

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

9:30 a.m.

Transcribed By:

Delores Gauntlett

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

STAFF

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David Becker, Counsel
Dale Larson, Counsel
Julia Michel, Counsel
Salvador Pérez, Counsel

ALSO PRESENT

ASL Interpreter
Captioner

GUEST SPEAKER

Joel Michaelsen, Distinguished Professor Emeritus

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jenny Curdo, San Luis Obispo County
Unidentified Speakers

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P R O C E E D I N G S

9:30 a.m.

CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome, California, to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission Meeting for September 17th and 18th. My name is Neal Fornaciari, and along with Commissioner Sara Sadhwani, will be hosting these meetings. And I will call this meeting to order, and ask Ravi to call the roll.

MR. SINGH: Thank you, Chair.

Commissioner Kennedy.

COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

Commissioner Sadhwani.

Commissioner Sinay.

COMMISSIONER SINAY: Good morning. Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

Commissioner Toledo.

Commissioner Turner.

COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Vázquez.

COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Here.

Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.

COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

1 Mr. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

2 Commissioner Fernández.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Presente.

4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

6 Mr. SINGH: And Commissioner Fornaciari.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I am here.

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

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, Ravi. Appreciate it.

10 So let's see. So technically this is a separate meeting
11 from the meeting we had on the 15th. So we'll go through
12 the whole agenda, we won't -- I imagine there won't be a
13 lot of additional reports out in sections three or four,
14 but we'll go through the whole agenda.

15 So the first agenda item includes general
16 announcements. And I want to ask Anthony, if he has a
17 general announcement for us.

18 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair. Good
19 morning. Good morning, Commission. I just wanted to let
20 you all know that the Governor signed AB 361 yesterday,
21 which was the Bagley-Keene extension. So teleconference
22 meetings will continue through January 31st of 2022.

23 If anybody -- have any questions; I know we passed
24 the Assembly and the Senate, and we were hearing the
25 Governor was expected to sign it, and he did. He did

1 yesterday. So I just wanted to make that announcement.
2 And it's effective immediately, because it has an urgency
3 clause, so it's effective now. So plan on making slight
4 adjustments to agendas, and rather than referring to
5 executive orders that allow us to meet the way we are,
6 now it's pursuant to existing law.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And that goes through the end of
8 January?

9 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: End of January.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Well, that's
11 great news. I think, for all of us, and all of
12 California. So thank you for that.

13 Were there any questions on that at this point?

14 Okay. So I'll just kind of walk us through today.
15 We're going to begin this morning with a guest speaker,
16 talk about California geography and how it relates to our
17 work.

18 Then we'll spend the rest of the day discussing the
19 North Coast, the Bay Area, and the Central Coast, and
20 giving direction to the line drawing team on what we'd
21 like to see in the initial visualizations for those three
22 areas. And then that's pretty much the day.

23 So with that, I will call on Katy for general public
24 comment.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Good morning,

1 Chair.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Good morning.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: In order to maximize
4 transparency and public participation in our process, the
5 Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To
6 call in, dial the telephone number provided on the live
7 stream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter
8 the meeting ID number provided on the live stream feed,
9 it is 83865657077 for this meeting. When prompted to
10 enter a participant ID simply press the pound key.

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

19 Please make sure to mute your computer or live
20 stream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during
21 your call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert
22 for when it is your turn to speak. And again, please
23 turn down the live stream volume.

24 And I invite those that have called in this morning
25 to please press star 9 on their telephone keypad. This

1 will raise your hand indicating you have called in to
2 give comment this morning, and not just to listen.

3 Caller 9817, I do see that hand. If you will now
4 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
5 The floor is yours.

6 MS. CURDO: Good morning, everyone. And again,
7 thank you for your commitment and dedication to our
8 state. (In Spanish, not translated).

9 My name is Jenny Curdo (ph.), and I am from San Luis
10 Obispo County. I was speaker number 32 during your
11 8th -- August 27th, Zone E as an Edward, Input Hearing.
12 Building on that testimony, if you would allow me.

13 Please ask your line drawers to keep our county
14 whole in any visualizations; also please ask them to draw
15 both an option showing San Luis Obispo going both north
16 to Monterey, and an option going south to Santa Barbara
17 for both the Assembly and Senate plans.

18 As the line drawers can show you, San Luis Obispo
19 County currently goes north in the Senate and south in
20 the Assembly. And I think the public would benefit from
21 seeing the effects of both orientations for both plans.
22 I know, selfishly, it would help me provide future
23 feedback.

24 Thank you. And have a successful day. And please
25 keep the residents in mind that shared the same input

1 that I did of concern, on August 27th, about keeping our
2 area whole. Thank you so much. And you have a wonderful
3 day.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, thank you for your
5 interest, and your feedback, and your participation. We
6 appreciate it.

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

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Did the instructions finish yet,
10 Katy?

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. I'll wait a few more
13 seconds to see if we get another caller.

14 Okay. Well, with that, we will move on. So I'll
15 just check in with Director Hernandez. Is there any
16 other -- any additional reports that -- any new news
17 since Wednesday that anyone wants to share?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Just one thing,
19 Chair. A travel store will be set up. An email will be
20 coming out on Monday to all the Commissioners for their
21 travel, so they can make any necessary travel
22 arrangements for the upcoming meeting. That was it.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Any questions on that?
24 Commissioner Sinay.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. It took me a while to

1 find the raise hand. Actually, I'll look at the travel
2 policy. I think the travel policy will say if you're
3 driving up and you're -- and it's going to take a while
4 because you're exploring, how many days -- yeah, what
5 hotel coverage you can have. So I'll look at that.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Yeah. Any other
7 questions?

8 Okay. So none of the other directors have any
9 updates? I just want to check in. And it's been two
10 days, so. Okay? All right. Very good.

11 Oh. So for item number 4, I'll just throw it out.
12 Any of the subcommittees have any updates over the past
13 couple of days that they would like to share? No. Okay.

14 So with that, I apologize. We should have -- I'm
15 sorry, I lost my place, my apologies. We should have
16 jumped to item number 7, the Review of California
17 Geography. And so with that, I will turn it over to
18 Commissioner Kennedy to introduce our speaker.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Good
20 morning, everyone. As we're all aware, we've spent quite
21 a bit of time looking at maps, but almost all of the maps
22 that we've been looking at have been flat maps. And at
23 the same time, we've heard about many geographical and
24 topographical features, some of which we're familiar
25 with, and some of which we're not all that familiar with,

1 or are completely new to us.

2 So it occurred to some of us that it might be useful
3 to have a formal presentation, a briefing I guess, on
4 California geography and topography, looking at some of
5 those features that might not have been immediately
6 obvious to us on the flat maps that we were looking at.

7 We are very happy and honored to have with us today
8 Professor Joel Michaelson, Distinguished Professor
9 Emeritus from the Department of Geography at UC Santa
10 Barbara, who will be giving us a presentation, but
11 reserving significant time for any questions that you
12 might have. I'm very happy that Professor Michaelson
13 accepted our invitation.

14 So Professor Michaelson, over to you. And again,
15 thank you very much.

16 PROFESSOR MICHAELSON: Thank you. And hello,
17 everyone. I'm actually quite honored to be asked to do
18 this. Presumably it's because I taught California
19 geography for quite some time and have, in addition to
20 that, been a California resident for over fifty years;
21 although I was born in the Midwest, and one of those
22 people from that part of the country in that era that
23 many of us came to California, in the mid-1960s.

24 And so I'm going to give a presentation. I'm going
25 to attempt to take over the screen, and please bear with

1 me. I taught for a very long time, but it was all in the
2 pre-Zoom era, so I'm not exactly a Zoom expert. So let's
3 see if this works. And I should also alert you that
4 sometimes my audio breaks up a bit, so let me know if
5 that's a problem. All right. Let's see here. Can
6 everyone see that?

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

8 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: And can you hear me all
9 right?

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah.

11 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: I'm not breaking up. All
12 right. Well, my intent here is to give a very brief
13 overview of the large-scale physical geography,
14 particularly that the landforms and topography of
15 California. And talk a little bit about some of the
16 causes, but not very much, mostly it's just what's there,
17 not so much why it's there. And try to highlight a few
18 places that I think might be particularly interesting and
19 challenging to a group like yours.

20 So let me just start by pointing out what probably
21 is obvious to everyone who has lived in California for
22 any period of time. It's a land of extraordinary
23 contrast. And I like to highlight these two points,
24 they're not very far apart, and yet they're separated by
25 over 14,000 feet in elevation between Mount Whitney and

1 Badwater in Death Valley, highest point in continental
2 United States, lowest point anywhere in the Western
3 Hemisphere, and pretty close juxtaposition to each other.

4 Looking at the overall relief of the state, again,
5 extraordinarily diverse, but it's also quite striking in
6 that the macro level topography of the state is clearly
7 well-organized. And this indicates, of course, that the
8 processes that produced the landforms and the topography
9 operate on very large scales.

10 Now, back in the middle of last century, when I was
11 studying geology, this was all pretty much of a puzzle.
12 Now, of course, we know that it's associated with -- or
13 produced by California's position on the western leading
14 edge of the North American tectonic plate, which has been
15 drifting westward and interacting with, first of all, a
16 large oceanic plate that now has mostly disappeared under
17 North America. And then more recently, with the Pacific
18 plate which is sort of veering off to the northwest from
19 the North American plate.

20 As a result of those interactions, and as a result
21 of the scale of those large tectonic plates, the overall
22 topography, macroscale topography of California shows
23 some very regular patterns, not entirely so. And there
24 are some interesting deviations. But for the most part,
25 things get oriented roughly south-north or southeast to

1 northwest, depending on where you are in the state.

2 And as a result, it's frequently much easier to
3 travel north-south than it is to travel east-west. We do
4 start at the southern border with the alternation of a
5 large block of mountains. This Peninsula Range, I'll
6 talk a bit more about in a minute, and then a deep
7 valley, and then some more subdued ranges heading over to
8 the Arizona border. North of there, however, you run
9 into what is a very distinct anomaly, in that there is a
10 sharp westward bend to the coastline. And in fact, the
11 grain of the topography shifts from being primarily
12 north-south to being east-west.

13 This is unique in California, and in fact, it's
14 unique in all of North America. There aren't very many
15 other places that have this kind of east-west-oriented
16 mountainous topography. This area of the transverse
17 range sort of disrupts that north-south travel pattern,
18 and is an area where it's actually considerably easier to
19 go east-west than north-south.

20 Then at about the northern borders of Santa Barbara
21 and Ventura County, the orientation shifts again, and we
22 go to predominantly southeast-northwest orientations,
23 first through a series of coastal ranges, then through a
24 broad flat San Joaquin Valley, and then through the very
25 large fault block of Sierra Nevada range. And in fact,

1 on east of the Sierra Nevada, through a very distinctive
2 set of alternating high mountain, deep valley areas,
3 finally ending up in that blue streak you see over there
4 on the right, which is Death Valley.

5 That all extends pretty much through most of the
6 state until we reach the northern end, north of Cape
7 Mendocino here, where both the orientation of the
8 topography and the underlying geology change quite
9 strikingly. And we get a very mountainous and difficult
10 terrain in the Klamath Mountains and on a broad volcanic
11 based area in Northeastern California.

12 Both of these areas are, in essence, southern
13 extensions of a terrain that is much more common in the
14 Pacific Northwest, in Oregon, and even up into
15 Washington.

16 That produces a series of regions. And what I'm
17 going to do is start down in the south here, along the
18 coast, head north, and then come back south and describe
19 a little bit about each region as we go, and try to
20 highlight some of the specific characteristics and places
21 in those regions.

22 So we'll start out with the Peninsular Ranges down
23 here at the southwestern corner of the state. Peninsular
24 Ranges in San Diego, and somewhat Orange and Riverside
25 County are actually a northern extension of a very long

1 and very distinctive feature, and that covers the whole
2 extent of the Baja Peninsula. This area is all shifting
3 away from the mainland of North America, being spread
4 apart by an oceanic spreading center, and the whole
5 region is underlain by a large block of volcanic -- of
6 granitic rock that actually is very close cousin to the
7 granite in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

8 The whole area is being rafted northward on the --
9 by the movement of the Pacific plate, and basically
10 crashing into parts of the North American plate, farther
11 to the north. It's characterized by a whole series of
12 fault block ranges that generally increase in elevation
13 moving eastward from the coast. This cross-section is
14 sort of up here across the northern part of the province,
15 taking in Mount San Jacinto, and then a very abrupt drop
16 down into the Coachella Valley and the Palm Springs area.

17 This aspect of the terrain is not just distinctive
18 to the Peninsula Ranges, it shows up also in the Sierra
19 Nevada, where the whole of this block has been tilted
20 upward, rising from the west to the east, and then
21 dropping off very rapidly to the east.

22 There are a whole series of parallel faults that run
23 along the edges of these ridges that basically capture
24 the motion of the whole province as it moves
25 northwestward relative to the rest of North America.

1 It's also splitting away, as I said, from North
2 America, so we're getting this very deep Salton Trough
3 formed on the eastern side of it. This area has been
4 elevating relatively rapidly. The coast is primarily
5 elevated coastal blocks, and so on. The rivers have
6 incised through the fault block, but not a great deal.
7 So there's a lot of elevated, relatively flat land in the
8 interior in this province, both in San Diego and
9 Riverside counties that, generally, are around 3- or
10 4,000 feet above sea level.

11 Moving north, we get to what is actually a very
12 distinctive area for the California coast. The Los
13 Angeles Basin is one of the few places along the coast
14 where there are extensive areas of relatively flat land
15 right near and an open to the coast. Most of the coastal
16 area of California is quite mountainous. This is a
17 distinct deviation from that.

18 The Los Angeles Basin is actually a series of basins
19 separated by faults, and also by low to moderate
20 elevation ranges of hills and mountains. So we have a
21 large coastal plain here in Orange and Los Angeles
22 County. The gap that the Los Angeles River comes
23 through, going up San Fernando Valley, will be moving
24 east into the San Gabriel Valley, and then the Riverside,
25 San Bernardino area, all the way in to the Cajon Pass

1 region.

2 Lots of relatively flat land, but also bounded by
3 very precipitous mountains to the north, and to some
4 extent to the south here with the Santa Ana Mountains.

5 Notice this very distinct line here, obviously the
6 sign of a major fault there, again, forming the eastern
7 face of the mountain range in this case.

8 The two major accesses through this northern barrier
9 that is the San Gabriels, San Bernardinos, and then the
10 mountains through the west of Los Angeles; Cajon Pass
11 here is directly related to the location of the San
12 Andreas Fault.

13 Again, notice the straight lines here. In nature
14 when you see a straight line, it's almost always a fault
15 line. Most other things don't go in straight lines in
16 nature. And then up through Tejon Pass, up to the
17 Grapevine. This is not directly produced by the San
18 Andreas Fault, but you do encounter the fault as you go
19 up through there, just before you drop down into the
20 Central Valley.

21 That whole area is part of what I mentioned before
22 as very distinctive, both for California and for North
23 America as a whole, since North America has been rafting
24 westward for a couple of hundred million years, most of
25 the pressure and most of the resulting topography tends

1 to run north-south. This is one of only a couple of
2 deviations from that in this area.

3 It basically runs from Point Conception eastward,
4 almost directly eastward, through the Ventura County
5 area, San Gabriel Mountains, and then over here to the
6 San Bernardino Mountains. One of the interesting things
7 about this, and I don't have a good explanation for it,
8 is that the San Gabriels are directly adjacent to the San
9 Bernardino Mountains, and yet in between them is the San
10 Andreas Fault, which is moving this whole area
11 northwestward at a pretty good rate of speed,
12 geologically speaking.

13 And so one wonders if maybe this juxtaposition is
14 just a particularly instant in time, and if you came
15 back, you know, a million years from now, you wouldn't
16 see it anymore.

17 What's happened here, apparently, I won't go into
18 this in too much detail, but remember that the Gulf of
19 California and the Baja Peninsula are splitting away from
20 Mexico and shifting northward, they're pushing into this
21 area, part of that movement has apparently rotated this
22 block about 90 degrees clockwise. So in other words,
23 like this, resulting in that particular juxtaposition.
24 That also creates a lot of pressure in this area which
25 elevates these mountain ranges.

1 I'm sure if you've lived here for any period of
2 time, you've heard about the faults that exist in the Los
3 Angeles basin that are basically thrust faults. In other
4 words, pushing material into and underneath these various
5 ridges here, because of that pressure, and because of the
6 overall shifting of material there, you get a series of
7 alternating ridges and valleys trending east-westward.
8 As I mentioned, this is very unique. It's one, probably
9 about the only part of the state where it's easier to
10 travel east-west than north-south.

11 In fact, in a lot of these areas, you have to go
12 considerably out of your way if you want to go directly
13 north. I live in Santa Barbara here. For example, if I
14 want to go to Bakersfield, I have to go quite a ways out
15 of my way to get there.

16 Here's an example of that that I think is
17 particularly interesting, and it is also relevant to
18 settlement patterns, transportation patterns, and so on,
19 just east of the San Fernando Valley, in the Los Angeles
20 and Ventura County boundary areas, you start with the
21 Santa Monica Mountains, next to the north is the Conejo
22 Valley, which is where Thousand Oaks, and Westlake
23 Village, and so on are. A range of hills called the Simi
24 Hills, then you drop down in the Simi Valley.

25 Incidentally, this topographic map is a 1959

1 Edition, so if you look carefully, you might notice that
2 there are no freeways. This is what, eventually, became
3 the Simi Valley Freeway, but at this time it was not a
4 freeway. And you can see here, sort of anyway, there is
5 a pass, the Santa Susana Pass, right about there that
6 separates the Simi Valley from the San Fernando Valley.

7 Going on northward, we encounter the Santa Susana
8 Mountains. Then out here, the Santa Clara Valley --
9 excuse me. Now, the Santa Clara River actually drains
10 this whole area. Santa Clarita Valley and Santa Clara
11 Valley are not topographically separated from each other.
12 They're part of the same drainage. The Santa Clara River
13 rises in the very western part of the north slopes of the
14 San Gabriel Mountains and drains down to the sea.
15 Actually, originates not too far from Palmdale, but
16 there's a drainage divide between them.

17 And then as you go on north from the Santa Clara
18 Valley, you encounter a whole series of mountains in the
19 Los Padres National Forest. And eventually, if you went
20 on, you would get to the Central Valley. But there are a
21 lot of mountains in between, all of which generally trend
22 in this east-west orientation.

23 Moving north from there, just about at, as I said,
24 the northern boundaries of Santa Barbara and Ventura
25 County, the orientation shifts again back to roughly

1 north-south, in this case it's more northwest to
2 southeast with the Central Coast Ranges. San Andreas
3 Fault is paralleling all of those ranges, shifting this
4 whole area northward relative to the interior.

5 All of that activity produces a whole series of,
6 again, parallel mountain ranges and valleys. In this
7 case, as I said, the orientation is different. Most of
8 these ranges are not particularly high in elevation, but
9 they're rugged and there is a lot of relief. In other
10 words, a lot of up and down elevation change. And so
11 it's a rather difficult area to get through.

12 If you look at the map, there are not a large number
13 of highways that go, say -- well, there is only one that
14 goes from the Salinas Valley over to the coast at Big
15 Sur. And there are only a few that go from the Salinas
16 Valley eastward into the Central Valley. And as a result
17 of that, partly also as a result of the fact it's quite
18 dry, some of these areas are surprisingly remote,
19 considering that you're right in the middle, or sort of
20 in between two very highly developed agricultural areas.

21 Moving north, I've separated the Coast Ranges into
22 two different regions for convenience sake, but really,
23 they're very similar. North of the Bay Area, about the
24 only real difference is that San Andreas Fault now
25 becomes the western boundary of the region and eventually

1 disappears offshore.

2 But again, there are a whole series of parallel sort
3 of northwest to southeast trending mountain ranges that
4 run from the coast all the way into the Central Valley,
5 the Sacramento Valley, you can see the edge of over here.

6 And one of the things I like about using these
7 satellite photographs is that the differences in
8 vegetation, which reflect differences in elevation, give
9 you a good sense of, for example, right at the western
10 edge of the Sacramento Valley there are some very
11 distinct, long, linear north-south ridges that sort of
12 characterize the grain of the topography throughout this
13 area.

14 Once again, you're in much better shape if you want
15 to go north-south than if you want to go east west.
16 There are only a few ways to get from, say, the Highway
17 101 Corridor out to the Sacramento Valley, for example,
18 or for that matter, out to the coast; very rugged
19 coastline, of course, here and very little flat land.

20 Finally we reach the northern border, the Klamath
21 Mountains. This is a very complex area, geologically
22 complex topographically, mostly it's drained by the
23 Klamath River and its tributaries. Klamath River is
24 somewhat unique in that it actually originates east of
25 the Cascade Mountains in Southern Oregon, and runs out

1 all the way to the coast.

2 There are not any other mountain ranges that are --
3 or I mean, rivers that really penetrate that far through
4 the mountain ranges of the Cascades or the Sierra Nevada
5 until you get, of course, to the Columbia River to the
6 north. These are generally mid to high elevation, not
7 super high, but a very complex terrain, very rugged. The
8 river valleys tend to be rather deep. And so it overall
9 is -- the relief is quite striking here, and very
10 distinctive, leads to kind of a lot of remote areas up
11 there.

12 I'll add to that, the fact that it's very wet, and
13 so the vegetation is very thick, and you get all the
14 stories about Bigfoot, and so on, that originate in that
15 area.

16 Moving east, we enter an area that really is a
17 southern extension of the Cascade Mountains and the
18 Columbia basalt flows from Oregon and Washington. The
19 major plate boundary shift at about Cape Mendocino, and
20 so this area is associated with the same sort of tectonic
21 activity that characterizes the Pacific Northwest, and is
22 distinctly different than what's happening farther south
23 in the Sierra Nevada, Central Valley, and Coast Ranges.

24 Moving southward we encounter the Central Valley,
25 and this is, to me anyway, one of the most extraordinary

1 things about California topography; you know, since there
2 is no topography, it's extraordinary in that it's very
3 flat for a very large distance.

4 Now, I grew up in a part of the country, the
5 Midwest, that at least people that only fly over it think
6 of as being rather flat. But it's nothing like this.
7 First of all, there are frequently rolling hills.
8 Secondly, the extent of the flat terrain is nowhere near
9 what it is here. You know, running through 5- or 600
10 miles from the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley to
11 the northern end of the Sacramento Valley.

12 Basically, it's a very large sediment trap. It was
13 filled by sediments eroding from the original version of
14 the Sierra Nevada, the modern Sierra Nevada, is quite
15 recent in geologic terms.

16 It was originally, most of it was deposited below a
17 shallow ocean, thus the flat nature. And it only, in the
18 last few million years, has been elevated above the level
19 of the ocean, but it's not very far above the level of
20 the ocean. And in fact, the Delta, of course, is almost
21 at sea level. And you know, if we wait long enough will
22 be below sea level as sea level rises.

23 The Northern Valley is -- north of the Delta is the
24 Sacramento Valley, this is all the Sacramento River
25 drainage. It does rise gradually northward, and is the

1 source of the majority of the water that -- almost all of
2 the water that's not groundwater, that provides for
3 irrigated agriculture throughout the Central Valley, and
4 also a good deal of the urban water in Southern
5 California.

6 It used to be a large, marshy area. Virtually every
7 spring when the snow melted in the Sierra Nevada, a
8 rather large lake would form in the Delta region and
9 south of Sacramento. There's been a great deal of
10 effort, over a long period of time, to build all sorts of
11 flood control, dams, levees, bypasses, and so on. That
12 has been partly successful, but if you've lived here for
13 a while, I'm sure you've seen examples of flooding that
14 still does occur in the area. And once something like
15 the Sacramento River jumps its levees, there's a lot of
16 flat land for it to cover.

17 The southern part of the Central Valley is the San
18 Joaquin Valley, is the source of the San Joaquin River,
19 of course. A distinctive thing about the San Joaquin
20 Valley, though, is the southern half, roughly, is two
21 interior drainages. Both the Kings River and the Kern
22 River do not flow out to the ocean, or at least didn't
23 under natural circumstances. They flow into enclosed
24 basins at the southern end of the valley.

25 And the southern end of the valley, and particularly

1 the southwestern portion of the valley, are actually
2 quite dry, and really could be classified as desert.

3 Looking at, quickly, at the Sierra Nevada, the
4 Northern Sierra, north of Tahoe, basically, is cut by a
5 number of very large rivers. It's very wet. And these
6 rivers are -- generally have dissected deep canyons as
7 the mountain range has lifted up. Overall, elevations
8 decrease moving northward. Again, this is a major source
9 of our water.

10 And I might just note the area below the snow cover
11 here, down in through this region, is the Sierra Nevada
12 Foothills. This was the Gold Country area. It's
13 topographically very complicated. On the one hand, you
14 still get the overall tectonic orientation of north-south
15 parallel ridges, and there are some major faults that run
16 along through the Gold Country area. It's one reason why
17 there is gold there.

18 But then you have these large rivers that cut
19 through their deep canyons. And even though the
20 elevations are fairly low, the river valleys are still
21 well below the elevation of the uplands around them. And
22 so while it was one of the most active areas in
23 California at the beginning of the -- of statehood, it
24 became something of a backwater fairly soon afterwards,
25 by the 1880s. And really only recently, as people have

1 started to move back in there, commuting to places like
2 Sacramento, and even the Bay Area, has it sort of
3 reawakened.

4 It's a difficult area to travel around in because of
5 topography. Also dense vegetation, it's very wet; and so
6 there are a lot of, still, rather isolated areas within
7 that zone.

8 Southern Sierra is somewhat different, distinctly
9 different really, in the sense that it is a large, almost
10 unbroken block, fault block. None of the rivers in the
11 Southern Sierra have managed to cut through all the way
12 to the east side. And so there's a very continuous wall,
13 really, along the east side of the Sierra Nevada. But of
14 course what is so impressive if you drive along 395
15 through the Owens Valley.

16 Again, it's a fault block that's tilted, so the
17 incline on the west slope is very gentle, relatively
18 speaking. And you have a range that extends over several
19 tens of miles, forty or fifty miles from the crest down
20 to the floor of the valley. On the east side it's very
21 steep, and in the matter of five or ten miles, you drop
22 from the crest down to the Owens Valley.

23 There are some large plateaus, still remnants of
24 glacial -- I mean, well, yeah, glacial, but granitic
25 plateaus, the Kern Plateau, for example, that are

1 elevated, but have not really been fully dissected. Kern
2 Canyon down in the Southern Sierra, southernmost Sierra,
3 is distinctive in that it runs southward through an
4 old -- apparently an old fault zone in the original --
5 from the original mountain range, and range out to the
6 Bakersfield area.

7 Quickly, moving eastward into the areas east of the
8 Sierra Nevada, first we encounter what's referred to as
9 the Basin Range. This area is a whole series of fault-
10 blocked mountains separated by deep down-drop valleys.
11 It actually extends virtually through all of Nevada, and
12 just the western portion of it is in California, just
13 east, starting from the east face of the Sierra Nevada
14 and running on east from there.

15 Again, these are parallel ranges, parallel valleys.
16 The topography here, the relief is quite striking,
17 several elevation changes, a drop over 10,000 feet in a
18 matter of ten miles or less as you move through this
19 area.

20 Moving to the Mojave Desert, there's not a clear
21 distinction between the Mojave and the Basin Range, but
22 Mojave is part of the same province in terms of
23 landforms, although the mountains are much more -- the
24 relief is much more subdued. The valleys are much
25 broader, and overall, the topography is not as dominant

1 as it is to the north.

2 One feature I wanted to highlight here, because it's
3 kind of, I think almost an oxymoron, the Mojave River, it
4 is a classic desert river. The saying here is that
5 basically it's upside down. Most of the time there's no
6 water on the surface, but there is, in fact, a fairly
7 substantial groundwater reservoir that provides water for
8 places like Victorville and Barstow.

9 And occasionally, the river will actually carry
10 surface water all the way out to a dry lake -- sort of
11 dry lake that is out by Baker. And frequently it will
12 have as -- if there's decent snowpack in the San
13 Bernardino's it will carry water through Victorville, and
14 as far as halfway to Barstow.

15 It provides a somewhat connected drainage in an area
16 where just about everything else is isolated, interior
17 drainage basins. This, of course, is interior drainage
18 that doesn't get to the ocean, but it gets farther than
19 just about anything else.

20 The Antelope Valley over here is a whole series of
21 interior drainages that get the runoff from the north
22 slope of the San Gabriels. Excuse me.

23 Finally, Colorado Desert is a name that's typically
24 used for what is really, in some ways, the Western
25 expansion of the deserts of Arizona, the Sonoran Desert

1 in particular. And the most distinctive feature, in
2 terms of landforms in the Colorado Desert is the Salton
3 Trough. This is the area that is being split apart from
4 the continent.

5 The Salton Trough is of course below sea level. It
6 would be part of the Gulf of California, except for this
7 whole region, the Imperial Valley, which is essentially a
8 Delta deposit from the Colorado River that blocks the sea
9 from coming in to this Salton Trough.

10 As you're probably aware, the Salton Sea here is a
11 recent mistake, or relatively recent, about early in the
12 20th century the floodgates on an irrigation canal got
13 blown open by the Colorado flood that flooded down into
14 the basin and formed this interior lake.

15 It would have disappeared a long time ago, except
16 that it gets a lot of runoff from irrigated agriculture
17 down here in the Imperial Valley area, and then up in the
18 Coachella Valley on both slopes here. As I mentioned
19 before, this is bounded on the east by this very
20 precipitous -- I mean on the west -- by this very
21 precipitous faulting area that separates the trough from
22 the Peninsula Ranges back there to the west. And that
23 basically reinforces what I just said.

24 And I believe that's it. Oh. No, I've got the
25 counties. One of the things that was suggested you might

1 be interested in is where county boundaries are aligned
2 with topographic features. So I looked around a bit.
3 This was by no means a definitive list, but first of all,
4 any place you see a county boundary that's not a straight
5 line, or doesn't have right angles, it's probably
6 oriented, at least roughly, along some sort of
7 physiographic feature.

8 And so there are clearly some here. I've identified
9 a few of them. In the Klamath Mountains area, for
10 example, these county boundaries are all pretty much
11 aligned with the drainage divides between the -- here,
12 for example, the Trinity River, and then the Klamath
13 River up to the north. Or the North Coast drainage from
14 the Sacramento drainage is down through here, and so on.

15 Several of the county boundaries run right along the
16 Sierra Crest, separating the Central Valley drainage from
17 the interior drainage here in the Basin Range area. I
18 haven't highlighted a number of these that clearly run
19 along some sort of physical feature because they run
20 along the river channels. Those are pretty easy to pick
21 out, and I was kind of short of time, so I didn't do it
22 all.

23 But a lot of these, for example, clearly, I think
24 you can -- it would not surprise you to know that they
25 run along the Sacramento River, or rivers, the Feather

1 River, for example, which is a major tributary of the
2 Sacramento River. Those are easy to spot even on a
3 regular map. The drainage divide alignments are a little
4 trickier to find.

5 They're less common in Southern California. Their
6 drainage is less -- you know, river drainages are less of
7 a factor in Southern California, but there are a few of
8 them, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara County, and then Santa
9 Clara into the Central Valley, both separate drainages.
10 In this case, the coastal drainage from the San Francisco
11 Bay, then San Francisco Bay and from San Joaquin,
12 Monterey County here separates the interior drainages
13 actually, sometimes these, some of these drain to the
14 Sacramento River, but mostly they don't get there from
15 the -- what are interior drainages in the Western San
16 Joaquin Valley.

17 And then the continuation here of county boundaries
18 along the Sierra Nevada crest, but everything else in
19 Southern California is pretty much straight lines, which
20 of course is not topographically induced.

21 All right. So that's it. And I'll be good to take
22 any questions?

23 Let's see now. How do I get back to turning the
24 screen back? There we go. Thank you.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Do you want to facilitate,

1 Commissioner Kennedy?

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I will be happy to.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So Commissioner Yee.

5 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thank you so much,
6 Professor. And it's a big state, you know, and so is the
7 geography. I'm interested in hearing more about San
8 Joaquin Valley and subsidence. So all the heavy and even
9 accelerating groundwater pumping apparently is causing
10 even catastrophic land subsidence. And how bad is it?
11 How widespread is it? And what can we expect, you know,
12 in coming decades?

13 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Uh-huh. Well, first of all,
14 it's an area that was subsiding naturally. And so you
15 have the -- as I mentioned, the southern third or half,
16 naturally was an interior drainage, that also is because
17 it's relatively dry.

18 The subsidence due to groundwater pumping, and also
19 petroleum pumping is, I think, somewhat less widespread.
20 But it's very severe in a number of different areas. The
21 western part of the San Joaquin Valley, and also the area
22 along Highway 99, where there has been long-term
23 groundwater withdrawal, are both having some severe
24 problems. You know, it's starting to affect
25 infrastructure negatively, there are problems with some

1 of the canals, apparently, that are either cracking apart
2 or getting tilted, so they no longer drain in the correct
3 direction.

4 And you know, it's hard to see that the situation is
5 going to do anything but get worse. One of the ironies
6 of water in the west -- the history of water in the west
7 was one of the big selling points for the Federal
8 project, which is based -- you know, centered on Lake
9 Shasta, was to provide surface water to ameliorate what
10 was already a problem in the first part of the 20th
11 century, heavy groundwater pumping throughout areas in
12 the Sacramento, and particularly San Joaquin Valley.

13 It obviously didn't satisfy that. What resulted,
14 instead, was that more acreage was put into irrigation
15 and groundwater pumping continued. I'm not enough of an
16 expert to really give you a definitive answer on how
17 widespread it is, or you know, specifically which areas
18 are the worst. But certainly it is an ongoing problem.

19 And you know, while we do now have some -- at least,
20 in the long term, some possibility for accounting for
21 groundwater usage, which was completely ignored before,
22 it's already gone far enough. And you know, given that
23 surface water supplies are undoubtedly going to decline,
24 continue to decline, at least episodically, I'm sure it
25 will get worse.

1 And furthermore, you know, maybe one last thing.
2 The groundwater that is being pumped was deposited over,
3 you know, ice ages. So it's not something that's going
4 to reverse anytime soon. You know, we're talking about
5 thousands of years that would be required to replenish it
6 now. If there were excess surface water we could --
7 there could be programs to inject it into the ground, but
8 that's a big "if".

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. Thank you very
11 much.

12 Commissioner Fernández, followed by Commissioner
13 Andersen.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Thank you, Dr.
15 Michaelsen. This is a great presentation. I'm just
16 regretting not paying as close attention when I was in
17 school. I didn't know I was going to need that
18 information.

19 But just a couple of things I think I missed when
20 you said your tour is going to start of California, so I
21 just want to make sure I'm available. And then the
22 second thing is, can I get a copy, can we get copies of
23 your presentation? I think that would be helpful for
24 myself in terms of when we're -- as we're moving forward,
25 I can reference that information. But again, thank you

1 so much.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We will --

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, we have provided it to
4 staff for posting on the website.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Great. Thank you.

6 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Well, and when I said tour, I
7 was actually referring to a virtual tour that we just
8 went through. I have traveled throughout California very
9 extensively, and I enjoyed it a lot, but I don't have a
10 specific tour planned. If there are -- you know, I'm
11 interested in this enterprise very much. And if there
12 are other things I can do to assist, I'd be happy to.
13 But no firm plans at the moment.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you so much, Professor
15 Michaelsen.

16 Commissioner Andersen, followed by Commissioner
17 Fornaciari.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Thank you very
19 much for this presentation. I thoroughly enjoyed it.
20 You know, as a structural engineer, I pay attention to
21 all the faulting, and how that works, so that was right
22 up my alley. Thank you.

23 I do have a couple of questions I'd like you to
24 go -- if you could even look at the map again. Today,
25 we're actually concentrating on the coastal area, and

1 actually the North Coast, Bay Area, and then the Central
2 Coast. And what I'd like to see if you could just
3 quickly kind of go over the two areas. Up in the north,
4 we have the Klamath River and the Trinity. If you would
5 kind of walk us through where the river is as well as the
6 water -- you know, the watershed ridges.

7 And then in the Bay Area, you know, when you were
8 talking about the San Gabriel and the -- I can't
9 remember -- the mountains on the east, how they split the
10 San Andreas but they're still parallel. And that's not
11 the case in, you know, San Benito, the Hollister area,
12 you know, in the Bay Area, there's the whole range there
13 that -- yeah, you know exactly what I'm talking about.

14 MR. MICHAELSEN: Uh-huh.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So if you could kind of walk
16 us through that, because those, the valleys in that area
17 will kind of affect what we're talking about, and we'll
18 be talking about a little bit today. So if you could do
19 that?

20 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: All right. Let's see here.
21 I'll go back to my screen. The Klamath River -- you can
22 all see that I hope -- yeah, comes down through like
23 this. Now, it also picks up the Trinity River, the
24 Salmon River through here. So it basically drains this
25 whole area, Crescent City is actually drained by the

1 Smith River that I don't show on here, so that this is a
2 drainage divide here. But the rest of this area is all
3 drained by either the Klamath River directly, or by its
4 tributaries in the Trinity and Salmon Rivers.

5 And it extends all the way through -- oh, it crosses
6 Interstate 5 at Yreka, roughly, and on up into Oregon.
7 So it drains this whole area north of -- this is Mount
8 Shasta right here, it drains that area as well.

9 Moving southward from there the Coast Ranges here,
10 basically -- let's see -- there's kind of a borderline
11 right about at Eureka where the terrain and the landscape
12 shifts and you get the north-south trend and coast ranges
13 taking over. The Eel River, here, is an indication of
14 that as it basically comes pretty much straight north, or
15 northwestward, this doesn't catch it too well, but up in
16 here.

17 Then we get this whole series of valleys, but the
18 101 Corridor which runs through here is the main one.
19 And then the Sonoma and Napa Valleys over -- extend over
20 this way. Let's see, this would be Anderson Valley
21 running up there towards Fort Bragg, and a very rugged
22 area up through Round Valley and out to the western part
23 of the Sacramento Valley.

24 Are there specific aspects of this area that you are
25 interested in?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. Actually, that was
2 perfect up there. And then if you can hit sort of the
3 Bay Area, that would be great.

4 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Yeah. Okay. I sort of
5 crossed over that. But let's see, maybe that will come
6 up in this one. No. I kind of arbitrarily cut it off so
7 let me go back. Between, the two of them are the
8 northern and -- it's closer here. The Bay Area, of
9 course, the San Andreas Fault produces this very
10 pronounced feature at Tomales Bay, and Point Reyes
11 Peninsula is on the ocean side of it.

12 We have a series of roughly parallel faults moving
13 eastward from that through the Marin County area;
14 actually, the Sonoma County, Napa Valley, all that area,
15 basically paralleling the San Andreas Fault going south,
16 so maybe if I look at the big one, I can get all of that
17 in. Yeah. It's a pretty small picture then. The San
18 Andreas Fault runs right across there.

19 There's, of course, a very distinctive series of
20 long linear features in the peninsula, some of which have
21 reservoirs in them now that are the San Andreas Fault
22 Zone.

23 On the East Bay side of that you've got the Hayward
24 Fault that, basically, is again running parallel. That
25 runs through Hayward, Berkeley, and so on, including the

1 UC Berkeley Stadium, which gets offset a few inches every
2 year. And they had to do some major structural work on
3 it about ten years ago.

4 And then you have, again, sort of parallel valleys,
5 the San Ramon Valley east of Oakland, and the Livermore
6 Valley, and so on, moving south into the South Bay area.
7 These, again, are all basically paralleling the San
8 Andreas Fault. This, Santa Clara -- I mean -- yeah, the
9 Santa Clara Valley, there.

10 Then the mountains to the east of it, again, another
11 one of these very rugged, not terribly high elevation,
12 but very rugged and rather remote areas that have very
13 few passages through it. Come down here, this is the
14 Pajaro River Gap here coming out from San Bernardino
15 County in the actual San Andreas Fault, then the Salinas
16 Valley emptying out there. More?

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. Thank you very much.
18 It's just trying to give us an idea of what we're looking
19 at today. So thank you.

20 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: All right. Uh-huh. All
21 right. So Anything else?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Commissioner Fornaciari.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Let's see. I had a
24 question for you. If I look at the -- at sort of
25 Eldorado, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa County,

1 the eastern or western boundaries of those counties seem
2 to be kind of the demarcation between the valley and the
3 foothills. Is that a reasonable assessment? Or is that
4 just in my imagination?

5 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: I think it is probably a
6 reasonable assessment, although I think you might find
7 that the boundaries actually extend a bit farther west
8 than the actual topographic expression of the foothills.
9 Actually, one of the ways to at least be clear that
10 you're in the foothills is that -- are those rivers that
11 come through frequently have a dam on sort of the last
12 ridge, or the next-to-the-last ridge, before you get out
13 into the flatlands and the valley. And so there'll be a
14 reservoir there.

15 And while that certainly is not universal, that you
16 tend to see that on, you know, the majority of the
17 rivers. But I think, just eyeballing it here, the county
18 boundaries look to me like they're a little bit farther
19 west than the actual physiographic features.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Great. Thank you. Appreciate
21 it.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Any further questions?

23 Commissioner Andersen.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: If we have a little more
25 time. Just one other area, again it would be on your

1 map. You were talking about the Kern Valley Basin which
2 was -- or the Kern Valley which crossed through the
3 Sierras. And I didn't quite follow that. I think, or
4 for our purposes tomorrow, that would be sort of helpful
5 to see that if in that -- you had a -- you had a pretty
6 good picture in that area, but I didn't quite -- I
7 couldn't quite tell which one, where it was.

8 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Right. It doesn't actually
9 go through the Sierra. But it runs south instead of
10 west, through here. This is what's called the Great
11 Western Divide, and it's part of the Sequoia National
12 Park area.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

14 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Then you drop down into the
15 Kern Canyon, and the Kern River which drains this whole
16 Kern Plateau area. You see, the drainage divide, the
17 actual drainage --

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Uh-huh.

19 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: -- divide is way over on the
20 far eastern side.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

22 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: The Kern River then comes
23 out. There are different forks of it, but they join up
24 and come out toward Bakersfield, cutting through sort of
25 down here, past Lake Isabella. Lake Isabella is kind of

1 where the -- it changes direction and finally heads west
2 to get out. But all of that is still in the western
3 slope of the Sierra Nevada, because the way it's tilted,
4 the actual divide is this crest that is along the very
5 eastern side.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Wonderful. Do you happen to
7 know where Ridgecrest is that map?

8 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Ridgecrest would be over
9 here, roughly, somewhere. Let's see.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

11 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: You see, this is -- that's
12 Lake Isabella there. Ridgecrest is over here. And China
13 Lake, I believe this is probably China Lake here.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. Thank you very much.

15 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Uh-huh. Sure.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Excellent. Professor
17 Michaelsen, thank you so much for joining us this
18 morning. And we also very much appreciate your interest
19 and availability for helping us with any future
20 geographical questions we might have.

21 Chair, do we need to ask for public comment at this
22 point?

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes, we do. And we will have
24 Katy ask for public comment.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. Is it on --

1 what is the public comment?

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: On agenda item number --

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: 7, I believe it is.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: 7.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Got it. The Commission
6 will now be taking public comment on agenda item 7; to
7 give comment please call 877-853-5247, and enter the
8 meeting ID number 83865657077 for this meeting. Once you
9 have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the comment
10 queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the
11 beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the
12 live stream landing page.

13 And we do not have anyone in the queue at this time,
14 Chair. And we will let you know when the instructions
15 are complete.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you.

17 And thanks, Professor Michaelson, for joining us
18 today. Really interesting stuff; I felt like I was back
19 in college for a few minutes, and that's always fun.

20 And I do want to also say I really appreciate you
21 providing some clarity on the Antelope Valley, because
22 those two mountain ranges coming together, you know, like
23 this just -- at a really well-defined angle, just seems
24 so weird to me as we were looking at it the other day
25 when we were doing some mapping exercises. And now

1 knowing that two faults intersect right there explains
2 it; really interesting stuff. So thank you for that.

3 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Uh-huh. Well, good. Thank
4 you. And again, thank you all for your good work. And
5 as a geographer and as a Californian, both, I'm very
6 impressed.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, thanks. I think it's also
8 helpful, you know, for me certainly, and hopefully for
9 the rest of the Commission, to see -- you know, see the
10 physical geography of the mountain ranges of the state.
11 I mean, you touched on some of the issues that we've
12 heard from testimony is that getting across the mountains
13 in certain areas is difficult, if not impossible to go
14 from the Valley to the areas -- from the Southern Central
15 Valley to get over to the areas on 395, you have to go
16 all the way around. It's hours, and hours, and hours of
17 drive. You can't get across there.

18 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Right.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And in the Northstate, too,
20 there's only a couple of ways to get from the -- from the
21 central part of the state over to the coast.

22 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: Uh-huh. Right.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So.

24 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: All right.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Well, I don't see that we have

1 any callers at this point for public comment on this
2 topic. So at this point, we'd like to thank you for
3 joining us, and have a great rest of your day.

4 PROFESSOR MICHAELSEN: All right. Thank you. Thank
5 you, everyone. Good-bye.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Take care.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

9 Chair, I just wanted to let you know the instructions are
10 complete.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, I assume that I had talked
12 enough to get them complete. So I went on. Okay.
13 Thanks. Thanks, Katy.

14 Okay. So let's see. We've got about fifteen
15 minutes left in this session before we go to the next
16 break. So what I want to do is go to agenda item 6, the
17 Language Access Subcommittee, and they have a document
18 that they've submitted for us to take a look at.

19 And I'll ask Commissioners Akutagawa and Fernández
20 to talk us through that, please.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Great. Thank you, Chair.
22 Although our subcommittee has been sunsetted, we thought
23 it was important to resurrect it after the communities of
24 interest input meetings that we've had. As you're aware
25 we -- as a Commission, we made a decision starting in

1 August -- excuse me -- to do some consecutive
2 interpretation and offer that in Spanish for all of the
3 meetings, and then in different languages for some of the
4 meetings.

5 And we felt it was important to bring back
6 information as to how many listeners were in the
7 simultaneous line listening to our meetings, as well as
8 the associated costs with that. And so we did.
9 Hopefully, you were able to review the spreadsheet that
10 we provided.

11 And what we did is we -- well, I shouldn't say "we".
12 I need to thank Outreach Director Kaplan, she put this
13 information together. So thank you so much. I feel like
14 I'm taking credit for your work, but we really,
15 Commissioner Akutagawa and I really appreciate all of the
16 work that you did. As well as our Admin Director
17 Villanueva, he also was involved in coordinating with
18 Verizon on some of these conference call lines that we
19 had.

20 So with that, in terms of some of the information on
21 the spreadsheet that I -- that we feel is most
22 important -- or not important, but crucial to, as we move
23 forward. So the reason for doing this, as we move
24 forward, we're anticipating holding additional input
25 meetings that will be more associated with our potential

1 draft maps. So I -- we felt that language access, we
2 might be considering some decisions at that point, and we
3 wanted to bring this forward as soon as possible, so that
4 we can use that information to draw any conclusions or
5 determinations that we're going to make, moving forward.

6 The main columns I would like to draw to your
7 attention would be the number of listeners that were
8 on -- listening in on the conference call lines. And
9 that would begin in August, because that's when we
10 started providing the simultaneous interpretation.

11 And as you can -- as it shows, the majority of time
12 we did not have any listeners in those -- in the
13 different language lines that we provided. At the most
14 it appears we had three Spanish -- three individuals
15 listening to our Spanish line a couple of times, and
16 Khmer we had seven for that. But for the most part, as I
17 noted, there weren't any listeners on that simultaneous
18 interpretation that we were providing on the conference
19 lines.

20 And then additional information that we decided to
21 bring forward were, how many times were there requests
22 for interpretations? And then there were also a few
23 times when there was request for interpretation and it
24 wasn't used. Again, you know, that's a cost we had to
25 incur. But I felt -- we felt it was also important to

1 bring that information forward.

2 And what we did is we also showed -- and when I say
3 "we", I go back to Raul and Marcy, and we -- Commissioner
4 Akutagawa and I just said, okay, thank you for the
5 information. So thank you again for that; and also for
6 our -- Executive Director Hernandez.

7 And what we did is we estimated what the total cost
8 of interpretation, and providing that interpretation,
9 it's close to 54,500. Right now, it's an estimate
10 because we haven't received invoices for that.

11 And then what we also wanted to point out that it's
12 not only the cost that's involved, there's also a
13 tradeoff in terms of there is staffing time that was put
14 into this, obviously, one to coordinate all the lines
15 with Verizon, the training for the interpreters that were
16 provided by our staff, and at every meeting, and also
17 having to deal with any issues in terms of connectivity.

18 And there's much more that was involved, you know,
19 with the contract, with the vendor, us providing -- our
20 staff providing training to the interpreters, as well as
21 the vendor providing training to the interpreters. So
22 not only is there a dollar cost to this, but there's also
23 a staffing tradeoff, in terms of if they're working on --
24 with Verizon and troubleshooting, then obviously they're
25 not able to work on maybe some of the other duties, and

1 some other pending issues.

2 So I think that kind of gives you a good overview of
3 why we brought this information forward. Again, it's
4 informational. I'm not sure we're ready to make any
5 recommendations, but we just want to bring it forward as
6 we move forward into this next phase of the Commission.

7 And I want to pass it over to Commissioner
8 Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Actually, Commissioner
10 Fernández, you did a great presentation of it, because it
11 was such a -- you know, I think a conversation, that as a
12 Commission, that we had around language access, we felt
13 that it would be important to keep everybody informed as
14 to the statistics that we're seeing.

15 You know, we are also conscious that it's only about
16 a month's worth of statistics that we're seeing. But we
17 thought at least it would just give us a sense of just,
18 you know, the usage and where we are. And hopefully as
19 we continue forward, you know, we'll see either usage
20 increase, or it could be that this is just a snapshot.
21 And I think that's part of the reason why we're not ready
22 to make a recommendation just yet. But we wanted to just
23 make sure that you're all informed.

24 I do see that Commissioner Sinay has her hand up
25 too.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioners, for
2 doing this report. I think it's really exciting. And
3 just focusing on column number 2, it's exciting first
4 steps. Is it possible to also add some information?
5 Because when we talk about interpreters, we also talk
6 about sign language, ASL, and any way to capture some of
7 that information as well, because that is a language.

8 And I want to remind us all that this isn't really a
9 fiscal decision. It's actually a long-term decision of
10 being accessible, and being accessible to the 40
11 million -- okay 39-point-something Californians. But
12 it's about being accessible to all. And sometimes we
13 need to open small doors, and next time, you know, the
14 door gets larger and larger each time more people come
15 in.

16 I also want to remind us that the costs that we've
17 incurred right now may be little compared to the costs we
18 could incur later if we were -- if anyone accused us of
19 not being accessible in a variety of languages. So there
20 is that opportunity cost.

21 So I do want us to keep the larger picture in
22 perspective, and not look at this as fiscal -- a fiscal
23 decision based on a snapshot.

24 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Thank you for that
25 comment. And also, I just want to remind everyone that

1 we always have been accessible. We've always had a
2 translation interpretation position where, if we receive
3 requests within five working -- within five working days,
4 we would provide that interpretation request. So we have
5 been accessible.

6 And in terms of the ASL, I'm not sure how we could
7 capture that information. Of course, we are required to
8 provide that at every meeting. So regardless of what the
9 statistics would be, we would continue to provide ASL at
10 every meeting.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you for that. Any
12 other comments, questions, thoughts?

13 Well, I appreciate the work in getting this
14 together. You know, I mean, it's pretty interesting, you
15 know, that we, as Commissioner Sinay said, you know,
16 forty-four Spanish, four Somali, two Oromo, one Cantonese
17 interpretation. You know what I mean? We've had some
18 success in providing accessibility. So that's good news.

19 And Director Kaplan, thank you and your team for
20 your hard work.

21 You know, one of the things that I've been
22 reflecting on is, you know, the fourteen of us don't
23 really get to see how the sausage is made. And we only
24 get to see how things come out, right. And I think the
25 meetings ran really, really well, but the amount of work

1 behind the scenes to get the meetings set up, the
2 outreach work, you know, the work to set up, to set this
3 up to, you know, put the request form out there, and
4 coordinate all the appointments, and all that work. And
5 you know, it's a lot going on. And so thanks, thanks to
6 all the team for all the hard work on that.

7 Let's see. We've got four minutes until break. I
8 don't really feel like -- oh; Commissioner Sinay, and
9 then Commissioner Fernández.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I do want to keep -- you know,
11 on the Lessons Learned side. It would be great if staff
12 captures that lesson learned now of what administrative
13 support would have been an ideal number, and all that,
14 because the next Commission is going to go in blind like
15 we did, on knowing how to staff up. So that's really an
16 important lesson learned for everybody -- to be shared
17 now.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And then I had Commissioner
19 Fernández, and then Commissioner Turner.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Actually, the only
21 comment I was going to make was if we had to go to public
22 comment. But I will respond to Commissioner Sinay. Yes,
23 we did -- I did ask Director Kaplan and Villanueva to
24 document the information in terms of on the
25 administrative side, and then also for our Lessons

1 Learned. So we are trying to -- you know, thinking ahead
2 a little bit. So thank you for the reminder.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And I'm sorry. Commissioner
4 Turner.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh. Yes, and just
6 quickly. Thank you to Director Kaplan, and to the
7 Language Access Subcommittee for this information. I
8 think it's important that we do see the data and the
9 dollars associated. And as Commissioner Sinay said,
10 we're excited about just our widespread kind of push to
11 ensure that we're including, and making it easy for all
12 Californians to participate.

13 With that said, and with this information, I do want
14 four Lessons Learned for us to take a look at languages
15 that -- because we made a -- a choice early on of which
16 language was to include, heavily influenced by what
17 happened also with the census.

18 But I want us to keep an eye out to see if there
19 were tradeoffs that we need to make for different
20 languages instead of just -- I appreciate the door being
21 small, and then opening up wide, people generally will
22 participate more when they're aware that these services
23 are available, and see how it plays out. I get all of
24 that. And I also want us to look at the languages that
25 were selected to see if there are some that needed to be

1 a different choice. Thank you.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you. Commissioner
3 Akutagawa.

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you. And
5 thank you Commissioner Turner --

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Akutagawa, can I ask
7 you to hold your question for one second for me, please?

8 Katy, can you call for public comment for agenda
9 item 6?

10 And then we'll get to your question while we're
11 waiting to see if have a caller. So thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

13 The Commission will now take public comment on
14 agenda item number 6. To give comment, please call 877-
15 853-5247, and enter the meeting ID number 83865657077 for
16 this meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press star
17 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in
18 instructions have been read previously in this meeting,
19 and are provided in full on the live stream landing page.

20 There you go.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks. Commissioner Akutagawa.

22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: All right. Thank you very
23 much. And I just want to also thank and acknowledge
24 Commissioner Turner for what she also said, too. I
25 think, and you know, like I said, this is just a small

1 snapshot of a month of -- basically just about, roughly
2 about a month's worth of the interpretation that we were
3 able to provide.

4 I will just say that there are some interesting -- I
5 won't say surprises -- but there were some interesting, I
6 guess, usages that -- I mean, you know, when we put out
7 the -- you know, what we were going to do, the choices
8 that we had to make based on the top languages, based on
9 the size of the populations, including also looking at
10 which were the communities that had the larger numbers of
11 limited English-proficient community members.

12 You know, we still just went on, you know, those
13 larger numbers. But I do want to just point out that in
14 terms of the individuals who listened in on the
15 simultaneous interpretation; I just want to just point
16 out that it was interesting to see that there were seven
17 listeners who listened in Khmer which is the Cambodian
18 language. As well as we also had three that were
19 listening in in Punjabi, which is an Indian language as
20 well too; we had one Armenian, and seven Spanish
21 speakers.

22 Although in terms of the interpretation, those who
23 gave testimony in Spanish, the numbers were pretty
24 significant in the -- relative to, you know, when you
25 think about the other numbers.

1 The other parts that I do want to also just point
2 out is -- and I think maybe this is kind of aligned with
3 what Commissioner Turner was also saying, in terms of the
4 Somali and Oromo requests, and it was nice to see that
5 our -- you know, our community members who had requested
6 early on in our process, I recollect back to February
7 when we did have the request to provide translation --
8 interpretation in Somali and Oromo, that they continued
9 to stay involved enough that they wanted to also be able
10 to listen in, at least to a meeting where they requested
11 that that interpretation as well too.

12 And I also just want to point out that while we did
13 have a request for interpretation in Pashto, which is the
14 Afghan language, it looks like that individual did not
15 show up. But I think -- I do want to also just
16 acknowledge that there are these, perhaps, considerations
17 going forward for Lessons Learned that we will have to
18 take into account, and even as we're going forward in the
19 work that we do currently as the 2020 Commission.

20 So yeah, so anyways, I just wanted to just
21 acknowledge that. And just frankly, I'm just kind of
22 really excited about that we were able to do this, and to
23 see what was happening, and you know, just being able to
24 see the engagement that we got too. So thank you all.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner Akutagawa.

1 Commissioner (sic) Kaplan, I see you have your hand
2 up. We're up against a break. So if you could be
3 succinct. Thank you.

4 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Just really quickly. I just
5 wanted to highlight all the great work that the Outreach
6 Team had done in really promoting the language
7 accessibility as well. I had shared this with the
8 subcommittee, in addition to the administrative effort,
9 just really the targeted outreach that was done
10 statewide, with communications and the outreach team, not
11 just focused on the specific zones, but really
12 identifying communities across the state that served LAP
13 communities for these languages, and really also making
14 sure, as much as possible, getting the language line
15 information up.

16 Whether it was at the VSS landing page, on our
17 meetings page, in our social media, email blasts, and
18 even in our flyers, ensuring that those were translated
19 in multiple languages, and identifying what days there
20 was additional translation availability.

21 And then also -- just also, thank you for the note
22 about putting all of this together. And I also just want
23 to highlight the support from my team, too, that helped
24 really track this through the process, and help put
25 together the document as well. So thank you.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thanks, Director Kaplan. I
2 really appreciate it, and appreciate all the effort that
3 you and your team put into it.

4 With that, we're up against a break. We're a little
5 bit over. It's 11:05 right now. So we'll be back at
6 11:20. Thanks.

7 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 11:05 a.m.
8 until 11:20 a.m.)

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome back, California. Thank
10 you for joining us, to the California Citizens
11 Redistricting Commission Meeting today.

12 Let's see. In this session of the meeting, we are
13 joined again by our line drawing team and our legal team.
14 And we are going to take the rest of -- much of the rest
15 of the day to provide direction to the line drawing team
16 about our Zones A, C, and E, which is the North Coast --
17 well, Zone A, I think now, is going to be referred to as
18 the Bigfoot Zone; and then C is the Bay Area, and E is
19 the Central Coast.

20 Let's see. Before we get started, I want to provide
21 a little bit of feedback to the Commissioners about the
22 process, and just, the note-taking team struggled a
23 little bit to kind of keep up. And it at times wasn't
24 clear exactly when a given Commissioner was providing
25 direction.

1 So what I'd like to ask us all to do is just, you
2 know, talk about your thoughts and your perspective and
3 you know, kind of what you're feeling and then thinking
4 about a given area, but when you get to a point where
5 you're ready to give direction, just please slow down and
6 say: The direction I want to give is; and then just be
7 very -- you know, go a little bit slowly, and be very
8 explicit about what you want that direction to be, as
9 best we can.

10 And if it's -- if there is some lack of clarity,
11 we'll come back to you and request some clarity, so we
12 can ensure, you know, that we get the input that you're
13 intending.

14 You know, the other thing is, you know, I just want
15 to check in a little bit, just briefly, on the process,
16 you know. I know last time it was a little new to
17 everybody, and you know, there was some uncertainty about
18 what we're doing and why. I mean, I was feeling
19 uncertain also about this process, and not knowing how it
20 was going to play out. I guess, from my perspective, I
21 just felt like I should trust the process, and trust the
22 experts that they're going to get us where we need to be.

23 But I just, I want to leave a little bit of space
24 here. You know, I know we need to move forward, but
25 leave a little bit of space if any of the other

1 Commissioners wanted to, you know, want to comment on the
2 process, or how they're -- how they're feeling about, or
3 if they have questions, or need some more clarity.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you for that
5 Commissioner -- Chair Fornaciari. So for me, definitely
6 in a place of wanting to trust the process, I'm going to
7 be really anxious when we have the other piece parts that
8 we need, but just, I'll name that that I'm -- that's
9 exactly where I'm hanging out. But I do appreciate those
10 that have a vision for painting on a canvas without all
11 of the numbers. And we'll just kind of follow along with
12 that thought process. Thank you.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. Thank you,
14 Commissioner Turner. Anybody else?

15 Okay. Well, we can -- you know, we can answer
16 questions, or you know, take comments as we go along. So
17 at this point I'll turn it over to Commissioners Sadhwani
18 and Andersen, and the team. Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you very much,
20 Chair. I think I'm going to go ahead and jump in. And I
21 appreciate your thoughtfulness and organization, and also
22 the tips of, once we get into the directions to actually
23 say: The direction I want to get is. I think that will
24 greatly help.

25 Now, for Commissioners that have heard this, we did

1 it the last time, but for any of the public who's turning
2 in now, what we plan to do is, you've heard the public
3 input. That's for the public input meetings, and that's
4 on our website. The videos are under the meetings, the
5 Meeting tab, you can look at those. And the input -- the
6 information is all being put into our public input
7 database, which is under the Data tab.

8 Now, what we're going to lead off with is the
9 mappers are going to be walking us through the COI input
10 that has come in through the COI tool, and walk us
11 through sort of the summary of what we've seen, also new
12 things since our last review of this area.

13 Then, we're going to go to the Commissioners who
14 were the liaisons for -- in this area we're covering the
15 three Zones A, C, and E. So the Commissioners who were
16 the liaisons for those areas will then review what we're
17 calling the "office input", the public input.

18 And that is, it's not from the -- from our staff,
19 it's what the public has sent in, in either email,
20 letter, phone, or through our website. And so the
21 Commissioner liaisons for the areas will do a quick
22 summary of those. At that point, we will then start
23 giving direction to the line drawers.

24 So at that -- so with that, we're going to turn it
25 over to our line drawing team.

1 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much, Chair Fornaciari, and
2 Commissioner Andersen. Good morning to all
3 Commissioners, and everybody watching from home.

4 Just again, a quick overview of what we did last
5 time, and what we're doing today. On Wednesday we
6 summarized the public input that the Commission has
7 received so far from Los Angeles County. We took a look
8 at the citizen voting age population in Los Angeles
9 County and received preliminary direction on creating
10 visualizations in that area.

11 Today, we are doing the same thing for the Northern
12 Coast, or Bigfoot Zone. For the Bay Area counties in
13 California, and for the central coast of California,
14 again, these correspond with the Commission's outreach
15 Zones, A, C, and E.

16 I am filling in for Karin, just for this morning.
17 And she's going to be here as soon as she can. She'll be
18 here shortly.

19 And today, we're going to be working with Tamina,
20 who is mapping Zones A, C, and E. Again, Tamina will be
21 working with you. We're following, roughly, the same
22 outline today as we did on Wednesday. Except, Tamina is
23 going to show some of the COI she was planning to show
24 during her last COI presentation. But due to technical
25 issues was unable to.

1 And also we'll be showing the three COIs that were
2 not shown due to a miscommunication, and the COIs that
3 were submitted between August 26th and September 10th,
4 through the COI tool, by members of the public.

5 And with that, I'm going to pass the mic to your VRA
6 attorneys, and we'll go from there. Thank you, again, so
7 much for having us today.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, before they jump
9 in, I'd like to jump back in. There has been posted to
10 our website, and the Commissioners should have received
11 this, there's a copy of -- just for, you know, a little
12 cheat sheet, as I call it, a legend. And that's if -- I
13 don't know if you can show that document, and I'll just
14 have everybody look at it.

15 Basically, it does a reminder of what the colors are
16 for the Congressional districts, the Assembly districts,
17 the Senate districts, which are green, blue, red. Hope I
18 got that right.

19 And then it also has the legends for the variations
20 of color for the CVAP populations, in the Latino, Black,
21 and Asian. So if you want to refer to that document just
22 as they're going through things.

23 So now I'll turn it over to our VRA team.

24 Sorry. Commissioner Sinay.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I was just curious.

1 Where do Native Americans or tribal communities fall
2 under the V-whatever it is; the different communities,
3 ethnic communities?

4 MR. BECKER: I might --

5 MS. CLARK: Are you referring --

6 MR. BECKER: Go ahead. Jaime, do you want to go, or
7 do you want me to go? Okay.

8 Are you are you referring for purposes of Voting
9 Rights Act analysis, Commissioner Sinay?

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

11 MR. BECKER: So again if -- they absolutely --
12 Native-American populations absolutely are a
13 consideration under Voting Rights Act analyses, but for
14 purposes of redistricting, the communities would need to
15 meet the same Gingles pre-conditions all other minority
16 communities do, which means that, first of all, they
17 would need to be large enough, and geographically compact
18 enough to form a district, a majority in a district.

19 I have not seen the data all throughout California,
20 and I know we're still getting the population data in,
21 I'm not sure if there's any areas where that's likely to
22 occur, but we'll keep an eye on that and advise if we see
23 any -- place where it's even close.

24 Jaime, did you have anything you wanted to add to
25 that?

1 MS. CLARK: (No audible response).

2 MR. BECKER: Okay.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I think we have Commissioner
4 Kennedy with a question. I don't know if you can see
5 everybody, the Commissioners.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, just following up on
7 that. Thank you for that, David. I am remembering,
8 though, that there was mention that in 2011 there was a
9 sovereign tribal nation in Northern California that ended
10 up with its lands split. And so you know, I think we
11 definitely want to make sure that we're not doing that,
12 if at all possible.

13 MR. BECKER: That's a really great point,
14 Commissioner Kennedy. And let me just be clear, that
15 specifically, the Gingles pre-conditions only require --
16 only cover Voting Rights Act compliance issues. But
17 absolutely communities like Native American communities,
18 like tribal communities, like areas that might have some
19 level of tribal sovereignty, those absolutely could be
20 considered communities of interest, and are absolutely
21 appropriate to consider in that context.

22 MS. CLARK: And if I may? We do have the census
23 geography for tribal areas in California, that's
24 reservations and rancherias throughout California for the
25 most part, and in the line drawing -- the preliminary

1 line-drawing direction part of this meeting. If that's a
2 direction you would wish to give, then that's a direction
3 we'll absolutely receive. Thank you.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes. Commissioner Kennedy.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I hereby, give that
6 direction. Thank you.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Is that specific enough,
8 Ms. Clark; is that direction specific enough?

9 MS. CLARK: Thank you. Yes. Thank you.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Okay. Who's been trying
11 to --

12 MR. BECKER: Mr. Chair, if I could just interject
13 for just a moment.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes. Sure.

15 MR. BECKER: I should note that we've got several
16 members of the legal team, along with the line drawing
17 team here today. In addition to myself, I think we've
18 got Dale Larson and Julia Michel on. And I can't see
19 everyone on the video, but feel free to wave.

20 And is there anyone else, Dale, from the team that I
21 haven't seen?

22 MR. LARSON: No. And I think this is the first time
23 you all on the Commission, have had a chance to meet our
24 colleague from Strumwasser & Woocher, Julia Michel.
25 She's been working behind the scenes, but she'll be with

1 all day today. And in the afternoon, after lunch,
2 Salvador Pérez, whom you have met before, will be on as
3 well with Julia.

4 MR. BECKER: And I'll just add. I'm probably only
5 here for a couple of hours today, but the other, the
6 other lawyers will serve well, I know. And let me know
7 if we need to -- I don't want to rehash some of the
8 discussions we had yesterday -- or rather two days ago,
9 that with regard to the balancing of the factors, and the
10 ranking of the factors, and where public input, while
11 it's a very, very important aspect of the redistricting
12 criteria, where that falls in the priorities. And how
13 we're doing our best to start with that; but there will
14 be a balancing of priorities as we go through -- as we go
15 through this process. But I want to make sure we can hit
16 the ground running as much as possible.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Great.

18 MR. BECKER: So Jaime, do you think it's appropriate
19 to move on to the citizen voting age population of the
20 areas in which -- which we're focusing on today?

21 MS. CLARK: If this --

22 MR. BECKER: Commissioner Fornaciari, is that all
23 right? And I'm sorry; Commissioners Sadhwani and
24 Andersen?

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, please.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I'll defer to Commissioner
2 Andersen and Sadhwani at this point. Thanks.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, please. Thank you.

4 MR. BECKER: That's great. Jaime, you have the go
5 ahead.

6 MS. CLARK: All right. Thank you. And Tamina is
7 mapping for this session.

8 So Tamina, could you please pull up the census block
9 layer with citizen voting age population? And we'll go
10 into it.

11 So again, Tamina, I'll quit talking. So again, we
12 have the citizen percent -- Latino citizen voting age
13 population displayed on the map right now, throughout the
14 State of California because it's -- every single census
15 block (indiscernible) now is very difficult to see.

16 Tamina will zoom in probably first to the Northern Coast
17 area, and then move down to Bay Area and -- move down to
18 the Bay Area and Central Coast.

19 The map takes a bit of time to load with this much
20 data in the map as you can -- as you can tell.

21 (Pause)

22 MR. BECKER: While we're doing this, I'll just
23 remind everyone, from the last time, the intensity of the
24 shading reflects the percentage of -- this is Latino
25 community, correct, Jaime and Tamina?

1 MS. CLARK: (No verbal response).

2 MR. BECKER: In each of the census blocks, but the
3 census blocks are not standardized for size, so some of
4 them are blocks that hold fewer people than others. So
5 they don't necessarily reflect total population for this
6 purpose, but they do show you where concentrations of
7 populations exist.

8 MS. CLARK: And Tamina, I think, when you're ready.
9 We could take a look at the percent Black citizens voting
10 age population, please?

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So Jaime, I have a question for
12 you. If the light yellow is zero to thirty percent,
13 there're some white blocks -- there are some blocks that
14 have no color. Is that your --

15 MS. CLARK: Yeah. So that would be zero population
16 blocks.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

18 MS. CLARK: Thank you for that question.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: One quick follow-up question,
20 Jaime, and Chair, if you don't mind. With that, the
21 light the light color would be zero, or the one that's
22 showing white would be zero. How does that play with the
23 unincorporated area that you talked about that would be
24 white, or somewhat I thought I understood to say was also
25 white?

1 MS. CLARK: So some census blocks in that
2 unincorporated area will be zero population, and some
3 might have people living there and wouldn't necessarily
4 be zero population. Of course we can show the CVAP data
5 with cities and census-designated places also on the map
6 at the same time, to better understand where those --
7 where population is and is not.

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

9 MS. CLARK: And again and again, we don't have the
10 final data yet, with the incarcerated persons'
11 reallocation, and when we do, you'll have a better
12 understanding of how those interact.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Mm-hmm. Thank you.

14 MS. RAMOS ALON: We're zooming in now, on the Black
15 CVAP data. We'll start in the north, and we will head
16 south. Please feel free to let me know if there are any
17 areas you would like me to zoom in on, or linger over for
18 a moment.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can we zoom in on East Bay?
20 Thanks.

21 MS. RAMOS ALON: You're welcome.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'm sorry, just -- I'm sorry,
23 just a second. Can you go back down a little bit? The
24 Northern Contra Costa, is that Pittsburg where there's
25 a -- right there? Okay, Pittsburg and Antioch? Okay.

1 MS. RAMOS ALON: Yes. It's Pittsburg, Antioch, and
2 parts of Bay Point.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you.

4 MS. RAMOS ALON: You're welcome.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh, wait. In San Joaquin, can
6 we zoom in to see exactly what area that is as well, with
7 the higher concentration? Higher up, a little higher,
8 there.

9 MS. RAMOS ALON: This is actually an unincorporated
10 area outside of Terminous.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I think the population out there
12 is going to be really small.

13 (Pause)

14 MS. RAMOS ALON: I'll be zooming back out to state
15 view.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: So at this level, all of the
17 green that we would see is representative of the Black
18 CVAP and does not include any landmarks, of geography, or
19 trees, or land, or anything? I'm just thinking about the
20 green color.

21 MS. RAMOS ALON: That's correct. And a very great
22 observation; the landmark areas' layer is turned off at
23 this time. I'll now be shifting to the Asian CVAP.

24 (Pause)

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Chair, another question, Jane?

1 Sticking with that color, do you, Tamina, foresee an
2 issue, whereby, when we do have geography layered that it
3 would make difficult to differentiate between the CVAP
4 green, and the other green on the map?

5 MS. RAMOS ALON: If you would like to turn on the
6 layers simultaneously, then yes, that would be difficult.
7 However, we can always turn that landmark layer off, if
8 there's another layer with green that you would like to
9 see, so that they can be more easily visible.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I think I was thinking more
11 along the lines of wondering, even with the fellow
12 Commissioners, it could have been just me, but should we
13 perhaps at this earlier stage, choose a different color
14 that won't be mixed, so that we can see them both?

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So Commissioner Akutagawa has her
16 hand up? I'm sorry.

17 Commissioner Andersen, can you see everyone?

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I can't see everyone. If
19 you people could raise the hand, because then it puts
20 them into the right spot, I can easily see them.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: On that, I might ask the
23 mappers -- Commissioner Turner, that's a very good idea.
24 Is there a possibility of changing that color, just so
25 you know?

1 MS. CLARK: Yeah, we can absolutely change that
2 color? Is there a color you would prefer it to be?
3 Right now we have the red color scheme for Latino CVAP,
4 we have a blue color scheme for Asian CVAP.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could we go, say, purple?
6 Is that -- it's something that's different? Oh, no.
7 Sorry, there --

8 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I think there already is a
9 purple.

10 MS. CLARK: The blue for Asian CVAP is like kind of
11 an indigo.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Okay.

13 MS. CLARK: So it might be -- and for people who are
14 colorblind, blue and purple can be difficult to
15 differentiate.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, right. Is there a color
17 you would suggest?

18 MS. CLARK: This might be something we can explore
19 off-line.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: The only the only challenge is
22 that if we use the -- sorry for not raising my hand --
23 but if we say okay, green is too much like plants and
24 stuff, we can also make that argument for Asian, and blue
25 is too much like water. And so I think we're going to

1 start going down a rabbit hole that's going to be a
2 little complicated. I don't know if we'll ever use the
3 two layers, the geography layer with the CVAP layer. And
4 maybe that's the question to ask the line drawers.

5 MS. CLARK: You can always turn the different layers
6 on and off, and put different opacities on the landmark
7 area, and on the census block layer so it would be
8 possible, definitely, to differentiate between the two.
9 Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. We might explore a
11 bit of that. The Line Drawing Subcommittee, to bring up
12 a different possibility.

13 Commissioner Akutagawa.

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So I just wanted to
15 follow up on what was said about accessibility and for
16 those who are colorblind, I think that that should
17 probably be the main consideration. I think there -- it
18 sounds like there could be distinctions made between, you
19 know, bodies of water, and I don't know, whatever green
20 we might use for something else, but I think blue -- it's
21 either green, red, or blue, that I think are ones that
22 individuals who are colorblind, or are unable to see, or
23 see clearly.

24 And so I think I would just like to recommend that
25 we just avoid those colors, and be conscious about that

1 in terms of even, I think, those designations for -- it
2 looks like the different districts. So it just makes it
3 so that we avoid any problems later on around
4 accessibility later on.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Let's continue
6 on where we are then, we'll --

7 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Well, I have my hand up again?

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, I'm sorry. I can't see
9 you. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: That's okay.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Turner.

12 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. And I'm fine to allow
13 the subcommittee to continue to have discussion about it.
14 But one last thought I would throw in, was to perhaps
15 have a grid through the colors so that we'd be clear if
16 those colors work best for the mappers. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Let's continue
18 on, please.

19 MS. RAMOS ALON: Certainly. So we are now looking
20 at Asian CVAP. We are zoomed in on the upper north
21 western part of our regions, starting with Del Norte and
22 going south.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can we zoom in in Siskiyou
24 County? Because I know there is really a large Hmong
25 community, or relative.

1 MS. CLARK: And just a quick reminder for
2 Commissioners that today we're focusing really on the
3 coastal areas, and we'll do the same review of all the
4 CVAP for all of our preliminary line drawings.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I keep looking --

6 MS. CLARK: (Indiscernible, simultaneous speech) --

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- at all of it together.

8 Sorry.

9 MS. CLARK: Absolutely. Yeah. And thank you so
10 much. Thanks, Tamina.

11 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I guess on that note, could
12 we go back up to Humboldt?

13 MS. RAMOS ALON: A few census blocks outside of
14 Ferndale, Humboldt Hill, and Blue Lake.

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: It also looked like there
16 was something in the eastern part of that county too.

17 MS. RAMOS ALON: And it looks like a block in an
18 unincorporated area.

19 (Pause)

20 MS. RAMOS ALON: Zooming in a little bit as we get
21 to the Bay Area.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And can you also show
23 Vallejo in that area as well?

24 MS. RAMOS ALON: Yes. Here's Vallejo and American
25 Canyon, a few blocks in Benicia.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just a quick question. On San
2 Francisco and Daly City, just kind of, if we can, we --
3 yeah, if we can zoom in. And we don't know the different
4 ethnicities within the Asian communities that are being
5 shown here in San Mateo and San Francisco, correct?

6 MS. RAMOS ALON: Yeah.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Yeah, if we can go
8 to East Bay as well, a little zoomed in. Thanks.

9 (Pause)

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Actually, Tamina, can you do me a
11 favor, and move the map back up a little bit? Would it
12 be possible to turn on the Congressional districts? So
13 that's CD 17, right there. Okay. So can you show that
14 whole district for me, please? Can you zoom out a little
15 bit, or whatever? Okay. Thank you so much.

16 MS. RAMOS ALON: You're welcome.

17 (Pause)

18 MS. RAMOS ALON: And that concludes our zone. If
19 anyone would like to see any particular pieces again,
20 then I'd be happy to show them.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I don't see any hands. So
22 let's continue on, please.

23 MS. RAMOS ALON: Then I will pass it back to
24 (indiscernible).

25 MR. BECKER: So if I can interject one more quick

1 moment, if there's no questions out there. One of the
2 things we could do now for you is similar to what we did
3 a couple of days ago. We could zoom in on an Assembly
4 district under the current maps, and show you the kind of
5 concentrations we might see in terms of CVAP.

6 And I'm unsure if Megan Gall has joined us, because
7 I can't see everybody on here, but perhaps we'll be able
8 to talk just at a very, very preliminary level about the
9 kind of racially polarized voting analysis that we will
10 be able to provide. So --

11 MR. LARSON: David?

12 MR. BECKER: Yeah.

13 MR. LARSON: David, I just want you to know that
14 Megan is on standby, if you'd like for her to join in, I
15 can arrange for that.

16 MR. BECKER: Let's, she might want to join in right
17 now, if possible, it might be good.

18 MR. LARSON: Great.

19 MR. BECKER: And Jaime and Tamina, which Assembly
20 district were we looking at again; was it 25?

21 MS. CLARK: 25.

22 MR. BECKER: Okay. And again, the only reason
23 we're -- I think we can zoom in on that with the -- with
24 the Assembly District boundaries. The only reason we're
25 looking at the existing Assembly district boundaries is

1 because that's where the elections were held, so the
2 election results are relevant to those boundaries, but
3 we're not suggesting that necessarily, you need to try to
4 match those in any way. It's just that that's the --
5 where the relevant elections were.

6 So you see here, it just kind of goes up in around
7 Santa Clara. Zoom in, if I think if I -- if I think I
8 have this right, I think that's Fremont, Newark, that
9 general area as well, right. And you can see the very
10 strong concentrations of Asian populations according to
11 CVAP in this area. I think it was, if not the highest,
12 it was one of the highest Asian CVAP existing Assembly
13 districts.

14 And we just wanted to show this to you to kind of
15 get a lay of the land and see where the population
16 concentrations -- the concentration populations, again,
17 I'll just say this. So in case anyone missed it a couple
18 of days ago.

19 These are the most up-to-date citizen voting age
20 population numbers we have based at the census block
21 level, which is the smallest level in census geography.
22 And we've overlaid the existing, some might say "old
23 Assembly districts", on top of them, because that is
24 why -- that is where the relevant elections are.

25 If Megan joins us at some point, we'll have -- I'll

1 have her discuss if she's been able to get any very
2 preliminary analysis of elections that have been run
3 there.

4 And does anyone have any questions about this
5 district in the concentrations?

6 And obviously there are concentrations outside of
7 these areas as well. And some of these -- some of these
8 surrounding Assembly districts, I should just say
9 briefly, are among the most heavily Asian Assembly
10 districts in the -- using the current lines as well.

11 So without knowing the exact total populations, I
12 think it's fairly safe to say this is going to be an area
13 where we're going to want to pay particular attention to
14 with regard to the Voting Rights Act. Confirm what the
15 Asian populations of these areas are relative to the
16 surrounding populations, and then take a look at some
17 elections, likely to see if all three Gingles pre-
18 conditions are met.

19 And I'll just summarize again. The first Gingles
20 pre-condition is a minority group large enough and
21 geographically compact enough to form a majority in a
22 district. And in an Assembly district we're talking
23 about roughly give or -- probably a little bit less than
24 250,000. And that the minority group, in this case
25 Asians vote cohesively for the same candidates, and that

1 those candidates would be defeated by the majority
2 because they are not considered a majority; so racially
3 polarized voting in the second or third Gingles pre-
4 condition.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fernández.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Can we zoom out
7 just a little? Because I want to see Assembly District
8 25 where the boundaries are, because I am getting
9 confused between the county lines and the -- I think
10 those are the county lines? Okay. Perfect. Thank you.

11 MR. BECKER: Tamina, could you turn on -- yeah.
12 Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That's great. Thank you.
14 Thank you, Tamina.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Is it possible in the future,
16 the little brackets that say "Assembly District 24", that
17 pink part in the background is -- kind of covers up
18 everything, so it's hard to see what's underneath it. Is
19 it possible to make it lighter? Oh, sorry, sorry to
20 everyone who had their hands up.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Kennedy.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. Just wanting to ask
23 Tamina to pop on the topography layer for a second so
24 that, particularly with us zoomed out like this, we'd
25 like to see the lay of the land a little bit.

1 MS. CLARK: And if I may?

2 MS. RAMOS ALON: Sorry to take so long to put that
3 on.

4 MS. CLARK: Thanks Tamina. Yeah. And I think with
5 the topography layer, it's fully opaque so we can't see
6 the layers underneath, like the CVAP, so we could turn
7 that on and off. And also just for the future, when
8 we're more zoomed out, we saw how long it took the map to
9 load all the individual census blocks. And then with the
10 terrain, there's a potential it could crash the map, so
11 just -- so just a heads up about that for the future.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: If I can just jump in here. That
14 was a little bit misleading too in that -- I mean, that
15 area of green where those hills are, hardly anybody lives
16 up there. It's a really rugged mountainous area. It
17 showed a road going through there, but it's like a four-
18 hour drive to go on that road to get to San Jose. So
19 it's not like there's anything out there.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could we actually see the
21 Senate districts over this overlay -- or in this area,
22 and then a Congressional?

23 (Pause)

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you. Were
25 there also areas that you were going to show this for --

1 this is for the Asian; were you going to show any for
2 Latino and/or Black?

3 MR. BECKER: We didn't have any prepared for this.
4 We have a Latina session. Sorry. My dogs are parked in
5 the back. We have a Latino area we were going to
6 highlight tomorrow when we get to the Central Valley.

7 MR. DRECHSLER: And we did do a Black CVAP on
8 Wednesdays, and also tomorrow, in the Bay Area, we're
9 going to do an Asian overlay as well.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Commissioner Sinay.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can you explain why we didn't
12 do the other communities? I'm sorry. The CVAP for the
13 other communities, because I thought that's how we were
14 starting each of these sessions, was with the CVAP for
15 the areas we had just studied?

16 MR. BECKER: Oh. I'm sorry. We weren't going to do
17 a focus on those, but I believe we did show the overview
18 for all three major minority groups throughout the areas
19 that we were looking at. But we can zoom in again if
20 you'd like to. We don't have a specific Assembly
21 district for today to zoom in on, is what I meant. But
22 if we want to zoom back out and look at the other
23 minority groups, and zoom in on particular areas, I think
24 we do have -- Tamina, we have the capacity to do that as
25 you like?

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Did we do Latino, and I just
2 zoned out and missed it?

3 MR. BECKER: It was at the beginning.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Sorry.

5 MR. BECKER: No. No problem. But we can go back to
6 that if -- this is really for your purposes, so whatever
7 you find useful, I think -- Tamina, am I right; we can go
8 back to Latino?

9 MS. RAMOS ALON: Yes, we can.

10 MR. BECKER: The coastal areas. Yeah, thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Fornaciari.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. I would like to, if you
13 could zoom in to AD -- where is my note -- ADs 29 and 30
14 in Monterey County when -- with the Latino CVAP.

15 (Pause)

16 MS. RAMOS ALON: Hovering above the county lines, so
17 you can see them a little better.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Just so that everyone --

19 MS. RAMOS ALON: (Indiscernible)

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: These were Section 5 districts
21 from last time?

22 MS. CLARK: The county was a Section 5 county during
23 the last redistricting.

24 MS. RAMOS ALON: And Assembly District 30, is here.

25 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Can you turn the county lines on

1 real quick, please?

2 (Pause)

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'm good if you want to go
4 somewhere else.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could we zoom in on, say,
6 the Bay Area? And then look at Latino, and then also the
7 Black population.

8 (Pause)

9 MS. RAMOS ALON: I'll be switching to the Black CVAP
10 now. And my apologies for all these dialog boxes you're
11 seeing.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could we see -- could you
13 kind of zoom in, can we see, like, the Assembly districts
14 on this, please?

15 MS. RAMOS ALON: Absolutely.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And turn off the
17 county lines for a minute, please. Can you go through,
18 which district is which, because, I mean is this -- is
19 the 17 the one that has San Francisco? And what's the
20 one that has most of Oakland? I'm just missing the names
21 here. Oh, 18. Okay.

22 MR. BECKER: Yeah.

23 MS. RAMOS ALON: San Francisco is divided into
24 Assembly District 17, and Assembly District 19. And
25 Oakland has the majority of it in Assembly District 18

1 with the northern end in Assembly District 15.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And can you go up to
3 Richmond, please, Assembly District 15?

4 MS. RAMOS ALON: Richmond is wholly contained in
5 Assembly District 15.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right. Thank you. I don't
7 see any more questions. Do we want -- actually as a
8 Commission here, I believe we sort of did this general
9 direction as far as the Voting Rights Act last week, and
10 I think I'd like to just -- so essentially my notes
11 offer -- let's give direction. And please, any other
12 Commissioners who want to either clarify what I'm trying
13 to say. Oh, oh, I'm sorry.

14 Ray? Ray, do you have your hand up?

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: (No verbal response).

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. Okay. Then what I'd
17 like to say is, as we said before, the direction is, we
18 want to follow the Constitutional requirements,
19 population, Voting Rights Act, contiguous, and
20 communities, cities, kinds of interests, communities of
21 interest.

22 And could we also, please, see what areas we would
23 need to look at as considering for the proper voting
24 rights districts in these areas? Well, that's not kind
25 of an official -- please show us those, as we then

1 continue to say, hey, I'd like to see our different
2 directions as far communities of interest.

3 And Commissioner Turner.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I want you to say what
5 you said again. I didn't understand it at all.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you for asking for
7 clarity. Yes. Basically, we want to follow the
8 Constitution, which we've already said before, obviously.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- in the correct order. We
11 do not want to -- we're not saying all -- a criterion for
12 above any of the other criteria -- criterion. But what
13 we what I'm trying to say is, to go ahead and show the
14 voting rights area -- districts that you -- that the
15 consultants feel these are areas where, you know, you've
16 shown us the areas where they have high concentrations.
17 Would you please then work a little more in those areas?

18 MR. BECKER: And if it's -- if it's okay for me to
19 interject very briefly.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Please.

21 MR. BECKER: What we might want to do, I think Jaime
22 has a community of interest presentation that overlays
23 some communities of interest, as we did two days ago,
24 that might help inform you as you're considering
25 instructions to give the line drawers. And in

1 particular, you know, the instructions that are -- that I
2 think are going to be particularly helpful, are the ones
3 that help balance the criteria four, where there're some
4 discretion, cities, counties, and communities of
5 interest, where communities of interest might -- you
6 might want us to give attention to giving them
7 precedence, perhaps, over political boundaries, or vice
8 versa, where you think appropriate. Shall we? Is it
9 okay to have Jaime go to the communities of interest
10 portion?

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, that that's next. I
12 just didn't know if we were going to be losing you soon.
13 So I just wanted to say so --

14 MR. BECKER: I think I'm here for another forty-five
15 to sixty minutes.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right. Continue on,
17 then.

18 MS. CLARK: Tamina has a summary of community of
19 interest testimony received through the COI tool so far,
20 and turning it over to her for that. Thank you so much.

21 MS. RAMOS ALON: Thanks, Jaime. Good morning,
22 Commissioners. First, I would like to apologize for any
23 confusion from the last time we visited these regions.
24 Today, we're going to be looking at the three COIs which
25 were identified at the last meeting, and the new COIs

1 which were submitted on the Map My CA Community tool,
2 between the last meeting and September 10th.

3 I would also like to ask your indulgence to allow me
4 to present a few more COIs, which I was not able to
5 present during our last meeting due to technical
6 difficulties with our files. I will put them up, and you
7 can, please, let me know whether you would like me to
8 speed up, or slow down, or any way that I can
9 accommodate.

10 We're going to be starting today up in the North
11 Coast. We're going to do just as we did last time,
12 starting up in the northern -- northwestern area of the
13 state and working our way down the coast until we get to
14 Ventura.

15 This is our first COI. This COI encompasses -- I'm
16 sorry, let me make it visible. This COI encompasses the
17 counties of Del Norte down to Marin, and the submitter of
18 this COI identified the community as a majority White
19 area, known for being very pro-weed, and having a green
20 marine feel. However, there were similar submissions,
21 including -- which included this basic geography and
22 added or excluded the county.

23 Such as taking out Del Norte, or adding Lake County,
24 or adding -- going -- adding or subtracting Marin. So
25 the interests in all of these communities include

1 environmental concerns, climate change, and a culture of
2 coastal living.

3 Next, we are in Trinity County with a little bit
4 into Humboldt and Del Norte. We are following the
5 Klamath River here, and the person who submitted this COI
6 notes that the community is united by this river.
7 They're concerned with how those downstream from them are
8 treating their river ecosystem.

9 Moving south to Lake County; the submitter of this
10 COI notes that they are united by a desire to keep out
11 crime and drugs.

12 South to Napa County, the person who submitted this
13 COI says that their community values agriculture,
14 tourism, environmental sustainability, and fair housing.

15 Those are some of the larger COIs that we saw for
16 this region. We're now going to go back up and do some
17 ones that are a little bit smaller, and zoom in on the
18 areas.

19 So we're going back up north to Humboldt. And this
20 is the Western Humboldt coast area. The submitter of
21 this COI reports a shared rural lifestyle, and belief in
22 maintaining a healthy and sustainable economy. This
23 community is also united in its concern about climate
24 change.

25 I'm going to go south a little bit more coming to

1 Sonoma. This COI has Western Sonoma County. The
2 submitter of this COI identifies shared community
3 interest in agriculture, nature, and mindful and
4 sustainable living. I'll zoom in a little bit so you can
5 see the cities from here, Pescadero down through
6 Bloomfield.

7 Also in Sonoma County to the south are two COIs
8 which were submitted, one which is the Petaluma area, and
9 the other which is Rohnert Park. The submitters of these
10 COIs both noted that they share transportation interests
11 and strong family values.

12 This COI takes all of Napa County, and some of
13 Sonoma and Solano counties. The person who submitted
14 this COI, said that the community depends on the wine
15 industry for jobs, and the community wants to find ways
16 to create an inclusive environment for children,
17 families, and seniors, as well as LGBTQs, Spanish-
18 speaking community members, and low-income families.

19 Moving into West Solano County; I'll zoom in a
20 little so you can see the cities, Benicia and Vallejo,
21 north to Allendale. The submitter of this COI notes that
22 the community is united by a common respect and
23 appreciation for nature, opportunity, and camaraderie.

24 This COI was named the Northeast Bay, and the
25 submitter of this COI notes that the community contains

1 large retail shopping centers and upper-class suburbs
2 that unite both sides of the water, the water being the
3 Delta, right along here.

4 We're now going to go again to some smaller COIs in
5 the area, starting in Marin County, this COI is called
6 Woodacre in San Geronimo Valley. The person who
7 submitted this COI highlights the community's shared
8 interests on rural living.

9 We're going to be going south now, heading into San
10 Francisco. And I'm going to turn on the San Francisco
11 neighborhoods layers so that we can see where we are
12 here. The person who submitted this COI notes a common
13 community, family, LGBTQIA+, and transit issues. And
14 this is specifically for the community known as Glen
15 Park.

16 The next COI in San Francisco that we have is
17 Westside, San Francisco. The submitter of this COI said
18 that their community is united by recreation, public
19 schools, religion, transportation, fire protection, and
20 public safety.

21 I'm now going to zoom out a bit and just show you
22 where we are in the Bay Area. Now, because of the shape
23 of the bay, we're going to tackle this by coming down San
24 Francisco, San Mateo, and then coming up Santa Clara,
25 Alameda, Contra Costa.

1 So zooming in first to San Mateo; this COI is called
2 Brisbane. And the person who submitted it notes that
3 they are linked by a desire to have good environment and
4 good education.

5 This is called the San Bruno Community Workout
6 Group. The submitter of this COI notes that this group
7 has met biweekly in San Bruno Park for the last ten
8 years. They are a community that takes pride in
9 environmental consciousness, and being a small town.

10 Moving further south to Southern San Mateo County;
11 this COI is called the Willows. And the person who
12 submitted this COI says that they're united by issues of
13 equality, renters rights, economy, and transportation.

14 I'm going to zoom out a little because we're moving
15 back into a few larger COIs. The person who submitted
16 this COI says that they are united by a common interest
17 in economy, identity, history, and schools. They note
18 specific interest in Santa Cruz County with Pajaro River
19 Valley.

20 Zooming slightly out, taking the western part of
21 Santa Cruz County and the southern part of San Mateo
22 County. The submitter of this COI reports that
23 Davenport, which is the city right in here. That
24 Davenport is a small, rural community that aligns more
25 with North Santa Cruz than the wealthy, urban, high tech

1 areas around it.

2 Heading a little bit north into northwestern Santa
3 Clara County. This COI is called West Valley. And the
4 person who submitted this COI says the community values
5 diversity and job security.

6 Staying in Santa Clara County; I will see if I can
7 turn off some street layers here to orient us a little
8 bit. This is called Willow Glen. The submitter of this
9 COI notes that the community is centered around property
10 interest, the local main street being walkable, and being
11 family oriented.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: On that one do you -- and I
13 guess this would go for any of them -- that has that
14 random area in the middle. Do you feel that they just
15 didn't click on it, or they purposely left that out, not
16 as part of the COI? I know you can't read their minds,
17 but from your experience.

18 MS. RAMOS ALON: From my experience, it could be one
19 of two things, either -- like you're right, I cannot read
20 their minds at all, but possibly it could be the shape of
21 a census block that is over here that might be a little
22 bit different, and incorporate that one piece. Or it
23 might be that they either didn't select these for a
24 specific reason.

25 MS. CLARK: Yeah. And just to add to that. Unless

1 the person who submits the COI says, then we're just not
2 quite sure. Thank you for that question.

3 MS. RAMOS ALON: Moving on to Campbell. The person
4 who submitted this COI says they are united by reducing
5 the price of housing and making transportation better.

6 And a little bit south, still in San Jose, in some
7 unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County, this area is
8 called Almaden. And the submitter of this COI noted
9 their shared culture and sense of community.

10 I'm going to remove the street layer now, because
11 we're going to be zooming out a little bit.

12 These two COIs I would like to present together.
13 This is the first one, the Asian-Majority Technology
14 District, and the second one, which is the Asian-Indian
15 Community Technology Workforce Congressional District 17.
16 The submitters of these COIs mentioned family ties in
17 India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, culture and
18 immigration, as well as job security, particularly in the
19 technology sector, transportation, and housing.

20 And I'll turn on the Congressional district layer,
21 so that you can see, and turn off the county layer, so
22 that you can see where their Congressional District 17
23 would be in relation to the one that is current.

24 Moving to East Santa Clara County, this is North San
25 Jose and the Berryessa area. The person who submitted

1 this COI described a shared identity of being Asian-
2 American, and concerned with housing, safety, and the
3 economy.

4 This is the Latino area in San Jose and Alum Rock.
5 The submitter of this COI said that this is a Latino
6 community that lives among a growing Vietnamese
7 community. They have joint facilities for city and
8 county community services, and have shared socioeconomic
9 interests.

10 Let me turn the streets back on for you there. This
11 is San Jose, Japantown. The person who submitted this
12 COI said that the community shares common interests in
13 arts, community events, churches, and food.

14 Okay. Let me turn off the streets as we zoom back
15 out again. Just a little bit to the south, we are headed
16 toward Morgan Hill and San Martin, still in Santa Clara
17 County. The submitter of this COI noted the community's
18 shared interest in agriculture, and concerns for
19 controlled building due to the rapid growth in
20 population.

21 We'll now be moving north into Alameda County.
22 There are two COIs here, which I would like to talk about
23 together. They're both described as the Eden area, and
24 the first of these COIs takes San Leandro south through
25 Fremont, whereas the second has San Leandro but stopping

1 at the Hayward-Union City line. The submitters of these
2 COIs describe a large, Asian family-oriented community,
3 with interest in waste management, recreation, parks,
4 public events, the economy, and sheriff and fire
5 protection.

6 To the east of Alameda County, this is the Greater
7 Livermore area. The person who submitted this COI noted
8 that they are united by nature, wine, parks, science
9 nerds, and a housing crisis.

10 We will now be moving west to Oakland, west and
11 north to Oakland. These are the four COIs that we have
12 in Oakland, and I'll be talking about each of them
13 separately.

14 This first COI takes parts of Western Oakland, and
15 Eastern Oakland, as well as part of San Leandro, and part
16 of Emeryville. So while this is a noncontiguous COI,
17 they wanted to make points about these community areas
18 here, in pink. The submitter of this COI described a
19 historically Black community fighting to not be
20 marginalized, and to create an economy with fair housing,
21 and support for Black-owned businesses.

22 This is the North Oakland, Longfellow, Temescal
23 area. The person who submitted this COI is concerned
24 about the gentrifying neighborhood of North Oakland. The
25 community has mixed ethnicities and levels of wealth, is

1 impacted by freeways, moderate car dependent --
2 moderately car dependent, and is concerned about safety
3 from crime and traffic violence.

4 This COI is the Rockbridge area. The submitter of
5 this COI notes that the community is a walkable area with
6 residential areas, a vibrant commercial corridor, access
7 to public transit, and a greenway.

8 And this COI is called Piedmont on the Hills. The
9 submitter of this COI wrote that their community's
10 politics are very left wing, at least in relation to the
11 rest of California. They share the cultural values of
12 peace, love, equality, and justice, have their own unique
13 food, like putting broccoli and zucchini on pizza, and
14 have their own slang like "hella", and their own culture.

15 Zooming out for this next COI, which calls itself
16 the Urban East Bay; the submitter of this choice says
17 that they are united by similar change challenges of
18 housing, transportation, and inequality; they also have
19 similar values of diversity, equal opportunity, caring,
20 and sustainability.

21 Moving north now into Contra Costa we'll be looking
22 at these two COIs together. This first COI is Lafayette,
23 Orinda, and Moraga, affectionately referred to as
24 Lamorinda. And the second COI takes Lamorinda and adds
25 in a Greater Lamorinda area to encompass Walnut Creek,

1 Contra Costa Center, and surrounding areas.

2 The submitters of these COIs report that their
3 community is comfortable with good schools, love of
4 nature, and quiet neighborhoods. They have diverse
5 populations and everyone is very welcoming. They note
6 that the community's commitment to education, supportive
7 outdoor activities, and open space it makes -- it's the
8 commonality. They believe that the importance of
9 community inclusiveness and support for others is
10 important, and they are united by wildfire concerns.

11 This COI is the Greater Richmond and West Contra
12 Costa area. The submitter of this COI notes that the
13 community shares commonalities of diversity, public
14 transit, and renter issues.

15 We're going to be going east to East Contra Costa
16 County. These are the communities of Pittsburg, Bay
17 Point, and little bit of Antioch and surrounding areas.
18 The submitter of this COI said that they are united as
19 Black, indigenous, and people of color, who are low-
20 income and lacking resources.

21 So now we're going to leave the Bay Area and travel
22 a little south, and start into our next region over here.
23 Our first COI, the person submitting this COI said that
24 they are a Latinx community that is largely an
25 agricultural labor force whose primary objective is to

1 gain equal access to resources, in education, health
2 care, jobs, and political representation.

3 Zooming in on Marina in Seaside in Monterey County,
4 this is the Monterey Bay Black community. The person who
5 submitted this COI reports that the community has the
6 highest concentration of Black people in Monterey County.

7 We'll be zooming out of Monterey and traveling south
8 to San Luis Obispo County and Santa Barbara County. The
9 submitter of this COI describes the community as having
10 small towns with one larger metropolitan area where
11 services are close by and easy to get to.

12 Zooming into this COI within San Luis Obispo City,
13 within San Luis Obispo County, this is called the Arbors.
14 And the submitter of this COI describes the community as
15 suburban professionals with young families, retirees,
16 nature trails, and parks for recreation and hiking, they
17 value orderliness and quiet.

18 Traveling north into Santa Barbara, we have two COIs
19 on the western side. We have Vandenberg Village, and the
20 second area is called La Purisima Highlands. The person
21 who submitted Vandenberg Village describes the military
22 base as the main economic driver of the area, and sharing
23 an economy with Lompoc. The submitter of the La Purisima
24 Highlands COI said their community is united through
25 taking pride in their homes and in their area.

1 Heading into the very south of Santa Barbara is Isla
2 Vista. The person who submitted this COI says that the
3 community connects around environmental sustainability
4 and equitable education, supporting working people, and
5 embracing the LGBTQ+ community. They also share a
6 concern for many residents who are not students at UCSB,
7 many of whom who are low-income, undocumented, and
8 Latinx, who endure public services which are lacking, or
9 of low quality.

10 This next COI is named Senate District 19. The
11 submitter of this quote describes their community as
12 largely Latino-Latina, and composed largely of farm
13 workers. The community members also include a large
14 number of mixed Tappan (ph.) peoples, and other
15 indigenous peoples, who share close ties to family, and
16 how they spend their leisure time. And I will turn on
17 the Senate district so you can see what it currently
18 looks like. This is the outline here.

19 Moving east into Ventura County, I'm zooming in a
20 bit so you can see the cities encompassed here. The
21 person who submitted this COI notes that these are
22 bedroom communities, a little more traditional with a
23 sizable Caucasian and Latino population. Most households
24 are upper-middle class, but there are blocks of more
25 affordable housing where middle-class families can afford

1 to live.

2 And then lastly, this is the Pierpoint, Ventura Keys
3 COI, in Ventura City. The person who submitted this COI
4 says that family-oriented beach community is close knit,
5 outdoor-centric, pedestrian- and bike-friendly, and they
6 share concerns about increasing traffic, parking, and
7 rising crime rates.

8 And that concludes all the COIs that I have for this
9 time.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Well, thank you very
11 much, Tamina. We appreciate that.

12 I see we have about four minutes. The next phase
13 would be we go into and ask the Commissioners, from their
14 liaisons, from the different zones to give their summary.
15 And I think if I jump into that right now. Calling on,
16 you know, Zone A, which is our north, which would be
17 Commissioners Toledo and Taylor, if they're there.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Andersen. Yeah, I
19 mean, we only have four minutes at this point. And I
20 have --

21 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think --

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: -- I mean you can't -- you can't
23 do it in four minutes I imagine?

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think I can give a pretty
25 brief overview in four minutes, because the feedback from

1 the North Coast was pretty consistent.

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So I can try.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Carry on.

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I can certainly try. I'll try
6 to keep it -- actually, it looks like you have a little
7 bit less than four minutes now, but I could try to sum it
8 up.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair? Sorry. Don't we have
10 eight minutes, because we came back at 11:20 rather than
11 11:15?

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Take it away,
14 Commissioner Toledo.

15 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. So Zone A,
16 Commissioner Taylor and I have been working on the Zone
17 A. We have received about fifty-two letters and emails
18 from this area, focused on the Del Norte, Humboldt,
19 Trinity, Sonoma Lake, Mendocino, and Napa areas. The
20 majority of the feedback is asking us to keep the coastal
21 communities, the coastal counties of Marin, all the way
22 up to the Del Norte, together.

23 Some variations, some would like to include Trinity,
24 others Lake -- others Napa, and some have also included
25 rather Napa County in there as well. And then while

1 Marin County is not part of the Zone A, we did receive
2 significant feedbacks from that area as well, expressing
3 wanting to be connected to the coastal counties of Del
4 Norte, Humboldt, Sonoma, Mendocino, for environmental,
5 transportation, economic, and other reasons.

6 And we had another cluster of feedback from this
7 area, and that was mostly focused around Napa. Majority
8 asked for Napa to be kept together with Solano County.
9 Most of that feedback was from vintners and wineries.
10 Some would include Sonoma, Lake, and Yolo in that, so
11 there were some variations. Some wanted Sonoma and Napa,
12 some wanted Sonoma, Napa, Lake; some wanted Sonoma, Napa,
13 Lake, and Yolo counties; but for the most part they
14 wanted Napa County to remain whole, and part of one of
15 those communities.

16 So overall, the feedback was pretty consistent. I
17 mean, there's a little bit of -- there was some, I do
18 remember from another zone, from the zone that includes
19 Shasta, and Lassen, and other counties, Siskiyou, that
20 would include Del Norte and one of those counties. But
21 we didn't -- because that didn't come specifically from
22 these communities, we didn't include it. And we didn't
23 see it in the written testimony, so most of the written
24 testimony was captured in the feedback that I'm providing
25 at this point.

1 With that, that concludes the report. You know,
2 this is one of the smaller regions, well, less populated.
3 So we did receive quite a bit of testimony that
4 complements what we received over the phone and through
5 our webcasts.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you very much,
7 Commissioner Toledo.

8 With that, before we jump into, then it'll be
9 Commissioner Yee, and Commissioner Toledo again for the
10 Bay Area, for what's called Zone C. I feel that would be
11 a little longer than our few minutes left. Unless did
12 they -- did you want to start it? Or should we just take
13 a break now and then come back?

14 Commissioner Yee, I don't know, could you?

15 COMMISSIONER YEE: It's really up to you.
16 Commissioner Toledo and I will each report. We split up
17 our counties, so. I don't, Commissioner Toledo, what do
18 you think; you're a part of Zone C?

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think it's going to take a
20 little bit more than four minutes to do that one. And I
21 know each of us has a presentation on the communities.
22 We broke out the communities into different counties, so
23 we're sharing half and half.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So maybe we can do it after

1 break.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Perfect. Thank you.

3 So Chair, I'm going to turn that back over to you.

4 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, thanks. Thank you. Thank
5 you all for everything so far. We'll go ahead and take a
6 break. Well, why don't we make it 1:20 when we return?

7 (Whereupon, a recess was held until 1:20 p.m.)

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome back, California, to the
9 California Citizens Redistricting Commission Meeting
10 today. We are getting -- going to begin -- we're coming
11 back to listen to the communities interest input. We've
12 gotten some of it, at least for the Bay Area.

13 So I'll turn it over to Commissioner Andersen to
14 lead this part of the meeting.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. Actually,
16 at this point, for those who are just joining us, we have
17 been going through the COI input that's come into the
18 office from the public. So we've just already heard
19 about the North California Coast, it's called Zone A.
20 And so I'm going to turn it over to our Commissioner
21 liaisons for the Bay Area, Commissioner Yee, and
22 Commissioner Toledo.

23 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.
24 So I'll go first, and then Commissioner Toledo will
25 follow. We divided up the Bay Area. So I'll start in --

1 whoops -- I mute all that.

2 So thank you, Commissioner Andersen, I'll go first
3 and then I'll proceed to Commissioner Toledo, we divided
4 it up in two counties -- various counties.

5 So starting in Solano, and by the way, it seemed
6 that a good number of these office submissions were
7 identical to submissions that had been called in or sent
8 in through the COI tool. So I'm sure other Commissioners
9 found that as well. We did not try to systematically
10 distinguish those.

11 So with Solano County, quite a few folks, five folks
12 wanted to have Solano and Yolo counties kept together,
13 citing a shared interests in terms of agriculture, and
14 similar communities, and so forth. Although a couple of
15 submissions wanted Solano and Napa to be paired together,
16 so that'll be a decision to make.

17 There's a question of where Vallejo should fall on
18 the map. It's in Solano County, but there is some
19 interest in either keeping it in Solano County, which is
20 actually the official position of the City of Vallejo,
21 which they mailed in, or whether it should go with Napa
22 County.

23 And a couple of folks considered it to be connected
24 through transportation corridors, and so forth. And it
25 was actually the Vice Mayor of Vallejo who had a minority

1 opinion about that, he wanted it to pair with Napa rather
2 than Solano. So the City of Vallejo then, that will be a
3 matter to give particular attention to. And that was
4 about it for Solano County, the office submissions.

5 Moving to Contra Costa and Alameda counties; the big
6 news here is the Tri-Valley area. So the Tri-Valley
7 area, that is the Amador, San Ramon, and Livermore
8 Valleys. And it straddles the line right there across,
9 right across Contra Costa, Alameda County line, and so
10 cities including Danville, San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton,
11 Livermore, wanting to stay together as the Tri-Valley
12 area. So crossing the county line and keeping those
13 together.

14 There were also a couple of submissions emphasizing
15 a desire to keep the East Shore together. So that is
16 everything from Richmond to San Leandro. So that would
17 be everything west of the Oakland, Berkeley Hills, and
18 noting that the East Shore is much more urbanized, much
19 more diverse than the inland communities on the east side
20 of the Oakland, Berkeley Hills, the county --

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Russell, you're muted.

22 COMMISSIONER YEE: I don't know why I keep doing
23 that. So a couple of submissions specifically about
24 Danville, and wanting to keep Danville whole, apparently
25 there are parts of Danville that are not kept whole in

1 one or another of the current maps. There's also a
2 portion of unincorporated Contra Costa County that
3 somebody wanted included with Lafayette.

4 Okay. Moving to part of Santa Clara County,
5 Commissioner Toledo will also be addressing Santa Clara
6 County. No surprises. A lot of echoing of things we've
7 already heard, especially in live meetings about
8 Congressional District 17. And Congressional District 17
9 straddles the Alameda Santa Clara County line. You see
10 it there with Fremont, and Newark, which is the hole in
11 inside Fremont, the Fremont donut. And so the majority
12 of opinion is a desire to keep CD 17 as it is and whole.
13 And this includes a submission by the Mayor and City
14 Council of Sunnyvale, and wanting to keep all that the
15 same in Congressional District 17.

16 But as we also heard through several live calls, and
17 there's some interest in Congressional District 18. And
18 perhaps Commissioner Toledo will talk about that more.
19 To perhaps move Sunnyvale into Congressional District 18,
20 and --

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: You're muted again.

22 COMMISSIONER YEE: What am I touching? I won't
23 touch anything. I'll put my hands up.

24 Some interest in Congressional District 18, and
25 having Sunnyvale moved to Congressional District 18,

1 perhaps Cupertino, Santa Clara. I think Commissioner
2 Toledo will address those, interest in adding to the --
3 especially the Asian-American population of 18.

4 One submission addressed Congressional District 17,
5 noting that it had -- because census numbers will
6 probably show that it has grown maybe too big, and parts
7 of it will need to be moved elsewhere. And the submitter
8 suggested moving Newark up to Congressional District 15,
9 with Union City.

10 Then finally (audio interference) -- bizarre. Okay.

11 DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee, are you using
12 a headphone?

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: I am. But also my paper is on
14 top of my laptop, I think something might be -- I'm going
15 to take my papers off. Okay.

16 Finally, a very detailed and well-considered
17 submission from residents of the San Jose neighborhood of
18 Berryessa, and that is Northeastern San Jose, right
19 there. Perfect. And this community group noted that in
20 the 2001 redistricting, Berryessa had been split up into
21 two different Congressional districts, two different
22 Assembly districts, and somehow four different State
23 Senate districts.

24 But that in 2010 they were pleased to find that
25 their community had entirely united on all three plans.

1 And so they would like to, of course, stay united, again,
2 in all three plans, and that was Berryessa -- Berryessa
3 neighborhood in Santa Clara. And I think they'd call in
4 as well.

5 And that's it for my side of Zone C. I'll pass it
6 over to Commissioner Toledo for the other side of Zone C.

7 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.
8 So on my side, and I'll start with Marin County, and we
9 touched upon this in Zone A. Most of the testimony from
10 Marin County wanted to be connected with the north coast
11 counties of Sonoma, so obviously Marin, Sonoma, and
12 Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte. There was some
13 testimony of -- to connect Marin with Sonoma, and some
14 with Sonoma and Napa, rather than -- really just focused
15 on that, those three communities, or just Marin and
16 Sonoma. And we went into that a little bit more in Zone
17 A.

18 In terms of San Francisco, the significant testimony
19 from the Asian-American community, and specially from the
20 Asian Law Caucus, and others, about Chinatown and the
21 need to keep Chinatown together, as well as other Asian-
22 American communities. And that was echoed in the
23 testimonies that we heard in our public sessions, as well
24 as testimony from Bayview, from South of Market, and
25 from, like, Castro, but less so from various communities,

1 and so also to keep those communities together, in
2 those -- rather those neighborhoods together for
3 economic, business, or cultural reasons.

4 Moving down to San Mateo, we received significant
5 testimony from San Mateo County. Some of it was
6 identical or very similar, from various stakeholders,
7 basically expressing a desire to keep the more urban
8 areas -- or to separate the more urban areas from the
9 coastal areas. So the urban areas would be Redwood City,
10 Menlo Park, Palo Alto and Mountain View, and to separate
11 them from the more coastal communities due to differences
12 in terms of transportation, broadband access,
13 telecommunications.

14 The issues are different. Environmental issues, the
15 economic significance, as the statements in those -- in
16 that testimony. And it echoed some of the testimony we
17 also heard through the public input process, through our
18 sessions, our hearings, our community of interest
19 testimonies.

20 And then in terms of Santa Clara County, and I focus
21 more on the western aspects of it, there was a very
22 significant testimony from the Asian American community,
23 significant advocacy group coordination to keep Asian-
24 American communities together. And some would like to
25 include portions of Fremont, and Milpitas in the East

1 Bay, to the Asian-American communities in the Santa
2 Clara, Western Santa Clara portion.

3 And potentially, also some of the -- there was
4 testimony to separate out some of the Latino community,
5 and to give them opportunity also to elect the person of
6 their voice and connect them with other contiguous
7 communities to the south of the region.

8 So that covers the testimony that we saw from the
9 region. And some of the trends, it's really just the
10 high-level trends of the input coming in from the
11 communities.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Wonderful. Thank you very
13 much, Commissioners Yee and Toledo.

14 Now, we will go to the liaisons for what we called
15 Zone E, which actually Chair Fornaciari, and Commissioner
16 Kennedy.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. So we'll start in the
18 north end of the zone. Yeah. Okay, that's good. Yeah.
19 That's very good. Yeah, that's very good.

20 Let's see. We did not receive any pieces of input
21 from -- into the office from Santa Cruz County. We have
22 received other input from Santa Cruz County, but none
23 through the office.

24 So next, we'll go to Monterey County and just, yeah,
25 just stop there. That would be good. And get two pieces

1 of input. One was that the tool didn't work, but the
2 other one was from CAUSE. And we've heard a lot a great
3 deal from CAUSE throughout this region. They sent in a
4 very nice document they put together to summarize a lot
5 of the challenges facing the Latino community throughout
6 the zone.

7 And so in this particular area, CAUSE wanted to see
8 us keep Salinas, Gonzalez, Soledad, Greenfield, King
9 City, and Watsonville together. So that's the Salinas
10 Valley. And then Watsonville is in the very south part
11 of Santa Cruz County.

12 So yeah, if you go north, back up north, you can see
13 Watsonville there. And then that kind of -- yeah, there
14 you go just, and that will be great, just stop right
15 there.

16 So then San Benito, we got one piece of -- a letter
17 from the Supervisors in San Bernardino County. And
18 actually, if you can -- if you can kind of zoom out just
19 a little bit, but not too much, stop there. Perfect. So
20 San Benito is a small county, 60,000 people. The main
21 city is Hollister right there in pink. And the
22 Supervisors want to keep San Benito County with Gilroy,
23 which is the blue city to the north -- it's also an
24 agricultural area -- with Watsonville, which is again in
25 Santa Cruz County, the pink city there.

1 And the Pajaro Valley, which runs between San
2 Bernardino and the coast, there, and the Salinas Valley,
3 which are all agricultural areas, and have a lot in
4 common. They have a tri-county alliance between Santa
5 Cruz County, San Benito, and Monterey County, and they do
6 not want to be in a district with the Central Valley.

7 So that's it for those three counties. So if we can
8 head south to San Luis Obispo County. And again, it's a
9 lot of -- here it's a lot of the same themes that we had
10 heard from our oral testimony. So one in particular is
11 the -- that I want to point out is the north coast of San
12 Luis Obispo County wants to be kept together. Los Osos,
13 [Kay-Coast] -- I'm not sure I'm going to say that
14 correctly -- Morro Bay, Cambria, Harmony, San Simeon,
15 altogether. They want to retain Senate District 17 and
16 80 (ph.) -- Assembly District 35.

17 Another one from -- a piece of input from someone in
18 San Luis Obispo, for the Assembly they want San Luis
19 Obispo County and Monterey Coast; for the Senate, San
20 Luis Obispo County and Monterey County; and then for
21 Congress, San Luis Obispo County, and either Monterey or
22 Santa Barbara County.

23 Then we heard from the Central Coast Coalition of
24 Chambers, they want to keep Buellton, Lompoc, Solvang,
25 Santa Maria, Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, Pismo Beach,

1 San Luis Obispo, Morro Bay, Atascadero, and Paso Robles.
2 So that's really Southern San Luis Obispo County, with
3 much of northern Santa Barbara County sort of a wine area
4 in the Santa Barbara County.

5 And the Board of Supervisors letter basically said
6 they wanted to keep San Luis Obispo County whole. So if
7 you move down to Santa Barbara County, and again, keeping
8 with the theme of what we've heard, basically we've
9 got -- we had twelve pieces of input, and nearly all of
10 them said, keep the Santa Maria Valley, Santa Maria,
11 Guadalupe, and Lompoc Valley together. And so we've
12 heard that a lot. And that also came from CAUSE, as well
13 as a number of individuals.

14 And then finally, someone from Orcutt said they
15 wanted to keep Orcutt, Santa Maria, and Nipomo, which is
16 slightly north of here, I believe. And then they said
17 the five cities area, which is a little bit north to, I
18 think, Pismo Beach. And then, yeah, I guess that's the
19 five cities area. It was from the from the COI tool so
20 we have a map.

21 And then Cuyama and New Cuyama, which I think are a
22 little bit south and to the east of here, I think they're
23 north where you're at. But they're small, little towns.
24 Oh, there they are, way out there, yeah. And then, so
25 they want to keep all those together, but then -- and

1 they said they wanted to be in the same Senate district
2 as Oxnard, which is down in Monterey -- or I mean, in
3 Ventura County. And then they also said they didn't want
4 to be part of San Luis Obispo County, so a little bit of
5 conflict there.

6 But that's a kind of a summary of the five -- of the
7 twelve we got from Santa Barbara County.

8 And so now let's zoom down into Ventura County, so
9 basically the same two themes that we heard, or three
10 themes, if you will; the Conejo Valley which is Westlake,
11 Moore Park, Oak Park, and Thousand Oaks, together. And
12 then the other big piece of -- the other theme we heard
13 was Oxnard, Point Hueneme -- Port Hueneme, El Rio, with
14 the Santa Clara River Valley, which is Santa Paula,
15 Fillmore, and Piru.

16 And then of course, the other theme is Simi Valley,
17 Moorpark, and what to -- what do we do with them? You
18 know, it's kind of uniform: Keep Simi Valley whole, that
19 Simi Valley is split right now.

20 So one idea is, I tried to sort of summarize all the
21 input we've heard regarding Simi Valley and Moorpark.
22 And so basically what we've heard, I'll just sort of
23 summarize it in six categories. We got one vote for
24 keeping Simi Valley in CD 25, nineteen votes for
25 keeping -- putting Simi Valley with Moorpark, and all of

1 that in CD 25. But as near as I can tell, all that input
2 came from Simi Valley.

3 Then we have four folks who said, we want to keep
4 Simi Valley with Ventura County, six folks who said we
5 want to keep Simi Valley with Moorpark in Ventura County.
6 Then one -- or eight votes that said, keep Simi Valley
7 with Moorpark, and didn't say where. And then finally,
8 five said -- five new ones that came in, via email, I
9 think: There is no shared interest between Simi Valley
10 and the rest of CD 25. And so yeah -- I'm sorry, not
11 votes, input. Good point.

12 So anyway, just to kind of summarize, the number of
13 input was about twenty to keep Simi Valley, Moorpark, in
14 CD 25, and a little more than twenty, you know, if we can
15 infer that they wanted to keep it in Ventura County. But
16 ten were explicitly Simi Valley -- Simi Valley, Moorpark,
17 in Ventura County; and another thirteen to keep Simi
18 Valley with Moorpark -- no, that's not right; fifteen to
19 keep Simi Valley and/or Moore Park in Ventura, and eight
20 just to keep the two together. So I'm sure that was
21 confusing, but I tried to help.

22 And then one last thing, if you can go back to
23 Monterey County; so Monterey, as I mentioned before, is a
24 Section 5 county in the past so -- and again, I'll just
25 go over this briefly.

1 If you can show the Assembly District? So AD 29 and
2 34 are Section 5 districts. And the Senate districts 12
3 and 17? And then Congressional District 20, the numbers
4 aren't there, but it's okay. And I know, I know we're
5 not -- Section 5 has been thrown out, but I just wanted
6 you all to know which districts were Section 5 in case we
7 want to give guidance to the team to look at those in the
8 context of Section 2. So that's it.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Okay. Thank you
10 very much, Commissioner Fornaciari. And at this point,
11 speaking of giving direction, it is time now to move into
12 the phase of, let's give direction to the line drawers.
13 And with the -- knowing that, you know, the idea is
14 looking at the Voting Rights Act as criterion two, I
15 thought we would start kind of with that. And
16 specifically going into the Bay Area where it seems to
17 have more issues that we'd like to sort of jump into with
18 some of the VRA and the CVAP information.

19 First, I see a question from Commissioner Sinay, and
20 then also Jaime.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thanks. And David just said he
22 only has fifteen minutes left. But I guess my question
23 is a broad question of, when you're asking us to give
24 visualizations, or what ifs, do we need to be clear if
25 we're giving visualization for a Congressional district,

1 or say Assembly district, a Senate district? Does it
2 matter how big or how small? You know, I was having a
3 hard time wrapping my head around what I should be
4 looking for because of that.

5 MS. CLARK: Thank you so --

6 MR. BECKER: (Indiscernible) -- yeah, go ahead,
7 Jaime. You go first.

8 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much for that question,
9 Commissioner Sinay. Because we don't have the total
10 population information just yet, of course we won't be
11 able to say, you know, oh, that's about the size of an
12 Assembly district, those cities together. So if you just
13 give general direction on what you would like to see in
14 certain areas, then we can mock that up, make
15 visualizations out of that and say, okay, so this is
16 about this size. Or this is -- you know, this is what
17 the Congressional district here could look like. This is
18 what the Senate district here could look like. And we'll
19 be able to do that for the different levels of districts.

20 MR. BECKER: And I'll just add, just to remember,
21 this is the very first of several steps in the iteration
22 that are going to happen. So don't feel too much
23 pressure to get it right. We can't tell you definitively
24 the Voting Rights Act is implicated in particular areas
25 yet, because we don't even have the first Gingles pre-

1 condition, because we don't have total population yet.

2 So we're going to -- we're going to get to that
3 point. That's not going to be today. But you'll be able
4 to see areas. You know, for instance, one of the things
5 we saw today was the area in -- the Southwestern Alameda,
6 Northwest Santa Clara, Southeastern San Mateo County
7 area, where there do appear to be significant
8 concentrations of Asian voters, for instance. So those
9 are areas that will be, obviously, areas we want to take
10 a look at more closely. And you can give us directions
11 along those lines.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you. Jaime,
13 do you want -- have more on that? Commissioner Kennedy
14 also has a -- oh. Let's put Commissioner Kennedy.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thanks. Yeah. Thinking
16 about this, and we've talked before about the art and the
17 science of this. It occurs to me that right now we're
18 trying to paint an impressionist painting, and we'll
19 eventually get to the photo realist, very sharply defined
20 version. But if we can get an impressionist work up on
21 the wall, we will have succeeded in what we've set out to
22 do at this point.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
24 Kennedy. I really like that analogy. It's very
25 accurate.

1 Commissioner Sinay.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. Commissioner Kennedy,
3 you just put into words what I was trying to say
4 yesterday, or the day before. So thank you.

5 So I had a question kind of with VRA, regarding like
6 other identities that aren't race and ethnicity, but may
7 be feel marginalized. Be it the LGBTQ communities, or
8 Muslim communities, and whatnot. Do we take that into
9 account at all? We don't take it as an account for VRA,
10 but we look at it in other ways? And if we did want to
11 look at where are the Muslim communities, we know that
12 Equity California is creating kind of a heat map for
13 LGBTQs, but if we wanted to look at other communities,
14 where do we find that data?

15 MR. BECKER: I'll just say briefly. I think it's
16 unlikely that those -- that communities along those lines
17 will reach Section 2 numbers; however, entirely
18 appropriate to consider them in the communities of
19 interest, to the degree that -- to the degree that we
20 haven't received public input on them, but you might want
21 to seek them out. I don't know what data is going to be
22 available, so I'll leave that to -- Jaime might have some
23 thoughts on that.

24 MS. CLARK: Yeah. I would say that for these
25 purposes, community of interest testimony would be

1 absolutely in that --

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Jaime, we can't
3 quite hear you.

4 MS. CLARK: Thank you for letting me know that. I
5 was just saying, I think that for your purposes, looking
6 to community of interest testimony would be absolutely a
7 really fantastic data source for that type of
8 information.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And Director Kaplan.

10 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just wanted to add that the
11 State Census Office had done some mapping based on LEP,
12 language for the MENA community, as well as working with
13 Professor Tom Wong (ph.) in San Diego using ancestry
14 data. So there may be other datasets if you want to see
15 more of the MENA population in California. I'm happy to
16 make introductions, if that's helpful.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Tom Wong is going to be
18 presented to us, hopefully so.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'm sorry to jump in here, Jane.
20 Did you have a question, Jaime? Did you have your hand
21 up?

22 MS. CLARK: I don't -- yes, I have my hand up.
23 Thank you for letting me know. And I didn't have a
24 question. I did want to, before we move into the
25 preliminary line drawing directions from you, I just

1 would like to be able to sort of recap the general
2 direction that we received on Wednesday. To let you know
3 that -- to remind all of us here, and members of the
4 public, and to let you know that we can and will follow
5 this general direction we've already received unless we
6 hear otherwise from you today. If it's okay, I'm happy
7 to review that general direction now.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Excellent. Please do.

9 MS. CLARK: Sure. Thank you so much. So this
10 general direction was based on citizen voting age
11 population data to be cognizant of areas that may meet
12 the first Gingles pre-condition, to work with your Voting
13 Rights Act attorneys throughout the visualization process
14 on areas where there may be potential Voting Rights Act
15 considerations, to follow community of interest and other
16 public input in the absence of specific direction about
17 certain areas.

18 Earlier today, we heard not to split reservations,
19 and rancherias, and other tribal areas while creating
20 visualizations. We also heard that, in general, and when
21 needed, it is better to split counties as opposed to
22 cities.

23 And a question that we have for you about that is,
24 should we treat census-designated places, or CDPs, the
25 same as cities? Just a quick reminder, census-designated

1 places are statistical areas. They're areas by which the
2 census gathers information and reports that information
3 back. It's sort of the counterpart of an incorporated
4 place or a city.

5 Often CDPs are not self-governing, so they wouldn't
6 necessarily have a city council, but they would be
7 governed by the Board of Supervisors, for example, in
8 their county, right. And again, they're sort of settled
9 concentrations of populations that are in unincorporated
10 areas. And we would like to know if we should treat CDPs
11 the same as cities in the visualization process.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I might jump in and say I
13 believe that's -- oh, we have Commissioner Fernández.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: My answer would be, yes.
15 Sometimes, I mean, just a personal feeling from a small
16 town, it's devastating if you split a small town. And I
17 know it's devastating if you split a big city. But I
18 just got to say, it really, really hurts. So please,
19 yeah, my vote would be treated as a city. Thank you.
20 And thank you for bringing that up for clarification.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Akutagawa.

22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I was going to -- I was
23 actually going to say the opposite, I guess, because I
24 know that there are cities that are unincorporated, but
25 since they're governed also by a larger governing body,

1 unless the city has its own separate governing body, it
2 just seems like it may make it a little less complicated
3 if we also have to get down to that level, so. But I'm
4 not completely opposed to a different perspective. I
5 think just my initial thought is that it'll be more
6 limiting if we also include them too.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Kennedy.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Being a resident of a census-
9 designated place, I would say that my preference would be
10 not to split them, but you know, those are things that
11 are obviously subject to further discussion once we see a
12 visualization. Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Sinay.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I tend to agree with
15 Commissioner Kennedy, or I am agreeing with Commissioner
16 Kennedy. And I know for the county -- San Diego County,
17 the Board of Supervisors, each Board of Supervisors has
18 to represent some unincorporated areas because there are
19 so many unincorporated areas in San Diego, and many areas
20 are unincorporated because they don't trust government.
21 And what keeps them kind of united is that they don't
22 trust government. So splitting them up just gives them
23 another reason to not trust government.

24 So it's kind of -- I think that's why whenever I was
25 chairing, I would ask about the unincorporated areas, and

1 if people were including them or not. And I think at
2 some point I'd like to talk about how we can maybe use
3 survey tools when we have questions. That we can just
4 put post surveys on social media and get quick input from
5 folks, or something, when we're out -- when we're in
6 doubt. But I really do feel, I agree with Commissioner
7 Kennedy.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
9 Sinay.

10 Commissioner Yee.

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes, I definitely support keeping
12 CDPs together. Some of them really are quite large. The
13 largest in the state, I believe, is Castro Valley, which
14 everyone around here thinks is a city, but it's an
15 unincorporated part of Alameda County.

16 A question for Jaime; a CDP has to be a -- have a
17 certain population for the Census Bureau to -- so even a
18 zero population area could be a CDP; in those cases, I
19 mean, would we want the flexibility to --

20 MS. CLARK: Sorry. To clarify, a zero population
21 area would not be a CDP because it does need to be a
22 settled area. However, there's no population maximum, or
23 there's not a minimum threshold either, like 500 people,
24 or anything like that. So it does need to be a settled
25 area, but there's no -- there's no requirement in terms

1 of population.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: Right. So definitely would not
3 want to split any settled area. No? I guess that
4 answers the question.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Turner.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Oh. I didn't realize I still
7 had my hand up. But I'll ask. I wonder, do we know?
8 Someone said "many", do we know how many census-
9 designated places there are? In particular, when you
10 talked about Castro Valley being as large as it is being
11 a CDP, I just had a little bit more curiosity about them
12 because I was actually thinking initially, yes, since
13 they did not have a necessary governing body, and what
14 have you, we should not consider them the same. So I'm
15 just interested in more conversation about.

16 MS. CLARK: I do not have a figure in terms of the
17 number of CDPs currently in California. And I'm just
18 doing a quick internet search, and will let you know as
19 soon as I can.

20 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I'm looking, too.

21 MS. MACDONALD: 1043, according to our friends at
22 Google.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Perfect.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Actually, how
25 does that compare to number of cities, including --

1 MS. CLARK: There are -- there are 1,523 census
2 places, 480 incorporated places, and the number that
3 Karin has mentioned for census-designated places.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
5 Toledo.

6 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm supportive of keeping the
7 CDPs intact where practicable. There might be some areas
8 where it may not be, but for visualization purposes it
9 makes sense to see where these are and keeping them
10 together. Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
12 Toledo.

13 Commissioner Kennedy.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Just to say that because we
15 don't have a city council doesn't mean that we don't have
16 some -- something that you might consider a proto city
17 council. I mean, Morongo Valley, we have a community
18 services district, so we have an elected five-person
19 board for our community services district that takes care
20 of our Fire Department. We have our own fire department,
21 they take care of our local park, and they take care of
22 some of our streetlights. So it does carry out some of
23 the functions of the city government, even though we're
24 not incorporated.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner

1 Kennedy. And I like that we have the voices of people
2 from these areas, so we can actually get a bit of
3 actually really good information on them, as opposed to
4 just making decisions for other people. So thank you.
5 Thank you very much, all Commissioners, for your input.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: With that, I think we're to
8 turn it over to the mappers. So we can start with our
9 CVAP information, if possible.

10 MS. CLARK: If I recall, Commissioner Kennedy -- or
11 excuse me, Commissioner Andersen, you wanted to start in
12 the Bay Area?

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, please. Thank you.

14 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much.

15 MS. RAMOS ALON: Commissioner, which CVAP would you
16 like to see first, Latino or --

17 MS. CLARK: Tamina, that was a little bit quiet.
18 But Commissioner Andersen, you had mentioned CVAP, and
19 Tamina's question was what -- which CVAP data would you
20 like to see on the map first?

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I -- you know I don't
22 know if any other Commissioners have an idea here, but I
23 would say let's go with the Asian, and jump right into
24 the -- what visualizations we want to see around that,
25 you know, the existing CD 17.

1 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

2 (Pause)

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Yee.

4 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

5 So yeah, so I'd like to see CD 17 with and without the
6 Cities of Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Santa Clara. Well, I
7 guess I would like to see CDs 17 and 18, with those three
8 cities flipping each way.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Are you done with that?

10 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Would you have others?

12 Okay.

13 Commissioner Kennedy.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I am interested
15 in seeing what happens if we do, in fact, divide the
16 urban area of the peninsula from the coastal area of the
17 peninsula. So I guess the coastal area would be joined
18 with Santa Cruz, and the urban area would be -- become
19 part of what we're looking at with current Congressional
20 District 18. So just looking at keeping the urban areas
21 together, and then taking the coastal area and putting
22 that together with San Mateo, or down into Santa Cruz.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I've just been reminded.

24 Can you can you say now -- sort of talk about the whys,
25 and then say: Now, I'd like to -- the direction I'm going

1 to give is, please see. Now, if you could just phrase it
2 a little differently, I might ask, both of you?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Well, I mean, I see
4 the urban interests as being very different from the
5 coastal interests. And so I'm looking to -- I would like
6 to see a coastal district that is separate from the urban
7 district. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. And Commissioner
9 Yee, I think -- is that probably specific enough; or did
10 you want to, if that --

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Do you mean my earlier request?

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes; your earlier.

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: I believe so. As long as Jaime
14 feels that, it's clear enough.

15 MS. CLARK: To repeat it back, the direction was to
16 get those three cities, Cupertino, and Sunnyvale, and --
17 could you please repeat the last one, a sort of
18 visualization of that, those cities in District 17 and in
19 District 18, Congressional Districts 17, 18?

20 COMMISSIONER YEE: That's right, the third city is
21 Santa Clara.

22 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Sinay.

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to add, that
25 visualization from Commissioner Yee, and I don't know if

1 this is appropriate -- I mean, if we can do this now or
2 not; but this was one of the -- kind of the VRA areas to
3 see if we were packing or --

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- cracking, compact -- or
6 whatever, packing or cracking and if it could -- in the
7 visualization what's important here is understanding the
8 Asian vote.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Did you have specific
10 directions here?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, I guess the specific
12 direction would be just an add-on to what Commissioner
13 Yee said. But I'm not sure -- I guess what I'm asking
14 is, can we ask right now to let us know that detail of
15 information? Or do we not have that information to be
16 able to say, can we create -- what if we created two
17 districts, in 17 and 18, that were minority-majority
18 Asian voter -- Asian voting, or whatever -- yeah, I'm
19 still working -- I'm still learning the right
20 terminology.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Yes. I think we got
22 that. You know, can you take that area and make the
23 appropriate districts out of that? Or is it one
24 district, two districts, based on the Voting Rights Act
25 rules?

1 Commissioner Fernández.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Not direction, just
3 clarification. As we've heard during the public input,
4 individuals and organizations like to identify certain
5 district numbers. And just to clarify to the public,
6 those are not our district numbers. Those are the
7 current district numbers which will change once we redraw
8 the maps. So I just want to make sure everybody's on the
9 same page, and it's not going to be, you know,
10 Congressional District 17 isn't going to be the same one
11 next time. So anyway, I just wanted to voice that.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much.

13 And Commissioner Akutagawa.

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I guess one is a
15 clarification question. And second is, I guess, maybe a
16 potential visualization. This question is for the
17 visualization that Commissioner Kennedy suggested. He
18 mentioned the coastal communities on that, up to San
19 Mateo. Does that include also the urban areas of San
20 Mateo, which does have a -- and going up into the county
21 above it? I think that San Francisco County, and that's
22 probably like San Bruno, Daly City, that area, South San
23 Francisco.

24 Yeah. Are you including them in that coastal
25 district; because you mentioned all of San Mateo County,

1 so just a clarification question for Commissioner
2 Kennedy?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. If I may; I would
4 probably be looking at -- well, I mean, some of this is
5 going to come from the mappers, as far as the
6 visualization. I'm just saying, once you once you get
7 down to San Bruno and Pacifica, and you have hills
8 starting to divide things, then I'm looking for the coast
9 to be separated from the urban core along the San
10 Francisco Bay.

11 You know, exactly where that happens, whether it's
12 in Pacifica, or Daly City, I'll leave that to the
13 mappers. But my concern is, you know, that the
14 communities that are -- that consider themselves more
15 ocean-facing are in one district than the communities
16 that consider themselves part of that urban core along
17 the Southwestern shores of the San Francisco Bay would be
18 in another.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think we --

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: (Indiscernible, simultaneous
21 speech) --

22 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So what -- with that
23 said, I'd like to request -- can you, I guess go -- not
24 zoom in but zoom out, so that we're looking at a bigger
25 part of the region? Maybe that's a little too far.

1 Okay. So can you go a little bit further in, and could
2 you show that Asian CDP also?

3 So I guess taking into account what Commissioner
4 Fernández said about not looking at existing, or current
5 districts right now. I guess since we've been talking
6 about the Congressional district without knowing what the
7 population numbers are. And I think this is along the
8 lines of the question that Commissioner Sinay asked; if
9 we were to take, for example, South San Francisco up to
10 perhaps -- maybe through, down through Redwood City,
11 maybe going down past Belmont, or around Belmont; is
12 that -- would that start to -- and that's just a very
13 urban core of that peninsula area.

14 And perhaps to what Commissioner Kennedy had asked,
15 maybe start in the coastal portion of the visualization
16 that he asked for at Pacifica; would that -- would that
17 become a kind of a packing of the Asian vote if we were
18 to keep that urban core as one potential visualization
19 for Congressional district? And then starting from
20 about, let's say, Belmont or San Carlos, moving down
21 through another portion of that peninsula area?

22 MS. MICHEL: I can try and answer that.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay -- go ahead.

24 MS. MICHEL: Because we don't have the total
25 population data right now, it's a bit early to go ahead

1 and speculate on that. But I'm sure over the next couple
2 of weeks we'll have a better handle on it. You're asking
3 the right questions.

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I mean, because I
5 don't want to ask for something that if it's already, we
6 know off the get-go, that likely it's going to be, you
7 know, perhaps a difficult visualization. The other
8 alternative, and Commissioner Sinay, just sent me a
9 message suggesting this, but how about from about -- I
10 would actually suggest from about Daly City, San Bruno,
11 all the way up into San Francisco, that may be also an --

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That's too many people.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Is that too many people?

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Yeah. San
15 Francisco, the population of San Francisco is generally
16 around 750,000, and --

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And right now we're just doing
18 visualization, so let's not tell people it's a bad idea.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: But if you already know;
21 I'm just thinking about also the populations that at
22 least in terms of my understanding of the Asian
23 populations, they would probably have -- if it were,
24 let's say, South San Francisco down to like Millbrae,
25 Burlingame, that they -- my understanding of those

1 communities is that they probably have some common
2 interest. And then as you get down past Burlingame and
3 further south, then they tend to have more common
4 interest.

5 But I'm not sure what the numbers are, so I don't
6 know if I'm self -- censoring myself by saying, you know,
7 maybe that's not the right visualization. Maybe too many
8 people too. So that's the hard part, I think.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So I'm just going to sort of
10 formulate this a little for you, and correct me if I'm
11 wrong. You'd like see visualization of gathering the
12 Asian population in, say, starting mid San Francisco, on
13 down, and then maybe San Francisco on down?

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I would probably say South
15 San Francisco, Commissioner Andersen, maybe, or what -- I
16 don't know where the right line would be in terms of
17 population numbers, but I think at least South San
18 Francisco through -- if Burlingame is a good cutoff point
19 where there would be, a roughly, appropriate number of
20 people that would be fine. If we need to go down past
21 Burlingame, and into San Mateo, and a little bit further
22 south to pick up the numbers, that's fine, too.

23 I'm just interested in seeing what that would be,
24 and then how that -- and then how that may also
25 reverberate into the remainder part of that southern

1 peninsula area.

2 MS. CLARK: Thank you for this direction,
3 Commissioner Akutagawa. And we'll work (audio
4 interference) --

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. Jaime, we can't
6 quite hear you again.

7 MS. CLARK: It's funny. I haven't changed anything.
8 But I was saying, thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa, for
9 your -- that direction, and throughout the visualization
10 process. We'll be working with the VRA attorneys to
11 figure this out, make some visualizations for you, and
12 we'll be able to let you know how everything -- how
13 everything sorts out in terms of population, and with the
14 citizen voting age population as well. Thank you so
15 much.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.
17 Commissioner Fornaciari.

18 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, a couple of things. You
19 know, and thinking about LA, thinking about San
20 Francisco, thinking about the feedback, a lot of feedback
21 we got in LA. At least for visualizations, can we try
22 not to split neighborhoods too?

23 MS. CLARK: (No audible response).

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you.

25 MS. CLARK: Thank you.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And then the second thing is, if
2 you would just kind of go over to the East Bay, Alameda,
3 Contra Costa County? So you know, I think Commissioner
4 Kennedy brought up one of the visualizations I wanted to
5 see. You know, it seems like geography is an important
6 factor here, and geography separates different types of
7 communities.

8 And so right now a Congressional district goes from
9 the East Bay over to Eastern Alameda County, which is,
10 you know, so you're crossing the hills there and you get
11 two very different areas together. So I'd like to just
12 ask if, as you're visualizing the Bay Area, if you could
13 honor that the -- the East Bay Hills as sort of a cutoff
14 point to see what that would look like if you did not
15 cross those hills, how -- I mean, is that a -- is that a
16 possibility? We got a lot of feedback on that point,
17 too.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
19 Fornaciari.

20 Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I wanted to go back to where we
22 were earlier with Daly City, Colma, and go up a little
23 bit up into San Francisco. I worked in Daly City for a
24 long time -- okay, not that long -- but it seems that, I
25 mean, another visualization, if possible, would be to

1 look at the Asian kind of feedback for Daly City, South
2 San Francisco. And then it's interesting that kind of --
3 okay, never mind. It wasn't working the way I was
4 thinking. Never mind. Sorry.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, anyway. You know
6 what I would like to see, actually, is in the Santa Clara
7 of the -- the north part of San Jose, back to the -- it
8 would be calling -- they've been calling the CD, so
9 existing CD 17, if we can go a little bit further out.
10 Perfect. I would actually like to see not -- take those
11 lines off please, the Congressional lines; I would I
12 would like to see what would area look like having --
13 added to what Commissioner Kennedy was saying about the
14 coast coming -- the coast starting at Pacifica, coming
15 down, possibly including Woodside, the Portola Valley.

16 I don't know if Atherton possibly in there, down to
17 parts of -- even the parts of Santa Cruz as a district.
18 And then looking at the -- how many in that area of
19 Cupertino, Sunnyvale, the eastern parts of San Jose and
20 up into Fremont, Newark, considering the -- both
21 population, and then the CVAP populations in that area.

22 For looking at those different combinations of, look
23 at the south part together, looking at the, say, from the
24 East Foothills, Alum Rock, north, or what kind of
25 combinations of voting rights districts could be created

1 in that area? Ignoring the previously -- the previous --
2 in the Congressional, or Assembly, or district lines.

3 I'd like to kind of see a few visualizations in that
4 area of different possibilities, because we don't -- we
5 can see what looks like population groups. We have no
6 idea how, how many, like, you know what Commissioner
7 Sinay said "packing, cracking". You know, I don't know.
8 You say -- a lot of people say, I want to be all
9 together, but basically that creates a packing area. And
10 so we don't want that. But we'd like to see people
11 coming together, divided up as necessary, but in those
12 areas, I'd like to see a few -- like however many
13 visualizations we need in that area, to give us some
14 choices.

15 MS. CLARK: Thank you so much for that. So yes, and
16 again, we'll be cognizant of areas that may meet the
17 first Gingles pre-condition when we're creating
18 visualizations. And we'll work really closely with your
19 VRA attorneys throughout the visualization process to
20 understand where there might be potential Voting Rights
21 Act considerations. Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
23 Sinay.

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can we go to the Fremont, Union
25 City, Newark area? And can we put -- okay. Can we go --

1 in this area, can we look at also the Black CVAP? Okay.
2 All right; so I think -- and can we look at the Latino,
3 just really quickly? Okay. So I had just written VRA
4 and that's why I wasn't sure what I meant by -- you know,
5 what community. And maybe that's what we just need to
6 say. But could we see a visualization; what if we
7 visualize Fremont, Union, and Newark together? And how
8 that works -- you know, just a visualization of those
9 three together.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
11 Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Well, now I have two
13 verification questions. So Commissioner Andersen, what
14 you were -- I'm in agreement with what you are
15 requesting. So is the possibility then in terms of the
16 visualizations that you were requesting, would that be
17 based on the possibility of seeing potentially two, maybe
18 three different Asian districts based on those
19 visualization options that you're requesting? Not taking
20 into account the current lines right now. But is that
21 what I'm understanding from -- what you might want to see
22 for that particular area, that South Bay area?

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Actually, you know,
24 I'm thinking --

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- what if it's all in Santa
2 Clara County; what if it's in, you know, parts of Santa
3 Clara, parts up into Alameda County, a couple of
4 different variations of that.

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, because it's just the
6 way the Asian community itself is spread out. And then I
7 guess then that gets to actually -- Commissioner Sinay,
8 I'd like to ask you a clarification question, too, and
9 perhaps ask if there might be a possibility of either
10 another visualization based on what you were just saying,
11 going back to that same East Bay area of Fremont, Union
12 City, Hayward, Newark.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I didn't -- I didn't include
14 Hayward on purpose because we had gotten a lot of input
15 asking just for Fremont, Union, and Newark.

16 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Oh. Okay. Okay. I
17 guess -- okay. I guess --

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You can ask for a second one
19 that you could --

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I know. I'm just
21 kind of also thinking about all the input that we got
22 from the Asian community, as well too. And I don't know,
23 again, these are the -- you know, thinking about how can
24 we also ensure that there's going to be, you know,
25 representation in which, you know, communities are going

1 to feel like they have, truly, people who are going to
2 understand their representation.

3 And it seems to me that while we didn't get a lot of
4 calls from Hayward, based on what I also saw when we
5 quickly saw the Black CVAP as well, too, I'm wondering if
6 there's some value in seeing a visualization that
7 includes Hayward, Union City, perhaps that -- I don't
8 know, I guess it's the western portion of Fremont. So it
9 would be looking at breaking up Fremont and Newark.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
11 Akutagawa.

12 I'd like to sort of move a little bit north now, and
13 actually -- let's, since we've been kind of looking at
14 the Asian -- well, no, I'm sorry, just still in the Bay
15 Area, just for the north ones in the Bay Area. And sort
16 of looking at the Asian, can we also have a look -- put
17 that one on, and then I'd like to go to the Black, and
18 then the Latino.

19 Similar to how the way Commissioner Sinay did for a
20 particular area, if we would kind of -- great. And then
21 kind -- so if you could go kind of quickly, sort of
22 through the three different CVAPs.

23 (Pause)

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. I'd like to look at
25 the Oakland and essentially the north -- I guess

1 northwest part of Alameda County. And we've kind of
2 talked about the -- looking at for the CVAP part of --
3 oh, clearly there's an area of the Oakland, which
4 includes, you know, Oakland, Chinatown -- actually I
5 don't know if it's population or census district which is
6 looking at the part of -- that is the airport down on
7 Alameda, that whole area, you know, is that potentially a
8 district for Asian?

9 And then I'd like to see the Black CVAP, please.
10 And have a look at that -- the entire area. Great.
11 Thank you. In the visualization here, I'd like to see --
12 but can we go just a little bit further south, just move
13 them out? Yeah. So that's in -- especially the parts of
14 Hayward north into Oakland for -- I'd like to see
15 different combinations of -- as Commissioner Fornaciari
16 said, along the ridge line.

17 Say, if you go parts of Hayward, through San
18 Leandro, Oakland, not sure where you'd kind of end up
19 stopping or go -- then go north from Oakland all the way
20 up into Richmond through, essentially, probably San
21 Pablo, up through those areas.

22 I don't know. Obviously, we'll be looking at the
23 minority districts in these areas. I just don't know in
24 terms of how we could put that together. Those have a
25 lot though, we've been hearing about those areas have a

1 lot in common. That's also, I don't know if anyone who's
2 driven in through this area, the 80 Corridor is a huge
3 connection there. And kind of would like to see a couple
4 of different visualizations across that area.

5 I have Commissioner Turner.

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Certainly not a
7 visualization; just a discussion point, either for Jaime,
8 or the other Commissioners, if you know. Once we have,
9 on looking at the CVAP, particularly for -- well, it
10 doesn't matter, for any of the populations, that we had
11 up just a minute ago, the Black and Latino. The
12 shadings, the eighty to one hundred percent, the darkest
13 ones, and maybe even the fifty to eighty; I'm wondering
14 if we were looking at this with only the zero up through
15 perhaps the fifty percent, if we were only looking at
16 that shading on the map, would it not indicate a
17 different -- maybe drive a different thought of how we
18 were driving these?

19 Because some of the ones that are up to a hundred
20 percent, they probably can, you know, be able to vote the
21 way that they want to. But when we have areas that are
22 the lighter shadings, maybe that's where we need to
23 consider where we're drawing lines to ensure that we're
24 not packing or to ensure that we're not cracking.

25 I just keep trying to look at the shadings. And I

1 know earlier, I think Jaime responded that, you know, we
2 can ask for anything different. But looking at the
3 entire VRA with all of the percentages, in my mind it
4 feels like it would have different results if we were
5 only looking at those that were fifty and less.

6 MS. MICHEL: I can jump in here. I think that --
7 it's a good question. I think that being able to tell,
8 at this point, the higher concentration areas is helping
9 to identify those where we might need to do further
10 research. But of course, you're right. The percentages
11 are not actually corresponding to, like, specific
12 precincts, or even neighborhoods, because we don't have
13 the total population as the denominator in yet.

14 So I think that -- I think -- your instinct is right
15 on. We're kind of just not totally there yet. I'm not
16 sure if that helps explain a bit more.

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh. It does. Thank you.
18 And actually, it's just what I was holding in my mind. I
19 just wanted to say it out loud. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner
21 Turner.

22 Commissioner Sinay.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That was a great question,
24 Commissioner Turner, and it sparked another one kind of
25 for me. That yesterday we talked about, or the day

1 before, we talked about how the Justice Department had
2 recommendations on how to look at mixed-race communities
3 and how they can -- yeah, it's an Afro-Asian, they could
4 be counted in both Afro and an Asian. Is that the same
5 for CVAC (sic), or not? So we're having a different
6 experience here, than we may be having if we were looking
7 at the census data?

8 MS. CLARK: Answer that really quickly. The CVAP is
9 tabulated also following the Department of Justice's
10 guidelines.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Okay. So I've
12 got -- when we did -- we did receive a community of
13 interest that said that there was a Muslim community in
14 Richmond, East and West Oakland, Fremont, San Jose, and
15 Santa Clara, which sounds very big. What do we do with
16 something that big? Yeah, and we may need additional
17 information. Jaime, is this one of those areas where we
18 just have to wait until we get more communities of
19 interest to really define it for us?

20 MS. CLARK: Sorry. Could you please repeat your
21 question?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. So my question is, we did
23 receive a community of interest submission around the
24 Muslim community saying that they were -- that they had
25 mosques, and could be found in Richmond, East and West

1 Oakland, Fremont, San Jose, and Santa Clara. Unlike
2 ethnic communities where we can look at the CVAP, we
3 can't necessarily see exactly where these communities are
4 located. So is this one of those times where we need to
5 ask the community, please submit more.

6 MS. CLARK: Should you direct us to? We can
7 certainly create a visualization based on the areas that
8 you just named off and receive community input about.
9 And if you feel that you need more than that might be,
10 yes, a great opportunity to ask for more input from
11 community members directly.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Let's just wait on that
13 one then. What I would like to do is go kind of over to
14 the Oakland area, because we received different
15 communities of interest in that area. And I don't think
16 we've asked for visualizations in this area. I believe
17 Commissioner Fornaciari and Commissioner Andersen were
18 talking more up in the hills and the other way, correct?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: (No verbal response).

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So for the visualization,
21 Oakland, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, and Richmond have
22 been -- is one of the -- one of the requests. But
23 sometimes it's just Oakland, Emeryville, and Berkeley.
24 So if we could have a couple of visualizations, or
25 several, I don't know what the number is, in this area,

1 also looking at the CVAP data for both African-Americans
2 and Latinos in this area.

3 Was that done correctly this time, Jaime?

4 MS. CLARK: I think so. I'm going to try and repeat
5 back. What I heard is, creating visualizations with El
6 Cerrito, Albany, Berkeley, parts of Oakland, and just
7 creating different visualizations based on input that has
8 been received so far. And looking at sort of different,
9 different ways the community members have -- let, you
10 know, like these cities belong together, these cities
11 belong together, and just making visualizations based on
12 that, while keeping in mind about the CVAP data that's
13 associated with these areas.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Exactly. And all the way up to
15 Richmond, because some have gone all the way up to
16 Richmond. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, it was almost
18 exactly what I was talking about before. So thanks for
19 trying to clarify that. Obviously, it didn't come across
20 that well, because I was saying the same, but continue on
21 up to -- a little bit further up in Richmond.

22 But Commissioner Turner, please.

23 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I'll lower my hand
24 now.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I'm pleased I didn't

1 miss it in the trees like I have been. So I apologize
2 for that earlier.

3 One thing I'd like to see just before we kind of
4 move on to a different area is, Commissioner Fornaciari
5 was talking about the -- looking a little bit further
6 south in the -- still in Alameda County and the areas --
7 I'd like to see -- he was talking about going, following
8 the ridgeline keeping it, you know, in the Bay in and out
9 of the Bay. But a lot of these areas are actually
10 very -- more rural, like Sunol, Fremont, parts of
11 Pleasanton. I'd like to see -- and there's a lot of
12 Asian through that area, too. I'd kind of like to see,
13 you know, when we are different scenarios, I would also
14 like to see when it's going across from, you know,
15 Hayward, Union City, through that, you know, the Niles
16 Canyon, which is part of Fremont, into the Sunol area and
17 out. Because that's actually, I know in terms of fire
18 zones, you know, those are large areas that the whole
19 area lights up, starting from Sunol east. So I'd like to
20 see a few more of those.

21 And we haven't actually talked further east, but I
22 know that we've sort of been getting Commissioner
23 Fornaciari, who's from Tracy, a lot of people saying, put
24 Tracy in the Bay Area, and out of San Joaquin. So you
25 know, I think let's -- we'd also need to have a little

1 bit of comment about that area, from the east of Alameda.
2 I'd like see a couple of different visualizations that
3 way, again, following what communities' input has given
4 us.

5 Other Commissioners?

6 Do you want to move a little bit further north in
7 just across the Contra Costa which are -- no, actually
8 still, I have things in -- and still in Contra Costa.

9 Commissioner Akutagawa.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So just for
11 clarification, Commissioner Andersen, so I guess I'm just
12 trying to clarify. Are you directing the line drawers to
13 create a visualization that would put Tracy in with,
14 let's say, for example, like Livermore, and Pleasanton;
15 is that where you want to go? Because I do agree with
16 you, and I am curious, it's been interesting to hear how,
17 you know, like in Southern California, there are what we
18 would consider like, you know, extensions now of the
19 larger Greater Southern California area because of the
20 commutes.

21 But not everybody feels the same way that they're
22 connected to the larger body, you know, so -- but at the
23 same time, I am curious as -- you know, as you are. But
24 I'm trying to figure out, like, what cities are you
25 trying to include in this visualization, because I don't

1 know if it's in alignment with what I was thinking.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I just was a general
3 there in that Tracy, because I feel when -- tomorrow when
4 we get into the Central Valley, it will come up much
5 more. So I didn't elaborate much further. I guess if I
6 said Tracy, it would also be Mountain House.

7 And actually, could you put the, you know, 580 on
8 there? That'd be rather obvious. Yeah, so that's even
9 less area the -- just for one.

10 So Commissioner Akutagawa, did you want to add more?

11 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I guess I -- I guess
12 for me when I think about, I guess, in this kind of
13 relationship, I think about Tracy and Livermore together.
14 I just didn't know whether or not you wanted to go down
15 as far as like Sunol or you know, include up to like
16 Dublin, or even go up as high as, like, San Ramon, in
17 that area. And others may have a different idea.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I was just thinking
19 Sunol, or the southern part of Alameda County, maybe
20 Pleasanton but the -- you know, Pleasanton, Dublin,
21 Livermore, they're more the -- they consider themselves
22 the Tri-Valley, but so kind of in that area, a couple of
23 different options. I believe the Tri-Valley would be up
24 to Danville, Diablo, including Alamo which --

25 Commissioner Sinay.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Well, since you brought up the
2 Tri-Valley, we've heard several times that we would like
3 to keep the Tri-Valley together. And it was defined as
4 San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton, Danville, Livermore, and
5 unincorporated Alamo, Black Hawk, and Diablo Valley.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Yeah. Then, if
7 we could look at North Contra Costa County? Now, we've
8 heard a couple of different variations. I'd like to see
9 a few different visualizations that include from, you
10 know, the Lamorinda, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill area. I
11 think we had heard that today. So Pleasant Hill, Walnut
12 Creek, Castle -- that entire area of Lamorinda, include
13 an unincorporated area by Lafayette.

14 And then I'd like to also see Concord either with
15 that, or Concord with Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, out
16 that direction.

17 You know, there'll be a lot of different variations
18 in here. I'd like to see one with Martinez up to
19 Benicia, and including maybe Vallejo or not; and say,
20 maybe from Pinole, east to, say, Concord, those along the
21 Highway 4 area. And then -- and I don't know by
22 population, I don't know how that's going to work.

23 Commissioner Sinay.

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can we put on the CVAC -- VAP,
25 I think I keep saying it wrong. Each time I say it

1 differently. The voting data, yeah, for Latinos in
2 this -- in this area, yeah, the northern contrast. Thank
3 you. Okay. I was just curious because -- so several --
4 we've got some input that was kind of trying -- like you
5 guys can see where I'm pointing. You know, joining
6 Vallejo, Benicia, I can see why they separate it out. It
7 doesn't look like it's. Can you put the Asian, please?
8 Sorry. And we can't put them all at the same time,
9 right?

10 MS. RAMOS ALON: (No audible response).

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right, that doesn't --
12 okay. So now -- so no, I don't see exactly what folks
13 were saying about crossing, you know, Crockett, Rodeo,
14 and Benicia.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, could you put the
16 Black CVAP up also, please?

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You know what I'm realizing?
18 Just because it's not CVAP, doesn't mean it's not a
19 community of interest. So I apologize. So we did
20 receive the request -- okay, now I can't -- oh, for
21 Benicia and Martinez to be connected because they were
22 both -- both communities had a lot of oil industry. So
23 if we -- I'm sorry -- so if we could please see a
24 visualization. What if we had Benicia and Martinez in
25 one type of district?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Do you have other
2 directions, Commissioner Sinay?

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh. I'm taking turns based on
4 other people. Sorry. I didn't lower my hand.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Commissioner Yee.

6 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. So this is where I
7 ask for visualization, with Vallejo kept in the Solano
8 County, and versus Vallejo, placed with Napa County. And
9 then also Solano combined with Yolo counties, versus,
10 Solano combined with Napa Counties.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Uh-huh.

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: Let's say, this is all making me
13 appreciate all the more, the Voters FIRST Act, the fact
14 that city and counties are at the same level as
15 communities of interest. One is not higher than the
16 other. So that's so much of these, these cases that
17 we're looking at, which of those two to put a little
18 higher than the other in a given case, because they're
19 not higher -- one is not higher than the other by
20 statute. That's all.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Do we have any
22 other, you know, should we move now, because I realize
23 that the line drawers might not be with us after the
24 following break, so we want to kind of jump up into a --
25 oh. Well, do we want to jump up -- oh, no, sorry.

1 We have Commissioner Akutagawa, and we also have a
2 hand from Jaime.

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Go ahead and go with Jaime
4 first.

5 MS. CLARK: I was going to suggest that since, you
6 know, there is a lot of overlap in -- and there's been
7 different testimony in these Northern California
8 counties, about east to west versus north to south. I'm
9 wondering if perhaps we could look at some of the Central
10 Coast area. Since tomorrow, you'll be with Kennedy. You
11 can look at these Northern California counties together,
12 if you wish, and Southern California -- or excuse me, in
13 the Central Coast, maybe we could sort of dig in there
14 for some visualizations next.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Perfect. Thank you.

16 Commissioner Akutagawa, now did you have a -- you
17 can go ahead and ask your question first.

18 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Okay. I was going to say,
19 I mean, I don't have to. I was just only going to just
20 note that along the San Joaquin Delta, like, you know,
21 the cities of, like, Pittsburg, and the ones going
22 further east. I know we got a lot of testimony around
23 that. And some of them kind of, you know -- yeah,
24 Pittsburg, Antioch, Brentwood, Oakley, Knightsen, and
25 some of them kind of dipped into, a little bit into the

1 San Joaquin Valley as well, too.

2 So I guess I -- given the input testimony that we
3 got, I would like to request a visualization taking that
4 into -- that region into account as well too.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So I think we're up against a
6 break at this point. So if we can -- I believe. Yeah.
7 So we could take fifteen minutes. Come back at, you
8 know, 3:05 I guess. And resume at that point.

9 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 2:50 p.m.
10 until 3:05 p.m.)

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Welcome back, California. Thanks
12 for joining us. We are going to continue with direction
13 to our line drawing team. I was going to turn it over to
14 Commissioner Andersen -- oh, I see her now. So I will
15 turn it over to Commissioner Andersen now.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Sorry, I didn't
17 realize my video was off.

18 So thank you very much, everybody. We're moving
19 right along here. I do want to tell everyone we will
20 lose the line drawing team at about 3:20. So as Jaime
21 has told us, north, we might -- we will be doing the
22 North Inland and Central California tomorrow morning, and
23 we might address the northern coast at that time.

24 So if we could jump into what people would want to
25 hear about the southern coast and again, realizing we

1 basically have about fifteen minutes, so --

2 Oh. Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari. I was
3 going to say you are probably the most familiar with this
4 area, so if you could lead us.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sure. So first, I mean, we've
6 given you direction, the VRA. You're going to work on
7 that. We don't need to be redundant on that -- on
8 Section 2. But I do have a question. This is the
9 first -- Monterey is first four counties that we're going
10 to be running into over the next few days where there are
11 Section 5 districts. So I understand what a Section 2
12 district is. I don't really get what a Section 5
13 district is, and I don't get what we should be thinking
14 about doing, with it.

15 You know, we don't want to make the folks in those
16 districts any worse off than they were before. You know,
17 hopefully we can make them better off in whatever sense
18 that is. But I'm wondering if a VRA counsel can kind of
19 let us all know what -- kind of what the Section 5 is --
20 was, and give us some thoughts or guidance on what we
21 ought to be thinking about and with regard to those
22 districts, in the context of no more Section 5.

23 MS. MICHEL: Sure. So as you indicated, Section 5
24 is -- it's still on -- technically on the books. Section
25 5 was a part of the Voting Rights Act where there were

1 certain jurisdictions that needed to submit any
2 redistricting plans for the Justice Department to pre-
3 clear before they were allowed into effect.

4 Since the Supreme Court in Shelby County basically
5 struck down the formula that made a county a Section 5 --
6 or a jurisdiction a Section 5 jurisdiction, the pre-
7 clearance is no longer in effect, and those areas would
8 still, however, fall under Section 2. So there is --
9 they'll still receive analysis under the Voting -- for
10 Voting Rights Act compliance under that section. And
11 they don't need to be sort of separately considered under
12 Section 5, which had some different standards that
13 applied to it.

14 Does that answer your question?

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I still, I still don't get it. I
16 mean, what was -- so do, contrast Section 5 and Section 2
17 for me then, or something? I mean, I don't get the -- so
18 I have to get permission to have --

19 MS. MICHEL: Uh-huh.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I have to get permission for my
21 district, but permission for what? I mean, because that
22 it historically discriminated against people. But I
23 mean, what is -- what do I have to do to remedy that, I
24 guess, and then get it blessed?

25 MR. PÉREZ: Julia. Julia, I can jump in if you --

1 if you don't mind?

2 MR. MANOFF: Sure, of course.

3 MR. PÉREZ: Commissioner, if you think of Section 2
4 as a sword, for a minority community, you can think of
5 Section 5 as a shield. And what I mean by that is
6 Section 5 requires a jurisdiction to, for example,
7 maintain the level of a minority community. Let's say
8 like there's a district in Monterey County where there
9 was forty-eight percent CVAP, Section 5 would make it
10 unlawful, without pre-clearance, to draw a district that
11 had less Latino voters in it. So that's just one example
12 of how the law would apply. Happy to answer any follow-
13 up questions.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. What if it had thirty? I
15 mean, I guess I just -- maybe this is a longer
16 conversation than we can have today, since you guys are
17 all going. I guess all I would ask is that you look
18 at -- I mean, you're going to look at it from Section 2,
19 but just help us contextualize, when you come back, how
20 this all would have fit in with Section 5. And that in
21 some way that helps us make sense of it all.

22 MR. PÉREZ: Sure thing.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Does it mean we've got a -- I
24 just want to make sure that we're doing the right thing
25 for everybody.

1 MR. PÉREZ: Uh-huh. Yeah, we will -- we'll talk to
2 David Becker and potentially, provide some training to
3 the Commission on this.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
5 Fernández.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. I guess back to
7 you, Salvador, or Julia, whoever wants to respond. I
8 understand what Chair Fornaciari is getting to. And I
9 guess my question would be is, what is the criteria to
10 become a Section 5? And what is the criteria to become a
11 Section 2? Like the difference between the two. And it
12 sounded like Monterey, the whole county was a Section 5.
13 So is that one of the differences? It's a whole -- it's
14 a bigger area. I mean, I -- yeah, I'm kind of like on
15 the same page where I don't want to make a community
16 worse because they no longer fall under Section 5.

17 And I realize, as Julia said, that it would still
18 fall into the Section 2, but I don't know where there're
19 additional protections for Section 5, versus Section 2.
20 It's a lot of questions. So I'm not going to apologize,
21 it's just a lot of questions. So thank you. If you can
22 just shed some light, that'd be great.

23 MS. MICHEL: Sure. So I can -- you're asking very
24 good questions. And I'm sorry that the law is as
25 complicated as it is. Basically, the standard under

1 Section 5 prohibited, as Sal was explaining, what they
2 called -- what the law called "retrogression", so putting
3 people in a worse situation than they had been before.
4 That standard is much more friendly for minority voters
5 than Section 2 is, which only applies -- only allows the
6 opportunity to elect candidates of choice.

7 So what that means, basically, is that a
8 jurisdiction that -- because nationwide every area is
9 under Section 2, it means that minority voters in every
10 area they need to be protected against the racially
11 polarized voting that Sal, and you've heard about before
12 from David. But the standard is much higher than it
13 would have been under Section 5, which is no longer
14 operative. Does that help, kind of, answer your
15 question?

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I'm just going to keep
17 moving on. So yeah, I'm good. Thanks -- because it
18 didn't necessarily answer it but since it -- I'm just
19 going to move on. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Yee might have
21 some other thoughts.

22 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Let me see if I got this
23 correct. Section 5 areas were pre-identified by the
24 Section 4 formula that was struck down. So the Section 5
25 districts are known. You know, there's a list of them

1 across the nation. And they included some areas in
2 Monterey County.

3 So you know, those are the ones that people already
4 know they had to be pre-cleared if any changes were made
5 that could possibly retrogress the position of minority
6 voters in this section. I believe that's -- is that
7 correct?

8 MR. MANOFF: (No audible response).

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: So versus Section 2, everyone is
10 subject to Section 2. You know, every district in the
11 whole nation, you know, a Section 2 claim could be made.
12 Of course, only some, you know, could have been made
13 credibly. I believe that's the case. Let's move along.

14 Meanwhile, you may recall the Mapping Playbook
15 Subcommittee had a point of discussion whether or not to
16 hold ourselves to Section 5 standards, even though they
17 are not being -- they're not operative right now. And at
18 this moment, we're proposing not to put that down on
19 paper. That we will systematically try to maintain those
20 standards, even though, of course, we're free to consider
21 them, and hold ourselves to them, and you know, discuss
22 them as we -- as we eventually draw actual districts.
23 But that's still an open question whether we'll
24 systematically try to maintain Section 5 standards.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I might just jump in here

1 for a minute. One thing I might say about it is there's
2 the standards but before you had the pre-clearance idea,
3 you basically had to kind of draw your districts, and
4 then you couldn't change them. And so by that, you had
5 no flexibility. And I know that I've heard that caused
6 lots of problems going up the peninsula, because they
7 picked parts of Monterey, and then Santa Cruz. And it's
8 that rigidity that if we can kind of look at, we can
9 still keep whatever standards we want, like there's no
10 retrogression, but we don't have to lock in ahead of
11 time.

12 We can still be a little flexible with our -- where
13 our districts are, and make sure that we still don't
14 have -- there's no retrogression in these areas that were
15 Section 5. That's how I've seen this. So in terms of,
16 we still will meet the criteria, but we don't have to say
17 right now, ahead of time, okay, this is how we're doing
18 Monterey, and that's it, period. Everything else is
19 locked in. And then you go from there.

20 I don't remember all the counties, but we kind of do
21 need to push on a little bit. And I'm hoping,
22 Commissioner Fornaciari, we'll get more information I
23 know, from our VRA, it will give us a lot more
24 information. As you can tell, we all have ideas. We
25 don't know what that -- what the details are, but if you

1 could give us a bit of direction here; because as I say
2 we turn into a pumpkin in five minutes.

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Yeah, that'd be great
4 if -- just, yes. So I guess the first thing I would ask
5 is, you know, we get three themes in Ventura County, if
6 you would look at those three themes for us. And those
7 three themes are the Oxnard point, Hueneme, and up the
8 Santa Clara River, could you draw that visualization so
9 we can see what that looks like? Keeping sort of the --
10 ah, I forget what the name of that valley is, but it's --
11 can you zoom in a little bit, so I can see the names of
12 the city?

13 Thousand Oaks, Camarillo Park, all that, and Simi
14 Valley, Moorpark, Santa Rosa, keeping those guys all
15 together; then what does it look like without Simi
16 Valley?

17 I don't know if I actually remember to say this, you
18 know, I don't -- I think I did not. I specifically
19 looked for input from Moorpark, and only found three
20 pieces of input from Moorpark. And none of them wanted
21 to be in CD 25. All of them wanted to be -- wanted to
22 stay in Ventura County.

23 So I think those -- I mean, you know, and we've
24 already asked you to honor the input, or you know, look
25 at the input that we've received, the COI input. So

1 beyond that, I don't have any specific direction for the
2 rest of the zone.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you.

4 Commissioner Sinay.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: There was a lot around the
6 Burbank Airport, and I thought Burbank was Los Angeles,
7 and then some were bringing it up, as if that was
8 Ventura. And so I just wanted to -- and you're laughing
9 at me, Commissioner Vázquez, but I just didn't want us --
10 since we didn't bring it up during our conversation of
11 Los Angeles, I did want to bring up the Burbank Airport.
12 So if we just -- I guess we're looking at all those --
13 Burbank is Burbank. Okay. Thanks.

14 I did think it was closer to San Bernardino but --
15 so anyway. The other thing I found interesting about the
16 Simi Valley, and you kind of brought this up Commissioner
17 Fornaciari, was that most of the people saying, keep Simi
18 Valley with the Los Angeles, were not from Simi Valley.
19 While those from Simi Valley, when it came to those who
20 were who talking -- who were from Simi Valley, and most
21 of them said, hey, put us with Ventura. But either way,
22 they want to be together, and with Moorpark.

23 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Just to be clear, the input I
24 looked at, I believe it was only from Ventura County. I
25 didn't look at the input for -- to Simi Valley from

1 outside of Ventura County.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Sounds good. The little
3 map, the packets we got were great because they have --
4 they multiply, so if you think you're reading 300 pages
5 once, then 500 pages the next time, a lot of them fall
6 under more than one category. So I apologize.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Commissioner
8 Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I was going to just
10 make a comment on that part. What I'm finding is that in
11 reading the inputs that we've gotten, either they're --
12 because they mention one of the counties, it may have
13 gotten grouped in with even a different county that it's
14 not really a part of. And I think, too, what
15 Commissioner Sinay did say, and I'll go back through the
16 Simi Valley inputs again, but my recollection is that
17 there was a combination of both those who live in the
18 Santa Clarita Valley that were advocating to have Simi
19 Valley included with it.

20 But from a lot of the people who did call in from
21 the Simi Valley, not all necessarily address Santa
22 Clarita, or the Antelope Valley, but there were at least
23 a few that did state that they did not believe that they
24 should be with Santa Clarita Valley or the Antelope
25 Valley. And that they should be closer to Ventura, and

1 part of Ventura, part of Moorpark. In some cases, I
2 think, as Commissioner Fornaciari, you had noted Thousand
3 Oaks. I also recall seeing something about Bell Canyon
4 as well too.

5 I know that this wasn't the request. I know that
6 there were some comments about keeping Ventura and LA
7 County separate. However, given the Ventura County
8 region, and also the requests that we also heard from the
9 community members who called in about Oxnard, Port
10 Hueneme; I don't know if it's going to be possible to
11 keep them separate, but I did hear very clearly that they
12 felt that they did not want to be together with cities
13 like Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley. And at some point,
14 if you were to try to keep all of Ventura County
15 together, it would be a little difficult to honor those
16 requests.

17 And so I'm interested, or I would like to request a
18 visualization that would include Moorpark, Simi Valley,
19 Thousand Oaks, that particular area. So I guess that
20 could include Santa Rosa, Oak Park, Bell Canyon, Santa
21 Susana, Westlake Village, Agoura Hills, and also
22 Calabasas, and also Hidden Hills.

23 And stopping at -- and not including Topanga, but
24 stopping at Calabasas, and not including the region that
25 says LA, that's, primarily, I suspect the mountains and

1 the San Fernando Valley. Yes. Together with the eastern
2 part of Ventura County which includes Simi Valley,
3 Thousand Oaks, and Moorpark.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Thank you,
5 Commissioner Akutagawa. You know, it is 3:22 now. I'm
6 hoping that Tamina is still with us. I think we might
7 have lost Jaime but -- and I'm just thinking, should we
8 go?

9 I know, Commissioner Sinay, I see your hand. Is
10 this about the same area, or are you going further north?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Going a little bit further
12 north.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Go ahead.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm curious to see; what if we
15 visualize Santa Cruz, with the 17 Corridor going towards
16 Los Gatos, in that area and -- yeah. So the 17 Corridor
17 that -- yeah, Santa Cruz going to 17 into -- because, I
18 mean, one of the questions that probably we'll discuss at
19 some point in the playbook is the whole idea of, if
20 people live and work -- and we brought it up earlier
21 too -- live and work in different places.

22 Some people may think that it's connected and others
23 wouldn't, but some of the COIs did talk about the 17
24 Corridor and connecting Santa Cruz to Santa -- to Silicon
25 Valley using the 17 Corridor. So what if?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Along those
2 lines, I'd like to see one that has a visualization that
3 actually has the southern part of San Jose, the Santa
4 Clara, like you know, Morgan Hill, Gilroy areas. And
5 then heading down, and have that sort of as a
6 possibility. I don't know for the population.

7 Then I'd like to see another visualization which had
8 the Gilroy through the -- you know, from say, Gilroy,
9 Interlaken, Watsonville -- I can't see the last name --
10 down through, a little further south here, Aromas,
11 Prunedale, Las Lomas, and into San Benito County. I'd
12 like to see that as well, or that Tri area, Prunedale.
13 I'd like to see that even as one. And I'd like to see
14 the San Benito with those areas I just sort of mentioned;
15 and the whole Salinas Valley as one.

16 I would -- I'm kind of jumping it here, guys,
17 because of just to get this for the -- before the line
18 drawers run away.

19 I'd like to see if there could be, it was mentioned
20 by -- if this is a VRA district, I don't know, but for
21 the Black CVAP in the Marina, Seaside area. And then
22 including from -- I don't know if the Marina, you know,
23 the Monterey, that whole area going south; excluding the
24 Salinas Valley. I don't know population, or if it would
25 be Monterey and San Benito together, the counties.

1 I'm going sort of fast here. And then there's going
2 south, San Luis Obispo County, which has said, you know,
3 no, we don't want to be with Monterey County. We want to
4 be with -- by ourselves, or with parts of -- the northern
5 part of -- with Santa Barbara County. So I'd like to
6 kind of see that. Now, we've had several, again --

7 Oh. Good. Commissioner Kennedy.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. Jenny Curdo, when she
9 called this morning, was asking that we provide two
10 different visualizations with San Luis Obispo County, and
11 saying that the public would benefit from seeing both of
12 them: So one would be all of San Luis Obispo, plus
13 Southern Monterey County; the other one being, all of San
14 Luis Obispo, plus Northern Santa Barbara County. So I
15 would like to request that we honor that request.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. And do we have
17 one, Commissioner Fornaciari, that was mentioned just --
18 you know, say the beach communities excluding some of the
19 rest of the counties? Or am I just imagining that?

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: The Northern Santa Barbara
21 feedback we got was Santa Maria, Orcutt, Lompoc, [Guada-
22 loup] -- Guadalupe together.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. And then going down
24 to Santa Barbara -- and that was separating then as you
25 go further east, it was the Santa Barbara area with --

1 with, you know, Santa Nella -- not Santa Nella -- oh,
2 rats, I can't think of the name of the town -- the
3 Solvang, that whole area, the Buellton/Solvang. That was
4 with Santa Barbara area? Or was that the entire county?

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: You know, I don't recall input
6 that captured that.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Well, so I think
8 that's the directions for the line drawers. Let's have a
9 look at population, and see what you can give us.

10 Any other Commissioners here who want to jump in
11 with things? I went very quickly through that.

12 Oh. We're also actually going to have the --
13 they're going to read back directions for us. Should we
14 jump into that now? Would you like -- I don't see --
15 again, I can't see everybody. So if you have questions,
16 if you want to speak up, please do so now. Otherwise, I
17 think we'll have the line drawers or the staff read back
18 directions to us.

19 Okay. I don't see any Commissioners.

20 So could we have, I think Marcy is -- or we might
21 have Jose Eduardo is giving them back? Or Marcy, the
22 team will -- or staff team will lead, please.

23 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. Jose Eduardo has been on
24 taking notes. So he'll be able to jump on now --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you very much.

1 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: -- to go through those. Yeah.

2 MR. EDUARDO CHAVEZ: Hi, Commissioners. This is
3 Jose Eduardo. So I have -- I'm going to go down the
4 general directions and visualizations.

5 Starting on top, Commissioner Kennedy: General
6 direction wants to keep tribal reservations together;
7 another general direction, it's better to split counties
8 as opposed to cities, and consensus with Commissioner
9 Sinay, Commissioners Yee and Kennedy, as well as
10 Commissioner Toledo, to treat census-designated places
11 same as cities, and put them together when possible,
12 especially for the visualization phase.

13 Commissioner Yee would like to see Congressional
14 District 17, and with and without the Cities of
15 Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and Santa Clara.

16 Commissioner Sinay; create two districts in 17 and
17 18 that were -- that are minority and majority Asian
18 voters.

19 Commissioner Kennedy: General direction, coastal
20 district that is separate from the urban district. Such
21 as areas as -- that would be joined with Santa Cruz, and
22 urban areas would become part of the -- of what the
23 Commission is looking at with current Congressional
24 District 18. Keeping the urban areas together, and then
25 taking the coastal area and putting that together with

1 San Mateo or down into Santa Cruz counties.

2 Commissioner Akutagawa visualizations: Asians, voter
3 aging population, put South San Francisco up through
4 Redwood City, down past Belmont, or around Belmont;
5 Belmont or San Carlos being down through another portion
6 of that peninsula area.

7 Commissioner Fornaciari visualizations: Try not to
8 split neighborhoods, and it could just be for LA and San
9 Francisco areas, as well as honor East Bay Hills,
10 divide -- which divides two different areas.

11 Commissioner Andersen: Look at different
12 combinations of the coast, starting at Pacifica, coming
13 down, possibly including Woodside -- Woodside Valley,
14 Atherton, down to parts of Santa Cruz District, and
15 looking at how many in the area of Cupertino, Sunnyvale,
16 the eastern parts of San Jose, but keeping in mind Asian
17 voting age -- voting age populations.

18 Commissioner [Sen-nay] -- Commissioner Sinay, I'm
19 sorry: The visualizations of Fremont, Union, and Newark,
20 keeping in mind voting age -- Latino voting age
21 populations.

22 Commissioner Akutagawa: Include Hayward, Union City,
23 western portion of Fremont, and breaking up Fremont and
24 Newark, maybe.

25 Commissioner Andersen: Parts of Hayward, north into

1 Oakland, see different combinations, and parts of Hayward
2 through San Leandro, Oakland, and then go north from
3 Oakland all the way into the -- up into Richmond through,
4 probably, San Pablo, up to those areas looking at the
5 minority districts, and in those areas as well.

6 Commissioner Sinay: Create visualizations based on
7 the areas that were just named, and based on the
8 community's input about Richmond, East and West Oakland,
9 Fremont, San Jose, and Santa Clara. Also visualizations
10 of Albany, Berkeley, parts of Oakland, and creating
11 different visualizations based on input that has been
12 received so far; while keeping in mind the voting age
13 populations.

14 Commissioner Andersen visualizations: Create the
15 visualization that would put Tracy in with the
16 communities or cities such as Livermore, Pleasanton, and
17 maybe San Ramon, or Southern Alameda.

18 Commissioner Sinay: Keep the Tri-Valley together.
19 So it is San Ramon, Dublin, Pleasanton, Danville,
20 Livermore, and unincorporated Alamo, Black Hawk, and
21 Diablo Valley.

22 Commissioner Andersen: Include visualizations that
23 include Marina, Pleasant Hill area, Walnut Creek, Castle
24 (ph.), and La Marina -- Lamorinda. Include
25 unincorporated areas such as Lafayette. Also see Concord

1 West, or Bay Point, Pittsburg, Antioch, or out of that
2 direction. See different visualization for Martinez, out
3 to Benedia -- Benicia include Vallejo, or not, or maybe
4 even from Pinole east to, say, Concord along the Highway
5 4 area.

6 Commissioner Sinay: Benicia and Martinez in one type
7 of district. Put them in one type of district.

8 Commissioner Yee: Keep Vallejo in county, versus
9 Vallejo placed Napa County, and then Solano combined with
10 Yolo County, versus Solano combined with Napa County.

11 Commissioner Akutagawa: Visualizations from the San
12 Joaquin Delta, which would include Pittsburg, Antioch,
13 Brentwood, Oakley, Berkeley, Knightsen, and some cities
14 in the -- and some cities that are part of the San
15 Joaquin Valley.

16 Commissioner Fornaciari: Keep the Oxnard Port,
17 Hueneme, and up to the Santa Clara River together.

18 Commissioner Fornaciari: Keep Thousand Oaks,
19 Camarillo, Oak Park, Simi Valley, Moorpark, Santa Rosa,
20 and another visualization without Simi Valley, to see how
21 that would look.

22 Commissioner Akutagawa: Include Moorpark, Simi
23 Valley, Thousand Oaks, an area that could include also
24 Santa Rosa, Oak Park, Bell Canyon, Santa Susana, Westlake
25 Village, Agoura Hills, and Calabasas, and even the Hidden

1 Hills.

2 Commissioner Sinay: Include the visualizations of
3 Santa Cruz with -- along with the 17 -- Highway 17
4 Corridor going towards Los Gatos, in that area.

5 Commissioner Andersen: Visualization that actually
6 has the southern part of Santa Jose, Santa Clara, Morgan
7 Hill, Gilroy, and areas heading down.

8 Commissioner Andersen: Visualization which had --
9 which has Gilroy through Gilroy Lake, and Watsonville
10 down through South Prunedale, Aromas, into the San Benito
11 County. And also would like to see San Benito County
12 with those areas just mentioned, as well as the Salinas
13 Valley as one.

14 Commissioner Andersen: The Black voting age
15 population in the Marina, Seaside area, and then
16 including the perhaps the Marina, the Monterey, and the
17 whole area going south, which excludes Salinas Valley.
18 In other words, put Monterey and San Benito counties
19 together. Provide two different visualizations with San
20 Luis Obispo County and -- so one would be San Luis
21 Obispo, Southern Monterey County.

22 The other one would be San Luis Obispo plus Southern
23 (sic) Santa Barbara County, and that would be
24 Commissioner Kennedy, I believe.

25 Is there anything I missed?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great summary. Thank you.
2 Commissioner Kennedy.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah. Just on that last one,
4 I just want to make sure that that was a misreading, it's
5 San Luis -- the second option would be San Luis Obispo,
6 and Northern Santa Barbara County, rather than San Luis
7 Obispo and southern Santa Barbara County, which don't
8 border each other. Thanks.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thanks, Commissioner
10 Kennedy.

11 Also there was one, in terms of just north of where
12 we've been calling the areas of Congressional District
13 17, a visualization which did not -- actually went over
14 the hills, including, say from the Bay, Hayward, out
15 through Sunol and the rural areas, that area.

16 So with that, do we have any other directions we're
17 going to give it this time?

18 I don't believe so. In which case, thank you very
19 much for everybody. Thank you for the staff who -- for
20 taking great copious notes, and read them back to us.
21 Thank you for those of our VRA team, and our line drawing
22 team who are still with us, and those who aren't, we
23 really appreciate it.

24 And Commissioner Fornaciari, I'm going to turn it
25 back over to you.

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you very much. Yes. And
2 thanks to the team for walking us through this, and
3 helping us out. We really, really appreciate it.

4 I guess at this point we will -- I'll take public
5 comment on the work that we've done so far today on this
6 topic. And then we'll wrap up a couple of business
7 items. And get out of here, hopefully, not too late.

8 So we're not wrapping up this item today. We'll
9 keep it open for tomorrow, but I did want to take public
10 comment on that.

11 Commissioner Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you for calling on me.
13 Since there's two zones that I need to prepare for, for
14 tomorrow, and we all need to prepare for multiple zones.
15 As my kids said last night when I was reading all the
16 COIs, they were like, "Mom, you're reading a book." I
17 said, "No I'm reading --" no, I said, "I'm reading 300
18 pages." "All right, that's a book." I said, "Well, the
19 second one is 500 pages."

20 So we've got a lot of reading tonight on the COIs,
21 and it's exciting. And I thank the public for really
22 sharing their communities because you do get a feel for
23 them.

24 But I was confused because Commissioner Fornaciari,
25 at one point you said: Well, we've already given you

1 direction on everything that -- you know, to follow
2 everything that we've been told by the COIs and so -- for
3 the visualizations. So I was wondering, for
4 visualization, are we supposed to not be giving the items
5 that we heard multiple times, and we want to make sure
6 that visualization -- is all that already going to be
7 visualized? So we're supposed to be thinking outside of
8 that box? You know, what are the parameters on the
9 visualization exercise? And I apologize if I totally
10 messed that up and kept us longer than we had to.

11 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I'll turn it over to Commissioner
12 Andersen to answer that question.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thanks you for the
14 questions, Commissioner Sinay. No, it's not -- you know,
15 it is unusual. We haven't done it before. So this is --
16 these are not -- these are good questions.

17 Basically, I guess we've heard a lot of things, but
18 the line drawers need to hear our voice, the Commission's
19 voice to say, we want to see pictures of that. You know,
20 we could hear everything and say, I don't care. I don't
21 want to see a picture. And so that's what they're
22 looking for. You know, I hope -- I'm getting a nod, so I
23 think that might be enough. I don't need to add more?

24 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That's what I thought it was.
25 But I just wanted to make sure that it was, once you've

1 heard all of this, and you're kind of processing, what is
2 it that you want to see? So what's the next step? Yeah
3 just, again, modern art versus traditional art.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. This is like splatter
5 painting, is what they call it. You know, hitting your
6 paintbrush with another paintbrush, to get those dots on
7 that canvas. That's what we're doing. And what we've
8 seen, what we've heard has been presented. And
9 particularly emphasize, you know, if there's something
10 well -- if some people said this, and other people said
11 the opposite of it, that's what we're looking for. And
12 then, you know, so we can see different visualizations.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you for that.
14 And that question, the clarification. Appreciate that.

15 Katy, if you could ask for public comment on the
16 work we've been doing today on directions for our line
17 drawing team, please?

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

19 The Commission will now take public comment on the
20 work they've been doing with the line drawers this
21 afternoon. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247,
22 and enter the meeting ID number 83865657077 for this
23 meeting. Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to
24 enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions
25 are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided

1 in full on the live stream landing page.

2 And we do have a caller, caller 4109 with their hand
3 raised; if you will please follow the prompts to unmute
4 by pressing star 6 at this time. And the floor is yours.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, thanks. How long do I
6 have for my comment?

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Two minutes.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Good afternoon,
9 Commissioners. I live in Sunnyvale in the San Francisco
10 Bay area. And regarding your comments about the Asian
11 CVAP, I'd like you to be mindful that the Asian community
12 is very diverse, and also in Santa Clara. And so for
13 example, part of the Asian see that in the East Bay,
14 there's a large Afghani population on the peninsula and
15 particularly in Daly City. I believe Daly City has the
16 largest numbers of people from the Philippines of any
17 place in the U.S., or actually outside of the
18 Philippines, period.

19 In Santa Clara County, there are areas that are more
20 South Asian, Indian, and Chinese, are generally more
21 affluent communities, neighborhoods where folks are
22 together. And other parts, particularly in San Jose, the
23 Downtown Alum Rock, south eastern area, but the
24 closest -- the areas that are closer to downtown, that
25 are heavily South Asian, Vietnamese.

1 And then there's a pattern -- Evergreen that has
2 similar demographics, say, Cupertino, where it's more
3 Chinese --

4 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- Asian, Indian. And I know
6 that there're studies showing that those groups don't
7 necessarily vote for each other. So I'd urge you to take
8 a look at that, and --

9 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- also, I think a major
11 decision you need to make is that -- is whether or not
12 any districts should cross the San Francisco Bay from San
13 Francisco. It used to be that there was a Congressional
14 district that spanned over to Marin --

15 MR. MANOFF: Time.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- and the last time --

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you, caller. We appreciate
18 your input and your thoughts.

19 It looks like we have another caller, Katy.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

21 All right. Those are just called in, if you'll
22 please press star 9 to raise your hand indicating you
23 wish to give comment. As for caller with the last four,
24 92220 (sic) -- or yes; if you will please follow the
25 prompts to unmute at time by pressing star 6. And one

1 more time, caller 9220, if you'll please press star 6 to
2 unmute -- there you are. The floor is yours.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi, good afternoon. Can you
4 hear me?

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

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Great. Thank you. Thank
7 you. I am a working student who is very much interested
8 in following the work of this Commission, which thank you
9 for your service. I'm engaging my usual -- I'm engaged
10 with the community. However, I'm finding it a little bit
11 difficult to follow your long meeting, due to my classes,
12 and homework, and of course my work obligation.

13 If you could be able to post transcripts, can you
14 please publish the line drawing notes, your Outreach Team
15 readout? Thank you. And also, can you let me know what
16 transcripts timeline, that might be? Thank you.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for your call.
18 Appreciate that. Yes, we are working to publish
19 transcripts. It has been a challenge for us. We're
20 having some issues with the vendors, but we're working on
21 that. I think Commissioner Fernández has a comment.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. And I appreciate you
23 following along with us. And I just want to reiterate
24 that our official record of our meetings are our videos,
25 and those are posted usually within 24 hours of our

1 meeting. So the transcripts will be coming. As Chair
2 Fornaciari said, we're having some issues with the
3 vendor. But again, the official record of our meeting is
4 the video.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all --

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes, thank you for that.

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

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you, Katy. So at
10 this point, we just have a couple of other items on our
11 on our business meeting agenda. I want to check in with
12 Commissioner Yee, did VRA team -- the VRA Committee have
13 any to report out?

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Not at this time.

15 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. All right. So that was
16 number 8. So I just want to talk about the security plan
17 and the potential closed session this afternoon. We're
18 still iterating through the security plan at this point.
19 So we're not going to go into closed session. In closed
20 session would be discussion, some details about venue-
21 specific security.

22 So I do want to circle back, though, to the in-
23 person meeting discussion document that I put out there
24 on Wednesday. Let's see, we had a bit of a discussion on
25 that topic, I'm not looking for emotion or anything, just

1 some guidance from the Commission on how we ought to
2 conduct these meetings.

3 The first part of the guidance that I wanted to give
4 clarity on was what -- whether or not there was enough
5 interest and commitment by the Commissioners to have --
6 hold meetings for line drawing, and there was, or there
7 seems to be. So we would go ahead with that.

8 We got a couple of pieces of feedback. Places other
9 than -- other places in Northern California, other than
10 Sacramento, maybe the Bay Area, maybe other places, so we
11 can certainly consider that. You know, we have been
12 looking into the Bay Area.

13 The Bay Area -- I'll just say what we've found so
14 far. The Bay Area is a bit of a challenge because the
15 restrictions in the Bay Area are higher regarding masking
16 and COVID-related restrictions. So finding venues has
17 proven to be difficult and -- or public venues. We've
18 been thinking about hotels, and you know, in the Bay Area
19 hotels are quite pricey. But we'll continue to look at
20 that option, those options. And maybe we can look at
21 other -- well, we can look at other places around
22 Northern California.

23 And then, of course, the feedback that we really
24 need to be cognizant when we host these meetings with
25 some of the Commission in person, and some of the

1 Commission virtual, that we that we really are
2 conscientious about ensuring equal participation for
3 everyone.

4 And Commissioner Sinay sent out an article on that.
5 And you know, so that the Chairs of those meetings are
6 going to -- really have to make sure they're living up to
7 that expectation. It's difficult, I know. I spent an
8 awful lot of time at a company with -- in a satellite
9 branch, with ten percent of the company, and ninety
10 percent of it was in Albuquerque. I was the one person
11 on the end of the video conference with fifty other
12 people all chatting it up, and I hardly ever got
13 recognized. So we'll do our best to consider that.

14 There were some other points here on this document
15 that I wanted to go through and discuss, and sort of let
16 you know what our thinking was, that we would propose at
17 this time to host the meetings virtually, and so
18 virtually for everyone, and in-person for commissioners,
19 staff, and our consultants only.

20 The in-person meetings would not host the public for
21 a number of reasons, but we would continue to enable
22 public input via the mechanism that we're using now, via
23 phone calls.

24 I mean, it makes logistics significantly simpler.
25 But one of the other things it does is it relieves us of

1 the responsibility of having to enforce masking
2 regulations. You know, I think the Commission, if we're
3 going to go to a certain location to meet, it's incumbent
4 upon us to follow local regulations with regard to COVID
5 protocols.

6 But there are communities out there, and
7 Commissioner Taylor shared, that LA County has a policy
8 on masking, that the e County Sheriff told the Sheriff's
9 Department not to enforce. So you know, I don't see us,
10 as a Commission, wanting to get in the middle of that
11 issue at this point. And if we host the public, we will.
12 You know, so it provides certainly a safer, and more
13 secure environment for the Commission if we do that.

14 And then since the Governor signed the Bill,
15 extending the Bagley-Keene exemptions, it's consistent
16 with the current Bagley-Keene exemption.

17 Of course, you know, commissioners, staff,
18 consultants, as I've mentioned before, would have the
19 opportunity to attend in public or virtually, and that
20 would be their choice. And as I mentioned before, we
21 propose that the meeting locations would alternate
22 between Northern California and Southern California.

23 And so you know, I just want to throw that out
24 there. That's what we're thinking and that's why -- the
25 "why" behind what we're thinking. I didn't -- you know,

1 we can go ahead and begin to -- so Commissioner -- me as
2 the Chair, Commissioner Sadhwani as the Vice Chair, work
3 with Alvaro and Anthony to get these meetings scheduled,
4 and ensure that we've got them, you know, all the details
5 worked out. And then, you know, when Commissioner Sinay
6 takes over, her and Commissioner Le Mons will continue
7 working this, you know, to ensure the meetings are going
8 to go off.

9 But that's what we're thinking. I just want to
10 throw that out there for everyone to provide feedback and
11 comment about their thoughts.

12 Chief Counsel Pane.

13 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair. I wanted to
14 just contextualize what the Chair just mentioned a little
15 bit, and that we would still be holding the meetings
16 virtually, essentially, for purposes of communication
17 with the public, it's as if -- it's what we're continuing
18 to do. I think the difference is, instead of
19 Commissioners meeting in individual virtual locations, it
20 might be a collective virtual location.

21 You might all be in a particular room, for example,
22 but you're still interfacing with the public, just as you
23 are now, just as you have been. It's just that you're --
24 so that the meeting itself is still a quote,
25 "teleconference" under the law, and that's why the

1 difference now is -- the question I think the Chair is
2 raising is, okay, do individual Commissioners want to
3 meet together? But the meeting itself is still existing
4 virtually as it has been, just wanted to contextualize
5 that a little bit as well.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.

7 Commissioner Sinay.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just to get the ball rolling on
9 the conversation. I think several of us have said we are
10 willing and wanting to experience being together as well
11 as having these conversations in person for all the
12 diverse reasons that have been mentioned.

13 So did you want a motion? Or did you want just
14 discussion? I guess my one recommendation is that we do
15 similar to what we've done in the past, where we pilot
16 something. Let's just say, you know, then for the
17 next -- you know, the first four meetings we'll do it,
18 and after the first two we decide if it's working or not.

19 I know it's hard because we have so many, and so
20 piloting is difficult, but I just wanted to give that as
21 a -- I know staff is concerned that they'll put a lot of
22 effort into this, and then it won't -- yeah,
23 Commissioners won't attend. I would like to go back and
24 remind us all that we did make a huge commitment to
25 redistricting.

1 And though the timeline has changed on us, we were
2 asked over and over again, can you make the time
3 commitment? And this is the first time we're being asked
4 to travel, if we can. And so it really from now until we
5 submit the maps, we all should be as flexible as
6 possible, and be open to our schedule -- yeah, our first
7 priority being the redistricting.

8 I know we have families, I know we have other jobs
9 and all that, but we really need us -- we all kind of
10 need to be on the same page about how -- yeah, getting
11 this done as a team.

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Thank you for that,
13 Commissioner Sinay.

14 Commissioner Le Mons has his hand raided?

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes. I guess my question
16 was, since, virtually, we're doing the exact same thing
17 that we're doing in terms of how we're interfacing with
18 the public, and the meetings are public, why aren't we
19 just utilizing headquarters as the gathering place for
20 Commissioners that want to gather, as opposed to creating
21 all these different logistical operations in Southern
22 California, et cetera, to just have Commissioners come
23 together, when we have a headquarters, and we have a
24 travel budget.

25 So I guess that part I'm not fully understanding.

1 Why that extra layer of logistics is being laid,
2 particularly since we're not being open to the public?

3 CHAIR FORNACIARI: So specifically that extra -- the
4 thought was that, you know, we wanted to try to share the
5 burden, the travel burden between the Northern California
6 and Southern California folks. I mean, you're bringing
7 up a great point about having a headquarters that you go
8 to. But the thinking was that we would share the travel
9 burden. But if that's not -- I mean, if that's not an
10 important issue, you know, from folks who would be
11 traveling the furthest, you know, we can certainly think
12 about just holding the meeting in Sacramento. And that's
13 certainly something I'd like to hear from the folks from
14 Southern California.

15 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: May I ask another question
16 about that, Chair?

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Sure.

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: And maybe I'm
19 misunderstanding that there would be -- so I know that
20 Commissioner Sinay and others have identified locations,
21 say, in San Diego, or other parts of Southern California
22 where those meetings could take place. What is that
23 going to require from Videography, et cetera, if
24 anything, because that's really more what I'm talking
25 about?

1 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay.

2 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: And it's like, does that
3 exceed the travel budget? And then do we have to have
4 staff traveling from Sacramento to those locations to be,
5 you know, handling those logistics? And I guess I'm just
6 trying to understand the value in that when we have a
7 headquarters, we have a place that our staff already is.
8 I don't know. I guess I'm just not following it, to be
9 honest.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. No, no, those -- those are
11 all valid questions that we've -- we brought up. So the
12 thinking was that, you know, we would all bring our
13 laptops, we could log on like we're logging on now, and
14 you know, work that way to minimize the burden on our
15 Videography Team.

16 But we, you know, we have to work out all those
17 logistical details. And you know, first I want to make
18 sure (a) that everyone -- or that folks were on board
19 with getting together in the -- you know, in this context
20 of not hosting the public. And then we can go work all
21 those details out. You know, in answering those
22 questions that you've asked, certainly all valid
23 questions.

24 Commissioner Fernández, then Commissioner Andersen.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. I just wanted to

1 respond. And I agree in terms of splitting between
2 Northern and Southern. Commissioner Fernández would like
3 to travel, so if she can go Southern that'd be great --
4 just kidding.

5 But me personally, I would be using it if there was
6 a meeting south, I'd probably use it to tour some of the
7 areas on my own, which would be helpful. And then (2),
8 in terms of the videographer, the contract did include
9 funding or provisions for hybrid type meetings like this.
10 In terms of if a videographer did have to be at multiple
11 places, they could be at multiple places, be it at
12 headquarters doing the virtual, or wherever we're at
13 doing it virtual. As well as filming us.

14 And the other thing I wanted to talk about is, I
15 believe it was Executive Director Hernandez on Wednesday,
16 mentioned that he would want the Commissioners to let him
17 and his staff know, you know, five days in advance
18 whether or not they plan to attend, if it's Northern or
19 Southern.

20 And my recommendation would be if that's some -- one
21 of the meetings, maybe there's only like four that are
22 interested, then at some point maybe we just say, okay,
23 we're not going to -- we're just going to do that meeting
24 virtual because it may not be worth, you know, having a
25 separate meeting or location for those few days. So

1 anyway, that was it.

2 Again, I'm kind of with Commissioner Sinay, I did
3 expect to be traveling, and I realize some cannot. And
4 I'm hoping that if we do split it between North and
5 South, that might open up the ability for some to travel
6 and maybe, it's closer to them, which, it may or may not
7 help. We'll see. But I do think the next three months
8 are going to be pretty busy, and hopefully we can meet
9 together as much as we can. Thank you.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah. Just one comment, we're
11 definitely going to need more than five days' notice.
12 It's probably going to be a couple of weeks' notice to
13 make the commitment to travel, to get these set up.

14 Commissioner Andersen.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Actually, I'm
16 glad Commissioner Le Mons brought that up because, you
17 know, we've all been kind of talking about, oh, you know,
18 there's just -- the Commissioner is traveling back and
19 forth. But I would think, you know, how many of the
20 staff would have to go, and then the whole
21 (indiscernible) maps. So it's a -- that could be, yes,
22 it is included in contracts, but how much money are we
23 throwing out there? And it's a pro and con.

24 The other thing I keep on thinking, is how
25 logistically we're going to do this. And I'd like the

1 subcommittee -- the Line Drawing Subcommittee has not
2 specifically talked about this with the line drawers.

3 Now, they always, you know, yes, we could do
4 whatever you want, but logistically, what would that
5 exactly entail, and how would it be, if you're in one
6 room, are we going to try to show videos of a screen that
7 we all can see? You know, I'd like to walk through that
8 and bring that back to the Commission.

9 I also like Commissioner Sinay's ideas of, let's do
10 a trial, and I see this 28 -- 28, 29 as that. Because I
11 have been to the office and it's not a whole lot of space
12 in the office for having a whole lot of people there. So
13 that is another concern. Thank you.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: There's a larger conference room
15 that we have access to.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. In the building?

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yeah, on the floor, just in the
18 hall.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, okay.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You had asked those in Southern
22 California, are you willing to go up to Sacramento. As
23 the furthest one from Sacramento, even though maybe
24 Commissioner Kennedy, depending, you know, how you
25 measure it, our time; but again, I'm here to make this

1 work, and I'm completely flexible. And so I'm okay with
2 Commissioner Le Mons' request.

3 And the only reason San Diego came up, was because
4 other Commissioners asked about San Diego. And so it
5 wasn't that I was lobbying for San Diego, because I was
6 like, Commissioner Fernández saying, hey, I want to stay
7 at a hotel, too, with everybody. I don't want everyone
8 get to go to a hotel and I have to go home, based on the
9 fifty-mile rule.

10 Anyway, again, I'm completely flexible any way we do
11 it, but I would like to at least have a core of us
12 together when we're doing the line drawing, just because
13 we're missing a lot by body languages. Just for
14 instance, Commissioner Turner, I love it when she goes,
15 "Uh-huh", and we only hear it every once in a while. But
16 it's so reaffirming for me, and watching you guys laugh,
17 I'm like, oh, I wish I could hear your laughs when you're
18 laughing at me.

19 It's just, yeah, those things help us build the team
20 that we need as we're going through some of the things
21 that may, you know, may be butting heads with each other,
22 or the community butting heads with us. We really do
23 need for us to be a team. And I'm impressed by how much
24 we've gotten to know each other via Zoom. But I would
25 like to take it to the next level for those of us who

1 can, while we're doing the line drawing, because it's
2 going to be long hours. I mean, just reading this, and
3 doing this part is long and it's only going to get
4 longer.

5 CHAIR FORNACIARI: And Commissioner Akutagawa.

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Thank you. I guess
7 I just want to -- I'll just chime in as one of the ones
8 that's going to have to be traveling. One, I think to
9 the question or the comment about staff and the -- you
10 know, I guess staff having to travel down from
11 Sacramento. I just want to remind folks that we do have
12 several staff that are actually Southern California-
13 based.

14 So I think it's honestly a wash in terms of whether
15 half the staff from Southern California go up, or half
16 the staff from Northern Cal come down, so that's less of
17 a concern. You know, I think there are some positives to
18 being able to have one -- a meeting in both Northern and
19 Southern California.

20 I will also affirm what Commissioner Fernández did
21 say. It is nice to sometimes be able to just drive in
22 and then go back home. But at the same time, it is also
23 nice to be able to fly up, or drive up and stay in a
24 hotel, and see each other as well too. So I think that's
25 why I think the idea of splitting half our time between

1 Northern and Southern California, for me, is a positive
2 one.

3 I think, you know, if there is opportunities,
4 particularly if I think we're finding -- or I know for
5 myself, for the meeting at the end of the month, just
6 because of my schedule, I'm going to need to fly in an
7 extra day early, so instead of flying in that morning.
8 So one of those opportunities is to perhaps be able to
9 drive around, or perhaps to meet up with some of the
10 other Commissioners that might be free that evening to be
11 able to see something different, and spend some
12 additional time together, so. And I would say the same,
13 you know, coming down to Southern California.

14 I will admit, Commissioner Sinay, I would prefer to
15 do it in the LA area only, because the majority are in
16 the LA area. I would love to offer Orange County, but I
17 also know that I'm the only one in Orange County,
18 although it would probably be at least half-way for you.

19 But I think the logistics of trying to move it
20 around, because that did come up when we first started
21 talking about having, you know, meetings in other areas.
22 I think there're some logistical challenge; number one,
23 being some of the different requirements around COVID,
24 and whether or not places are open publicly now.

25 So to keep it, at least, somewhat simpler for the

1 staff, I think the agreement is, let's just do it in
2 Southern California, and Northern California, and maybe
3 just use the same place in both, so that they don't have
4 to do too much running around in terms of trying to look
5 for a location. So that, I guess that's my input on
6 that.

7 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you for that.
8 Commissioner Turner.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.

11 COMMISSIONER TURNER: That's all, in total
12 agreement. I like being able to split it between
13 Northern and Southern. That's all. Thank you.

14 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Okay, very good. Thank
15 you. Okay. I mean, I feel like, yeah, we have logistics
16 to work out, great questions about the logistics. You
17 know, I'm kind of just touching on the staff, I'm just --
18 I'm shooting from the hip here, and Alvaro might shoot
19 back. But I'm thinking, you know, the Southern
20 California staff might be able to manage the Southern
21 California meetings with us, and the Northern California
22 staff in Northern California meetings. So you know,
23 we'll probably work that out to minimize travel.

24 Commissioner Toledo.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. I think the -- I'm

1 hearing the majority of us want to meet in person. I am
2 a little bit concerned about meeting in locations without
3 masks though, even if we can social distance, given the
4 spread of the Delta Virus. And so I know it's very
5 uncomfortable wearing the masks for extended periods of
6 time. And we meet for hours on end. I mean, over eight
7 hours.

8 But we may want to consider wearing masks. And it
9 may open up the possibility of being able to be in
10 communities like in the Bay Area, and other places where
11 the mask mandate might be in place. I mean, the mandates
12 are in place probably for a reason. And so it might be a
13 good idea.

14 So you know, I'm just throwing that out there that
15 we may -- even if the county doesn't require masks, we
16 may want to do it as just good public health prevention
17 strategies, or those of us who are comfortable wearing
18 them. For work I have to wear it when I'm in the
19 building for hours on end. So I'm used to it. But I
20 know lots of people aren't, and it took me a while to get
21 used to it too, so.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Great points. So I think, you
23 know, we would certainly follow the protocol for the area
24 where we were, and then consider, you know, additional
25 considerations for the comfort of the Commission. Part

1 of the challenge with the Bay Area, for instance, is not
2 complying with the regulations, it's just that the public
3 venues are not available to rent, so to speak, because of
4 the higher level COVID protocols, you know, for instance.
5 But great input, and I'm capturing all that too, as we
6 continue to consider how we manage that.

7 Commissioner Kennedy. Thank you, Chair. But
8 Commissioner Taylor had his hand up first.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. I'm sorry.
10 Commissioner Taylor. I can't even see that.

11 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: No worries, Chair. Thank you.
12 I think just a sort of follow up on what Commissioner
13 Toledo was saying. I would be looking for a level of
14 consistency regardless of where we met. So we were
15 masking in Southern California, and then not masking in
16 Northern California. I think we lose with the purpose
17 is, or the strength of whatever the purpose is of the
18 health mandate. So I think in other places I would be
19 looking more towards meeting in person, a level of
20 consistency. Thank you.

21 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you.

22 Commissioner Sinay -- oh, I'm sorry. Commissioner
23 Kennedy.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I just
25 want to make sure that we are considering and/or pursuing

1 opportunities to meet in state office facilities. I
2 think Commissioner Sinay's point about using space in any
3 of the redistricting access centers is a good one. I
4 know that when we had to take our laptops in, you know,
5 the Attorney General's Office had this huge suite of
6 offices in an office tower in Downtown San Diego.

7 So I'm wondering if we are actively looking at using
8 state facilities that might be easier for us to get than
9 commercial facilities. Thank you.

10 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes. So Marcy is shaking her
11 head, yes. Yes. I'm acting like, you know, I've I'm
12 doing any of this work, but it's for Marcy and her team.
13 So thank you, Marcy.

14 Commissioner Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Building on what Commissioner
16 Taylor said, we asked this question when we visited that
17 access center, and what they said is they keep the
18 protocols that are in place for Berkeley, since Berkeley
19 is where, you know, is -- I think it was Berkeley, not
20 Sacramento, but that's where their -- you know, they all
21 started in Berkeley and then they went --

22 And so what we can say is we just use the protocols
23 that are in place in Sacramento, since that's our
24 headquarters, wherever we may be meeting, and so -- or
25 whatever the most risks, or we create our own protocols.

1 But I do think it's wise to have the same protocols where
2 we go, because that gets us into a habit. And also the
3 more restrictive, the better. Just because we're all
4 coming from different places, so we've all had different
5 exposures depending what counties we live in.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. It's all good stuff.
7 Appreciate it.

8 Commissioner Turner.

9 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I think the current
10 conversation and thought with medical professionals is
11 that vaccinated -- I don't know, I'm still -- I am
12 personally still struggling with masks all day long in a
13 building for the length of hours that we're talking
14 about. And so I'm vaccinated for sure, and I know about
15 the breakthrough, and all of those other things, and want
16 to be careful. And I'm all for social distancing.

17 But for eight and ten hours in a mask, that is not a
18 job that I have currently. And it's more than I want to
19 casually agree to without a lot of -- more conversation.
20 At least I wanted to lift my opinion and thought process
21 about it.

22 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you. Thank you for
23 that, Commissioner Turner.

24 Director Hernandez -- oh, I'm sorry. Commissioner
25 Ahmad.

1 Commissioner Ahmad.

2 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. Perhaps we
3 can invest in CRC hazmat suits. That could cover us all,
4 right? No masks required. I don't know. I'm just
5 kidding.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Someone suggested CRC masks.

7 Commissioner Vázquez.

8 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Yeah. I just wanted to note
9 that, well this conversation is not especially relevant
10 to me, did just want to note that physical distancing,
11 social distancing is not especially effective indoors,
12 since the virus is very readily airborne. So the
13 decision to mask or not mask indoors during meetings is
14 going to be important and probably not readily influenced
15 by how far apart people are spaced.

16 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Thank you for that.

17 And Commissioner Turner, your hand -- is your hand
18 back up, or did you have a question?

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Nope.

20 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Okay. We've got
21 Commissioner Andersen, and then Commissioner -- or Chief
22 Counsel Pane.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you for that,
24 Commissioner Vázquez. It really does depend upon
25 ventilation. And you know, there's the requirements for

1 are very well known, and that's something, you know, I
2 don't know the venues where we're looking at, but that's
3 something we should look into, because you know, like you
4 said, it doesn't matter. If you're indoors there's no
5 ventilation, it doesn't matter how far apart you are.
6 You're all breathing the same air.

7 Where if -- I like to say, you know, the Korean
8 places where they cook your food right in front of you,
9 and it's like every single person -- every single table
10 has the big HVAC thing that sucks the air straight --
11 it'll take your hair up, almost. Those, you don't need a
12 mask on, because you can't breathe the person's air next
13 to you. But you know, there's a obviously a -- their
14 standards, building standards which we should be looking
15 into in terms of where we're going well before we decide
16 what we're doing about masking.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you for that.
18 And you know, we definitely -- definitely something we
19 need to be considering. Thanks.

20 Chief Counsel Pane.

21 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair. I just
22 wanted to briefly mention this. This is probably,
23 everyone's aware of this, but both this is the case as
24 Staff, and as Commissioners, we're all employees with the
25 State of California. And as such, we have to satisfy the

1 vaccination requirements. So as you all are aware,
2 that's either proof of vaccination, or proof of a
3 negative test. So that's just something to keep in mind
4 when we're contemplating being together, we have to make
5 sure that we're providing those -- either of those two
6 pieces of information prior to any meetings together,
7 wherever that is.

8 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Very good. All right. We
9 have a lot to think about. Appreciate this conversation,
10 and the enthusiasm for getting together. I really want
11 to get together too. So we'll -- I've got a bunch of
12 notes. We'll work on this with Director Hernandez and
13 team, and you know, work on figuring out how we're going
14 to do this. I think we'll have a little bit of a dry run
15 on the 28th when we meet in Sacramento.

16 So with that, I'm going to take public comment on --
17 this agenda item was discussion, future meeting dates,
18 and then just general public comment at the end of the
19 day.

20 Oh, I have, Commissioner Fernández.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: If you want to start public
22 comment, then I can make my comment while we're waiting.
23 Unless there's already somebody in queue, you know,
24 that's cool.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. So we're

1 doing general public comment as well?

2 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Yes.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The Commissioner will now
4 take public comment for the general public comment for
5 items not on the agenda, and the agenda item relating to
6 meetings in person. To give comment -- or future meeting
7 dates -- to give comment, please call 877-853-5247, and
8 enter the meeting ID number 83865657077 for this meeting.
9 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the
10 comment queue. The full call-in instructions have been
11 read previously in this meeting and are provided in full
12 on the live stream landing page.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Commissioner Fernández.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. If I could, I
15 probably should have said this earlier, but if I could
16 make a recommendation for tomorrow because we have seven
17 zones and thirty-three counties, or something like that,
18 something that's pretty crazy tomorrow. But what made it
19 a little difficult for me today was we went from county,
20 to county, to county. We discussed it. And then at the
21 end we went back for these visualizations.

22 For me, I think it would be helpful to do like the
23 county and visualization at the same time, and then move
24 on to another -- not county -- the zone and visualization
25 at the same time, and then move to another zone and

1 visualization so that we're not like going all over the
2 place, and we're kind of repeating -- repeating the
3 process and showing the same maps that were shown, which
4 were great maps, but we're having to see it again because
5 we kind of forgot where some of the areas were.

6 So I'm just trying to think of how -- for tomorrow,
7 only because we have so much that we're going to try to
8 cover. I'm not sure how everybody else feels about that.

9 CHAIR FORNACIARI: I see Commissioner Turner's.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. Commissioner Fernández,
11 I agree. I'd like to focus on the one area at a time all
12 the way through.

13 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Commissioner Toledo.

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think that would help me
15 too, just it's hard to go back and forth between the
16 counties, and to just my notes are -- because I have some
17 like, you know, just -- my notes are of by county. So it
18 would help, at least me.

19 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. It would help me, too.
20 Commissioner Andersen.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, I will get in touch
22 with the line drawers, and see if we can -- sort of
23 rearrange a little bit, and run it that way.

24 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well. Oh. We have a
25 caller.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: For those that have just
2 called in, if you could please press star 9 on your
3 telephone keypad, indicating you called in to give
4 comment, which I'm sure you did. Oops. And I see that
5 hand, and if you could now press star 6 to unmute. And
6 now the floor is yours.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hi. I'm calling from
8 Cupertino in the Silicon Valley. And this is kind of a
9 follow-up call on, you know, I did the other day
10 regarding the redistricting that is happening. My
11 suggestion was to include Cupertino, and Sunnyvale, and
12 Santa Clara as consolidated district for the western part
13 of the Bay, essentially the tech part of it. That is a
14 large part of the tech community, the Asian community,
15 which actually belongs there.

16 And it would be very good to have representation of
17 somebody who is basically represents that demographic. I
18 think a lot of -- there's a lot of difference in the
19 demography in the East Bay and in South Bay here, and it
20 would be much better if we had representative who can
21 represent the tech interests. And also including, of
22 course, the Asian community, which is present in large
23 numbers here.

24 There is a very outsized one in the Fremont,
25 Milpitas area, and Cupertino is actually quite different

1 from Fremont. So it's much closer, demographically, to
2 say, (Indiscernible) or Mountain View, and it would be
3 good to consolidate those as a single representative. So
4 we can have somebody who represents the interests of this
5 district the best. That's all I have to say.

6 CHAIR FORNACIARI: We appreciate your input. And
7 thank you for listening and participating in the process.
8 Thank you.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

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

12 CHAIR FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, then, at this point,
13 we're going to recess for the day. And we will reconvene
14 at 9 a.m. or 9:30 -- Commissioner Andersen, said, you
15 know: What?

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. You scared me there.

17 CHAIR FORNACIARI: 9:30 tomorrow morning.

18 (Whereupon, the Public Meeting adjourned at
19 4:30 p.m.)
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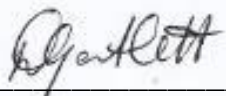
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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

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

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



January 30, 2023

DELORIS GAUNTLETT, CDLT-257