appreciate the chance to

1 talk to you.

2 My name is Linda Gould (ph.), and I live in the east
3 side of Simi Valley. And we have a lot of first
4 responders here, and in Santa Clarita, and in Moorpark,
5 there's a lot of synergy in the three areas, and I'd like
6 to see us all be represented in District 25, because our
7 current Congressman was -- is somebody who is very aware
8 of the needs of the first responders who actually help
9 all of the communities around us throughout LA.

10 A lot of them work in Los Angeles and in Ventura
11 County. And they need -- we need to have somebody who
12 can bring the right money and the resources in and keep
13 our communities, you know, with what we need to support
14 these people. And also, we're all three bedroom
15 communities, a lot of families, and we share a lot of the
16 same interest and synergy.

17 And Moorpark is -- it was kind of birthed out of
18 Simi Valley. And Moorpark College, a lot of our children
19 go there, and my grandkids went there. And you know, it
20 just makes sense for Moorpark to be a part of Simi, and
21 Simi to be whole, and to continue with Santa Clarita,
22 because we have a lot of synergy with that community.
23 And that's all I want to say. And I really appreciate
24 your time. Thank you so much.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

1 And at this time, Chair, we do not have any other
2 callers in the queue.

3 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Very good. Thank you, Katy,
4 for a great job. I understand that staff have sent
5 messages out to individuals who had signed up for slots
6 during this session who have not yet joined us.
7 Hopefully they will be able to join us.

8 Just a reminder to folks also, that you can visit
9 our website at WeDrawTheLinesCA.org, you can also sign up
10 there for our emails to learn more about our meetings,
11 updates, and announcements. Please connect with us also
12 on social media; we're on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter,
13 LinkedIn, and YouTube @WeDrawTheLinesCA.

14 Katy, could you read the long instructions at this
15 point?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

17 In order to maximize transparency and public
18 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
19 taking community of interest input by phone. To call in,
20 dial the telephone number provided on the live stream
21 feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter the
22 meeting ID number provided on the live stream feed, it is
23 89731188844 for this meeting. When prompted to enter a
24 participant ID simply press the pound key.

25 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a

1 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
2 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.
3 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message
4 that says: The host would like you to talk, and to press
5 star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your name,
6 please state and spell it for the record. You are not
7 required to provide your name to give public comment.

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

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

15 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Katy.

16 Just a reminder to folks out there, you are not
17 required to make an appointment to provide input at these
18 communities of interest input meetings, we recommended it
19 so that you will have an idea of when you might be able
20 to participate. But we do not require appointments for
21 folks to provide input. You can also call in the day of
22 the meeting.

23 There are also a number of other ways to provide
24 public input to the Commission, and we will be giving
25 equal weight to input coming to us through any and all of

1 these channels. These meetings will be taking place
2 throughout the summer. You can visit
3 WeDrawTheLinesCA.org, click on the Meetings tab to get an
4 idea of when we will be having further Communities of
5 Interest Input Meetings.

6 We also have our online mapping tool at,
7 DrawMyCACommunity.org, and that online tool will ask you
8 to give your community a name. Tell us about it. What
9 makes it a community? What areas, nearby areas your
10 community would like to be grouped with, or would not
11 like to be grouped with, and anything else you'd like to
12 tell us about your community.

13 That online tool is available in English, Spanish,
14 simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Vietnamese,
15 Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic, Russian,
16 Japanese, Punjabi, Khmer, Hmong, and Thai; with tutorials
17 available in all of those languages.

18 There are also instructions on our website for
19 getting community of interest input to us. Again, our
20 website is www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org, you can click on the
21 Draw My CA Community icon, there on the home page of our
22 website. We're also happy to receive input by email to,
23 VotersFIRSTAct@CRC.CA.gov, or by traditional postal mail
24 to our headquarters, California Citizens Redistricting
25 Commission, 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento,

1 California 95814.

2 Could we go to a five-minute video and then we will
3 be back, and hopefully have some more callers joining us
4 at that time.

5 (Video played, five minutes)

6 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Welcome back, everyone. Thank
7 you for running that video for us. I wanted to just take
8 a moment to look ahead at our schedule over the coming
9 days. Our busy schedule continues with a Community of
10 Interest Public Meeting on Saturday, the 24th, focusing
11 on Orange County, and the surrounding areas.

12 Registration has closed for that. But again,
13 individuals are welcome to call in on the day of the
14 event to join the queue.

15 We will have another Communities of Interest Public
16 Input Meeting next Thursday, July the 29th, beginning at
17 4 p.m. That one will focus on Alameda, Contra Costa,
18 Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano
19 Counties and their surrounding areas. Registration for
20 speaking slots for that event closes on Tuesday at 5 p.m.

21 And we will also be having a Public Input Design
22 Committee Meeting on Monday, July the 26th, at 5 p.m. As
23 well as a Business Meeting on Wednesday, July 28th,
24 beginning at 9:30 a.m., and going for the day.

25 Katy, I see we have no callers at this point. Would

1 you please read the short instructions?

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

3 The Commission is now taking community of interest
4 input by phone. To give comment, please call 877-853-
5 5247, and enter the meeting ID number 89731188844 for
6 this meeting. Once you've dialed in, please press star 9
7 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in
8 instructions have been read previously in this session,
9 and are provided in full on the live stream landing page.

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

11 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Another reminder for
12 Californians. Requests for interpretation must be
13 submitted at least five business days prior to our
14 meetings. You can submit your request via email. The
15 email address for that is interpreter.request@CRC.CA.gov.
16 You can also make a request for interpretation when you
17 sign up for an appointment during one of the sessions.
18 Or you can call our office at 916-323-0323.

19 With that, it's 7:00. We still have no callers. I
20 will take the opportunity to invite Commissioners to
21 share memories of time spent on the Central Coast. So
22 let me give myself a little more screen real estate and
23 see who might be raising a hand.

24 Commissioner Fornaciari.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sure. I'll go first. Let's see.

1 My wife grew up in Santa Cruz County, a little town
2 called Scotts Valley, right off Highway 17, the road that
3 we heard from the gentleman earlier who lived in Felton
4 and who commutes into Santa Clara County. As I was
5 growing -- when I was growing up, the beaches of Santa
6 Cruz were a very, very popular place. And as we would
7 drive to Santa Cruz, we'd go through Scotts Valley.

8 They had a little amusement park called Santa
9 Village. And then they had another little attraction
10 called Lost World that had these giant dinosaur statues
11 on the side of the road, and we'd drive by. We never
12 went, but it was just -- it was just really memorable to
13 see that. But then I started dating my wife, and she
14 still lived with her parents there. So I made a number
15 of trips over to Scotts Valley to spend time with her,
16 and we'd be down in Santa Cruz.

17 And of course, we still go to visit her friends that
18 are still in the area, and just really enjoy the
19 Boardwalk and the wharf down there in Santa Cruz.

20 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thanks for that. Anyone else?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, we actually have a
22 caller.

23 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. Let's go to our caller.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Caller 4660,
25 if you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing

1 star 6, caller 4660 --

2 MR. PHILLIPS: Hello?

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Hello. I have a couple
4 of brief instructions for you. Your speaker order number
5 will be number 40, if you'll please make note of that for
6 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
7 know area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

8 MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, I'd like to discuss Monterey
9 County in the Central Coast. This is John Phillips, I'm
10 county supervisor in Monterey County.

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

12 MR. PHILLIPS: Well, as I mentioned, I'm John
13 Phillips, I'm been a supervisor here for seven years, but
14 I've lived here in Monterey County for fifty years. I
15 was a long-time district attorney, and then a judge for
16 twenty-one years, and then ran a nonprofit. But I've
17 lived here, and I'm just calling to ensure that the
18 eastern portion of Monterey County and our rural
19 community have a voice in important redistricting.

20 About everything we do here, and our representatives
21 representing us connect with the counties north and south
22 of us. San Benito County that used to be part of
23 Monterey County until the turn of the century, Santa
24 Clara County, Santa Cruz County, and Down South in San
25 Luis Obispo County.

1 But we work together on these and the
2 representatives, usually our interests are similar,
3 whether it's agricultural interest, highway interests.
4 We're all represented like I used to be in the Sixth
5 District Court of Appeals there. And so it's important
6 that we have our representation. Appreciate your
7 consideration. Thank you.

8 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Up
10 next, we have caller 3781, if you'll please follow the
11 prompts to unmute. Caller 3781, you are unmuted. I have
12 a couple of brief instructions for you. Your speaker
13 order number will be 41, if you'll please make note of
14 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
15 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. The
16 floor is yours.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sure. Thank you. I am
18 calling in discussion of the Santa Clarita region, as
19 well as the 25th Congressional District. And I am
20 calling, so first, thank you all so much for taking my
21 comment as well, and I appreciate you all being here
22 today.

23 I was just calling today to voice my support of
24 doing a slight modification to our region. We currently
25 encompass the Antelope Valley, Santa Clarita, bits of the

1 San Fernando Valley, as well as Simi Valley, which is
2 part of Ventura County. And I was calling in favor of
3 separating our counties for communities of interest as
4 well when holding Simi Valley with our Los Angeles
5 County. They are, in turn, separate from Ventura County.

6 And so these two communities are extremely
7 different. We see that when we come to our business
8 decisions between our chambers of commerce, when we look
9 at business and economic growth. And one of my personal
10 beliefs is when you look at the region of Santa Clarita
11 and Antelope Valley, Aqua Dulce, and Acton, you know,
12 there's a lot more interest, and there are a lot more
13 commonalities when it comes to how our businesses
14 functions, the type of ideology that we are seeing.

15 And there's just a big separation there between our
16 two counties. And I think it's also critical that we
17 ensure that these counties are kept together in -- when
18 it comes to just separation, just for the interest of
19 both of the counties and the residents who live within
20 them. So I thank you so much for taking that in
21 consideration. And thank you again.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Oh.

23 And that was all our callers at this time, Chair.

24 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Very good. Does anyone else
25 want to follow Commissioner Fornaciari with a memory of

1 the Central Coast? Commissioner Sinay.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That whole area is just -- has
3 way too many memories. I mean, they just keep popping
4 up. But when I went to college at UCLA, my college
5 boyfriend was at Cal Poly. And so I remember many
6 drives. You know, at the time, it seemed like just a
7 short drive to see each other. But it wasn't. And doing
8 it sometimes at night was not the smartest thing I've
9 ever done.

10 But I am amazed, doing that drive is parts of it
11 are -- still look very similar, that it hasn't been as
12 developed as -- you know, other times you drive to other
13 places and you're like, wow, this has really changed. I
14 have obviously done the drive up all the way to the Bay
15 Area.

16 Most recently it was my nephew who had just turned
17 twenty, from Argentina, came to visit. And I decided
18 that he needed to understand the United States more than
19 what he got on television. So I took him and my son on a
20 road trip that went from San Diego -- I think we went,
21 San Diego, Palm Springs, over to Grand Canyon, Las Vegas,
22 then back into Los Angeles, up through the Valley, the
23 Central Valley to San Francisco. Did the San Francisco
24 thing for a weekend, and then came back down through the
25 17, and did the coast all the way down to -- back down to

1 San Diego.

2 Stopping at every state park, we got state park
3 passes, and just stopped at every state park, as well as
4 visiting family down -- along the way. We did go to
5 Universal Studios, and we did go to the Long Beach
6 Aquarium. We did not go to Disneyland. I was a little
7 tired having traveled with two young boys. Well, okay,
8 one was a man, and one was a boy.

9 But it was just so fun to share our state with
10 someone from another country who had one image of it.
11 And you know, and this was October, right before COVID.
12 And so throughout COVID, my nephew would send me notes,
13 and my brother would be -- not my brother -- my son would
14 be like, hey, you know, that was a great trip. So it's
15 still very vivid in all our memory -- in our memories.

16 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Excellent.

17 Katy. Just checking; we do not have any other
18 callers at this point?

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That's correct, Chair.

20 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. So we are close to the
21 starting point of our break. We will go ahead and break
22 now. Return at 7:30. We invite callers to join us at
23 7:30 for both public input on communities of interest, as
24 well as general public comment.

25 Commissioner Fornaciari will be back in the chair

1 for that session. But if we do not have callers at that
2 point, we can anticipate that this meeting would adjourn
3 early.

4 So a break until 7:30, and hopefully we will have
5 callers for public input, communities of interest, or for
6 general public comment. Thank you all.

7 (Whereupon, a recess was held until 7:30 p.m.)

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome back, California, to the
9 Citizens Redistricting Commission Community of Interest
10 Input Meeting. This session is specifically dedicated to
11 those who did not have an appointment. However, if you
12 had an appointment and were unable to call in during your
13 time block, we encourage you to call in now.

14 We will continue to take public input at this time
15 and also invite public comment. The phone line for
16 public input and public comment will close by 8 p.m. --
17 or 8 p.m. at the latest, unless we do not have any
18 callers, then we may adjourn early.

19 I see we have callers in the queue. I will pass it
20 over to Katy. If you can read the, I think the short
21 instructions probably. And then invite the callers in.
22 Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

24 The Commission is now taking community of interest
25 input and general public comment for items not on the

1 agenda at this time. To give comment, please call 877-
2 853-5247, and enter a meeting ID number 89731188844 for
3 this meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press star
4 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in
5 instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting,
6 and are provided in full on the live stream landing page.

7 Right now we have caller 1713 with their hand
8 raised. I do it by those in the queue to please press
9 star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment.
10 But at this time, caller 1713; and then up next will be
11 caller 4662. Caller 1713, if you will please follow the
12 prompts to unmute; caller 1713, you are unmuted. I have
13 a couple of brief instructions for you. Your speaker
14 order number will be number 42, if you will please make
15 note of that for future reference. And if you'll please
16 let the mapper know of what area you would like to
17 discuss. With that, the floor is yours.

18 MS. VANDERCHOFF: Hi, my name is Stacey Vanderchhoff
19 (ph.), and I am interested in speaking as a concerned
20 Ventura County citizen.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. Go ahead.

22 MS. VANDERCHOFF: Hello? Can you hear me?

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, go ahead.

24 MS. VANDERCHOFF: Hello? Oh, okay. My community of
25 interest is the Moorpark and Simi Valley Cities, and for

1 drawing districts it is in our interest to not only keep
2 the cities in the same district, as far as keeping all
3 Simi Valley residents, and all Moorpark residents all in
4 the same district, but also because our demographics are
5 very similar, and we experience a lot of the same
6 concerns and issues.

7 For example, our housing needs, and also our
8 wildfire zones, we would like to keep the cities of Simi
9 Valley and Moorpark in the same districts with each
10 other. And those are pretty much the comments that I
11 have in terms of drawing district lines.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. I do
14 have caller 4662, with their hand raised. I do invite
15 the other callers in the queue to please press star 9 to
16 raise your hand indicating you wish to comment. And for
17 unique ID Number 026, if you are ready to give comment at
18 this time, if you will please use the raise your hand
19 button at the bottom of your screen indicating that you
20 wish to give comment.

21 Well, as of right now, we do have a hand raised with
22 color 4662. And 026, I see your hand, you will be up
23 next after caller 4662. Caller 4662, if you will please
24 follow the prompts to unmute; caller 4662, your speaker
25 order number is number 43, if you'll please make note of

1 that for future reference. And if you'll please let the
2 mapper know what area you would like to discuss. With
3 that, the floor is yours.

4 MR. ERSHOV: Hi. My name is Kyrill Ershov, it's
5 spelled K-Y-R-I-L-L, and the last name is E-R-S-H-O-V. I
6 live in Moorpark, and I agree with the previous
7 commenter. I think that Moorpark and Simi Valley
8 should -- it would make one hundred percent sense that
9 they're considered, if they are represented, that they
10 are represented together. The cities in the whole -- the
11 cities are -- each city is represented by one -- as a
12 whole. And also the two cities should be in one
13 district, or even Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, and Simi
14 Valley should be represented in one district.

15 If it is possible for a representative to represent
16 more than one city would be strange to have Moorpark,
17 Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks to be represented by a
18 different representative. And what I mean is, we're just
19 close to -- it's kind of, I see the -- Moorpark, Simi
20 Valley, and Thousand Oaks, as kind of the same entity. I
21 grew up in Thousand Oaks, and now I live in Moorpark. My
22 brother lives in Simi Valley. Every, almost every day I
23 drive through -- twelve minutes to Thousand Oaks, Cal
24 Lutheran University to do my swimming, and for work.

25 Almost every day I drove to Simi Valley to drop

1 stuff off for DHL. Most of the people -- not most, but I
2 would guess a lot of the people that work in the same
3 industrial district in Moorpark, are either from Moorpark
4 or Simi Valley. If you, let's say you go to Simi Valley
5 to watch a movie it's -- let's say it's the teenagers
6 that work there, if they don't live in Simi Valley, it is
7 very, very likely that they live in Moorpark, and the
8 same thing for Thousand Oaks.

9 That's pretty much it. I always see the same three
10 cities as kind of a -- not the same, but our three cities
11 I see them as a whole, and I think others do too. So
12 that's my point.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

14 MR. ERSHOV: And that's right. Uh-huh.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. Right
17 now we have unique I.D. number 026. And then up next
18 will be caller 7456. 026, I will be promoting you now.
19 026, your speaker order number is number 44, if you'll
20 please make note of that for future reference. You can
21 now enable your audio video in the lower-left corner of
22 your screen. And if you'll please let the mapper know
23 what area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

24 AMY: Okay. Thank you. I'd like the Ojai Valley,
25 specifically the Cities of Ojai, Mira Monte, Oak View,

1 please. Hello?

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

3 AMY: Sorry. My name is Amy. I'm calling today to
4 ask that you keep the Ojai Valley whole. We are one
5 community of interest. We have our own land conservancy,
6 school district, and way of life. My family and I live
7 here because it's our lifestyle, and it speaks to the
8 experience of what most of us have in our daily lives in
9 the Ojai Valley.

10 And my partner and I live on a-third of an acre. We
11 have chickens and pigs on our property, and we have
12 internet and Wi-Fi access on our immediate property. But
13 once you drive up the road, you don't until you get down
14 to town. We are surrounded by hiking, and biking, and
15 horse trails, that many of the residents, including my
16 family, use on a regular basis.

17 We care about preserving our open spaces, ensuring
18 that our water is clean, and that we have access to our
19 representatives when it comes to natural disasters like
20 fires. Furthermore, our kids go to the same schools and
21 participate in the same sports leagues. We like our
22 small town community and want to keep it together.

23 In summary, please keep the Ojai Valley whole.
24 Thank you for your time.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we have caller
2 7456, if you will please follow the prompts to unmute.
3 Caller 7456, you are unmuted. I have a couple of brief
4 instructions for you. Your speaker order number will be
5 45, if you'll please make note of that for future
6 reference. And if you'll please let the mapper know of
7 what area you would like to discuss. The floor is yours.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sure. Hi. I would like to
9 discuss the Greater Oxnard area. That includes Oxnard,
10 Port Hueneme, and El Rio community. And so what I want
11 to talk about today is that, you know, Oxnard, Port
12 Hueneme, and El Rio are communities of interest because,
13 you know, we are an agricultural, working class, and farm
14 worker community. Most of our community is Latino
15 immigrants and speak Spanish and indigenous language. We
16 have unique economic needs. We face disparities in
17 housing, education, and health care. And we are a
18 community that oftentimes is split up.

19 So both in the '01, and then in the 2010
20 redistricting process, Oxnard always seems to get split
21 up and paired with communities like -- and I'm not I'm
22 not trying to say anything offensive, but like Thousand
23 Oaks, Moorpark, Ojai, different communities that don't
24 necessarily, you know, have to deal with us, or who don't
25 represent us in a socio-economical way.

1 And so we hope to please keep Oxnard, Port Hueneme,
2 and El Rio together in this redistricting cycle. And you
3 know, if we were to be paired with somebody else, we
4 would like to be paired with Santa Clara Valley. So that
5 would be Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. Thank you so
6 much.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I would like to invite
9 those that have called in to please press star 9 to raise
10 your hand indicating you wish to comment. Please press
11 star 9 to raise your hand indicating you wish to comment
12 at this time. Caller 5910; and up next will be caller
13 1053. Right now we have caller 5910. And up next, we
14 have caller 1053. Caller 5910, if you will, please
15 follow the prompts to unmute. Caller 5910 you are
16 unmuted. I have a couple of brief instructions. Your
17 speaker order number will be number 47 -- no -- will be
18 number 46, if you will please make note of that for
19 future reference. And if you'll please let the mapper
20 know what area you would like to discuss. The floor is
21 yours.

22 MR. NUNEZ: Hi. Perfect. Thank you. Right, so I'm
23 calling in regard to the Oxnard, Bay Area.

24 Hi. My name is Chris Nunez (ph.), and I'm currently
25 an intern at CAUSE. And I'm also calling concerning

1 about this community. So in regards to Oxnard,
2 representation of Oxnard, in my opinion, is very
3 important to me because of how many people are in that
4 city and the demographic in that city, many working-
5 class, Latino communities.

6 And currently Oxnard is grouped with other cities,
7 such as Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, and it feels like these
8 other cities and communities have very different needs
9 compared to those in Oxnard. And so when it comes to
10 this redistricting, voting is going to come up. I would
11 just hope to see Oxford be included in other communities
12 such as previously stated, in Santa Paula. Just because
13 I think those kind of -- those needs align a lot more
14 instead of splitting Oxnard into other communities
15 that -- who we don't as much.

16 And so you know, I believe that the best plan for
17 them in the coming decade for the City of Oxnard, is to
18 keep Oxnard -- Oxnard District and Ventura County
19 together, to the extent possible to best serve the city's
20 interest. So thank you.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

23 Caller 1053, if you'll please follow the prompts to
24 unmute; caller 1053, you are unmuted. I have a couple of
25 brief instructions. Your speaker order number will be

1 number 47, if you will please make note of that for
2 future reference. And if you have an area you would like
3 to discuss, please let the mapper know what that is.
4 With that, the floor is yours.

5 MS. DEYOUNG-DOMINGUEZ: Hi. Yeah, I'd like to speak
6 about the Greater Oxnard area, which includes El Rio,
7 Hueneme, and Oxnard.

8 So my name is Amisha Deyoung-Dominguez, that's
9 A-M-I-S-H-A D-E-Y-O-U-N-G---D-O-M-I-N-G-U-E-Z. And I am
10 a long-term resident here in Oxford. And I urge you guys
11 to keep Oxnard, you know, in one majority POC district,
12 and when I say POC I mean, people of color district. You
13 know, you've gotten a lot of calls, some folks from
14 Thousand Oaks, and Simi Valley, and I would just take a
15 guess that majority of them are White who are calling in.

16 And people who call in about Oxnard, are
17 predominantly people of color, Latino, or you know,
18 another minority race. And you know, it's really
19 unfortunate that the Assembly districts have been split
20 between the 37th District, and Jacqui Irwin's 44th
21 District, and there have been examples where, because of
22 our current districting scheme, it basically continues to
23 disenfranchise our, you know, predominantly Latino
24 community.

25 For example, there was a power plant that had

1 planned for the construction in Oxnard, and neither
2 Assemblymember Duff (ph.), or Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin
3 took that issue on because it was a fringe -- basically
4 it was in a fringe location on both of their districts.
5 However, you see with, you know, State Senator Hannah-
6 Beth Jackson, because she had all of Oxnard and all
7 Ventura County within her district. She took on that
8 issue and was able to effectively help organize. And we
9 were ultimately, as a community, able to get rid of that
10 power plant.

11 But it was not due to any help that we got from the
12 district as it -- as it's currently drawn. And so I
13 would just, you know, urge you to keep in mind that --
14 you know, the overwhelming calls that you're getting from
15 other communities -- you know, I'm an attorney and I work
16 for farm workers with the state ALRB, and these are
17 people who do not have the luxury to come on a Zoom call,
18 or to call in in the evenings. They work ten-hour,
19 twelve-hour days.

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MS. DEYOUNG-DOMINGUEZ: And so they don't have the
22 luxury, as other folks, to call in to make their voices
23 heard. So I urge you to keep all of these power dynamics
24 in mind as you're --

25 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

1 MS. DEYOUNG-DOMINGUEZ: -- drawing these lines.

2 Thank you so much for your time.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for your call.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you. And that was
5 all of our callers at this time, Chair.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Maybe you can go ahead and
7 read the brief instructions again. I'd rather hear from
8 the callers, than each other.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Me too.

10 The Commission will now be taking community of
11 interest input and general public comment for items not
12 on the agenda as this time. To give comment, please call
13 877-853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number 89731188844
14 for this meeting. Once you've dialed in, please press
15 star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in
16 instructions have been read previously in this session,
17 and are provided in full on the live stream landing page.

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

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you. Let's see. I
20 just want to reiterate, we will continue to take public
21 input and public comment during this session. The phone
22 lines for public input and public comment will close at
23 8. If there are callers in the queue at 8 we will get to
24 those callers after 8.

25 So let's see, I just want to talk about a few of our

1 upcoming meetings. We have our next Community of
2 Interest Public Input Meeting this Saturday, July 24th,
3 focused on Orange County and surrounding areas.
4 Registration close at 5 tonight for that, but you are
5 more than welcome to call in.

6 We have other -- another Public Input Meeting
7 scheduled next Thursday, July 29th, at 4 p.m., focused on
8 Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin -- Contra Costa, Marin, San
9 Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano Counties
10 and their surrounding areas. Registration for that
11 meeting closes Tuesday at 5 p.m.

12 We have a Public Input Design Meeting scheduled for
13 Monday, July 26th, at 5 p.m.

14 And a Business Meeting scheduled this Wednesday,
15 July 28th at 9:30 a.m. You are not required to make an
16 appointment to provide input at the COI meetings.
17 However, it is recommended. But you can also call in the
18 day of the meeting. At this time our meetings will still
19 be held virtually so anyone in California can provide
20 input.

21 Please go to our website, www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org
22 for meeting information. In addition, there are other
23 ways to provide input. You can go online and provide
24 input through our communities of interest mapping tool at
25 DrawMyCACommunity.org.

1 The online tool is available in English, Spanish,
2 simplified Chinese, traditional Chinese, Vietnamese,
3 Tagalog, Korean, Armenian, Farsi, Arabic, Russian,
4 Japanese, Punjabi, Khmer, Hmong, and Thai, and tutorials
5 are also available in those languages.

6 On our website, www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org, and you
7 can click the Draw My CA Community icon, to get to the
8 community of interest tool. You can submit your input
9 via email at VotersFIRSTAct@CRC.CA.gov; or by mail,
10 California Citizens Redistricting Commission, 721 Capitol
11 Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, California 95814.

12 You can also connect with us on social media. We're
13 on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube
14 @WeDrawTheLinesCA, that is @WeDrawTheLinesCA as in
15 California.

16 Katy, it doesn't look like we have any new callers
17 in the queue at this point.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That is correct, Chair.
19 We do not have any colors at this time.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, let's see. We have
21 a few more minutes before 8. I know at least one of our
22 Commissioners had a story to share. Well, we learned
23 something new today at least, that the official name of
24 Ventura is Buena Ventura. So that was -- we got some
25 interesting new knowledge at this point.

1 I don't know if any other Commissioners would like
2 to share experiences they've had in the Central Coast
3 region.

4 I saw Commissioner Sadhwani first, then Commissioner
5 Yee.

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sure. So I actually used to
7 be on the faculty of Cal Lutheran University in Thousand
8 Oaks, and actually I was there when I did my interview
9 for the CRC. And so certainly I know several callers had
10 called in talking about the fire dangers that are there.
11 And certainly I was able to see that, in that year -- and
12 as well as the year prior, a huge fire came through right
13 behind the Ronald Reagan Library and Museum, closing down
14 campus, closing down roads. It was certainly, certainly
15 quite an experience, and certainly it comes up very, very
16 close, very fast. The fires move very quickly, as I'm
17 sure everyone knows.

18 And so we haven't had any callers with any -- that
19 have mentioned Cal Lutheran, but that is a private
20 college that's -- liberal arts predominantly, school
21 that's based in Thousand Oaks. And I used to drive up to
22 118 every morning to get there. So I don't -- you know,
23 I know the area fairly well, but didn't live there
24 myself.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks. Commissioner Yee.

1 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah, just so much natural beauty
2 in the Central Coast. I think as a boy I first came to,
3 first fell in love with Redwoods in the Santa Cruz
4 Mountains, I had church camps there, and the rivers
5 there, a little bit south of Big Basin, of course
6 Monterey Bay, so beautiful, all the way down to Big Sur.
7 My bucket list someday, run the Big Sur Marathon. It
8 seems like every other car commercial was shot there, on
9 Highway 1.

10 But even inland, Pinnacles. Wow, Pinnacles is an
11 amazing, amazing -- I think it's a national park now, and
12 it's very dramatic and beautiful. And I really enjoyed
13 visiting that, has so much natural beauty. Of course,
14 there has been fire danger, and a big fire in Big Basin.
15 And so we wish the best for everyone there. And boy, we
16 sure loved to visit you if we get the chance. Thanks.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Andersen, and
18 Fernández.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Since Commissioner Yee
20 brought up Pinnacles. I've been through that area, in
21 the Pinnacles, many times. Actually, that's where the
22 condors are. And I was actually able to see one of the
23 condors in -- you know, in the natural habitat, again,
24 just truly amazing.

25 We've also been up through the 156, you know, they

1 were talking about in that whole area. I've been through
2 Watsonville, the whole flats of Mount (Indiscernible)
3 Highway 1. And up through 156 to San Juan Bautista, and
4 down into that whole area, and through that agricultural
5 area, right through Salinas, Soledad, that area. And
6 it's just amazing the amount of crops and things that
7 have grown there.

8 And the people, it's just absolutely delightful.
9 And it's very different from, if you go down the coast,
10 which we've also done. The whole family did a whole trip
11 just starting at -- well, at Pacific Grove, and then went
12 all the way down, and end up staying next to Santa
13 Barbara, in Carpinteria. And just staying in all the
14 little places along there, and just watched everything.
15 Well, I don't know which I like better, going inland or
16 on the coast, because it's also -- it's all so
17 interesting.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks. Commissioner Fernández.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I'll just go quickly. I
20 was going to talk about San Luis Obispo, but actually I'm
21 going to talk about Monterey County. Because of my prior
22 work I had to go to Salinas quite a bit. A couple of
23 facilities there, and many people that I traveled with,
24 they would prefer to drive all the way to Monterey than
25 stay in Salinas. But I've just got to say, I preferred

1 staying in Salinas because that's where the agriculture
2 was. And I just felt so at home, and so comforted. Very
3 high Latino population, and even the drive there, I
4 just -- as Commissioner Andersen just mentioned, just the
5 fields; I am probably the odd person out here right now,
6 but any time I -- I'd rather see a field than -- I love
7 the coast too -- the field is just really home. And the
8 people are just absolutely wonderful; so very dear to my
9 heart.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'm going to share one last
11 story, and then we'll wrap it up. So my wife and I were
12 driving north and 101 through the Salinas Valley, and
13 there's a wine growing region there called Arroyo Seco.
14 So we wanted to get off to go taste some wine. And you
15 know, when you're on 101, you don't really appreciate it.
16 But when you start driving through the lettuce fields out
17 there, I mean, they go on forever. And it is just
18 strikingly beautiful.

19 I mean, you go to the store and buy a box of
20 lettuce, with all this different colored lettuce. But
21 when you see a field that is entirely one color of
22 lettuce and then another color of lettuce, and then
23 another, it is just -- I mean, really striking, and
24 breathtaking. I was -- yeah, really, really took me
25 aback driving through there. It was an experience.

1 All right. Well, we are -- we have no more callers.
2 And we are at 8 p.m. So we will wrap this up. Thank you
3 for joining our Community of Interest Input Meeting
4 today.

5 We have upcoming Community of Interest Public Input
6 meetings on Saturday, July 24th, focused on Orange County
7 and surrounding areas. We have another Input Meeting
8 next Thursday, July 29th focused -- at 4 p.m., focused on
9 Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo,
10 Santa Clara, and Solano Counties and their surrounding
11 areas. We have an upcoming Public Input Design Meeting
12 on Monday, July 26th, at 5 p.m. And our next business
13 meeting is this coming Wednesday, July 28th at 9:30 a.m.

14 Callers at the community interest meetings are not
15 limited to the specifically mentioned counties.

16 You can visit the meetings page on our website to
17 see a list of additional COI Input Meetings at
18 www.WeDrawTheLinesCA.org/meeting.

19 With that, I will adjourn this meeting. And thank
20 everyone from California who called in to provide input.

21 (Whereupon, the Zone E - Public Input Meeting
22 adjourned at 8:00 p.m.)

23

24

25

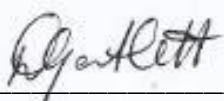
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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 9, 2023

DELORIS GAUNTLETT, CDLT-257