

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023

9:31 a.m.

Reported By:
Peter Petty

APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

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

STAFF

Wanda Sheffield, Administrative Assistant
Corina Leon, Staff Services Manager
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel
Tim Treichel, Retired Annuitant Counsel
Tammy Bacon, Webmaster

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator

PUBLIC COMMENT

[None]

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
Call to order and Roll Call	4
Commissioners' Announcements	6
Admin Updates	6
Chief Counsel Report	8
Committee and Subcommittee Updates	17
Public Comment	158
Closed Session	160
Items Not on Agenda	160
General Public Comment	163

P R O C E E D I N G S

9:31 a.m.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Good morning, California. Good
2 morning, Commissioners. I hope everyone is well and in
3 good health.

4 It is Monday -- yay -- March 11th (sic), 2023, at
5 approximately 0930 hours. It's a great day in sunny
6 California, but it's always a beautiful day at home.

7 My name is Derric Taylor. I'm your Rotating Chair
8 for this meeting, along with Vice Chair Ray Kennedy. And
9 I would like to call this meeting to order.

10 Wanda, can you call the roll, please?

11 MS. SHEFFIELD: Yes. Good morning, everyone.

12 Commissioner Toledo.

13 Commissioner Turner.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

15 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Vázquez.

16 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Here.

17 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Yee.

18 COMMISSIONER YEE: here.

19 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Ahmad.

20 Commissioner Akutagawa.

21 Commissioner Andersen.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

23 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fernández.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Presente.

2 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fornaciari.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

4 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Kennedy.

5 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Here.

6 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Le Mons.

7 Commissioner Sadhwani.

8 Commissioner Sinay.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

10 MS. SHEFFIELD: And Chair Taylor.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: I am present. Thank you very much.

12 MS. SHEFFIELD: You're welcome.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Today's meeting will follow as such:

14 We will open up with Commissioner Announcements; we will
15 follow that with Admin Updates, and the Subcommittee
16 Reports.

17 We'll take breaks at approximately 11 o'clock, and
18 we'll have a lunch break at 12:45, and possibly an
19 afternoon break at 3:30, if we make it that far.

20 I anticipate a closed session for personnel
21 litigation matters around 2:30, and possibly, I hope, I
22 might be able to give you some of your time back,
23 depending on how efficient we are today.

24 So with that, let's begin. We'll begin with
25 Commissioner announcements. Any Commissioner

1 announcements?

2 Commissioner Fernández. Go ahead.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you, Chair. I just
4 wanted to let all of us in Northern California that are
5 being pelted by the storms, we are with you, and
6 hopefully we can get through this quickly. And I'm
7 keeping you in my prayers, because I know some of you
8 have been without power and unable to leave your homes
9 for a few weeks. So just to let you know, we're thinking
10 of you and we're with you.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely. Thank you for those
12 thoughts, Commissioner Fernández.

13 Any other Commissioner announcements, or thoughts,
14 or statements; before I auction this time off?

15 All right. I'm seeing other hands, so going once,
16 twice, three times. We're going to move on to agenda
17 item number 2, Admin Updates. Corina.

18 MS. LEON: Hi. Good morning, Commissioners. Thank
19 you, Chair.

20 Yes, I wanted to share, we've been -- a very busy
21 month, we've worked -- a lot of progress on our UI and
22 website projects. That's going well. Commissioner
23 Andersen will speak more to those projects during the
24 Website Subcommittee report.

25 I did want to share that the Department of

1 Transportation and Department of Technology contacted us,
2 and they were very happy to know that the websites -- the
3 websites -- I'm sorry -- the maps, they've been seeing
4 were our maps, and they were very happy to know that we
5 were a state entity, because they host maps, they host
6 data for authoritative departments' information. And so
7 they offered to host our maps. And that's a very
8 fortunate option because they use the same platform we
9 do, Esri platform.

10 And so Paul, did a really great job. He set that
11 up. They provided him a password, and he was able to set
12 that up on the geoportal. It's data.ca.gov, and there's
13 a geoportal option there and you can go on there. Our
14 maps are featured on that platform. And it's very
15 fortunate because they will maintain the Esri platform
16 that our maps will be residing on for the next few years.
17 So that was very -- a very fortunate option for us.

18 I also wanted to thank you all for submitting all
19 the financial documents, the timesheets and all that. So
20 that'll help us get ready for our -- we're going to be
21 preparing the financial reports that are due at the end
22 of June. So thank you all for that.

23 And I believe that's it. Do you have any questions
24 for me?

25 Nope? Well, thank you. Thank you very much. Okay.

1 I'll throw it back to you, Commissioner Taylor -- Chair
2 Taylor.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Corina. No other
4 questions for our admin update?

5 Then we'll move into our Chief Counsel report.
6 Chief Counsel Pane.

7 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair; and good
8 morning, Commissioners.

9 A couple of things I wanted to mention. First, is
10 just a reminder -- first of all, thank you for some of
11 the Commissioners who have already filed their Form 700.
12 As some of you may or may recall, April 1st is the annual
13 deadline for filing officers, and commissioners and staff
14 are filing officers.

15 So please, if you haven't, please file your Form
16 700. Tim Treichel, is here with us --

17 MR. TREICHEL: Yes --

18 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: -- in case you have any
19 questions. I would recommend individual questions be
20 made directly to him over email. But if you have any
21 broader Form 700 questions right now, for sort of general
22 public consumption, feel free to ask. Tim is here.

23 Does anybody have any questions for Tim?

24 Tim, it sounds like you have something you wanted to
25 say.

1 MR. TREICHELDT: Just a clarification, Anthony.

2 Because April 1st falls on Saturday this year, the
3 deadline is now Monday, April 3rd, for the filing.

4 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Oh. You told them they have
5 more time?

6 MR. TREICHELDT: Yes.

7 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Oh.

8 MR. TREICHELDT: Sorry.

9 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Well, okay.

10 MR. TREICHELDT: Okay. Sorry. My apologies. But
11 anyway, just officially, it is Monday, April 3rd; and
12 just an FYI on that. Thank you.

13 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thanks, Tim.

14 Secondly, I did send all of you the article -- thank
15 you, Commissioner Kennedy, for alerting it -- on the
16 Moore v. Harper update. At this point, it's a procedural
17 possibility, and only a possibility. The U.S. Supreme
18 Court has asked for a briefing from the parties as to
19 whether this changes anything.

20 And as you may recall, what this is, is the North
21 Carolina Supreme Court is rehearing the case that got
22 Moore v. Harper to the U.S. Supreme Court. And the U.S.
23 Supreme Court has a rule that says: Hey, we're only going
24 to hear decisions that are settled in the state, at state
25 court.

1 So the act of the North Carolina Supreme Court
2 making it available, they would rehear the case, may
3 undercut the basis for what the U.S. Supreme Court did,
4 which was issuing a writ which allows it to be heard
5 before the U.S. Supreme Court.

6 So the U.S. Supreme Court is now taking briefings on
7 whether or not they should still hear the Moore v. Harper
8 case. But at this point that's all -- that's as far as
9 we've gotten. And I will continue to update you all as
10 it changes, if at all.

11 And the last thing I wanted to mention was just any
12 brief -- I have no updates from the Attorney General's
13 Office as far as further details of the services. The
14 Attorney General's Office is still, you know, happy to
15 participate in the 1,000 hours for the Commission each
16 calendar year. On the conflict questions, that they
17 would take them case-by-case, on any legislative issues
18 they were more reticent.

19 I think my recommendation would be that any
20 advocacy; and sort of Legislative advocacy would probably
21 not be something that the Attorney General's Office would
22 do, unless they were particularly legal questions. And
23 for those, they would absolutely get you legal advice.
24 Most of the time, as a form of practice, the Attorney
25 General's Office will want to draft a memo for the

1 particular ask, unless it's in sort of an informal advice
2 piece.

3 But that is one thing that I can't -- I'm not able
4 to get more specific as to what they will and won't do.
5 It gets tricky. They do have a Legislative arm to the
6 Attorney General's Office, so they want to make sure
7 they're not advocating against their own interests and
8 against their own branch.

9 It looks like Commissioner Kennedy has a question.

10 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I'm having problems on
11 the tablet finding the raise-hand button, so I'll just
12 raise my hand.

13 You know, if we can't get that sort of assistance
14 from the Office of the Attorney General, the first thing
15 that comes to my mind is: Would we be able, particularly
16 if it's something that is going to have any impact on the
17 Office of the State Auditor, to get some legal assistance
18 from the very good lawyers at CSA?

19 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: I can ask. I think --

20 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: And for example, if we advocate
21 a change in the time line, that's obviously going to
22 impact on CSA, you know, can we go to them and say: Hey,
23 this is going to affect you, too; can we work together
24 and get the legal advice on it from your lawyers?

25 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. I think that's a good --

1 that's a good approach. That would be probably an
2 informal way of doing it. We could get, sort of solicit
3 informal opinions from, you know, another -- which would
4 be, essentially, another state department, and get their
5 get their take. Yeah, absolutely, we could do that.

6 Commissioner Sinay.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to say, I like
8 what Commissioner Kennedy is saying, and I'd like us to
9 look at it the way you just repeated it back to us. In
10 that if it affects two different departments, let's bring
11 them in. And you know, one of the conversations we've
12 had -- one of the consensuses we reached at our last
13 meeting was: Hey, maybe we defined "independence" too
14 narrowly. And we have been working, collaboratively, in
15 a lot of other ways with the community, and such. But
16 maybe we need to think about how we build those
17 collaborative relationships with other state agencies.
18 So I appreciate that response.

19 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: All right. Well, thank you.
20 I'm happy to answer any other questions. But that's all
21 I have on my report.

22 Commissioner Sinay.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just on that. So because I've
24 got this fellowship, I'm talking to all sorts of people
25 about independent redistricting, you know, not our

1 independent redistricting, but other independent
2 redistricting. But one of the comments that came up from
3 speaking with James Woodson, he said, let us know -- he
4 said: Hey, I heard some rumors that there are some things
5 that are tough right now for you all.

6 And I said: I think there are a few. And he was
7 like: Well, let us know when you need some support from
8 the community, you know, make it clear when you want us
9 to -- you know, when and on what you need support.

10 So I just wanted to put that out there so that I was
11 being completely transparent, but also, so that we know
12 that the community has concerns about some of our
13 struggles.

14 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: All right. Thank you. Okay,
15 Chair, that's all I have -- oh.

16 Commissioner Sinay.

17 Okay, Chair. That's all I have. Thank you all.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. So with seeing no other
19 hands or questions; Kristian, can you open it up for
20 public comment regarding agenda item number 2, our admin
21 update, and our chief counsel's report.

22 MR. MANOFF: Sure thing.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, there's a
24 question. Commissioner Kennedy, has a hand up?

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Oh. Commissioner Kennedy, go ahead.

1 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I guess this falls under admin
2 because we don't have an agenda item called "next meeting
3 date". But we did receive a comment, I believe at the
4 last meeting, pointing out that they scheduled date for
5 the April Meeting is both Good Friday and in the middle
6 of Passover. And so I had asked Corina to send out a
7 survey to Commissioners.

8 I'm not sure everyone had the opportunity to answer
9 that, to see if, for example, the Monday of that week,
10 the 3rd, would be a possibility because that would be
11 more or less in line with the following meeting, the May
12 Meeting.

13 I will be chairing in April. I will not be
14 available the week of the 10th through the 14th, at all.
15 So I was looking to see if the 3rd was a possibility. I
16 am available on the 7th, but I understand that Good
17 Friday plus Passover is not a good combination.

18 I heard from Corina that others have issues because
19 of spring breaks. So I just wanted us to take a few
20 minutes and see. You know, the other option, of course,
21 is that we do not have an April Meeting, and that the
22 next meeting would be in May.

23 And so I wanted to get this now as part of the
24 admin, so that then, if members of the public also have
25 input that they would like to provide on this, we can get

1 it sooner rather than later. Thank you.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Before we continue along that.
3 Typically, we discussed that agenda item towards the end
4 of the meeting. That's been our practice. It is on the
5 agenda, it's on the agenda, under item number 5. So we
6 can -- we can broach that subject under that agenda item,
7 unless there's a reason why we need to move it forward.
8 But it is on the agenda as agenda item number 5.

9 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: My apologies.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: No problems. Commissioner Kennedy,
11 no problems at all.

12 All right; hearing no reason to move it up earlier;
13 Kristian, can you open up the lines for public comment,
14 related to agenda items number 2, our Admin Update, and
15 our Chief Counsel's report.

16 MR. MANOFF: Sure thing.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

18 MR. MANOFF: In order to maximize transparency and
19 public participation in our process, the Commissioners
20 will be taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial
21 the telephone number provided on the live stream feed.
22 It is 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter the meeting
23 ID number provided on the live stream feed, it is
24 86226648243 for this meeting.

25 When prompted to enter a participant ID simply press

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

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

14 And there is no one in the queue at this time,
15 Chair.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And let me know when
17 we've caught up to the feed, or the feed has caught up to
18 us.

19 MR. MANOFF: Those instructions are caught up, and
20 there is no one in the queue.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian.

22 So we'll move on to agenda item number 3,
23 subcommittee updates and announcements. We're going to
24 hear from the subcommittees that reported they had
25 information to disburse to the Commission and to the

1 public.

2 So we'll begin with Commissioners Fernández and
3 Fornaciari, with our Finance Administration Subcommittee.
4 Go ahead.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I usually try to wait long
6 enough to see if Neal will click in. And he didn't.
7 Okay.

8 So let's see. A couple of updates; Corina did talk
9 about submitting timesheets and TECs, and some of you or
10 some of us may have decided not to turn in TECs, or
11 travel claims, but I just want to urge you to, please,
12 turn them in, because the expenditures that we have as a
13 2020 Commission, those expenditures will then be used as
14 a budget for the next set of Commissioners.

15 So bless your hearts for maybe not wanting to do it,
16 but I'm pleading that you do turn that in, if possible.
17 And if we can turn those in by the end of this month,
18 that would be great, so that it can be reflected in the
19 expenditures for this fiscal year, and also the
20 expenditure that we will be submitting to the
21 Legislature, as well as Department of Finance.

22 Commissioner Fornaciari and I are working with
23 Corina and Terri on that report. We've met a few times.
24 We have a few more revisions, and we're hoping to share
25 that report with you in April. It is due to the

1 Legislature by June 30th. So we want to make sure that
2 we give you -- we give all the Commissioners ample time
3 to review it, and provide feedback, and we can,
4 hopefully, approve that and forward it to the Legislature
5 by the date -- the due date.

6 I'm trying to think if there's anything -- oh. In
7 terms of our BCP, I don't think Corina went over this, or
8 maybe I forgot to write this down. But our BCP for
9 future fiscal years, we have met with Finance once again.
10 They asked additional questions, and there's been back
11 and forth. We still don't know what the outcome of that
12 will be. We're remaining positive, hopefully, hopefully
13 optimistic, and we're supposed to hear, hopefully, within
14 the next month or so. So we'll report as soon as we find
15 out.

16 MS. LEON: Uh-huh.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari, is
18 there anything else?

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No. I think you've got
20 everything. Thank you. Yeah. Just again, you know, if
21 you can get -- if you would get those TECs, and other
22 charges in, that would be really helpful for the baseline
23 for next time.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, do you have a
25 question?

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. So my thought has been
2 to submit TEC when I'm up to three days, at least, just
3 so that it's less bureaucratic. Does that make sense?
4 Or you all want it every month, even if it's one day?

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And I believe --

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Because I know we're not doing
7 half-days, but I was just trying to think of how to cut
8 back on bureaucracy for staff. And then second, just a
9 reminder that the community has said if we have any
10 challenges, that they're ready to work with us and, you
11 know, not with us, but for us, or however the right
12 wording is. And the budget is one that kind of really
13 raised their eyebrows when they said: Yes, we want you to
14 meet, but no translators, no this, no that, so.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: In terms of the TEC, the
16 way I was told, in the beginning, I had the same mindset.
17 It's like it seems like extra work for our staff, but I
18 was told to -- and as well as per diems as well -- is you
19 turn them in monthly. That's how they're, I guess,
20 reflected in the expenditure, so if you can do it
21 monthly, that'd be great.

22 In terms of working with externals, you know what,
23 any support we can get at this point with Finance would
24 be greatly appreciated, and the Legislature, in terms of
25 trying to move that forward. So thank you for that.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think, though, let me
3 respond to that. Maybe you can give Commissioner
4 Fernández, and I, and Corina, and Terri an opportunity to
5 sort of think it through a little bit, on what the ask
6 would be; before we pull that trigger. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I've got a quick
8 question about the TECs. Okay. You know, driving up
9 there was -- you know, there is -- I didn't turn it in,
10 this one, because I lost the parking receipt. So okay,
11 great, you know, what am I going to do? It's like, okay,
12 well, sure I can turn it in, but they're not going to pay
13 me anyway. And a little bit, you know, your lunch
14 receipts they don't pay you or cover it anyway. So it's
15 a little bit like: Okay, we can turn it in and take all
16 our time and effort to do that, but we don't get paid for
17 it, really.

18 So it's sort of a little -- I'm complaining a little
19 bit here, I guess, but I understand that what costs we
20 actually have this year, they're going to look at for
21 next year, except ours will have nothing to do with what
22 happens next year, because we aren't having to meet. So
23 this is a completely -- these numbers are not valid to
24 look at for next year.

25 I mean, I'll certainly do that, turn that in, but we

1 are hardly -- we are hardly meeting, and when we meet,
2 rather, we don't all have to be there, and we're meeting
3 remotely. So the couple of numbers that they're going to
4 get aren't indicative of what they would need to prepare
5 a budget for next year -- for the 2030; so just
6 mentioning that.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think with regard to
8 travel that's -- I would agree with you; with regard to
9 time, though --

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. Our TECs, are just
11 expenses, right?

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: TEC is travel, the per
13 diem.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, the per diem.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Some folks haven't, yeah,
16 done either.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. Never mind.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. But you're right.
19 You're right about the TECs, and you know, we've
20 certainly noted that in the report to the Legislature
21 with regard to travel expenses should be significantly --
22 expected to be significantly higher next time.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. Thank you. I do have
24 one other item. For the Finance report, and for these
25 next years, I do have stuff to talk about regarding the

1 Website Subcommittee and -- but I'm going to just do that
2 in the website report.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I just want to
5 clarify. I agree with what Commissioner Fornaciari said,
6 that it's best that we know exactly what our ask is. And
7 if I can just ask that the subcommittee speak directly
8 and not go -- not go through me because it complicates
9 things with my -- what is it -- my fellowship, my
10 national volunteer project that I'm doing. And I think
11 the right person to reach out to would be Jonathan at
12 Common Cause. And I can. So I just wanted to just make
13 sure that I'm out of the loop.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay. Any
16 other questions or comments for the website -- not the
17 website -- the Finance and Administration Subcommittee?

18 All right. Thank you. I think it's encouraging to
19 know that there's a back and forth. Whereas, before we
20 were concerned that we just weren't having their ear at
21 all. So I think, moving forward, fingers crossed, hope
22 for the best, and understanding that this is a vitally
23 important function of our government, of our democracy.
24 So thank you, Finance and Admin Committee.

25 So it was on my mind. You just heard the Freudian

1 slip. We are moving on to the Website Subcommittee.
2 Commissioner Andersen and myself; Commissioner Andersen
3 has been pushing hard, so I'll throw it in her -- into
4 her box.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Commissioner --
6 well, Chair Taylor, and fellow Subcommittee Members.

7 I'm going to give sort of a short summary here, as
8 actually, it says we have a lot more time going on. We
9 are going to be doing, after lunch, a training seminar.
10 And we have Ms. Tammy Bacon with us, who will be our
11 guest. She's an accessibility expert. And the reason
12 why we're going to be doing that later is in anticipation
13 of losing all our staff June 30th, after June 30th.

14 Basically, most of the documents that we will be
15 posting to our website, we often create, you know, the
16 handouts. And in doing so, if we know how to make
17 those -- to start out and lay them out to be accessible,
18 it makes the requirements to modular modification to post
19 them so much easier. And I don't mean like, oh, a couple
20 of minutes. I mean like an hour or two.

21 And since we don't have staff, well, that's what we
22 will be doing. Our staff has been doing enormous amounts
23 to put our documents on the website to make them ADA
24 compliant, that if we had done a little bit beforehand,
25 they wouldn't have to do all that time. So that's what

1 our training will be about after lunch.

2 On the Website Subcommittee, itself, obviously we've
3 been trying to figure out what we can close down, and
4 relocate, moving from our dot-org, back to our dot.ca.gov
5 site. And in doing so, as Corina mentioned, our maps,
6 the map pages, we still need to have our maps available
7 on our website. Well, it turns out that we weren't going
8 to be able to, which we didn't quite know.

9 But we have now worked with the data -- you know,
10 the Data.CA.gov, who are trying who are trying to be the
11 official map locators, or holders for all the different
12 state agencies.

13 They actually were so excited to get our maps.
14 There's usually a charge for these sorts of things,
15 they're not charging us because these are very crucial
16 maps. The Department of Education is using them,
17 Department of Transportation is using them. I mean,
18 everyone is very excited to get our maps on this state
19 site.

20 And what will happen on our site, you know, our
21 regular website, basically where it has maps, it'll look
22 just the same, except the link will actually go to this
23 geoportal. So that's sort of -- that's how we're doing
24 the maps.

25 Most of our website will look very similar, and the

1 transition is going very well. The big item I want to
2 just briefly talk about here is data. And we were
3 talking about our data and data management, but you know
4 what, we don't really have data, per se, the way all
5 other state agencies, almost all, have data in that, you
6 know, like the census data, where they're numbers, and
7 you can manipulate those numbers.

8 We actually have a table of attachments, which is
9 why, you know, because I'm saying: Why are we having such
10 trouble with our website? Why isn't it just easy like
11 everybody else's? But it turns out that, just like what
12 we're doing, making maps, it's very technology heavy, and
13 our data, what we're always talking data, is a bunch of
14 different attachments. They're Word documents, they're
15 maps, they turn into PDFs, Shapefiles, all sorts of
16 different types of files, which is why it's been tricky,
17 we've been talking to people about: Well, we want to
18 manipulate our data.

19 Well, not really. It's more like, we're moving and
20 regrouping a set of attachments. So that's why we've had
21 to have a user interface person, and we want to have it
22 maintained. But it turns out, sure, they'll maintain a
23 document, but you can't access it. So these are the
24 items that the Website Subcommittee, and Corina, and our
25 experts have been helping us muddle through.

1 So I just -- the reason why I wanted to bring that
2 up is because the technology involved, the basic
3 knowledge on our staff level, wasn't really -- there was
4 no organizer for it. And we had our communications
5 expert, you know, Communications who was handling the
6 website, did the best he could, and our Outreach Director
7 did the best they could, but there was no one there for
8 them to ask and coordinate things with. And we need to
9 do that, moving forward, for the 2030.

10 And I want us to just -- I bring this up, because I
11 want us to think about that, we were talking about: Oh.
12 Our job is done. Well, we need to put someone in charge
13 of that, like put another position in.

14 And moving forward that's for, as we talk about the
15 next lesson, and moving forward for 2030, but moving
16 forward into this year, our position of our manager,
17 turns out that manager needs to have a technology
18 background as well, because we had a manager who had an
19 RA they could call in, but didn't know when to call them
20 in. And didn't in some other -- a few instances where we
21 really should've.

22 And now, we're correcting all those repairs. And
23 maintaining, going forward, requires a person to know
24 when the warning signs are being handed over, and what to
25 do with those. And that's why I'm bringing that, this

1 has financial implications.

2 It's basically, we just didn't quite know what we
3 needed to when we wrote up this position. And that's
4 Finance to say: Sure, we'll give you that position, but
5 we needed a bit more. We need it more moving forward to
6 ensure our website functions.

7 So that's kind of my quick little spiel. Basically,
8 things are moving forward. We're really trying to push
9 to get things in great shape before we lose all our
10 staff. And that's the Website Subcommittee report.

11 Any questions?

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. I'm seeing no questions
13 for the Website Subcommittee. And let me say,
14 Commissioner Kennedy prior, Commissioner Andersen
15 currently, their curiosity has just driven this
16 committee. I thank you, personally, for what you guys
17 have brought to this subcommittee.

18 Who would have thought that there would be so much
19 in the Website Subcommittee? You would think it would
20 just be website maintenance, but that maintenance is
21 more, as technology changes, requirement changes; it's
22 really quite fascinating.

23 So you know, I've learned with time, we continue to
24 learn with time, Corina, Tammy, thank you, guys. Who
25 would've thought? "Who would've thunk it"?

1 All right; so no questions for the Website
2 Subcommittee. We'll continue to move along. And that,
3 well, our next will be our Lessons Learned Subcommittee,
4 with Commissioner Yee and Kennedy.

5 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Commissioner Yee, I'll leave it
6 to you this time.

7 COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. Thank you, Commissioner
8 Kennedy. Now, Commissioner Kennedy and I continue to
9 revise the current drafts incorporating inputs that we've
10 received. Let's think. I would like to recommend -- one
11 of the things about the report is it's grown, of course,
12 if you've read it, much farther -- much larger than just
13 Lessons Learned. And I'm thinking to propose to rename
14 it, not the "Lessons Learned" report, but the "Three-R"
15 report; Three-R, not reading, writing, arithmetic, but
16 recollections, recommendations, and resources, to reflect
17 the larger scale of the work. So the "Three-R" report,
18 rather than the "Lessons Learned" report.

19 Yeah. So yeah, we continue to work. You know, it
20 is going to -- it is going more slowly than we had
21 thought, but we do have every intention of getting it
22 done in this fiscal year.

23 One question growing in my mind is just the
24 production side of the report. So comparing, for
25 instance, the equivalent report from 2010, which

1 Commissioner Aguirre put together, you might recall that
2 one. Let me see. Do I have a copy here? Versus, let's
3 say, the League of Women Voters report, which was
4 professionally formatted by a graphic artist, clearly.
5 And choosing between those, you know: Do we want
6 something just formatted in-house, you know, not a lot of
7 fancy formatting? Or do we want something, you know,
8 more sleek and highly formatted?

9 I'm torn on that. I don't know. You know, do we
10 bring in a professional graphic designer and proofreader,
11 or do we just make do on our own? Any thoughts on that?

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay, go ahead.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So I think one of my -- three
14 of my volunteer work, one of the things that has -- you
15 know, some of my passion about hearing the actual
16 Commissioners' voices, is that when you look and, you
17 know, a lot of people write things about us, "us" being
18 Commissioners and an Independent Redistricting
19 Commission, but not as much as written by the
20 Commissioners and the Independent Redistricting
21 Commissions, in our voice.

22 So if we had the funding, I would say yes, but I
23 wouldn't do it for that whole thing that we're creating.
24 But it would just be for an executive summary, because I
25 think the big picture, the big thing we're creating, I

1 think we should look at, not have it as a Word document,
2 but look at the e-book type technology that exists, where
3 you can, you know, click on things and get to -- there's
4 different technology versus just Word, you know, Word and
5 such, now that allows people to do self-publishing.

6 Self-publishing is really popular, it's assessable
7 now. And I would encourage us to not look at this as a
8 document, per se, but I like the "Three-R's", but really
9 look at it as a resource that's easily accessible and
10 everything. You know, people can move from place A to
11 place B quickly. And that won't happen if it's any type
12 of document in the traditional sense of publishing.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.
14 Commissioner Andersen.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. I like
16 the renaming, actually. That's kind of a fun idea. As
17 far as the formatting, or the headings, and stuff, I
18 would really like you to think about accessibility of the
19 document, because that does require particular formatting
20 and headings, which will actually help the layout of it;
21 so just a quick pitch for that.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Andersen.

23 Next, we have Commissioner Le Mons, then
24 Commissioner Turner, and Commissioner Kennedy.

25 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Good morning. I wanted to

1 echo Commissioner Andersen's point. I think from a
2 formatting standpoint, the purpose of us doing this
3 document, and you know, it's a beautifully done document,
4 for right now I'm going to just refer to it as "a
5 document". It's a beautifully done document, and we want
6 people to utilize it. And I think that that's going to
7 be what should inform, how it's best formatted, is a way
8 for people to easily access it, and utilize it.

9 And I love the "Three-R" recommendation,
10 Commissioner Yee.

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Le Mons.
13 Commissioner Turner.

14 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. Thank you. I wanted to
15 just weigh in. I support the graphic designer. I do
16 appreciate the work that went into the Women's League of
17 Voter (sic) report. I think it's very easy to follow.
18 And I like, I think even after the graphic designer, I
19 agree that it could be in a format and made available
20 through some of the e-book format as well. And I think
21 it can be done, both of those together. Thanks.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.
23 Commissioner Kennedy.

24 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. Yes, I will
25 echo Commissioner Andersen's concern about accessibility.

1 I also take Commissioner Le Mons' point. We want people
2 to use this. And so we need to make it as usable as
3 possible. And I'm wondering if maybe Tammy might have
4 some thoughts now, or later, that she might be willing to
5 share with us on how to ensure the accessibility side. I
6 certainly have thoughts on the usability side.

7 And I mean, I would say that there are ways of
8 making both Word documents and PDFs, you know, not only
9 searchable, but you know, you can even have internal
10 links. So it may be a little bit clunkier than some
11 other formats. The idea of an e-book is an exciting one,
12 as long as we can, you know, ensure that it does meet all
13 of the accessibility criteria that we need to meet.
14 Thank you.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Kennedy.
16 Commissioner Akutagawa.

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I guess I'll weigh
18 in on this. I'll just be blunt. The thought of an e-
19 book just scares me because that means it's really long.
20 And I am concerned about whether or not people will read
21 through it. I think there's a lot of important points
22 that are brought up in the -- you know, in the document,
23 whether it's called "Lessons Learned" or the "Triple-R";
24 I think that that kind of name fits as well, too.

25 I think on the idea of whether or not it should be

1 formatted, whatever gets people reading the document, I
2 think is going to be important. I think that's what we
3 should be looking at.

4 I also want to just say that we are up against the
5 time line of June, before we move to, you know, meeting a
6 lot less frequently. And I would encourage, you know,
7 the subcommittee to really think about trying to have a
8 completed document by June so that we could approve it,
9 rather than letting it go months in between when,
10 frankly, I think we're going to kind of forget.

11 Right now, I think the monthly meetings is good
12 because it keeps us on track. So that would just be my
13 only, I guess, encouragement is if we can just, you know,
14 work towards that idea that, you know, June would be our
15 deadline to have everything, whether it's formatted and
16 laid out nicely, or if it's just completed, and it's just
17 going to be as is in the Word document format, and then
18 "PDF'd".

19 And I would also encourage that there's some way in
20 which the executive summary is also shortened, maybe it
21 just contains just the recommendation, so that people can
22 skim through it fairly quickly because it is a long
23 document. And I think there's a lot of good points in
24 it, but I would just hate for a lot of things to be lost
25 because it's in the main body of the text, which is,

1 frankly, very long; so anyways. Thank you.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay.

3 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Akutagawa, I
4 completely hear you about the fear that it's too long.
5 But it is a very long document when you have all the
6 attachments in there. It's getting to be several -- you
7 know, a couple of hundred pages long. And so that's why
8 I was thinking if we had it in that type of thing where
9 you click and it takes you to things, it would be easier.
10 But I hear you.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Fernández.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And just a reminder that if
13 we want an editor, or anything else, it has to be done
14 this fiscal year. We don't have funds going forward
15 after July 1st, so. Sorry about that. But I always get
16 to be the bearer of bad news at home too, about money.
17 So I'm doing it here.

18 COMMISSIONER YEE: All good. Two other small thing,
19 smaller things; let's see. The last time we discussed
20 policies, and it's kind of dawning on us that the
21 policies actually don't expire and that, in fact, the
22 2010 policies that didn't expire, and our policies don't
23 expire.

24 So of course, policies are part of the discussion in
25 the report. And I'm thinking it actually would be in

1 discussions with Anthony a little bit. It would be good
2 to actually do a little bit of systematic research on the
3 2010 policies since they did not consolidate them, I
4 don't believe. And then of course, we did consolidate
5 ours, but a little bit of scope creep there, to add that
6 somehow to the effort.

7 And the other thing is, you will recall, Executive
8 Director Hernandez had his drafting an Executive Director
9 report. We still do invite feedback on that report, on
10 the draft report. It refers to the other staff reports,
11 Outreach, and Communications, and also links a lot of
12 other materials.

13 And that's a lot of stuff. And I'm wondering
14 whether to break all that off into separate staff
15 reports, collection, because it's just a lot. And I
16 haven't discussed this with Commissioner Kennedy, you
17 know, we really wanted a one-stop shop for everything,
18 but that particular collection of materials, seems like
19 it could belong separately in some other staff report
20 document that we put together.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Fernández.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Just quickly to
23 Commissioner Yee, Commissioner Fornaciari and I did start
24 with the 2010 policy, so we did have that information.

25 COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: So if you want, I can
2 forward that to you.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don't know if you were really
5 looking for answers, or not, to your last question. But
6 it what it seems like you might want to do is just create
7 a resource page. I keep thinking of links, right, but
8 just add them on to the Executive Director's report; and
9 so we've got the Executive Director's with all the staff
10 pieces, and then ours with our pieces. That's, you know,
11 and we can put them on the website side-by-side, or when
12 it's shared its side-by-side.

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: Right. And that will relate to
14 website issues, because one of the questions is: Can we
15 get permanent, permanent, sure I promise, permanent, you
16 know. Cross my heart hope to die, permanent links put
17 together, so yeah.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. Commissioner Yee, it seems
19 like this is all -- it's so interrelated, and it's hard
20 to think -- you want for clarity, you want to have -- be
21 able to refer back to those documents, you want to have
22 appendices, at least. But you're trying to try and have
23 a concise document, and narrow it down without it
24 being -- so they're all interrelated, I guess. And I
25 guess our effort is just to be transparent. Ugh, yeah.

1 We still have a few hurdles to overcome.

2 Commissioner Fernández.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I like the idea of having
4 it separate, the Executive Director, because I feel like
5 we'll approve the Lessons Learned, which means that we
6 were able to make amendments, and changes to it. But in
7 terms of the Executive Director, and all of the other
8 reports, unfortunately, all the staff have already off-
9 boarded, so it is what it is.

10 And I would prefer for it to be separate, because
11 when I -- if and when we approve the Lessons Learned, I
12 want it to be what we created ourselves, if that makes
13 sense. But I like having like a link to those reports as
14 reference. Thank you.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Yee,
16 Commissioner Kennedy, anything further? The floor is
17 still yours.

18 COMMISSIONER YEE: The goal is definitely June, so.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, everyone.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Thank you for the
22 wonderful work. We will now move to our next
23 subcommittee report, the Legislative report.

24 Commissioners Akutagawa and Fernández.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Sure. Linda, just act like

1 your mute doesn't work.

2 We actually don't have too much to discuss today.
3 There are two reports. The regular two reports that
4 we've had for probably the last year, or so, it is a
5 little different. There are no colors because Corina --
6 thank you, Corina -- she is reviewing our documents to
7 make sure they're ADA accessible. So we do have the same
8 titles, it's just not color-coded.

9 The first spreadsheet that we have out there
10 proposed the legislative changes, so those are the ones
11 that, as Commissioners, we voted to move those forward.
12 The first one was already done in terms of the
13 reallocation of state incarcerated people. We actually
14 just found out that clarifying what a day is, and
15 defining mapping deadlines has been submitted in a bill,
16 Assembly Bill 1761, that was on March 9th, so we're
17 excited about that.

18 And what's a little bit different about that bill,
19 it's a Committee bill, so it's not subject to the normal
20 requirements of the two-third votes, because they deem
21 the definition of what a day is, they deemed it to be
22 nonsubstantive -- I hope I pronounce that right --
23 English is my second language again.

24 So they felt that change wasn't huge in terms of,
25 it's just adding clarification to how we defined a day.

1 And the -- I forget how many pages -- nine-page document
2 of the potential legislative changes, we basically have
3 gone -- we've gone through the list -- yay team -- which
4 is great news.

5 And there are three kinds of open items, starting on
6 page 4. And one of them is the earlier start date. We
7 do have a meeting; Commissioner Akutagawa and I have a
8 meeting with the State Auditor next month. So we're
9 preparing for that, and we will -- that's one of our
10 agenda items, to discuss that with them.

11 The other one is, the Commissioner compensation.
12 That one at the last meeting, Chair Taylor said that we
13 can hold off on that one. There is no urgency.

14 And then the third one that is still somewhat open,
15 is the changes to the size or composition of applicant
16 review panel. Again, we do have a meeting with the State
17 Auditors next month, we can discuss it with him, but then
18 I'm not sure if continuity also addressed this. And in
19 their survey, number 32, the Redesign of Applicant Pool,
20 there was two yeses and nine noes. So I'm not sure if we
21 still want to move forward with discussing that with the
22 State Auditor. But I think that's all we have, so far.

23 Commissioner Akutagawa.

24 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Great recap. Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That's all we've got,

1 Chair.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Kennedy.

3 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I can't
4 recall for certain if I already proposed at least one of
5 these the last time, but I definitely want to propose
6 that we expand our list of potential legislative changes.
7 And the two things that I have in mind, first, and I
8 believe I didn't mention this in the last meeting, the
9 requirements in the Code for local redistricting, require
10 local redistricting efforts to have a website and
11 maintain it for ten years.

12 And I think that that is one of those areas where it
13 is going to be helpful for us to point to, there is a
14 requirement that they maintain a website for ten years.

15 And I would therefore like to see us have that same
16 sort of legal requirement, for us to maintain our website
17 for ten years, which will make it that much easier for
18 future Commissions to obtain the funding necessary to
19 maintain the website. So I would like to propose that,
20 modeled after the language that is already applicable to
21 local redistricting efforts.

22 And the second, which I may not have formulated as a
23 proposal yet, but it seems to me, from our discussions
24 the last few months that this whole issue of addressing
25 mapping of accelerated and deferred areas, needs to be

1 settled within the legal framework.

2 And so if that's going to be the Secretary of
3 State's Office that's responsible, or if it's going to be
4 the 2030 Commission that's responsible; you know, I think
5 someone needs to be made responsible, within the legal
6 framework, for that. Now, I recall, and I could easily
7 look up, there is a requirement that, you know, the
8 Commission's final maps be distributed, or be made
9 available to all members of the Assembly, and Senate, and
10 so forth.

11 You know, and it may be that all we need to do is
12 provide an additional couple of maps, showing those
13 accelerated and deferred areas for the Senate. You know,
14 at the end of the mapping process. But I do think that
15 this needs to be resolved, because right now it seems to
16 be a hot potato that people have been trying to pass
17 around, and that should not be the way it's handled in
18 the future. Thank you.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to make sure I
21 was understanding what was being -- the question is those
22 Senate districts where the senators don't vote -- that
23 aren't transitioned -- yeah, those people who are left
24 without senators because of the -- that elections go in,
25 in weights.

1 Is what you meant, Commissioner Taylor? I know that
2 you're using the proper term, and I'm using the on-the-
3 ground term. And those were the districts where the pro
4 tem -- the Senator Pro Tem made this decision who was
5 representing those folks.

6 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I mean, that the
7 authority to assign senators is clearly not ours. It's
8 not the Secretary of State; that falls to the Senate
9 leadership. But identifying the areas that need that
10 sort of representation, identifying clearly, so that the
11 requirement on future Commissions would be not only to
12 submit, essentially, you know, four maps: the
13 Congressional map, the State Senate map, State Assembly
14 map, and the Board of Equalization map, but also as maybe
15 attachments to addenda to the State Senate map.

16 You know, separate maps showing the areas that would
17 end up being accelerated, and the areas that would end up
18 being deferred. I think that's entirely reasonable ask
19 of future Commissions to provide those. I think it will
20 make life easier for all concerned. So that's what I'm
21 proposing.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chief Counsel Pane.

23 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you, Chair. Just on this
24 point. If the Commission will recall what the line
25 drawers did towards the end of the mapping process, is

1 they needed a little bit of time towards the end to
2 number the districts, and sort of plan out the deferral.
3 I think this, potentially, could be an additional piece
4 that's sort of tacked on to that, if that works out.

5 But I just wanted to refresh everyone's recollection
6 for that piece of it. That was part of the mapping --
7 the closing mapping process.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. I mean, I'll have to say
10 that that was the one -- I know we were so busy and
11 everything else, that it was hard to think about what we
12 don't know yet. And you don't know what you don't know.
13 But I remember being asked questions about that, and not
14 knowing how to answer. And so it was -- I kind of
15 support us having a conversation, you know, at a later
16 point when, you know, we can think through
17 recommendations and such.

18 But about those Senate areas, because later I felt
19 like it -- I knew that the mappers knew what happened.
20 And I know that some people understood the deferral
21 process. I know that they were kind of trying to explain
22 it to us, but we had so much on our plates just
23 understanding the mapping, and the six criteria, and all
24 the other pieces, that two things: one is, I think we
25 need to bring that up in the -- just in the training in

1 the beginning, just so that people understand all the
2 pieces that come in, and that some people won't be
3 represented.

4 Because I remember someone saying that to me; and
5 I'm like, everybody is represented. And then I was like:
6 Or are they? Or wait, what happens to the Senate, how
7 do -- yeah, so I had all these questions.

8 So I do think that it would be -- I agree, with
9 Commissioner Kennedy, that just some way to make it more
10 official, that it is part of the mapping, the line
11 drawing piece, but that we have -- we are aware of it.
12 And it's not just that the mappers do it and it gets
13 submitted.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you, Chair. Yeah,
16 that was part of, in terms of our numbering, you know,
17 because we're actually -- we essentially didn't number
18 it, just we had the line drawers who tended to do that.
19 You actually are tasked; we are tasked with minimizing
20 deferrals, people, quote, "don't have representative".
21 And that's how the numbering system goes, to minimize
22 those.

23 So that actually, evaluation of those maps was done
24 by the line drawers. I was not involved in that part.
25 So you know, it was sort of essentially done, dit-dit.

1 And like you said, it was -- I totally agree with
2 Commissioner Kennedy. This should be part of the task,
3 because it basically is. We essentially did that,
4 evaluated it under our auspices, I should say, because
5 we -- the Commission didn't actually do it. But under
6 our auspices, that was done, evaluated, and that's how
7 the numbers came out.

8 So I also want to say, those maps, which
9 Commissioner Fernández actually forwarded to me, because
10 she's got from somewhere, from the Senate, they are on
11 our -- the geoportal, the dot.ca.gov. And those guys
12 were asking everybody for it, because CALTRANS needed
13 them, and a lot of state agencies needed those maps, and
14 could not get them from anybody, because the --
15 essentially the state, well, the state didn't go to the
16 State Auditor, but the Secretary of State did not have
17 maps. And that's where, of course, they went. And they
18 went to us. We didn't actually have the maps.

19 And they did not know that: Oh, we'll go to the
20 Senate, because the Senate is going to have those maps.
21 They didn't know that. So I just want to bring that up.
22 I really like that idea.

23 I also love Commissioner Kennedy's idea of: Let's
24 bring up the ten-year maintenance that local
25 redistricting groups are required to have. In terms of,

1 that we have that because -- and the maintenance is
2 really key, because ours need to function. It isn't just
3 a question of storing it. Anyone can store it, but you
4 can't use it. And that's what happened when our website
5 crashed back in 2015.

6 It didn't just all of a sudden crash. It was dying,
7 dying, because no one paid attention to the little
8 messages that were coming in: Hey, repair this. This
9 isn't going to work, da, da, da, da, da. No one knew
10 that. No one was receiving any of it, and knew what to
11 do with it. And so if we get that -- if other groups
12 have that ten-year requirement, we should too. It would
13 really help.

14 And that, sorry, one last thing, the final day,
15 Commissioner Fernández, I'm sorry I missed that. That
16 has already gone to a committee or -- I missed where -- I
17 was trying to find that on our notes. But I kind of
18 missed what -- where we are with that, definitely
19 defining a date.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Can I respond to that,
21 Chair?

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely. Go ahead.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes, it's Assembly Bill
24 1761.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: You're welcome.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thank you, Chair. To the
4 point of the deferral and acceleration maps, I mean,
5 somebody produced them at some point. So it seems like
6 we need to research this further. You know, adding it to
7 our tasks, of course, our line drawers are in the best
8 position to produce such maps when the time is right. So
9 adding it to our to-do list seems like a natural thing to
10 do. But it needs to be coordinated with the Senate,
11 because they're the one that actually have to implement
12 the -- you know, the data from that. So I'm wondering, I
13 don't know, which subcommittee, or who could actually
14 follow up on this. You know, I don't know; but somebody
15 needs to.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Sinay.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: This is just kind of a bigger
18 question because we -- you know, we keep going back and
19 forth, and there're certain tweaks that we said, yes, we
20 will take on because we can just find someone who will
21 carry a bill, and we can fit it in. But there're bigger
22 ones that we can't because it's part of a Constitution,
23 and we don't want -- yeah, that that's going to be -- you
24 know, that takes a lot more of a lift.

25 But as part of my volunteer efforts I have -- keep

1 hearing that people say California was the gold standard,
2 but now we've learned some things and some of the
3 things -- there needs to be some tweaks from
4 Californians. So the public sees some of the tweaks that
5 we're discussing, like the two -- you know, the focus on
6 kind of the two elected parties, yeah, the Republican and
7 Democrat. And then what do we do with: No-Party
8 preference has grown and Independent.

9 And so some of the conversations we're having
10 internally are happening in the bigger -- you know, I'm
11 not -- "internally", I mean, our little bubble that we
12 have here, our fishbowl. But it is, those conversations
13 are happening externally as well. And so at some -- you
14 know I think -- I still go back to, I'm not too sure what
15 our strategy is to making those bigger changes.

16 I feel like we've already said: Okay, we're not
17 going to make the big changes. We know that they need to
18 be happening, but we don't want to do that big lift,
19 which is okay if that's our decision, but I feel like it
20 could be helpful for this subcommittee to have some
21 conversations with the external community, you know, who
22 have some concerns about these tweaks.

23 Especially, especially it makes me sad to hear,
24 nationally, that we're no longer the gold standard
25 because we're dated now.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Fernández.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Kind of forgot
3 what I was going to say -- okay, now I remember what I
4 was going to say. You know, in terms of -- I think I
5 just have an issue with us, or with the future set of
6 Commissioners having the responsibility of those deferral
7 maps, because as Commissioner Yee pointed out, it's
8 actually the Senate Pro Tem that decides who will be
9 represented by those deferrals.

10 And at the end of the day, I would think that the
11 Senate should be the ones putting up those maps, if
12 they're going to decide which constituents are going to
13 be represented by what senator, they should, put out
14 maps, not just numbers and information.

15 So that's, I know Commissioner Kennedy had mentioned
16 either the Secretary of State or the Commission, but
17 another possibility is also maybe the Legislature, having
18 them put out those maps, because again -- and I think
19 maybe -- Commissioner Kennedy, I know you have your hand
20 up -- but I think what he might have said is just
21 identify what those deferral areas are, which I
22 completely understand, I got that part.

23 I do get that part, which is great. But then once
24 the Senate decides, then they're the ones that need to
25 officially -- it's their maps in terms of how they

1 decided -- the constituents. I just don't want us to go
2 back after the Senate has -- the Senate Pro Tem has
3 decided who will be represented, and then identify it,
4 because it's not ours. At that point, we didn't have a
5 say over that information.

6 Did I get it, Commissioner Kennedy?

7 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: (No verbal response.)

8 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I speak Kennedy language
9 now. Yoo-hoo.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I was going to say,
12 basically, kind of the same thing. It's just a map.
13 It's not who is where. And I would be happy to help
14 pursue that because I -- basically, because of the
15 geoportal thing, I was pursuing it. I was just -- you
16 know, have been gone last ten days, and I'd be happy to
17 pursue that.

18 So I know Commissioner Yee has been trying to figure
19 out what to do with the Lessons Learned item, so I don't
20 know if we want to do another little group to do that, or
21 informally, or I'll put that in your lap, Commissioner
22 Taylor, or Chair Taylor, I should say.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee. I'm happy to work
24 on that with Commissioner Andersen, if that's the Chair's
25 desire.

1 One quick note, I'm looking at the Constitution, and
2 there is an item about numbering all districts
3 consecutively from north to south. But I don't see
4 anything about minimizing deferrals. I believe that was
5 something we did, not because it was required, but just
6 as something nice to do, you know; but maybe somewhere
7 else.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, that is somewhere
10 else. That's actually in the -- because that was part of
11 the items we went through, when it talks somewhere about
12 deferrals in the Constitution. It is in there somewhere
13 because that was -- that was part of what we wrote. I
14 pulled it from somewhere, when I put in the scope of the
15 work. So where I pulled it from, I do not recall, but
16 that's --

17 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. We'll find it.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, but that's somewhere,
19 so.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: So then, I'm hearing that
21 Commissioner Yee and Commissioner Andersen, you guys are
22 willing to work with this topic of deferred and
23 accelerated voters' maps. So then I will form a
24 subcommittee. We'll just call it "Deferred and
25 Accelerated Maps". And what you'll learn, you'll be able

1 to report back, and then we'll be able to make an
2 informed decision as to how we want to approach that
3 topic. That sounds correct?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: And then it sounds as if on our
6 legislative -- along with our legislative, we want to
7 possibly seek verbiage, or something to require
8 maintenance for ten years of our website; that sounds
9 correct?

10 So Commissioner Fernández, can we add that to our
11 list of to-dos?

12 Commissioner Sinay, go ahead.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just wanted to, for full
14 transparency, just make sure that we are consciously
15 talking two Republicans to be on that subcommittee. And
16 I'm only bringing it up because it is a mapping, a direct
17 mapping and representation, and some people can say it's
18 a representation.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: I think we've been -- we have a
20 couple of subcommittees with similar parties. I think
21 we've been pretty transparent in all the things that
22 we've done, representing all of California. They're
23 going to seek information and bring it back, and then we
24 can make an assessment before any vote or action is
25 taken. So I am confident. I'm okay with them obtaining

1 the information and bringing back for us to make a
2 decision upon.

3 Any objections to that rationale?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Anything else, Commissioner Sinay?

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: (No verbal response.)

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Do we have anything else from our
8 Legislative Subcommittee?

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I just wanted to -- I'm
10 sorry. Chair Taylor, you asked if we could -- is what
11 you asked, is that if we can add the Code for local
12 redistricting to have the website and maintained for ten
13 years; is that what you asked to put on the list?

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. Let's put that on the list.
15 The idea is, I guess, we're going to possibly consider
16 adding that requirement.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Commissioner
18 Kennedy, did you, by chance, know where that language is,
19 for the local redistricting that have that responsibility
20 of the ten years? I'm only asking, I mean, if we --

21 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I'll get it for you.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. And if we can maybe
23 discuss it now, because there is somewhat of an urgency
24 in terms of just wanting to get as much as we can then by
25 the end of this fiscal year. So in case we don't have

1 funding for next year. And so if this is something that
2 Commissioner Akutagawa and I can discuss at our next
3 subcommittee meeting, with the Legislative, it'd be great
4 if we could decide, or see if other Commissioners are in
5 favor, against, and maybe if we can vote on it, so we can
6 put it on the other list.

7 Sorry, I just want to make mean should that if we
8 want to move forward --

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: No --

10 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- we move forward and try
11 to get it on there.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely. So I guess we can open
13 this up for discussion right now. Let me be the first to
14 say I think that I would be in favor of some verbiage
15 that would require us to maintain the website. So it's
16 not necessarily for continuity, but it'd be a way to
17 secure our information, to just pass on to the next
18 Commission. And you know, Commissioner Andersen, and I,
19 and Commissioner Kennedy, we see firsthand the
20 importance, that's just where technology has moved.

21 And so we've seen, firsthand, the importance of
22 maintaining that website. It almost seems -- it just, It
23 almost seem ridiculous not to. So that's my two cents.

24 Commissioner Toledo.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I'm just curious as there

1 may -- might be other statutory requirements requiring us
2 to have a website, maybe not. You know, requiring all
3 agencies to have websites. So I'm just wondering if
4 Chief Counsel Pane might have any input to that, if
5 there's already some kind of regulatory requirement on us
6 to maintain such.

7 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah, thanks. Thank you,
8 Commissioner. We normally have, as is typical,
9 departments that maintain -- that all departments
10 maintain websites and they have to be ADA compliant. So
11 I don't know that we -- that this, statutorily, has been
12 raised, probably because once departments are created,
13 they remain. And so this issue just hasn't come up.

14 So I think this probably does lend itself to the
15 continuity discussion. If we do have a department, it
16 does have a website, and that website continues, and is
17 maintained. And that's for a lot of reasons. One of it
18 is access to the public, there's a lot of public benefit,
19 obviously, to each department, each state agency having a
20 website.

21 So I will look to see if there's specific statutory
22 mandates that command, you know, maintaining a website.
23 But to my knowledge, every single department, every
24 single state agency has a website and is continually
25 maintained. So for a particular agency to not have a

1 website that's maintained would seem, well, counter to
2 what everyone else has. But I will -- if I find it, I
3 will let you all know.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: So hearing that from Chief Counsel
5 Pane, my suggestion would be this. Commissioner
6 Fernández, when you have your -- when you have any
7 further conversations, to sort of keep that in mind, we
8 don't mind you inquiring and getting more information
9 regarding that requirement.

10 But Chief Counsel Pane, he can come back and see
11 what our statutory requirements are regarding maintaining
12 a website, maintaining a department website, and we
13 should be able to have with -- along with any additional
14 information, we should be able to make a vote on this at
15 the April meeting.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Can I do a little push
17 back?

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah, go ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Can we maybe -- it sounds
20 like I mean I -- it sounds like there would be support
21 for this. So could we, maybe if we want to do like an
22 action that says: Let's move it forward, but if we
23 already have that responsibility. Because honestly,
24 there's going to be a couple of meetings that we're going
25 to have with our partners, or with our -- whatever you

1 want to call it -- and if we wait one more meeting, it's
2 just one more meeting of the Legislative cycle, which is
3 quick. They're like running right now. And I just want
4 to make sure that we get on there, that's if we can.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: I get it. So if in that sense, we
6 are able to entertain a motion, if someone puts one out
7 there, I guess we would need a motion?

8 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: If I could just interject. Of
9 course, let the let the lawyer pour the cold water on
10 this. We should really, just for transparency purposes,
11 and agenda noticing purposes, we should -- we probably
12 cannot have a vote on this right now, only because we did
13 not telegraph to the public that this was something that
14 we would likely be taking action on.

15 So the soonest we could do it would be at the next
16 Commission meeting, which I still think will give enough
17 time. But I think we do want to discuss it, maybe here,
18 and if we can prep it so that it is on the public record
19 for it. And I think, hopefully, we can take care of it
20 rather quickly at the next meeting.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Copy. Thank you for the cold water.
22 Commissioner Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I'd like to push back
24 on that a little bit, because one, working with the
25 Websites Subcommittee, we're talking a lot about other

1 state agencies, and they do actually have websites, and
2 that are -- have to be maintained, have to be ADA
3 compliant. And also it has looked, very unfavorably, if
4 you take things off your website.

5 And so with that in mind, I think there is
6 regulatory requirement. I'm just guessing. But I'm
7 pretty sure, and if there is legislation verbiage out
8 there, basically what I would like, hopefully, is if
9 Commissioner Kennedy had that verbiage could actually
10 make sure that it went to the Legislative Subcommittee,
11 so they were all set and ready to go.

12 In the event that we find out, you know: Oh. It's
13 not quite, but if it was added right here, it would be a
14 done -- like a slam dunk. I think I'd really like to
15 have that all going, and I'm not quite sure what we
16 hadn't prepped, that we couldn't vote on that. Or maybe
17 you don't have to move on it, we'll just sort of move
18 that idea forward. Yeah.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: The straw poll, just you know,
20 listening to the comments, it seems like we're all in
21 support of this, or at least the general discussion of
22 it. We don't have the verbiage from Commissioner Kennedy
23 yet. I'm inclined to push it off. Although we want to
24 run, I'm inclined to push it off for one meeting, yeah.
25 I think that is prudent.

1 Commissioner Akutagawa.

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I was just about
3 to -- as I was pressing you were saying exactly what I
4 was going to say. I think there's -- just needs to be a
5 little bit of research before we're asked to vote right
6 now. I think it would just be clear for all of us.

7 And then I think, to what Chief Counsel Pane just
8 said about, you know, ensuring that the public
9 understands what we'll be discussing. Again, it'll give
10 them the chance to also comment if we need to. So I
11 think we can just do some of the research, because if
12 there already is some kind of language that already
13 exists, then in some ways it's just us reporting back
14 that language already exists, that this is what we have
15 to do and we could point to that in our budget.

16 And then if there's not, because I think, again,
17 going back to our unique situation about having to
18 restart over and over again, you know, we're not an
19 existing agency that has that kind of -- I guess, that
20 that benefit of being able to just maintain, you know,
21 everything that any regular state agency can have.

22 So it may be that it requires some clarification and
23 some language, you know, Bill language that enables us to
24 maintain that website for ten years. So maybe just give
25 us a chance to just do some of the research.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

2 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. So Election Code, and so
3 being the Election Code, this is slightly different in
4 that we, the Citizens Redistricting Commission, we don't
5 have to approve any changes to the Election Code. This
6 is completely for the Legislature to take care of.

7 But it's Election Code Section 21508 Subsection (g),
8 that says:

9 "The Board" -- and this is referring to, I
10 believe, County Boards of Supervisors -- "shall
11 establish, and maintain for at least ten years
12 after the adoption of new supervisorial
13 district boundaries, an internet webpage
14 dedicated to redistricting. The web page may
15 be hosted on the county's existing internet
16 website, or another internet website maintained
17 by the county. The web page shall include or
18 link to all of following information:

19 (1) A general explanation of the redistricting
20 process for the county, in English and
21 applicable languages.

22 (2) The procedures for a member of the public
23 to testify during a public hearing, or to
24 submit written testimony directly to the Board.

25 (3) A calendar of all public hearing and

1 workshop dates. A calendar listing that
2 includes the time and location of the public
3 hearing or workshop satisfies the notice
4 required by subdivision (c).

5 (4) The notice and agenda for each public
6 hearing and workshop.

7 (5) The recording or written summary of each
8 public hearing and workshop.

9 (6) Each draft map considered by the Board at a
10 public hearing.

11 And (7) the adopted final map of supervisorial
12 district boundaries."

13 So that is, again, Section 21508 of the Elections
14 Code, Subsection (g).

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: So it'd seem, your interpretation is
16 that there is a statutory requirement?

17 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: So on County Boards of
18 Supervisors to maintain a website, essentially archive of
19 the entire County Board of Supervisors Redistricting
20 process, yes. And so the idea is that we seek to mirror
21 in the Government Code, which then would require our
22 approval mirroring this language in the language that
23 governs the Citizens Redistricting Commission.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Copy. We are a few minutes in front
25 of a break.

1 Commissioner Fernández, go ahead.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. So we will wait until
3 the next meeting, which is fine. And I just wanted to
4 let everyone know that we did -- I mean, so far, we
5 haven't approved funding for a website, ongoing
6 maintenance and operations for future years. So just
7 hope that we do have that piece of it at least.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yay. That sounds that sounds
9 wonderful. We're going to have our Chief Counsel look
10 further to see if there's some other statutory
11 requirements that are applicable to our Board and the
12 State. And so we should be able to have continued
13 discussion on this at our next meeting. And Commissioner
14 Kennedy provided the county verbiage that is related to
15 this topic; that's correct.

16 Any other questions or comments?

17 All right. So we'll take a deep breath. We'll take
18 a break, and we will return in fifteen minutes at 11:15.
19 Thank you, guys.

20 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 11:00 a.m.
21 until 11:15 a.m.)

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back to the March 11th (sic),
23 2023 Meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting
24 Committee. We have just completed the Legislative
25 Committee's -- Subcommittee report, and we're now going

1 to move on to the Continuity Subcommittee report, and
2 that is with Commissioner Fornaciari and Commissioner
3 Sinay. Go ahead.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks. Thanks, everyone.
5 Let's see, I just, getting started, I want to just sort
6 of step back, and kind of start the big picture, and kind
7 of recap what we did in our February meeting, and then
8 talk about the survey, and the outcome, and where we're
9 headed.

10 So you know, the Continuity/Transition Committee is,
11 you know, working on a plan for the next few years,
12 specifically for the transition between this Commission
13 and the next Commission. And we spent a lot of time
14 talking about a lot of things that we could do, that we
15 might want to do. And you know, we're working on some of
16 those through the Legislative Committee at bringing some
17 of the changes we propose forward through the
18 Legislature.

19 But a lot of work that we talked about doing would
20 be us doing the work. And so what does that look like
21 and how would we -- what do we want to decide on what
22 we're going to do, and then what's the plan for doing it.

23 So at the last meeting, we focused on two main
24 questions to get that conversation started. And the
25 first one is the California Citizens Redistricting

1 Commission, an ongoing institution? Or should each new
2 set of Commissioners stand it up for from scratch? And
3 the second question was: What does fully functioning
4 mean?

5 So we came to a consensus that the Commission is an
6 ongoing institution and that the structures that we, the
7 current set of Commissioners, put in place would pass to
8 the next set of Commissioners. But of course, they have
9 the ability to modify those structures that we put in
10 place as they see fit.

11 Regarding "fully functional", you know, we discuss a
12 wide range of options of what "fully functional" meant,
13 would mean. You know, inheriting nothing and starting
14 from scratch, or hiring everybody and then coming into a
15 fully staffed situation?

16 And you know, we came to what we think was a
17 consensus that we thought a hybrid model would be most
18 appropriate with some of the staff and systems in place,
19 when the Commissioners were seated, would be most
20 effective to get them started.

21 And then throughout the discussions this concept of
22 "independence" continued to come up. So you know, we
23 also, I think, came to a consensus that the -- our
24 definition of "independence" evolved. At the beginning,
25 we were -- well, I think, we were strictly independent

1 from the last Commission, the Legislature, all the state
2 agencies. But you know, we seem to have evolved to a
3 point where we realize we're interdependent with other
4 state agencies, that the Commission is a -- question one
5 answered, is an ongoing institution, and so many of the
6 structures will pass.

7 But certainly, that the CRC should remain
8 independent from the Legislature elected officials and
9 candidates. And so again, we discussed a number of
10 things we could do. And you know, we looked at, last
11 meeting, at some simple decision trees.

12 Commissioner Sinay and I wanted to go a little
13 deeper this time into a lot of the things we talked
14 about, and if we used the decision tree, we would have
15 made it more of a decision forest. So we decided that we
16 would make a survey, and try to put together as many of
17 the topics that we had talked about, to kind of give us
18 all an idea of where, you know, we were in agreement, and
19 where we needed a little bit more work.

20 And so we'll discuss the outcomes of that survey.
21 Now, we're not going to get into details of all the
22 answers to all the questions, but kind of -- sort of keep
23 it at a higher level of a theme. We did receive a lot of
24 responses and want to thank everyone who was able to
25 respond.

1 And so before we get started, though, a couple of
2 things: I want to keep in mind -- I think the answers
3 are -- I'd like us all to keep in mind that I think the
4 answers are, in some ways, contextual, right? One of the
5 things we didn't talk about at all is schedule. And so
6 we have talked about extending the schedule. And so that
7 may change some of the answers that we come up with, or
8 things that we want to accomplish.

9 If we don't extend the schedule, that may change
10 some of the things that we want -- that we feel we need
11 to do as a Commission before we get started, before the
12 next set of Commissioners gets seated.

13 And you know a lot of this work that we're talking
14 about, I mean, some of it would take place now, but most
15 of it would be, you know, kind of '28, '29 sort of time
16 frame. And there probably be a little in between where
17 you know what's going on with the Commission. And I just
18 want to -- the other thing is just to kind of keep in
19 mind that, you know, I don't think the results of this
20 survey are etched in stone, it's a continuing
21 conversation, and I expect that we will evolve our
22 thinking on this topic as we move forward.

23 And so I want to ask Commissioner Sinay, at this
24 point, if she has anything additional to add. Did I
25 miss, did I, you know.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. I think that was a really
2 good -- not summary -- but a foundation of where -- for
3 the conversation, and a summary of some of our
4 agreements. And I think the only piece I would want to
5 add is the "why" we're doing this, is just that this
6 whole idea of always grounding it -- grounding it back
7 on: How can we help make the 2030 process better, and are
8 there ways to simplify it?

9 And any decision made by us can be changed by the
10 next occupants. Just like any decisions that were made
11 in 2010, we could change as well. That goal is just to
12 make it easier and a better process.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy. You're muted.
14 You're still muted.

15 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: There we go.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay. There you go.

17 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. I just wanted to remind
18 us that when we're talking about "fully functional", that
19 language comes from Section 8253(a) paragraph 5 of the
20 Government Code, and it's talking about, "The State
21 Auditor shall provide support functions to the Commission
22 until its staff and office are fully functional."

23 So we need to we need to ground our conversation on
24 that. I mean, you know, I suppose we could completely
25 remove that burden from CSA. But you know let's -- if we

1 decide to do so let's do it in the knowledge that this is
2 the language that we are working off of in the Government
3 Code. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: If I can? I think,
5 Commissioner Kennedy, what you're saying is important,
6 but what I think Commissioner Fornaciari and I
7 continually have been working on is: How can we improve
8 the process in the future? And then we can take a step
9 back and say: Okay, this would be the piece we need to
10 speak with the auditor.

11 And so we didn't want to narrow our scope right now,
12 but really broaden it. And then from there say, okay,
13 what is doable and what's not. So we really wanted to
14 give people that opportunity to think big picture, and
15 then we can -- so I wouldn't want to narrow our
16 conversation right now on that piece.

17 What you just brought up, though, it's very, very
18 important, but really have a conversation, you know, in
19 the bigger picture right now.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you,
22 Commissioner Kennedy, for bringing that up, because that
23 really did throw me, because, when we'd started, the
24 eight started, it was literally the Commission -- you
25 know, we needed communication, we needed these things.

1 And the State Auditor said: We're giving you these two
2 people. Good luck.

3 And they hadn't really thought through that, that it
4 was fully functional. And so when the "fully functional"
5 threw me in -- because I didn't know in terms of: Okay,
6 so are we saying this is what we want the State Auditor
7 to do for us, because they are required to do a certain
8 amount of that. I assumed that it was not. It was like:
9 What do we want to do?

10 But there is, I think, the issue of, what are --
11 because all these did come up, right? The State Auditor
12 had posted all of these things, we're talking about
13 posting, they had posted them, and there was huge
14 blowback. And in that -- and from actually the
15 Commission and other people saying: You can't do that,
16 da, da, da, da.

17 So these are items that I think we need to, as we go
18 through this and talk about who would be doing what, you
19 know: Is the State Auditor going to let us do that? Or
20 would they assume it is their job?

21 So I'm really glad Commissioner Kennedy brought that
22 up because, you know, I think, we, as a Commission want
23 to decide what we would like to do, and then we would
24 have to wrestle with the State Auditor in terms of what
25 they are already, one, either charged with, or going to

1 do for us no matter what we have to say.

2 So you know, thank you for bringing that up, because
3 that's a consideration. But I did fill out my form
4 considering this is just -- this is what we, as the
5 Commission, are thinking about. So thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I think that -- I
7 think both of you raised a really great point, that what
8 we're -- we have to keep the State Auditor's role into
9 consideration on this, right? But I think, I think we
10 need to -- as Commissioner Sinay said: You know, what is
11 the big picture? What is it we want to accomplish? What
12 is it we want to see in place to help the next Commission
13 succeed? To help them spend their time doing the work of
14 redistricting, and maybe less time trying to resurrect
15 the phoenix here.

16 But we have to, you know, certainly figure out what
17 we want to see happen, then figure out, you know: What
18 has been, or is the State Auditor's responsibility? And
19 then how do we manage that conversation with the State
20 Auditor if we decide, you know, we want to hire some
21 people ahead of time? You know, work through those roles
22 and responsibilities.

23 I see Commissioner Fernández, and then Commissioner
24 Kennedy.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Thank you for that.

1 We absolutely have to include the State Auditor because,
2 yes, we have our Code section, but they also have their
3 own Section 60861, where it states for them, "After the
4 fourteen members of the Commission have been selected,
5 the State Auditor will provide support functions for the
6 Commission until its staff and office are fully
7 functional." So we need to make sure that our
8 definitions agree.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, absolutely.
10 Commissioner Kennedy.

11 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you. One of the things
12 that I wanted to put on the table just for us all to have
13 in the back of our minds as we go forward with this
14 discussion is, you know, let's consider what is in the
15 Code, because at the time that the Code was enacted, when
16 that Code section was enacted, the State was really kind
17 of on top of the process, or on top of deadlines, and
18 didn't have a lot of time.

19 Now that, you know, the 2010 Commission transitioned
20 to the 2020 Commission, we, the 2020 Commission, are
21 preparing to transition to the 2030 Commission, we have a
22 year to do some things that in the establishment of the
23 2010 Commission, there was no time. And so things
24 were -- things were done, things were, perhaps, written
25 into the Government Code, and the Code of California

1 Regulations in certain ways because of the time
2 constraints.

3 And I'm just saying that as we go forward, let's
4 keep in mind that those time -- those same time
5 constraints that pertained in 2008, 2009, 2010 don't
6 necessarily apply. And so there is perhaps more scope
7 for incumbent Commissioners to take on roles that were
8 impossible for incumbent Commissioners to take, because
9 there were no incumbent Commissioners. So thanks.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think it's a
11 great point, Commissioner Kennedy.

12 Commissioner Sinay.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just want the one -- I
14 completely agree with what was just said. And for me,
15 one of the things that keeps going in my head is the --
16 this Code was written when there was no precedence.
17 There was no one to look back to or asked to do any of
18 these pieces. And so they had to give it to -- they had
19 to house it somewhere.

20 And now, there is precedence -- now, there are two
21 sets of occupants for this institution. And so can
22 things be -- can they look different? There is no way
23 we're saying, again, that we wouldn't work with the
24 Auditor's Office, that wouldn't look at it. This was our
25 opportunity to say, "what if", what if, what could we do,

1 and really -- and I know Commissioner Kennedy is laughing
2 because he's read the same article I have.

3 But kind of about: Let's just think about things
4 differently. Let's see, reimagine what it could be and
5 then we'll bring it; don't worry, we're going to bring it
6 to reality. But right now, we wanted to get the
7 temperature check on all of us, and what we are thinking.

8 I think the other piece I want to make sure, is that
9 we're not saying let's do it between now and June 30th.
10 I mean, we realize that we're funded till then, but this
11 is: What are we going to do the next seven years? And
12 that a lot of stuff is going to change in the next
13 year -- seven years, technology. Right now, there is a
14 huge push to create -- you know, to explore: Should all
15 Californian cities and counties of a certain size have
16 independent redistricting commissions?

17 Yeah, there's going to be a lot of changes in the
18 next ten years. So some of this work will be done, and
19 most of it will be done in '27 or '28. But what we're
20 saying is: What is it?

21 And Commissioner Fornaciari and I, just to be clear,
22 we put everything in here that's been brought up at any
23 point. And he and I took the survey as well, and so
24 we're -- yeah, this is just a conversation, a starting
25 point to see where we all are.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. And you know, like
2 to the point of the temperature check for everyone. And
3 I see Commissioner Le Mons has his hand raised, but I'm
4 going to come back to the temperature check idea.

5 So Commissioner Le Mons.

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I guess my only additional
7 thought, and it kind of is triggered by the comment
8 earlier with regard to budget and how it -- what will we
9 be able to afford to do? I think should also be a part
10 of the question. We were just being cautioned an-hour-
11 and-a-half ago about the reality of how we would format a
12 document based upon resources, and timing resources.

13 So I think all of this sounds wonderful, and we're
14 talking about what we're doing in '27/'28. And I'm just
15 wondering, are we thinking about how we're going to be
16 able to fund whatever it is. That we should be thinking
17 about it, if we're not already. I guess that's really
18 what's -- thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Thanks. Another
20 great point. So I think, you know, I think as
21 Commissioner Sinay has said, and you know, this is sort
22 of a big wish list, if you will, of all -- of the things
23 that we want to do, we want to narrow down, and to the
24 things we want to focus on. And when we get, when we get
25 to the point where we've narrowed it down to the things

1 that we can reach consensus on, to focus on, then the
2 matters that will help inform the conversations we want
3 to have with the Legislature about, you know, to get them
4 on board with what our ideas are, and what funding --
5 what funding we will need, will get us -- you know,
6 inform the discussion we would have with the State
7 Auditor's Office about what we want to do in roles and
8 responsibility. Inform the discussion -- the discussions
9 with the Department of Finance, the Governor's Office.

10 So I think, yeah, I think, yes, great point. And we
11 need to -- you know, the plan would be to make some
12 decisions as a Commission on where we want to go, and
13 then design the plan for having those discussions with
14 the entities we need to work with to get the funding to
15 do it, and the agreements in place to do it.

16 So I want to start -- circle back to this idea of a
17 temperature check. This survey, you know, as
18 Commissioners Sinay said, contained a lot of the ideas
19 that we had -- that have come up in conversations. You
20 know, again, some of that some of the ideas are in the
21 Legislative Committee's basket, and they're working those
22 forward. These are more of the transition. What do we
23 want to have in place? What do we want to change for the
24 next set of Commissioners?

25 And you know, going through our forty-six questions,

1 or however many questions we had in our survey, I just
2 want to see, you know, where kind of everyone's at, with
3 regard to this work. I mean, it seems like it could,
4 potentially, be an enormous amount of work. I don't want
5 to go down the road of hashing through the entire survey
6 if, you know, folks aren't interested in doing the work,
7 if folks are just interested in a limited amount of work.

8 I mean, I don't know where people are at. And so I
9 just want to check in and give everyone an opportunity to
10 sort of share, you know, how they're feeling with this
11 work, and their thoughts about moving forward. Again in
12 the context of, you know, some of it happens now, but
13 much of it is down the road in the '27, '28, '29 kind of
14 time frame.

15 All right. We have to call on somebody. I'm going
16 to call on Linda -- Commissioner Akutagawa --

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fornaciari, can I
18 add, can I just add one?

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: One little piece?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Yeah, please.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think the temperature check
23 is really important in moving things forward and -- okay.
24 I totally lost my piece. Sorry. The dog started barking
25 and it -- so I will be --

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So the temperature check
2 is important in moving forward. Okay. So I'm going to
3 just -- I'm going to call on Commissioner Akutagawa.

4 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Commissioner Yee, has his hand
5 up.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, yes. Oh, sorry. I
7 didn't see. Oh, I don't know if -- okay, I've got to
8 turn this on to see if anybody else has their hand up.

9 Go ahead, Commissioner Yee.

10 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Commissioner Vázquez.
11 Yeah. You know, it's all good stuff, but it's -- and I'd
12 love to work on it, but it seems like we have a hard
13 limit of money. And you know, and what that translates
14 into your meeting time. And so I'd like to do as much as
15 we have budget to do.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: All right. So I'm going
17 to go back to the Commissioner Akutagawa.

18 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thanks, Commissioner
19 Fornaciari. Yeah, I would agree with Commissioner Yee,
20 and I echo what Commissioner Le Mons also said. I think,
21 you know, funding is going to determine a lot of it. And
22 I hear what you're saying about the broader wish list.
23 And I'm wondering, like within that broader wish list,
24 maybe I'll just push this back on to both you and
25 Commissioner Sinay.

1 You know, maybe prioritizing like, what are the kind
2 of things that you feel are maybe the top priorities that
3 could be done within budget, or within the kind of period
4 of time, or the parameters of time that you know we have.

5 So you know, after June, we'll be meeting a lot less
6 frequently. You know, maybe it's the kind of longer-term
7 things that, you know, maybe there's going to just be
8 some thinking that's going to be done in between. But
9 you know, given that we have very, very limited budget,
10 the reality is that maybe in the next two to three years,
11 there's just not going to be a whole lot of movement.
12 But you know, come closer to '28/'29, when there's going
13 to be a little bit more need, or budget available. Maybe
14 some things could be reintroduced.

15 I would just think about it in terms of: What can be
16 done between now and June while we still have budget for
17 these meetings, and for the per diems, and for the
18 thinking to be done? You know, things that just need to
19 be done immediately, to be put in place, and then the
20 other things maybe, you know, revisit those towards the
21 end of our term. I think we just, you know, just need to
22 think about what we could -- what we could actually
23 really do. Thanks.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. Oh. I've got
25 Commissioner Sinay, and then Commissioner Kennedy has

1 figured out the "hand" thing, and then Commissioner
2 Vázquez.

3 Maybe Commissioner Sinay is going to bail me out on
4 my rudimentary and flailing facilitation skills here.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You're doing fine. I think the
6 one piece we forgot to add, of course, there's a lot of
7 stuff that, you know, you can imagine, Commissioner
8 Fornaciari and I meeting. First, it's about an-hour-and-
9 a-half of catching up, and then we do a half-an-hour of
10 the subcommittee work, so.

11 But Commissioner Akutagawa, you reminded me of
12 something important that we missed to say. We, in our
13 heads, have been kind of looking through what are the
14 steps that we can get done in June; so this has been part
15 of it that: Where do we need your input? Where do we --
16 you know, really try to move us forward.

17 The next piece that we're saying -- know, we keep
18 talking about the time line, and that we want to move the
19 time lines. But we've never as -- you know, we've looked
20 through the notes and stuff, we've never agreed on what
21 that new time line would be. And what does it need to
22 be, depends on some of the things that we want to do, and
23 when we want to do them.

24 And so our next -- the next meeting, based on the
25 input we're getting from you all, we are going to you

1 know, create -- we are looking at creating a whole plan
2 with a time line, and time line options. We kind of
3 shared some last time, but we didn't have -- it was
4 premature because we haven't had all these other
5 conversations.

6 So yes, thank you, prioritization, and a plan, and
7 time lines, all those pieces are very critical. Working
8 with the Auditor's Office, working with legislators, and
9 budget, all -- yeah, all those pieces are really
10 critical.

11 And really, right now, one of our main questions is:
12 This work, though we asked a ton of questions, we didn't
13 see this as all of it being the Transition Working Group.
14 So we didn't mean to step on any other subcommittee
15 working groups' toes, but we were just trying to get --
16 you know, as long as we're creating a survey, let's throw
17 everything -- you know, let's get as much information as
18 possible so we can all use it.

19 And so just to look, yeah, let's go from: Having
20 these broad conversations, and think will be great, to do
21 this and that. To: Hey, this is what we can do. And so
22 that's what we're trying to get there by this survey, and
23 (audio interference).

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks. Commissioner
25 Kennedy.

1 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you. Two things; one is
2 just as an option to keep in mind. Instead of having one
3 meeting per quarter, if we are budgeted for four meetings
4 a year, we could, in fact, stack two or three of them,
5 say, April, May, June, and save one for September, kind
6 of thing. And maybe each year may have some concentrated
7 effort and making progress on stuff. But that's just
8 a -- you know, a thought to keep in mind.

9 The second one is much more concrete. And that is
10 going back to what Commissioner Sinay said, about we
11 don't yet have that time line, just reminding us that one
12 of the items that has come up in previous discussions is
13 that the early planning stages for the California
14 complete count effort are scheduled to take place next
15 year.

16 And I think we really want to make sure that we are
17 engaged with the early planning of the California
18 complete count effort. Maybe drop back a little bit
19 after that initial engagement. But I think it -- I think
20 it's going to be best if we are engaged in the earliest
21 processes, earliest phases of that process, so that we
22 can see, looking forward, when it's going to be best for
23 us to engage with. Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, absolutely. That's
25 the kind of the one thing that we would need to do. If

1 we decide that we want to engage with complete count,
2 then we would need to definitely do right away that,
3 starting next year.

4 So Commissioner Vázquez, I saw that you had your
5 hand up, but you put it down, is --

6 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Yeah. My thoughts are not as
7 fully formed as I thought. So yeah, skip me for now.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay. Thank you.

9 Commissioner Fernández.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. I just thought
11 it would be helpful because we are talking about the
12 budget. So just maybe, I just want to pass along a
13 couple of questions we've been receiving. So it really
14 puts things into perspective that we may not have as much
15 funding as we think. One of the latest questions was: Is
16 there a requirement for us to meet quarterly starting
17 next fiscal year? So that was an interesting
18 conversation, because they're still trying to figure out
19 why we're still meeting and why we still have work.

20 And then also, the second thing they've been asking
21 about was: Well, what did the 2010 do? And I'm thinking:
22 You can't -- one Commission doesn't set precedent, two
23 Commissions, doesn't set precedent; three, four, five,
24 six, seven, eight, nine, ten, doesn't set precedent
25 because you have new -- you have different environment,

1 or challenges, or whatever the case may be.

2 So that's just kind of to put a little damper, kind
3 of starting with what Commissioner Le Mons said about the
4 budget. It's just, it's really hard, difficult for me to
5 have this conversation when, in the back of my mind, I
6 know what some of these conversations with Finance have
7 been. And I would like -- I would obviously love for
8 them to fund us so that we can at least move forward.
9 We're not even asking to move forward full speed ahead.
10 We're just trying to, you know, do something every year.

11 And I think that was it. And I am a -- I'm probably
12 the last person you want to ask in terms of how much
13 work. If you look at my résumé every two to three years,
14 I switch jobs, so just the thought of ten years of the
15 Commission is a little daunting for me. But I fully
16 support what we're doing. And thank you. Thank you
17 both.

18 But I did want to, eventually, if we can come back
19 to number 32, regarding the Applicant Review Panel,
20 because that does kind of hit the Legislative. So
21 thanks.

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Yeah, thank you.
23 Yeah. And of course, I mean, the thing that makes this,
24 I think, challenging, right, is there's a lot of -- the
25 complexity, right? You know, we don't know what our

1 budget is. We've got to work through the -- with the
2 Auditor, the Legislature, the Department of Finance, you
3 know, whoever else, right?

4 And so and all those things are rattling around in
5 our in our minds, in our thought process, but again, just
6 if we can go back to a higher level. I mean, what is it
7 that we want to do? And then, you know, what would we
8 need to do to make it happen?

9 And so I'll go to Commissioner Le Mons.

10 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Something that just came to
11 mind. It seems like the through line for a lot of what
12 we want to do in terms of setting up the next Commission
13 for success, has to do with timing, has to do with
14 scheduling, and lead time.

15 And I know the survey got into a lot of very
16 specific areas, many of which, if the Commission is
17 seated early enough, with enough cushion, time-wise, to
18 be able to accomplish the administrative tasks prior to
19 being thrown into the -- excuse me, the mapping and line
20 drawing, they really can solve their own problems.

21 So maybe we could narrow our focus, if it's
22 realistic and reasonable, to try to really accomplish
23 this redesigning of the ramp up schedule for the next
24 Commission. So that's just kind of where, as I'm
25 thinking about, what we talked about, as we're thinking

1 about the threads of the various areas we want to support
2 in, as I was doing the survey, that informed, actually
3 for me, how I responded, to whether we should take
4 something on or not.

5 It's like, hmm, okay. Well, they might want to do
6 that themselves. Will they have enough time, and which
7 roles are critical? All of it, though, had a timing
8 element, at least for me, as I was assessing them.

9 So I don't know if there's a shortcut for us in
10 being able to really, fundamentally, affect the schedule,
11 and if we could do that, that's where I see us putting
12 emphasis and energy, and not at the more granular level.
13 So that's sort of my temperature check. So you don't
14 have to call on me.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, okay. But I want to
16 pull that thread a little bit. So you said, you said a
17 "shortcut". What did you mean, "shortcut"?

18 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Oh. What I mean by shortcut
19 is simply, rather than us dealing with the forty-
20 something odd elements, if time impacts probably eighty
21 percent of them, the shortcut will be focused on time.
22 Can we affect the timing? Can we have an influence on
23 that? Who are the entities and agencies that we need to
24 be working with in order to fundamentally affect the
25 schedule?

1 When I say the schedule, it's like, once they're
2 onboarded, the ramp up time, very specific time set aside
3 for Admin and Outreach that does not interfere with the
4 mapping in the line drawing portion. Because that's what
5 we struggle with trying to balance against. And I think
6 that's what would happen if we keep the same schedule.

7 And I know Commissioner Kennedy, for months, has
8 been talking about, not only: What is fully functional?
9 Who is responsible? And can this be done sooner? And
10 that's the shortcut to me. Can we answer those three
11 questions and effect that, and then let 2030 handle their
12 business the way they see fit?

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think you've made
14 a number of very excellent points that, yeah, that
15 Commissioner Sinay and I have been talking about. It's
16 very contextual, right? If we decide that we want to
17 push for a longer schedule then we would possibly do, we,
18 as this set of Commissioners would do less on the front
19 end and -- because the next set of Commissioners would
20 have time to do it.

21 And they would have time for outreach and -- or more
22 time for outreach, and those kinds of things. So I think
23 that's a really important point.

24 Commissioner Vázquez.

25 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Yeah. I just wanted to thank

1 Commissioner Le Mons for reading my mind, and putting
2 into words what I was trying -- what I was struggling
3 over the last several minutes to put together. I really
4 agree that it seems like figuring out how to allow for
5 the next Commission to have more time to -- as
6 Commissioner Le Mons said, figure out their own problems
7 and like create a system that works for them in their
8 future contexts, I think feels like the best use of our
9 more limited time and capacity on the backend.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you.

11 This time, Commissioner Akutagawa raised her hand.
12 So thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I think -- I guess,
14 I agree with what Commissioners Le Mons and Vázquez said,
15 but that wasn't my original reason for raising my hand
16 back up. I think what would be helpful, I think part of
17 perhaps -- and I'm just speaking for myself here right
18 now, I think -- I think part of the struggle that I'm
19 having right now, what I'm understanding or what I'm
20 hearing is that I think you just want to hear from all of
21 us in terms of what we think about, you know, what's
22 possible, or what we can do.

23 I think what would be helpful and perhaps, you know,
24 this is just, again, to I guess perhaps push off a little
25 bit, is for the subcommittee to really, you know, come

1 back to us and say: You know, based on the results of the
2 survey, here are the top one or two ideas that we can
3 make the most impact, you know, within the kind of time
4 frame and the budget that we have.

5 You know, that takes into account a lot of what I
6 think you've heard. And then for us to respond to that,
7 and you know, we could -- we could either disagree or we
8 could agree on what your recommendations are, but at
9 least it gives us an area of focus.

10 Because right now, I think it's so open-ended that
11 we're just kind of going all over the place, and we're
12 trying to kind of rein it back in by saying, okay, budget
13 time line, you know, other things, you know, letting the
14 next Commission, you know, determine it.

15 But I think from the survey, you know, just looking
16 at it, it's really long, and there's a lot of stuff, some
17 of which there's agreement, some of which there's not
18 agreement. And I think it's really -- would be helpful
19 for, I think, the subcommittee to just say: Based on our
20 analysis of the survey results here is where we think,
21 you know, the top one or two things that we can do that
22 will have the most impact, that will, you know, best
23 positioning the next Commission, you know, in a way that
24 is going to enable them for even greater success.

25 So you know, the kind of the progress is going to be

1 incremental. Some of it we just have to let them do
2 their own thing. But some of it is, we just want to make
3 it so that they can do their own things more effectively
4 and not have to go through some of the additional, I'll
5 call, time wasters, so that they could focus on the
6 things that really matter the most. So I guess I'll just
7 stop there. Thanks.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Yeah. Thanks for
9 that. And that's exactly what our intent is.

10 Commissioner Le Mons.

11 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I have a question about that
12 process. And I don't disagree with the subcommittee
13 bringing back a recommendation, but my interpretation of
14 it is that it is so contextualized that I think even the
15 task of coming up with one or two things that are most
16 important, is almost not reasonable.

17 I almost feel like we're setting you up for: Yeah,
18 you can come back with one or two things for us to talk
19 about, or agree, or disagree on, but by and large, people
20 will have different -- let me just add -- let me just say
21 this. I think the way you are approaching it right now,
22 and I understand your request, Commissioner Akutagawa,
23 and I'm not -- I don't know if that's possible, as easily
24 able to be done as it would seem. So I want to say that.

25 And I think this is a question of not just what we

1 could do, but what we're up for. I think the question
2 that I heard is like: Where is the energy of the
3 Commissioners? That's what we were kind of talking about
4 just a few moments ago. It's like: Are we up for this?
5 What can we do in this next -- are we all ready to show
6 up for that? Are we ready to do the work? Then the
7 question becomes: What is the work?

8 You know, so I think that at each step of this,
9 there are new questions that have to be answered, and not
10 because I suggest this, or because Commissioner Vázquez
11 echoes it. I think if we can find more of an approach,
12 or not the specificity, but how can we approach this as
13 reasonable within our limited resources, demands, et
14 cetera, et cetera; us not knowing where we'll be eight
15 years from now as individuals.

16 So I think it will be very interesting to commit to
17 doing something in 2028 that none of us really know we'll
18 be able to do in 2028. Some of us might not even be
19 alive in 2028. Who knows?

20 So I mean, I think that -- and not that I'm wishing
21 that on any of us, trust me. But it's just to -- I don't
22 know, maybe I'm not that guy who's been a part of -- I've
23 been that guy that has been a part of ten-year plans,
24 fifteen-year plans. But they don't include me, right?
25 They're plans that somebody else is going to execute. So

1 anyway, I'll stop there. I've gotten all off the topic.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's a great point.

3 I've I wondered that myself, if I'm going to be around
4 then, to execute on this stuff. So that's definitely
5 somebody to think about. And I appreciate your thinking,
6 Commissioner Le Mons.

7 Commissioner Fernández.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And I do agree
9 with Commissioner Le Mons. Although not about the -- if
10 we'll all be here in seven years, it made me a little
11 sad. But that's okay. I'm the -- what is it -- the
12 sensitive one.

13 But anyway, just so that everybody knows,
14 Commissioner Fornaciari, and I, and Terri, and Corina,
15 when we met with Finance, we did let them know that, you
16 know, this is just the bare bones for the next few years,
17 because once it gets to 2028, 2029, we'll come back to
18 request additional because we have other plans in terms
19 of the outreach.

20 But in terms of me, personally, being fully invested
21 for the -- you know, maybe next five, I think I might
22 need five years off, to regain my energy to then come
23 back in 2028. So that's just kind of where I'm coming
24 from. I'll still say, on Finance, and Admin, and finish
25 up with Legislative, but I kind of -- still, my focus

1 might be, yeah, waning a little bit. So hopefully the
2 rest of you can pick up the slack. How's that?

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I appreciate that.
4 It's kind of the temperature check I was kind of hoping
5 to hear, too, or at least part of it, right, where
6 everyone was at. And I'll just share my temperature. I
7 kind of have the same temperature as you. And I envision
8 the work slowing down over the next several years. But
9 potentially, if we agree on it, ramping back up, you
10 know, towards the end of the decade.

11 Commissioner Yee, did you have your hand up?

12 COMMISSIONER YEE: (No verbal response.)

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: No? Okay. You just moved
14 into the first spot, when other people take their hands
15 down. So who haven't we heard from yet? So I'm just
16 going to I just want to check in --

17 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Pedro.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: What?

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: You haven't heard from
20 Pedro -- I mean, sorry, Commissioner Toledo.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah; so Commissioner
22 Toledo.

23 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think I agree with most
24 things that have been said. I mean it's, for me, I think
25 just figuring out what our scope of work is going to be

1 over the next year, two years, three years, that just
2 seems like a long time to me. And then figuring out the
3 rest of the time would be beneficial, so maybe starting
4 off with a shorter time frame as opposed to the longer.

5 And I know we have done some of that work already,
6 but it may be beneficial to just start with a couple of
7 years, rather than the full time, and then work our way
8 up to that, potentially. Just because so much is
9 happening at the state, at the federal, and the local
10 level at this point, that it's really hard to predict
11 more than three years out; and like it's hard to predict,
12 even like this next year.

13 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Right. Okay. Thank you.

14 And Chair Taylor, I hope you don't mind. I've taken
15 over facilitation of this discussion, but Chair Taylor,
16 I'd like to hear --

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: No. You're doing a fine job there,
18 Neal. Yeah. You know, I'm all over the place with my
19 thoughts on where we're going, or what directions. I'm
20 here, you know, as you know, I think as one career comes
21 to an end, I know that my time horizon is getting ready
22 to open and broaden. So I would look forward to being
23 able to, you know, reintegrate myself back into this.
24 You know, having a career change in the middle of this,
25 and then being able to, you know, it's going to have

1 another career change as that comes to an end.

2 And so yeah, I'm looking forward to some of the
3 work, from that standpoint. As I look at this, I wonder,
4 I wonder what's the effectiveness of some of it? In that
5 like: defining "fully functional", for instance, and just
6 taking that as an example. And we have a definition of
7 it, and the Auditor has a definition of it, and the next
8 Commission is going to have a definition of it. So my
9 point is: What is the -- what would be the effectiveness
10 of providing that definition, other than a reference
11 point.

12 As I think, as Commissioner Fernández was saying,
13 this is the second iteration of it. So everything seems
14 anecdotal. It doesn't seem empirical. Like we don't
15 have enough groundwork to say: X, Y, and Z is the best
16 course of action because of; because there just hasn't
17 been -- you know, it's unprecedented. We are at the
18 forefront of this, shoot, in a hundred years there will
19 only have been ten. And what trends can we -- can we
20 pull out from that?

21 And we don't even know what that horizon will look.
22 So I think it's exploration of this -- of this project, I
23 think. And again, it just stems over, you know, we have
24 some of those greater goods -- great ideas, but I just
25 still think is: What is our purpose? Are we trying to

1 reach the most people in the most effective manner so
2 that they can participate in this process? So I'm all
3 over the place. But I'm here till I ain't.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, hopefully you're
5 here for the duration. Appreciate that. And thanks for
6 your thoughts on that. It's a great point. You know, in
7 a hundred years it'll be ten Commissions.

8 So Commissioner Andersen. And then I'm going to
9 call on Commissioner Turner next, so.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. You've been
11 forewarned. Yeah. I completely agree with Commissioner
12 Le Mons, and I'm like echoing Commissioner Vázquez's, is
13 that he really summarized things for me, the schedule.
14 And I think what would really be helpful is if the
15 subcommittee, and which you did actually, last time. You
16 had a couple of calendars which if, you know, we move --
17 if they're seated at this time, you know, da, da, da, da;
18 you're seated this time, da, da, da, da, and those
19 scenarios.

20 I think those scenarios really would help, because I
21 see it as, okay, there're some things that are continuing
22 on, the website has to continue on, there are some things
23 that will -- actually the website, we have some ideas of
24 what needs to happen, kind of when, throughout these ten
25 years.

1 But then I see it as, if we had a schedule, how I
2 approached it is: What would have helped me, because
3 that's the easiest thing you do. And I know there are
4 very, very specific things that I think really would have
5 helped. And one of which was, which I think I mentioned
6 in training. Certain things we should have had at
7 particular times. But the schedule of it would have
8 helped.

9 And like also what input, public input was all
10 about. I didn't discover that. And I think Commissioner
11 Sadhwani and I discovered it earlier, when we started
12 talking to other line drawers in our getting the scope of
13 work together for the line-drawing, you know, RFP.

14 So we kind of got an idea of that ahead of everybody
15 else, because quite frankly, we didn't know anything
16 about that, until we were almost like, in it, sort of.
17 And I think that is a huge thing that we need to put on
18 the schedule, and telling all the Commissioners about
19 this is something you guys are going to have to deal
20 with, like from day one. Because that sets up how you
21 collect all this information, what you're going to do
22 with all this information. We didn't get that until we
23 kind of had a database, we kind of sort of put together,
24 and then we were getting public input. And by that
25 point, we needed to have it all set up.

1 So I think if we -- if the Commission -- Committee
2 could put together like, well, scheduling of: Have
3 exceeded this time, da, da, da, da, da; and then we could
4 kind of sequence what should happen when, and what
5 information Commissioners need, when.

6 And with a whole: This is what you guys have to do.
7 Because our training didn't really teach -- like we
8 didn't have any administrative training at all, and we
9 needed it, because that's the first thing we had to do,
10 and we kind of got off the cuff. So I think those things
11 with: This is what, this is what you're actually going to
12 do for the next Commission, would really help.

13 So that's how I approached it. So I just want to
14 throw that out in terms of, if that helps with the
15 schedule, I think would really help us putting our
16 thoughts together.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thanks, Commissioner
18 Andersen. I appreciate that.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'll volunteer to go next.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you. Thanks
21 Commissioner Turner. That's awesome.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I love it. Yeah. This is a
23 really big discussion and topic. And so I did complete
24 the survey. And even as I'm filling it out, was
25 wondering how then we would kind of narrow it down and

1 figure out what to work on when. So determining
2 priorities based on timing and budget, I love what
3 Commissioner Le Mons and others, you know, pretty much in
4 this whole discussion were saying.

5 Looking at, perhaps everything is going to be driven
6 by timing and by budget. And interesting, in the back of
7 my mind for this whole conversation, we just, through a
8 different group, just finished reading this book about
9 Breathing Oxygen, and how a positive leader gives life to
10 a winning culture. But there's a quote in there from
11 Herbert Simon that says, "A wealth of information creates
12 a poverty of attention."

13 And so that, in the back of my mind keeps thinking:
14 Okay, information is good policy, us weighing in on what
15 our experience was, what we needed. We've got tons of
16 information. And for me, I did not always -- did not
17 know how to prioritize, and what to look at.

18 And so I think we should be making some suggestions,
19 but I think we should -- perhaps it should be
20 directional, and not so much a kind of dictating what
21 should happen. And has been said, everyone will have
22 their opportunity, the next Commission will have their
23 opportunity to create and/or change policy.

24 And though I think training should have happened
25 differently, can go through, you know, all of the

1 responses on the survey, I think I'm still sitting in,
2 sometimes less is more. I think we had to figure out
3 some things. And for me it's -- I don't know, I just,
4 I'm sitting with that wealth of information. And as we
5 continue to pump out more and more reports, more and more
6 information, I guess I want to just counter with saying
7 all the time, more is not better.

8 We don't know what the environment will look like in
9 ten years, the unpredictability of the changing climate,
10 and all those pieces, parts, sometimes we're just adding
11 in more information that people will have to wrestle
12 through, as to sift, and determine what their actions
13 will be.

14 So whether that's helpful or not, I think I'm on the
15 end of "less may be more", and perhaps a prioritizing of
16 which of the things we should focus on to provide, and
17 not try to carry it all.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you for that. Thank
19 you, appreciate that. Let's see. I think everyone has
20 had a chance to kind of share.

21 Commissioner Sinay.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So Commissioner Fornaciari,
23 what about you? What do you think?

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: What do I think? Oh.
25 Hmm? I guess I should ask you, too. Let's see. Yeah, I

1 agree with a lot of what's been said. I really resonate
2 with what Commissioner Le Mons said, and what
3 Commissioner Turner just said. I was kind of hoping
4 things from the survey would be a little bit clearer on
5 what we -- where we were in consensus on the things that
6 we want to do.

7 I mean, I think it's pretty clear that we want to
8 update the -- our job posting -- the postings in the
9 RFPs, what we want to do with those things, you know, is
10 still up in the air. And I think that's an important
11 thing that we can do. And if that's all we do. I think
12 that the next Commission will be way up on things.

13 And I think it's really, very, very schedule
14 dependent. And so that's going to be definitely part of
15 the conversation we have next month. And you know, it's
16 kind of a journey kind of to get to consensus, and to
17 where we can all be at the same place.

18 And I know we all have different (audio
19 interference), and we help the Commission, or the next
20 set Commissioners succeed more -- a little more easily
21 than we did.

22 Commissioner Sinay.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was curious to also hear from
24 staff, like if Director Pane or -- Chief Counsel Pane,
25 or -- Corina, I don't know what your title is -- or Ms.

1 Leon want to share any thoughts on what they've heard.

2 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Okay. Well, I'll go first. Of
3 course, hedging my bets a little bit on this very fulsome
4 policy discussion, I gather that -- I think it's
5 important to think about what the Commission's priorities
6 are. I also think it makes sense to think about what is,
7 I think, the most likely outcome.

8 And Commissioner Le Mons' points, I think -- are
9 probably, I think, a helpful focus for what the
10 Commission thinks they want to pursue. I do think the
11 arc is most likely one of less activity, and then a
12 ramping up in '28 and '29.

13 But as Commissioner Fornaciari said, it's all
14 contextual. But I do think this Commission could
15 certainly think about what they want to focus on,
16 certainly, at more active periods of time. I would
17 assume, I have nothing to base this on, but I would
18 assume that because I think of the very positive track
19 record that this Commission has had, I think that would
20 yield some -- I don't know if "deference" is the right
21 word, but maybe it would be, to helping to prepare the
22 2030 Commission, and put it on its best path forward.

23 I think this Commission would bring a lot of weight
24 to that. And so I do think that's an area where I think,
25 potentially, at least, I would hope the Legislature would

1 be positive towards helping this Commission help the 2030
2 Commission. And I do think that is something in those
3 preceding years where that could be.

4 I think outside of those preceding years, those two,
5 three years; I do think if the Commission wants to, they
6 should figure out, you know, what do they want to -- what
7 are they going to do in these next five/six years, and
8 what's really important to you all? I wouldn't have an
9 opinion on that.

10 But I do want to highlight, I think, the importance
11 of those, you know, of '28 and '29, because I really do
12 think this Commission has an -- could have if they -- if
13 you wanted to, could have a very positive impact on
14 really benefiting 2030 before they even know they are a
15 2030 Commission, right?

16 That you do stand, that this is one Commission, and
17 you're helping the next incumbents to be in the best
18 possible place for success. And you are leveraging the
19 time you had, unfortunately, due to a pandemic; but you
20 did take advantage of that time, and now you're
21 leveraging that time to benefit the next set of office
22 holders. So thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, Corina.

24 MS. LEON: Okay. You know, I've been here in this
25 position for a short time, but I think, what I see is

1 that some time could be used prior, and I've mentioned
2 this with meetings with DOF, to prepare and get the
3 office support staff set up for the Commission. So when
4 the Commissioners come on board, you know, that's set up.
5 And that's in place for them to do their work.

6 And I think that would be very helpful. I think
7 there's some accounting, and IT, and basic, just set up,
8 office set up. And so they should be -- I would like to
9 see that they would be ready to support, you know,
10 your -- what you guys want to do. That is what I think
11 that could be done, to better prepare that, you know.

12 Like, for instance, there's, reports, there are
13 certain things on how to -- financial reports, and
14 reconciliation, stuff like that, that would really help
15 give you the information that you require, that I think
16 the staff would benefit from also to do their job well.
17 So that would be my take on that. I hope it's been
18 helpful.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Go ahead. Go ahead,
20 Patricia.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Thank you for that.
22 I guess you're asking me now, what I'm thinking. I mean,
23 my temperature check is, obviously, I've got way too much
24 on my plate right now between -- but I am absolutely
25 committed to the success of California Redistricting at

1 the state level, at the local level, as well as
2 nationally. I mean, you know, good democracy is my
3 passion.

4 But I do see a benefit of the arc of time, keeping
5 in mind that the census is starting up next year. And so
6 there are yeah, there are going to be some things that we
7 may need to do. I also, the one thing I want to say is
8 I'm very, very excited that you all did do the survey,
9 and did participate. It wasn't a failure.

10 If you're all feeling like: Well, there're no
11 priorities, everything's all over the place. No, this
12 was the intention. We all learned from the survey that
13 we're all over the place, which we weren't sure of
14 before. And it's given us a lot of information for this
15 conversation, and moving forward.

16 So I hope that you all don't feel you wasted your
17 time doing the survey, because for me, it is a great
18 source of information. Keeping in mind that at any point
19 you all can say: You know, and thinking about it, let
20 me --

21 Yeah, we are known for getting more information and
22 making better decisions. That's what we did throughout
23 the whole line drawing process, and will continue to do.

24 We do have one more item. I'm sorry, Commissioner
25 Taylor, are we ending at 12:30?

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: 12:45.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: 12:45, okay, because we have
3 one more item after this one.

4 Commissioner Kennedy. You're on mute.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: You're muted.

6 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I hadn't been muting myself
7 earlier, then I did. I wanted to go back briefly to
8 what -- to some of what Commissioner Fernández had said,
9 and ask, and I can see the eyebrows go up. Just to get a
10 sense from you. You said that, you know, you've got the
11 energy in the tank to see the legislative work through to
12 the end. So I just wanted to get a sense from you of
13 what you see as the time line to get all the way through
14 the legislative changes that are, you know, on the table.
15 Thanks.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I'll respond to that.
17 Well, Commissioner Akutagawa and I were hoping for this
18 session, they might have to go to the next session, but I
19 think if it doesn't make it into this session, then maybe
20 we need to discuss it a little bit more in terms of
21 whether or not some of these will eventually make it into
22 a bill. And thank you. That's a great segue because one
23 of the -- number 32 on the survey referred to redesign of
24 the Applicant Review Panel. And that's one of the items
25 that's still on our list to discuss.

1 But the results were that two thought a positive;
2 and nine were, no. So I'm thinking maybe we should just
3 take that off -- you know, off the table in terms of
4 discussion. So again, we're just -- you know, we're just
5 trying to while -- you know, while we have the interest
6 in helping us, we're just trying to get as much as we can
7 this year, and then maybe next year. But I'm not sure
8 after that, like how effective and -- effective will be.
9 I don't know.

10 Commissioner Akutagawa, did you have something else?
11 Although Commissioner Kennedy kind of called me out, but
12 that's okay.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I agree with what you just
14 said. I mean, I think we were working towards just the
15 end of this year, being the time to try to wrap up all of
16 the initiatives. There are some things that we also, in
17 our conversations, have agreed that may not be in place
18 now and that we would revisit once you know, we get
19 closer to the seating of the next Commission, for
20 example, the grants. You know, there's just not language
21 that exist right now, but we'll continue to monitor
22 things to see if there comes a time where we might be
23 able to introduce something later on.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, I just want
25 to thank everyone. I think we need to wrap up this

1 conversation because we have another topic we need to
2 discuss. We appreciate the feedback.

3 So I see Commissioner Andersen's got her hand up.
4 Is it brief?

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, it is, actually.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: It's the one thing I think
8 that would help; we're all talking about when we come
9 back. You know, there's a down. And I think in terms,
10 because I was thinking of '27, quite frankly. And we're
11 talking about '28/'29.

12 We need to know, like the census is gearing up when.
13 The State Auditor they're starting to plan their stuff
14 when. We need all those, whoever we're coordinating
15 with, because that's what we need to get going a little
16 bit before that, so we're ready.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, it's on the
18 schedule. Okay. Well, again, thank you all for your
19 input. I'll just echo Commissioner Sinay's comments.
20 Thank you. And we appreciate the conversation and the
21 feedback. It's really helpful. And we'll be back in
22 April with, you know, contextualize it in the in the
23 context of the schedule, and kind of the next steps.

24 So I'm going to turn it over to Commissioner Sinay,
25 to about the census.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. And just a reminder
2 that the survey was created by us, but I like calling
3 things "working group" versus "subcommittees" because
4 it's really about working, but any subcommittee can use
5 it just the way Commissioner Fernández was looking at the
6 data, and saying: Hey, wait.

7 So feel free to look at it and see how it informs,
8 because honestly, we were not seeing one subcommittee
9 doing all this work, we're just trying to figure out what
10 the next -- you know, what's coming up.

11 So on the census I -- let me first say that this
12 kind of fell on our lap. Thank you, Chair Taylor,
13 because I brought it up. And some of you may note that
14 the Federal Government tries to codify across all data
15 collecting entities how they define demographics so that
16 they can compare and contrast across different
17 departments.

18 And so this isn't necessarily a census conversation,
19 but it does affect the census. We have posted the OMB's
20 recommendations. There had been some meetings, and the
21 Office of Management and Budget came up with some
22 recommendations on -- there was three recommendations and
23 the -- okay, the first thing, before the recommendations,
24 I want to let you all know that there is a priority --
25 that one of the reasons there is some urgency behind this

1 is all comments need to be given by April 12th, 2023.

2 And the Office of Management and Budget has
3 acknowledged that state and local entities use this data,
4 so it affects them as well. And you know, as we know,
5 the demographic data in the census absolutely affects
6 redistricting. And we did have some challenges based on
7 how the data was set up.

8 A lot of a lot of people gave information. And
9 those three initial proposals that have been submitted.
10 One is collecting race and ethnicity information using
11 one combined question. So instead of saying: Are you
12 Latino, Hispanic; yes or no? And then going into the
13 race question, it would bring it all together. And then
14 adding Middle Eastern or North African, the MENA, adding
15 MENA, which we talked a lot about the need for that here
16 in California, and then requiring the collection of
17 detailed race and ethnicity categories by default.

18 So if you said: Yes, I'm Latino. Yes, I'm White,
19 then under Latino, I could say I am Mexican, Peruvian,
20 and Argentine. So they would capture that information.
21 People would write in what -- you know, within that.

22 So the question I brought up was: Do we want --
23 because this information is so important to the 2030
24 redistricting process -- do we want to write a letter of
25 support, or give any comments regarding these three

1 proposals? Now, I leave it up to you all.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernández, go ahead.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And I
4 apologize. I just barely realized this was on our
5 handouts this morning, so I didn't have a chance to go
6 through it. Would you mind just going through the three
7 proposals briefly? Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just did. That's basically
9 what the three proposals say. So collecting race and
10 ethnicity information using one combined question.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. Okay.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Adding Middle Eastern or North
13 African, MENA, as a new response category. And number 3,
14 requiring the collection of detailed, race and ethnicity
15 categories by default. And if you -- the reason you just
16 put that -- it was just posted, was just because we
17 realized, yesterday, that we were presenting on this.

18 And I'm glad we are, you know, because there is an
19 April 12th. But if you want to see kind of the examples
20 of what they're talking about on that handout, the page
21 5,381, don't worry, the handout is not that long, and
22 5,382, they have examples.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: You wanted to share that -- screen
24 share that?

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Commissioner Fernández,

1 would you like that screen-shared?

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I printed it out. So I'm
3 looking at those pages now. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes, Commissioner Yee.

5 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. Thank you for providing
6 this, and alerting us to it. I'm trying to think of how
7 this affects -- how this affects us directly. And the
8 most direct effect, I think, is in VRA work, and
9 especially Hispanic, Latino residents. And you know, it
10 seems to me, practically speaking, the way we went about
11 the VRA work, essentially followed the recommendation.

12 You know, we treated we treated the various races.
13 You know, we treated Hispanic, Latino ethnicity as a
14 race, in terms of applying the VRA, you know,
15 considerations. I know we don't have our VRA counsel
16 around to consult, but I wonder what the legal, you
17 know -- I don't know if there's anything to pursue about
18 that. You know, whether that's standard practice,
19 whether changing -- the definition would change how you
20 approach that. I'm not sure. But it seems to me
21 that's -- I'm not thinking of any direct way it would
22 affect us otherwise.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You are correct. We didn't
24 look at Latino as a race, but we always said, "ethnicity
25 and race". So we were looking -- and Latinos never will

1 become a race, it will be an ethnicity. And you will
2 pick more than one category. You know, and one of the
3 hard things is that a lot of times Latinos were like: Oh.
4 I'm indigenous, or I'm mixed.

5 And so this allows -- yeah, just as a side note, I
6 remember in 1989, in college, talking about this, and
7 being very excited that they did pull out Latino as an
8 ethnicity, because it used to be as a race. And so this
9 is just the evolution of it all. It's taken me some
10 time. But I'm okay with it now, of putting it all
11 together.

12 So when you look at how they're doing it, it it's
13 helping get more specific data. I think the MENA
14 category is probably the one that affects -- that we
15 would have the most to say in support of, because it
16 was -- we didn't have that data, and it was very
17 difficult, especially for VRA, and with growing -- those
18 growing communities.

19 Sorry. Commissioner Andersen.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. I've got a quick
21 question on this, because, again, I did see it just
22 briefly. Is Figure 1, what's going on currently? And
23 then Figure 2 and 3 are the new options? Is that what's
24 going on? And like MENA is Figure 2? I wasn't quite
25 clear on that.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So the proposal that is coming
2 up, and it's an example.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: They're still working on all of
5 these, and they're having three town hall meetings, if
6 people want to listen in. The proposal right now is
7 Figure 2 and Figure 3.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Got it. So is Figure 1 the
9 current, what is currently -- what was used, say, for our
10 2020.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. This is their combined --
12 combining the race -- allowing you to be more specific.
13 So when you say White, you don't just say White, but I
14 could say White Russian -- Russian, Jew, and Northern
15 Italian; and then I would also then do, Latino, Mexican,
16 Peruvian, Argentine; so it allows you to -- it gives your
17 whole complex story.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. I understand that.
19 That's Figure 2, the example two; but is the first one,
20 which is, pages earlier like that, it says Figure 1. Is
21 that what's currently there? Because it's basically: Are
22 you Hispanic or not?

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: That was the way it's done

1 right now.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Because, and I might
3 have misunderstood this, and I apologize, but I thought
4 there were three possibilities being -- three options
5 being given. Is one, just stay the way it is, and then
6 the other two or three new options being considered?

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: There's three proposals, and
8 they're not -- so I'm thinking that maybe it doesn't make
9 sense to go into -- I'm having a hard time because part
10 of it is, we're short on time. The real question is, and
11 maybe you need this to understand, to make a decision,
12 but do we want to write -- yeah, does the subcommittee --
13 does somebody want to work on this because we have given
14 our opinions to the census and others in the past?

15 Right now, the three proposals that are in front of
16 us is: Collecting race and ethnicity information using
17 one combined question; adding Middle Eastern or North
18 African as a new response category; and then the third
19 one is requiring a collection of detailed race and
20 ethnicity categories by default.

21 And so yes, these were in the handouts for today.
22 They're not called census, they're the last thing that
23 was posted. And you know these are just kind of the
24 examples that they have put. So it's more -- right now,
25 what we're trying to say is we've got a month, do we want

1 to write anything in support, or against, or any
2 comments?

3 Sorry. I see your hand, Commissioner Akutagawa.

4 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So basically what
5 I'm understanding, is they're looking for public comment
6 from, you know, anybody, either individuals, or
7 organizationally. I think what I understand, I think, is
8 being asked of us is, (a) do we want to submit a public
9 comment in support of either one of the three proposed
10 options. Either status quo, which is the way it
11 currently exists right now, in terms of the census
12 designations. Or option two, or if that's Figure 2, or
13 Figure 3.

14 I think advocates around this work are looking to
15 create greater disaggregation of data, so that there is
16 greater understanding of the nuances that exists, you
17 know, across various communities in the U.S. And I think
18 as Commissioner Sinay and I had noted, the Middle Eastern
19 North African designation is one that is the newest, I
20 think, in terms of identification.

21 And if we want to submit a public comment as a body,
22 which recommendation do we support? Would it be one,
23 two, or three? I think that's what you're asking, right?
24 Is that what --

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. There's no need to -- we

1 don't need to say one, two, or three. These are all kind
2 of combined right now. They're calling it three
3 different proposals, but each proposal can all -- they
4 can use all of them at the same time, I think -- I
5 believe.

6 So you don't have to say: We do want MENA, but we
7 don't want the Asian community to report out, or let me
8 just say, the Latino community, like I was using that
9 example where I say, on the complexity. They're saying:
10 We recommend putting together the race and ethnicity
11 question, expanding that race and ethnicity question so
12 someone can hit: Yes, I'm Latina, and I'm Mexican,
13 Peruvian, Argentine; and adding the [MEE-NA] question,
14 the MENA question, adding MENA to the whole survey.

15 So what I'm saying is, we can say, yes or no, to
16 all, but their -- their proposal right now is those
17 three -- incorporating all three of those.

18 Yes, Commissioner Fernández.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Thank
20 you for all that information, and all the comments. I
21 think I'm -- I think Commissioner Yee is the one that
22 mentioned this, that as a Commission, I don't know -- I'm
23 trying to figure out if our role is to say, yes, it's
24 appropriate we -- it's appropriate to how they want to do
25 it or not because -- I don't know. I feel torn.

1 I feel like a person -- as a Commission we
2 shouldn't, maybe personally, if we feel strongly about
3 something we should -- we can comment on it. That's my
4 only comment right now. Thanks

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Kennedy.

6 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I'm particularly in
7 support of the addition of the Middle East, North Africa
8 category. I would probably support the whole package as
9 far as what I would make a motion, if we're looking for
10 motions, I would definitely move to support the addition
11 of the Middle East, North African category. Thanks.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

13 Commissioner Fornaciari.

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So it seems to me that
15 this data would have helped us with our community of
16 interest information, right? We've got -- we get
17 community interest feedback in Fresno that certain
18 communities were here, you know. And we got a bunch of
19 different -- a bunch of different pieces of information.
20 Or in Sacramento, or wherever, right? And we're trying
21 to figure it out. We're trying to keep those communities
22 together.

23 If we had more granular data that -- I think that
24 would have helped us out significantly. So that's how it
25 appears to me to -- that it would help.

1 So just to be clear, Commissioner Sinay, I mean, the
2 question is, I think is: Are there one or two
3 Commissioners out there willing to -- do we want to chime
4 in on this? Maybe that's a consensus thing. And the
5 second thing would be, if we do, who wants to write the
6 letter, bring it back for us to approve next -- at the
7 next meeting. Are those the questions you are asking?

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. And what happens if we
9 don't have an April meeting, since this needs to be
10 submitted by April 12th? And it may be that we
11 collaborate. You know, we talk to census -- you know,
12 the census -- the group, the redistricting group of
13 advocates, and we collaborate with them, or something
14 like that. But who wants to take this on?

15 Yes, Commissioner Taylor.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes. So I am in support. I would be
17 in support of the Commission receiving the best
18 information possible. So we are invested in having the
19 best information possible coming to us. I don't know if
20 I necessarily want to define how that information comes
21 to me.

22 The Census Bureau, that's their job. I don't know
23 if we can adequately provide a rationale, as to why we
24 chose one decision or another; so I don't know what the
25 legal ramifications might be if we said: We support

1 option two and not option one.

2 And again, I feel there is -- the information is
3 supposed to be brought to us, and we work with the
4 information that is that is given to us. So we support
5 the best information possible; however, I don't know if I
6 want to define what that information is. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Le Mons.

8 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Ditto. As a Commission, I
9 think we want the best possible data, and however we get
10 that, that's what we want. So I would support a broad,
11 very broad statement of support of any mechanisms that
12 provide the Commission with the best data to do the job
13 that we're here to do. And I think that, general. I
14 would not support getting into choosing one or the other,
15 and any of that.

16 And finally, I'd say that, I don't think this is
17 something we need to quote unquote, "take on". I don't
18 think we should do that. And if it's the matter -- if we
19 have enough business to have an April meeting, and this
20 can become an agenda item, great; I would not support
21 having a meeting just to do this. Thanks.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. I agree.

23 Commissioner Toledo.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. I agree with what was
25 just stated. And I'm also wondering, I know we're an

1 Independent Commission, and we are also a part of the
2 state as well. I'm wondering if perhaps the State of
3 California is going to be issuing their comments
4 regarding these issues. Given that this information is
5 so important for all sorts of planning, not just
6 redistricting.

7 And might there be an opportunity for us to be part
8 of just a "Me Too" letter, right? I mean, a letter from
9 the State of California where we add our -- if we're in
10 agreement -- add our support for it as opposed to doing
11 our own.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I think that's a great point.
13 And just a reminder, that this isn't just about the
14 census data categories. It's about all Federal
15 Government who collects demographic data. So it is
16 critical for the State of California.

17 Yes. Commissioner Turner.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I just wanted to weigh
19 in and say that, I understand why this information is
20 important to have for all sorts of Federal programs, but
21 I also think that for us to weigh in on it. I think
22 there are a lot more questions that I would have.

23 I think any time you start asking additional details
24 of communities of color, there is concern. And I think
25 when we saw some changes to this particular survey last

1 time, there was not a lot of information that went out
2 ahead of time that at least satisfied communities about
3 how it was used, would be used, and why it was being
4 asked.

5 And so I think that by -- though the information is
6 needed for a lot of programs, money, funding and all of
7 those other pieces to be able to tell who is where. I
8 think that starts also to -- sends out a lot -- send out
9 a lot of alarms in communities. And I'd want to know how
10 they're going to, this time, proactively, communicate
11 that, and have community feel comfortable and safe with
12 the granular detail that's being requested.

13 And so I think it comes with a lot of other
14 conversations that need to happen. And I would not be
15 prepared, already, to weigh in on it one way or the
16 other, without having the full conversation, and/or
17 ability to impact on how we're going to talk about it,
18 because we'll never be able to really control about
19 what's done with it.

20 And I think it would make people, more people,
21 without that information, not fill it out at all, as
22 opposed to want to give more detail.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. And there it is,
24 again, there are three town hall meetings. This is the
25 beginning -- they had a bunch of town hall meetings, and

1 this is a proposal that came through from those
2 conversations. And they're continuing the conversations.
3 And if you want the dates of those, they're -- you know,
4 they start on Tuesday, March 14th. That whole week, it's
5 Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday of that week.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: And Commissioners, we need to break.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Right.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes. Within the next minute or so,
9 we have to extend this when we come back. So
10 Commissioner Sinay, it's up to you. We have a few

11 minutes after break, or we can wrap it up right now.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I mean, I am hearing some
13 consensus that we would want to write a broad letter that
14 would say: Hey, we as -- okay, we wouldn't say, "hey",
15 but obviously we would bring in Chief Counsel Pane to
16 write a letter that says: We need the best information
17 possible around communities to create fair and -- maps.

18 What I'm also hearing is that we can add to that a
19 recommendation that we would encourage the users of this
20 data, especially the census, to really be proactive in
21 explaining any changes that are made to ensure that all
22 communities understand why, why these changes are made
23 and how they can answer them. And I'm not saying it all.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. We can return to this
25 conversation after lunch. We will allot for a few

1 minutes upon our return.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: So let's take a lunch break --

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I didn't want to be the reason
5 why we had to come back. Sorry.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: No. It's okay. We have the time for
7 it. We'll come back at 1:45.

8 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 12:50 p.m.
9 until 1:45 p.m.)

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: When we left off before our lunch
11 break, we were completing our conversation centered
12 around the census, and whether or not we should send a
13 letter of support regarding some proposed changes,
14 demographic changes to the self-identified questionnaire.

15 So I am going to return this conversation back to
16 Commissioner Sinay. And we will continue. Go ahead.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Thank you, Chair,
18 for giving us additional time to continue the
19 conversation, and really get clarity on the consensus. I
20 know I rushed it at the end because I thought we were
21 going -- anyway.

22 So just to be clear, there's kind of three questions
23 on the table. Are we interested in putting forward
24 public comment on the proposals from the OMB? Yes or no?
25 If yes, then just a reminder that April 12th is the

1 deadline. So we need to have -- we need to provide
2 whoever is -- whomever is going to be drafting this, as
3 much information -- you know, as much guidelines as
4 possible, guardrails as possible, so that they get it
5 right.

6 And then the third question, which I'll leave to
7 Commissioner Taylor is: Who is going to take this on?
8 So let's start with the first one. And there were
9 several hands that were raised, and I don't know if
10 they're still raised.

11 I saw Commissioner Le Mons, and Commissioner
12 Fernández had their hands raised prior to lunch.

13 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: This is Commissioner Le Mons.
14 Yeah, I was going to just -- I want to support
15 Commissioner Turner's point. I had been thinking that
16 prior to my previous comment, and I didn't address it,
17 because from my head, I thought: You know, this really
18 has a huge community impact that's beyond what the
19 government objectives are. And really, we should allow
20 the community to, you know, take the lead on this, if you
21 will.

22 So that was it. Before we went to lunch, I was
23 thinking that, and I'm glad Commissioner Turner raised
24 it, you know, much more eloquently, and broadly. I'll
25 just reiterate that my position on this, as far as the

1 Commission is concerned, is that our scope of support
2 should be limited to the degree to which, the detailed
3 data helps us best meet our objective, and not get into
4 the specificity of those three different areas,
5 specifically. Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Le Mons, may I
7 ask, when you said, "The community take the lead", is
8 your recommendation that whoever takes this on speaks
9 with -- like the California Redistricting Collaborative
10 (sic) -- I'm sorry, I don't -- I always get their name
11 all messed up in my head.

12 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: I wasn't thinking of any
13 particular organization. But just seeing -- looking at
14 us as an entity, and not a representation of the
15 community, or body. That's not the role we're playing.
16 So I'm more meted in that context. And think I'd go
17 further and say that Commissioner Toledo's offering I
18 also support. I think maybe we could -- our support
19 could be placed elsewhere, where it may be more
20 appropriate.

21 It kind of keeps us out of -- how shall I put it? I
22 know we, as a Commission and I think -- well, this is my
23 interpretation, as a Commission we have had an advocacy
24 there. I mean, there's a -- you know, we pushed for
25 certain things, and I think we have to be mindful of

1 where we push and how we push.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Uh-huh.

3 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yeah. I'll stop there.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

5 Commissioner Fernández, did you still have your hand
6 up?

7 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I kind of did. I agree
8 with Commissioner Le Mons. I really feel that if we do a
9 support, it should be very broad, because I am not an
10 expert as to whether or not these new categories are
11 appropriate or not, or how the communities that would be
12 impacted by it feel about it. I don't want to dilute
13 anyone's voting power, potentially, if this information
14 is then -- you know, I was thinking more Voting Rights
15 Act districts. Anyway, I just want to make sure that
16 it's very, very, very broad, and doesn't address the
17 specificity that they have. Thanks.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Anybody else?

19 Okay. So I'm still kind of hearing that there is
20 consensus to submit a broad support saying, I don't know,
21 basically -- okay, I'm hearing consensus that there is --
22 I'm hearing that there might be consensus that a broad --
23 so the answer is yes for the first question.

24 The second question about guardrails, or what would
25 we want on there; people are saying: Keep it broad, just,

1 you know, say our mission, and why we need certain
2 information, but not necessarily speak directly to what's
3 stated there.

4 Commissioner Fernández, and then Commissioner
5 Taylor.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah. My first option
7 would be not to do anything. But if we're going to do
8 something, let's do it broadly. So I don't want to go on
9 record as saying that we should submit a letter of
10 support, that would -- I would be: Let's not submit
11 something; and then broad.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Commissioner
13 Taylor?

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. I want to be clear, too. My
15 leaning is towards no letter. And then if we did submit
16 a letter, broad. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. So since I misread the
18 consensus, I want to see, does anyone -- is anyone
19 thinking of the opposite direction? That yes, we submit
20 something, but broad?

21 And both Fernández and Taylor, you still have your
22 hands up.

23 Okay. So I think we reached consensus, and it made
24 life a lot easier. We are not going to do anything at
25 this time. Thank you.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay. Commissioner Andersen, go
2 ahead.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I hate to say it, you
4 know, we're not going to do anything, because I do
5 understand, Commissioner Sinay I think -- appreciate you
6 bringing this forward. It is an item of great concern of
7 ours, and we do want the best data possible. Actually,
8 as I kind of looked at it; they actually want the pros
9 and cons of those proposals. And I just don't think we
10 are the group to do that, because that's not -- you know,
11 we don't know the details of it all.

12 But the State Demographer does. And can we, like,
13 push this to, say: Hey, State Demographer, you know,
14 would you have a look at this, and make comments? And I
15 really like Commissioner Toledo's idea of a "Me Too"
16 letter. Someone out there, this is their bailiwick, and
17 will be commenting on it. And I think it would be good
18 if -- whoever is following this, finds out who that group
19 is. And we do a "Me Too" with them, or following them.

20 I just don't feel it's -- we know enough to say the
21 pros and cons of this, which is what they're specifically
22 asking for.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Andersen.
24 Any other comments?

25 All right. So I guess we'll -- Commissioner Sinay,

1 if you sort of can follow this topic and give us a report
2 back next month, maybe see if there is some other group
3 that is -- catches on to this, and perhaps we can judge
4 the validity of that statement or endeavor?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Taylor, I have got
6 a lot on my plate right now, and so I just wanted to see
7 if -- and I don't think I can give it the -- give it the
8 attention it needs to -- but if no one else wants -- will
9 do it, I will do it, because I do think it is important.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: How about you and I confer a little
11 later in the month, and see?

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Thanks.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. All right. I think that
14 concludes our Continuity Subcommittee.

15 And the last of our subcommittee reports, it will be
16 in the form of some brief training about ADA compliance
17 with our documents that we submit.

18 Commissioner Andersen.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Thank you, Chair, and
20 Fellow Subcommittee Member. As I sort of brought up,
21 this is for the Website Subcommittee. And this is with
22 eyes looking forward to June 30th, and that's that we
23 have Corina on board.

24 And in moving forward, and we are continuing our --
25 all our documents are ADA compliant on our website. Most

1 of the documents that we'll be adding will be handouts
2 from us. And we, it turns out that there's some great
3 tricks and things that if we all knew, when we were
4 creating our document right at the beginning, these
5 documents basically are ADA compliant almost. And then
6 taking that and make into a PDF to put it on our website
7 is really easy.

8 And you know, what I sort of said is: A few steps by
9 us can make everyone's life easier. And so with that in
10 mind, we'll bring in our -- Ms. Tammy Bacon, who is our,
11 you know, I guess our resident, or our accessibility
12 expert, to lead this little training on how to create
13 documents, tips and tricks.

14 And I'm going to bring that over to both her, and
15 Corina who have been running, basically, handling this
16 baton. So if you could take it away, please, ladies.

17 MS. BACON: Hi. I'm Tammy. Thank you so much,
18 Commissioner Andersen, for the introduction.

19 So I'm going to go through a PowerPoint, hopefully,
20 quickly, and I'm going to just share some basic
21 information about accessibility. Just kind of give you
22 an overview, so that we're all kind of in the same place.

23 And then -- and after that, hopefully answer some of
24 the questions that might be brought up during the
25 PowerPoint presentation on accessibility, and actually

1 show you how it can be done in a Word Document to give
2 you sort of that actual, you know, hands-on view of what
3 it looks like to make a document accessible.

4 So I'll bring up the PowerPoint. So what is web
5 accessibility? It means keep --

6 MS. LEON: You have to share, share it.

7 MS. BACON: Oh. I'm so sorry. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I'm just picturing it in my
9 head.

10 MS. BACON: All right. So I'm going to do that, and
11 share the screen.

12 MS. LEON: There you go. That's it.

13 MS. BACON: Okay. Thank you, Corina. Okay. So
14 what is web accessibility -- I apologize, I'm hitting the
15 backspace here. All right. Let's get started.

16 So web accessibility means that people with
17 disabilities can perceive, understand, and navigate the
18 web, like just anybody can. And worldwide there's 285
19 million people with some sort of visual impairment, and
20 275 million people with moderate to profound hearing
21 impairment. And many more have physical speech,
22 cognitive, and neurological disabilities, or a limited
23 understanding of English. Accessibility ensures all
24 users can access products and services regardless of
25 their capabilities.

1 Why web accessibility? Well, it's really the right
2 thing to do. The web is an increasingly important
3 resource in many aspects of life, in education,
4 employment, government, commerce, health care,
5 recreation, research, and more. It's essential that web
6 be accessible in order to provide equal access and equal
7 opportunity to people with disabilities.

8 So again, why web accessibility? It's also useful
9 for everyone. In addition to web accessibility -- in
10 addition, it helps better meet the needs of web users
11 with age-related impairments, which I'm beginning to
12 feel, as I age; non-native English -- non-native speakers
13 of English; so make sure you explain acronyms; use plain
14 language and avoid slang in your writing.

15 Viewing websites on mobile devices like smartphones
16 and tablets, it provides for fluid layouts and resizing
17 of text; and proper reading order so things make sense.
18 It also is good for search engine optimization, which
19 relies on content structure, semantics, and alternative
20 text for images. In other words, images are explained in
21 words, as well as just the picture. And I'll go over
22 that a little bit more as we do the demonstration.

23 And it makes just, a better overall user.
24 experience, with clear and consistent layout, design, and
25 customizable text. Web accessibility is essential for

1 people with disabilities and useful for all. And I'm
2 hoping you'll be able to see this little demonstration
3 video.

4 (Video played at 2:00 p.m., ending at 2:01
5 p.m.)

6 MS. BACON: So just another way that it's useful for
7 everyone. Web users may use a keyboard only, for
8 instance, a screen reader, which is software that's
9 loaded on a computer in that previous video, that
10 actually reads what's on the screen out loud to the user,
11 for someone who might have vision impairment. So that's
12 really important.

13 And it's also important for other devices, like
14 devices that -- that use refreshable braille, or a head
15 wand to access their computer, or a sip and puff, and
16 many other assistive technologies. And I have another
17 video here to show you.

18 (Video played at 2:05 p.m., ending at 2:06
19 p.m.)

20 MS. BACON: So why accessibility? It's also the
21 law. The Americans with Disabilities Act, websites for
22 entities with physical locations that are available to
23 the public, the law considers websites an extension of
24 that physical location.

25 Also, Section 508, which is a Federal Section 508,

1 requires all Federal agencies and their contractors
2 develop, procure, use, and maintain accessible web
3 products, what the Section 508 Refresh that also included
4 web documents, email, any information, communication
5 technology, electronic communication.

6 So California Government Code 7405 requires that
7 California Government agencies, community colleges, four-
8 year colleges, and universities, comply with Federal
9 Section 508. So that's why I brought up that Federal
10 Section.

11 And California Government Code 11135, prevents
12 discrimination and gives people with disabilities the
13 right to full and equal access to benefits of any program
14 or activity.

15 It's the law continued. California Government Code
16 Section 11546.7 is under AB 434, which you may have heard
17 of, that's the biennial accessibility statement posting
18 that has to go on everywhere -- website, every state
19 agencies' -- excuse me -- website.

20 There's also the State Information Management
21 Manual. It was included in the State Administrative
22 Manual as well. And in this policy, the State of
23 California, that information and services on California
24 State Governments, electronic and information technology
25 be accessible to people with disabilities.

1 So how do we make things accessible, or what does
2 that mean? We use the Web Accessibility Guidelines, so
3 ADA requires websites to be accessible, but it's not
4 prescriptive. But court settlements and agreements
5 require compliance with the Web Content Accessibility
6 Guidelines, WCAG. And also, state laws require
7 compliance with Section 508, and a Federal Section 508,
8 requires compliance with the WCAG, also, the Web Content
9 Accessibility Guidelines.

10 So who developed WCAG? It was developed by the
11 Worldwide Web Consortium, or W3C, an international
12 community where member organizations, a full-time staff,
13 and the public work together to develop web standards.
14 The W3C is comprised of technology companies like Google,
15 IBM, Facebook, Government agencies, of both U.S.
16 Government, as well as national governments, as well as
17 local governments.

18 And also accessibility organizations and companies
19 like, WebAIM, Knowability, Deque, et cetera. The W3C's
20 Web Accessibility Initiative, or WAI, published the WCAG
21 in an effort to improve the accessibility of the web for
22 people with disabilities.

23 The four main principles of WCAG are: perceivable,
24 operable, understandable, and robust. And so what does
25 that mean? So for instance, perceivable, you use

1 alternative text descriptions to convey the meaning of an
2 image. So if someone couldn't see that image, they would
3 understand what the image was -- the information the
4 image was trying to convey.

5 And also, things like not using color to convey
6 information, color alone to convey information. And I'll
7 have a demonstration of that later as well.

8 Also, you want to make sure it's operable by using
9 descriptive linked text instead of saying things like:
10 "click here". Understandable, the use of headings styles
11 to organize content, using plain language and placing
12 images in line so the reading order is correct. And I'll
13 talk more about that during the demonstration.

14 And also to make sure it's robust, that it can be
15 used on future technologies, if it's structured properly,
16 and that you use -- it's called metadata or document
17 properties, and accessible authoring tools, like Word.

18 So let me go ahead and go forward. So how do we
19 accomplish web sensibility? Well, I'm going to do a Word
20 document demo that's going to demonstrate the four
21 principles. And we're going to review an unstructured
22 document, and then we're going to create a similar-
23 looking document, but structure with accessibility in
24 mind.

25 Many of the ideas that will be demonstrated are

1 transferable to other forms of electronic communication,
2 like web pages, as well as emails, PDFs. So it's just a
3 good overall demonstration, so you'll have a better
4 understanding. And these tips will help make your Word
5 documents more useful as well. So it's good to be POUR
6 (ph.). It's the right thing to do. It's useful for all.
7 And it's the law. Any question so far?

8 Commissioner Yee.

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Tammy, for this great
10 presentation. A question about the law, and any
11 provisions there might be for grandfathering in old -- in
12 old material. So here, in our Commission, we have a lot
13 of things from the 2010 version of this Commission, you
14 know, that were not necessarily accessible. And we're
15 trying to keep our data alive, and on the web.

16 You know, do we have to covert it all? You know,
17 double-check it all, and make sure it's all accessible,
18 which can involve, you know, significant revisions, and
19 so forth; so I'm just wondering how that's handled?

20 MS. BACON: Just generally speaking. First of all,
21 disclaimer, I'm not a lawyer, so I want to make that
22 clear. There were some provisions; I believe it was in
23 Section 508 that made provisions for older documents that
24 were accessible under previous accessibility provisions.

25 But I would I have -- I don't know enough detail

1 about some of the things that you might be mentioning.

2 Maybe Commissioner Andersen or Corina might have.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. I'll jump
4 in and take that, basically older documents that you can
5 we have -- you can actually, if someone wants that
6 document you make, in terms of what we might have in the
7 archives, and if you want that document, it could be
8 pulled up and made accessible within certain -- certainly
9 within reason. You know, if there's a reason why you
10 want that, just to say: I want everything you ever had,
11 that's -- you would have to go discuss that further.

12 But certain documents -- anything that is on the
13 website, does have to be accessible, other documents that
14 are not on the website, but referenced, those are -- you
15 know, could be brought forward, and you would negotiate
16 that.

17 MS. LEON: Yeah. So like -- may I add a little bit?
18 So like, there are certain departments like Department of
19 Technology, or Department of Transportation, they have
20 certain documents, they have a lot of diagrams, and
21 construction diagrams, and so forth, and what they do is
22 they put a -- you know, a note on them.

23 First, of all, they do put in like headers and tags
24 into the document, so somebody is using a machine they
25 can at least know what the document is to know if they

1 even want access to that document. So it gives them a
2 little bit of information about the document.

3 And then it would provide them an address, or a
4 contact person within your organization to say that, you
5 know, if you need this in a different format, please
6 contact this person and request. And then that document
7 would then need to be remediated and provided to that
8 person. So that's how a lot of departments were doing --
9 handled that type of documentation that they couldn't --
10 you know, it was just -- the time to do all of those
11 documents was just, you know, outside the scope. That's
12 how they did that.

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: All right. Thank you.

14 MS. LEON: Uh-huh.

15 MS. BACON: All right. If there are no other
16 questions, I'll move on to the demonstration part. So
17 hopefully this will make more sense. Let me share my
18 screen again.

19 Alrighty, so this, what I have on the screen is a
20 Word document with some text, and text that looks like
21 headings. It says, "ICT Accessibility Session". It
22 looks like a larger text heading 1, and then a paragraph
23 below it. And then below that there's a second-level
24 heading, that looks like a second-level heading. It's
25 Arial, 14-point, bold font, the one above it was Arial,

1 16-point, bold.

2 So there's -- paragraphs and headings along with
3 links, and lists, and columns, tables, and an image, so
4 that's what's in the document, what they were working
5 with. A couple of things built into Word. There's a
6 navigation pane that will let you know if there's
7 actually structured headings within the document. And
8 although it looks like there's headings in this document,
9 it's not actually structured with headings, which is
10 important for accessibility.

11 So to find the navigation pane, it's under "View",
12 and "Navigation Pane" in the "Show" section. And it pops
13 up on the left. And under "Headings", it's asking you to
14 create your outline here. So that's one indication that
15 there's not accessible structure to this document. And
16 I'll show you how we'll do that in just a few moments.

17 Another tool that you can use within Word is the
18 Accessibility Checker, and that's under "Review", "Check
19 Accessibility" -- and check, "Accessibility". And on the
20 left, it popped up with an accessibility window with some
21 different issues, for objects like the images, and
22 different warnings in terms of the reading order.

23 So that gives you a basic overview of what
24 accessibility issues there might be, but it doesn't
25 completely, even if they're all fixed, doesn't alleviate

1 all accessibility issues, because, for instance -- and
2 I'll go through this document a little bit more and try
3 to explain.

4 So first of all, defining abbreviations is really
5 important, so ICT, I mean, I know what that means, but
6 you all don't, and it's, Information and Communication
7 Technology Accessibility session. And so to finding that
8 once, and that's a good -- I think best practice when
9 you're writing, is to make sure you define that
10 abbreviation or acronym before you use it throughout the
11 document. So that's something you want to look out for.

12 Use descriptive link texts, screen reader users can
13 bring -- and I'll explain on screen here, is again, real
14 quick: It is a software that someone who has a visual
15 impairment might use to read the screen to them because
16 they can't see the screen. So if you imagine your screen
17 is turned off, you know, what you're listening to.

18 So they can bring up -- using the screen reader
19 software, you can bring up a list of links throughout the
20 document, and in that list, you can navigate through the
21 document to the link you would like to review. And in
22 this case, the list of links would just say, "click
23 here", "click here". So if you -- using descriptive link
24 text will help you make sure that that list means
25 something when it's brought up.

1 Another way they navigate the website, is through
2 the use of headings. So if we had proper heading
3 structure that showed in the navigation pane, they could
4 bring up, through keystrokes, on their keyboard a list of
5 headings, so they could navigate to the location in the
6 document where they would like to read more.

7 So and just like we scanned -- like you might scan a
8 document, visually, for the headings, that's just the
9 technology, the screen reader software which helps them
10 navigate or scan the document through that listing of
11 headings.

12 Also, sometimes you might just use a dash, or type a
13 number. Make sure you are using a numbered list, and
14 I'll show you that in just a moment. Another important
15 thing I wanted to talk about is reading order. Be sure
16 to use the actual columns in Word, rather than tabbing
17 over to the column, or it may actually read what you
18 don't want it to read.

19 I can do a little demonstration here, I think. Let
20 me bring up a screen reader. It's a free screen reader,
21 it's called NVDA. So I am going to let the screen reader
22 read what these columns say. And if you don't structure
23 your columns properly, or you don't put things in the
24 correct reading order it could -- it may be that they
25 either don't make sense at all, or they say something you

1 absolutely don't want to be said.

2 So let's listen to how this is represented when it's
3 not structured in columns properly.

4 (Audio played)

5 MS. BACON: Well, that's probably not what we want
6 this document to say.

7 (Audio played)

8 MS. BACON: Okay. So another thing you want to look
9 out for are merged cells. So in this document you can
10 see that this cell is merged across two rows. It's
11 difficult for a screen reader -- a person using a screen
12 reader to navigate this and coordinate what this cell
13 matches with. So try not to merge cells, just use
14 straight cells across that are not merged cells.

15 Another thing is headings. If you don't have a
16 heading properly headed -- and I'm going to show you how
17 to do this, but a heading on the document -- or excuse
18 me -- on the table, then when you go to the next row,
19 some people, you might see them add the headings again.
20 There's an easier way to do that, and I'll show you how
21 to do that.

22 In addition, cells that break across the table, it's
23 also difficult for a screen reader user to understand
24 when they're going to another table for the rest of the
25 contents. So I'll show you how to fix that. And also,

1 be sure to only use tables for data, don't use it for
2 laying out, you know, your pretty document, make sure you
3 just use it for data tables.

4 So images, the particular image on the screen uses
5 color alone to convey information. So it has blue for 15
6 and under, green for 15 and older, red for 21 to 64, and
7 purple for 65 and older. So that there's no way to tell
8 on this bar chart what -- you can tell it, but if you
9 have a visual impairment, or you have, say, for instance,
10 you're colorblind, it could be a factor on reading this.
11 So let me show you what it might look like for someone
12 who has the green/red color blindness.

13 It's difficult to see because the colors that were
14 there before previously, look like they -- look like blue
15 and green and that's it. So it's really hard to tell
16 what correlates to what age ranges. Another factor is if
17 this -- if it's printed on a black and white printer, you
18 might get something that looks just all gray tone. And
19 again, it's really hard to know what bar chart goes to
20 what age range.

21 So how do we fix these issues? Let me close this
22 document. Okay. So first of all, I'm going to talk a
23 little bit about the metadata. That's the part of the
24 document that shows up in the browser tab when you open
25 the document. You might bookmark it in your browser, or

1 your favorites, and that's the title that will show up in
2 your favorites.

3 It's also the part that shows up in search engine
4 results as the link text in the search results. So how
5 do you update that? It's under "File", "Info", and this
6 is probably the hardest one. "File" "Info" and
7 "Properties" "Advanced", this brings up under the
8 "Summary" the title. So we want to make sure that we
9 have a good title, and you know, we say, CRC, and then a
10 brief description of what the document is about, very
11 brief, maybe 200 characters.

12 And then we'll have a standard for the title, just
13 so it's consistent across the agency. So make sure you
14 put in that title. That's the metadata title. Okay. So
15 let me just go back to the document.

16 Okay. So now we're going to go through, again --
17 let's see, it's hiding my -- I apologize -- I'm trying to
18 get to my kids up here; and it's hiding my --

19 MS. LEON: Oh.

20 MS. BACON: Sorry.

21 MS. LEON: It's okay. Thinking our view. You can
22 change the view.

23 MS. BACON: Right. Your actions will -- and I'll
24 eventually --

25 MS. LEON: Okay.

1 MS. BACON: Let me see if -- so I'm going to go to
2 the navigation pane again here. So I'm going to show
3 you, if I select the title of this document, which I
4 spelled out with acronyms, and I choose "Style", I can
5 choose "Heading 1". Now, it's going to show over here in
6 my navigation pane.

7 So I'm going to go ahead and mark, this is --
8 "Overview" is going to be a heading 2, and I'm going to
9 select the "Styles" menu and make that a heading 2.
10 "Objectives" is the next level -- "Objectives" is the
11 next level heading; I'm going to select that. And select
12 from the "Styles" menu, heading 2, and just so forth;
13 Section, Organization is also heading 2. So it's pretty
14 easy just to go through your document and make sure
15 you're providing heading levels.

16 The section 1 presentation is a heading level 3, and
17 the section 2 demonstration is a heading level 3, so I'm
18 going to make that a heading level 3. And you can see
19 how it just begins building out in the navigation pane,
20 each of the heading items.

21 Okay. So now that we have our headings, the next
22 thing we want to talk about is the descriptive Link
23 text -- oh, let me -- before I go on from headings, I did
24 want to mention: If you don't like -- what's another nice
25 thing if you have your headings structured this way, if

1 you don't like the style of the heading, in this case
2 it's blue, bold text, and it is font size 4.

3 So if I don't like it -- I just want them all to be
4 black -- I can select any of the heading 2s in this case,
5 go to this, change the look of it. So I'm going to
6 change the text font to black, and we'll go ahead and
7 leave it black, and bold, and 14-point font. And you can
8 select the "Styles" menu again, right click on the
9 heading in that styles menu and choose "Update Heading to
10 Match Selection". So now, throughout the entire
11 document, all the heading 2s are now all black, bold, 10-
12 point. Okay. So that makes -- that's a really nice
13 feature for everybody.

14 So we talked a little bit about abbreviations,
15 spelling everything out at least once, first. The next
16 thing I want to talk about, the "click here" in the
17 document. You want to -- you want the link to be
18 descriptive of the location where the link will be going.
19 So in this case, it's going to making accessible
20 documents. So to fix it, I'm going to right click on the
21 link, I'm going to choose "Copy Link", and then I'm going
22 to select the descriptive text of the link; and then
23 right click on it again and choose "Link", and paste that
24 into the link address field.

25 There's text to display above, and then the address

1 field below where it's actually going to go, the
2 destination of the link. Okay. And then I can delete
3 the "click here".

4 So I'll do the same thing with, "Usable and
5 Accessible for All". So I'm going to right click on the
6 link, I'm going to copy the hyperlink, and I'm going
7 to -- it's going to a place called "Usable and accessible
8 for all." So I'm going to select the text, and then I'm
9 going to right click and choose "Link", in the "Address"
10 field, the (audio interference). And now I can have the
11 "click here" text. So that's descriptive link text.

12 For bullets or numbers, instead of just putting, you
13 know, something like a one period -- oops -- one period
14 space, two period space; make sure you're using actual
15 numbered or bulleted list to structure the list properly.
16 So I'll make those bullets.

17 So in terms of reading order, make sure that the
18 order reads correctly like it does for this one I'm going
19 to make into a -- into two columns, it's section 1,
20 presentation; and section 2, demonstration. If you
21 recall, that did not read properly previously. So to
22 make columns, make sure you linearize the text, and then
23 you can select it. And then go to "Layout" "Columns",
24 and in this case I'm going to choose "Two" for a two-
25 column layout.

1 If it didn't break in the right place, say, this
2 section 2 demonstration was down here, you can just go
3 where you want it to break and say "Insert" and then --
4 I'm sorry -- "Layout" "Break", and choose "Column Break".
5 And this one broke where we wanted it to, so that worked
6 out fine.

7 I missed a heading level here, so let me choose. I
8 see "Tick Accessibility Session Schedule", and that would
9 be under the Styles Menu at Heading 2. Okay.

10 So now, we're going to work on this table. So right
11 now it's -- I took out the merged cells, so I just
12 repeated the Wednesday, October 25th, 2017, text. But we
13 do have this row overlapping to the next page, and
14 there's no titles -- heading titles on the next page.

15 So to fix that, I'm going to first select the table,
16 right click and choose "Table Properties", and I'm going
17 to choose the "Row" tab, and where it says, "Allow row to
18 break across pages" under "Options", I'm going to and
19 uncheck that box and say "Okay". So now, it's going to
20 make sure that row is kept together.

21 So the next thing I want to do is create a header
22 row, so I'm going to select the header, and you'll see
23 there's no header on the second page. I'm going to
24 select the header row, right click, choose "Table
25 Properties" "Row" tab, and under "Options" check the box

1 that says, "Repeat as header row at the top of each
2 page". I'm going to say "Okay". So now, I have that
3 same header on the second page, and it'll do that for
4 each, you know, upcoming page as well, as many pages as
5 the table processed.

6 Let's see. Okay. So if you remember, we had that
7 image on the other document that conveyed meaning through
8 color alone. So rather than do that, this same bar chart
9 provides gradients along with the color, so it gives you
10 a better understanding of what it might look like, say,
11 if someone were colorblind, or if they printed it on a
12 black and white printer, they could still understand what
13 was meant by this bar chart.

14 And then the other thing I wanted to mention is
15 "alternative text for images". It's really, really
16 important that you convey the meaning of this image to
17 someone who might be using assistive technology, like a
18 screen reader, if they could not see the screen.

19 So a good way to think about this is how you might
20 explain this, or convey the information that's in this
21 image to someone over the phone. Or if the image were
22 completely deleted, what words would you use to convey
23 the information. In this particular alt text, the
24 information that I provided is just very brief, it's
25 just, "eight percent of Americans with a disability by

1 age range, eight percent under 15 years old; twenty-one
2 percent age 15 and older; seventeen percent age 21 to 64,
3 and fifty percent age 65 and older. That's the same
4 information that's being conveyed with this chart.

5 So let's see if there's -- and then also you want to
6 make sure that images are in line. And so that's, if you
7 select the image, you want to make sure that you choose
8 "Position", and make sure it's in line. If it's not in
9 line, it can cause issues for screen readers because it's
10 sort of floating around, so it takes it out of the
11 reading order, or the proper reading order, so it may not
12 make sense when it's being a read out loud if it's, you
13 know, being actually -- being read, say, you know, after
14 a certain title, or up about somewhere where you didn't
15 intend it to be read. So it's really important to
16 position in line for images.

17 And then, I'm sorry, I forgot to mention on tables,
18 you can also add alternative text to tables. It gives a
19 brief summary. When a screen reader user comes to a
20 table in a document, they have to switch modes, so it's
21 better to give them a brief description of what the table
22 is about so -- before they switch modes so they might
23 know what to expect once they get to the table, or skip
24 over the table if it's not what they need.

25 So you can select the table, right click, again go

1 to the "Table Properties" menu, and under "Row" choose
2 "Alt Text" tab. And in this description of this table it
3 says -- and you want to make sure you put it in the
4 description field, not the title field -- it says,
5 "Provides the day, date, time, location for the ICT
6 sessions and whether or not the session is being
7 recorded." So that's just a brief description of the
8 table.

9 I think that is everything. So what we can do now
10 is run the accessibility checker, which I'm just having a
11 problem getting to. All right; all right, so let's do
12 this, let me pick a -- now, under "Review" check
13 "Accessibility" and check -- and as you can see, we've
14 created an accessible document, not only with the
15 accessibility checker, but also with proper headings
16 structure, proper link -- descriptive link text, proper
17 alternative text for both the image as well as the table.

18 Are there any questions?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Actually, I'm going
20 to just jump in. So this makes me want to pull my hair
21 out.

22 MS. BACON: Oh. No. Oh, no. I'm sorry.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. It's just; we will
24 definitely need a nice summery, synopsis.

25 MS. BACON: Yes. Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Called "How To", so we can
2 reference this, because, yeah, you know, my first thing
3 is: Wait a sec. Okay, I'm now trying this. What am I
4 looking at? How do I do that again?

5 MS. BACON: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And I think I say that for
7 absolutely everybody. And so if we could get that; so
8 everybody, we are going to get that.

9 MS. BACON: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: A nice little summary; thank
11 you very much, and a reference sheet.

12 MS. BACON: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And then let's take
14 questions.

15 MS. BACON: Yeah. Don't feel overwhelmed. I know
16 it's a lot of information, and I will certainly provide
17 additional documentation to help with that. But it's
18 really -- it's just a different way of doing things. I
19 think once you kind of make that switch, it'll make it
20 easier for you. Like I said, you know, to change styles
21 throughout your document, it'll just make it easier,
22 easier once you just make that kind of switch on how you
23 do a Word document.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

25 MS. BACON: It's like going, you know, bolder font.

1 You know, you have to do all those switches, make it a
2 bolder font, make it bigger, you'll just choose your
3 style and --

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually on that we -- the
5 idea is that a -- like there will be some templates, you
6 know, our standard font and size will be this, and here's
7 a standard. So you know, like you go to Word, and you
8 just pick up: I'm going to start a document here. We'll
9 have one, a CRC letter, so we'll have that format, so we
10 don't have to come up with what that is.

11 So that Corina and Tammy are putting those things
12 together for us.

13 MS. BACON: Yeah. Yeah.

14 Commissioner Turner.

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. Yeah, Ms. Bacon,
16 that was intense, a lot. Very helpful, though. I
17 appreciate it.

18 MS. BACON: I hope so.

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: It was. And I see how I've
20 caused all kinds of issues just in documents that I
21 personally do. And we have a couple of folks at our
22 church that are sight impaired, that they're going to be
23 so glad for you, that you taught me some things today.

24 MS. BACON: Yeah -- no; a lot. Yeah.

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: But I also wanted to find out.

1 When you were going through the material, and it can just
2 be in the material that you provide, did you share how to
3 make the colored charts have the patterns in them? Or
4 did you just talk past it? I didn't see it. I missed it
5 if you did.

6 MS. BACON: Yeah. You can actually do that in
7 Excel. So that chart came from Excel?

8 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

9 MS. BACON: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. All right.

11 MS. BACON: But I did not talk about how to do it,
12 though. Sorry. Yeah.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Yeah, and I was trying
14 to track. It was a lot.

15 MS. BACON: Yeah.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And I was thinking: Oh, shoot,
17 I must -- I don't know, I missed that part. But yeah,
18 that would be great to know as well. Thank you.

19 MS. BACON: Okay. Okay, sure. Thanks. And there's
20 other ways to do it. I was just trying to convey not --
21 so that you don't convey things with color. You can have
22 a chart, and put labels on the chart directly on -- you
23 know, maybe below each, you know, bar chart image.

24 So you don't have to use the gradients. I was just
25 trying to make a point that you should not convey

1 information in the image alone -- in color alone, rather.
2 So just make sure that you provide that information.
3 Maybe you have each bar labeled, or each piece of the pie
4 chart labeled, so that that information is available if
5 you print it, or if someone who is colorblind is looking
6 at it. And then provides a nice, descriptive alt text,
7 and that's sufficient as well. So you don't have to have
8 the gradients.

9 MS. LEON: Well, thank you, Tammy. That was great.

10 MS. BACON: Yeah.

11 MS. LEON: Well, just to give an overview and
12 understanding, too, I think it's -- it was very helpful.

13 MS. BACON: Okay. I hope so.

14 MS. LEON: Yeah.

15 MS. BACON: And I hope it wasn't too much. And
16 again, we will have some little cheat sheets, and tip
17 sheets, and things for you, so.

18 MS. LEON: Yeah. We'll definitely be here to
19 provide the help, but we're, you know, going through and
20 remediating the documents as they come in.

21 MS. BACON: Sure.

22 MS. LEON: That would be good. Yeah, we will help
23 with that.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And the one reason
25 why we did this, as you can see if -- or like if I just

1 put together some document, and turn it over to say:
2 Here's a handout for the next meeting, and this is after
3 our staff is gone, Corina would have to do that. And
4 open that up, that document up, and make all those
5 particular changes.

6 Where, you know, if you're creating a heading, just
7 do it at the same time, as opposed to having someone else
8 to go in and do all that after the fact; like, as you're
9 setting it up at the beginning, it's a lot easier.

10 MS. LEON: Yeah.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So that was the main point.
12 And boy, did I get that point.

13 MS. LEON: Definitely. Yeah.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And thank you very much,
15 Tammy. We really appreciate that presentation.

16 MS. BACON: Uh-huh. You're very welcome.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And look forward to those
18 cheat sheets.

19 MS. BACON: Yes.

20 MS. LEON: Yes.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Absolutely. Thank you, Tammy. Thank
22 you, Corina, again.

23 MS. BACON: Thank you.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: The Website Subcommittee, who would
25 have thought that it entailed so much? But here we are.

1 So with that, we will -- are there any other
2 subcommittee reports? I think that's all that's been
3 reported to me.

4 Seeing no other subcommittee report; Kristian, can
5 you open it up for public comment for agenda item number
6 3, Subcommittee Updates and Announcements.

7 MR. MANOFF: Sure thing. The Commission will now
8 take public comment on item number 3, Subcommittee
9 Updates. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and
10 enter meeting ID number 86226648243. Once you've dialed
11 in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The
12 full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of
13 the meeting and are provided on the live stream landing
14 page.

15 And there are no callers at this time.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And let me know when the
17 live feed has caught up.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Chair, can I just ask a
19 quick question?

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. I just want to
22 confirm. So all of the documents that we already have
23 posted on our website, we're going to have to go back to
24 make them ADA accessible, right, Corina? I just want to
25 make sure that we're all on the same page.

1 MS. LEON: Correct?

2 MR. MANOFF: And there are no callers in the queue,
3 Chair.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian.

5 Yes, Commissioner Fernández, you hit that on the
6 nose. Everything has to be remediated, and we're working
7 on that accordingly.

8 All right. So we will now move on to agenda item
9 number 4, Closed Session. We anticipate closed session
10 being about an hour, sixty minutes or so, and we should
11 return back to open session at 4 p.m., 4 o'clock.

12 So with that, we'll move on to closed session
13 regarding litigation, pending litigation, or personnel
14 matters.

15 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 2:42 p.m.
16 until 4:00 p.m.)

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back to the March 13, 2023,
18 Meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting
19 Commission.

20 The Commission is returning from closed session
21 where the only action taken was: The Commission voted
22 that June 30th, 2023, will be the end date for the
23 remaining full-time staff, except for the Administrative
24 Manager. That's the only action taken.

25 And with that, our remaining business for this

1 meeting is agenda item number 5. Any comment on any item
2 not on the agenda, and conversation regarding our next
3 meeting?

4 As it relates to our next meeting, I'm going to turn
5 it over to Commissioner Kennedy and Commissioner Le Mons,
6 who will be the chair and vice chair for the upcoming
7 meeting, to talk about scheduling for our next meeting.

8 Go ahead, Commissioner Kennedy.

9 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. So we had
10 one public comment at our last meeting, pointing out that
11 Friday the 7th of April is both Good Friday, and falls in
12 the middle of Passover. And asking that we not hold our
13 meeting on Friday the 7th.

14 So I was -- I had asked Corina to sound people out.
15 She got a couple of responses, I think, but not everyone.
16 And so the question is on the table. Are people
17 available earlier in that week?

18 Commissioner Akutagawa just put the 10th on the
19 table. I'll be on vacation, but you know, looking at my
20 calendar, I could probably make it. I guess I'd also
21 need to ask Commissioner Le Mons, as Incoming Vice Chair,
22 if something were to happen that I'm not able to make it
23 on the 10th; are you available on the 10th?

24 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes, I'm available.

25 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. So then, are there

1 other -- any other dates that anyone wants to pose? How
2 do people feel about the 3rd, those sorts of things?

3 So Commissioner Andersen.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think Commissioner
5 Fernández had her hand up first.

6 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I'll go 3rd. I'm agreeable.

8 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. Commissioner Fernández.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Thank you,
10 Commissioner Andersen.

11 I think the 3rd is a little too soon. It's only
12 three weeks away. And I'd like -- I guess I'm speaking
13 selfishly for the Legislative Committee -- I would like
14 to have something more substantive when I come -- when we
15 come back. Hopefully, we'll have more information.

16 I am available on the 10th. I understand why you
17 would want to change the 7th. I could do the seventh
18 also. But that's fine in terms of religious -- I am
19 Catholic, and that's okay. Good Friday, spending it with
20 you guys would be just fine, so. But the 10th is also
21 doable. Thank you.

22 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. Commissioner Turner.

23 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I prefer the 10th.
24 And if we're at the 7th, I'd be there -- if we kept it on
25 the 7th, I could be there for the first half of the day.

1 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

2 Commissioner Yee.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: I, too, prefer the 10th. I could
4 not make the 3rd. The 7th is okay.

5 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. Anyone else?

6 Okay. Then, it looks like the 10th is going to be
7 the new date for the April Meeting. I will do my best to
8 be there. And I will be in touch with Commissioner Le
9 Mons to make sure that one of us is in the Chair on that
10 day.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Thank you.

12 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Chair, back to you.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: No problem. Thank you. And I'm here
14 to assist as needed. I can make any of those days with
15 enough advance notice. So I will be there.

16 Commissioner Andersen, go ahead.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, I do have a quick
18 question. And I'm -- does March 31st, is that when the
19 Bagley-Keene is gone? And so we all have to be in
20 location for this meeting? Or is that the end -- is it
21 July 1st?

22 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. Commissioner Andersen, I
23 can answer that. It is going to be July 1st when the
24 statutes have sunsetted, so --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

1 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: -- I think we can be remote
2 through June 30th.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Chief Counsel Pane.

4 Any other questions? Any comments on a non-
5 agendized topic?

6 Going once, going twice -- I'm auctioning this
7 off -- it is sold.

8 With that, Kristian, can open this up for general
9 public comment, including any comment on agenda item
10 number 5, our schedule.

11 MR. MANOFF: Sure thing.

12 The Commission will now take general public comment?
13 To give comment, please call 877-853-5247, and enter the
14 meeting ID number 86226648243. Once you've dialed in,
15 please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full
16 call-in instructions are read at the beginning of the
17 meeting and are provided on the live stream landing page.

18 And there is no one in the queue at this time,
19 Chair.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And let us know when we
21 are in sync.

22 MR. MANOFF: Those instructions have caught up on
23 the live stream, and there is no one in the queue at this
24 time, Chair.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Alrighty. So with that, we are going

1 to come to a close. You know, I always appreciate you
2 guys' hard work in sitting in the seat.

3 I will turn it over to Commissioner Kennedy and
4 Commissioner Le Mons in a matter of days.

5 So until we see each other again; let's work hard.

6 (Whereupon, the CRC Business Meeting adjourned
7 at 4:07 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2
3 I do hereby certify that the testimony in the
4 foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein
5 stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were
6 reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and
7 a disinterested person, and was under my supervision
8 thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

9
10 And I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11 attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing
12 nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause
13 named in said caption.

14
15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
16 29th day of March, 2023.

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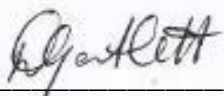
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

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.



March 29, 2023

DELORIS GAUNTLETT, CDLT-257