

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

CRC BUSINESS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Transcription By:

eScribers, LLC



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

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

STAFF

Alvaro Hernandez, Executive Director  
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel  
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant  
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director  
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

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

**Also present**Public Comment

Renee Westa-Lusk  
Deborah Howard



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P R O C E E D I N G S

1  
2 June 16, 2021

4:00 p.m.

3 CHAIR AHMAD: Welcome, everyone, to the June 16  
4 Citizens Redistricting Commission meeting of California.  
5 I would like to call this meeting to order. Can we start  
6 with roll call?

7 MR. SINGH: Yes, Chair.

8 Commissioner Akutagawa?

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes, here.

10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen?

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

12 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez?

13 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Here.

14 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari?

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

16 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy?

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons?

19 Commissioner Sadhwani?

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay?

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Thank you.

24 Commissioner Taylor?

25 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: I am present.



1 MR. SINGH: Thank you.

2 Commissioner Toledo?

3 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner?

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: I am present.

6 MR. SINGH: Thank you.

7 Commissioner Vazquez?

8 Commissioner Yee?

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here in Delaware.

10 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Ahmad?

11 CHAIR AHMAD: Here.

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

13 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And just general

14 announcements about today's meeting structure. So we  
15 will go from 4 o'clock to 5:30 when we are required to  
16 take our mandatory break.

17 At that time, we will take our fifteen-minute break.

18 And then we will return in closed session from 5:45 to  
19 6:15. After we are finished with our closed session, we  
20 will pop out of closed session and continue on where we  
21 left off for the remainder of the meeting. And once we  
22 get closer to that closed session time, I will elaborate  
23 on the reason in which we are going into closed session.

24 Great, Katy, can reopen the line for general public  
25 comments for items that are not on the agenda or items

1 for future meetings?

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

7 When prompted, enter the meeting ID number provided  
8 on the livestream feed. It is 95775048678 for this  
9 meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID, simply  
10 press the pound key.

11 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a  
12 queue to indicate you wish to comment, please press star  
13 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

14 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a  
15 message that says the host would like you to talk and to  
16 press star 6 to speak. If you would like to give your  
17 name, please state and spell it for the record. You are  
18 not required to provide your name to give public comment.  
19 Please, make sure to mute your computer or livestream  
20 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your  
21 call.

22 Once you're in the queue, be alert for when it is  
23 your turn to speak. And again, please turn down the  
24 livestream volume.

25 And the Commission is taking general public comment



1 at this time for items not on the agenda. And we have no  
2 one in the queue at this time.

3 CHAIR AHMAD: Let's give it a few minutes until the  
4 livestream catches up. Thanks, Katy.

5 (Pause)

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are  
7 complete, Chair.

8 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you, Katy. And there'll  
9 be ample opportunity to continue to provide public input  
10 during this meeting.

11 So with that, I would like to move us along to  
12 agenda item number 3, Executive Director's Report.

13 Alvaro, the floor is yours.

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Chair.  
15 And good evening, everyone.

16 So I'll begin by talking about staff and personnel.  
17 We are trying to put together our data management team.  
18 We're working on interviewing our data manager and data  
19 analysts sometime this week or next week.

20 We're also going to be bringing on a consultant to  
21 make sure that we have covered all our bases. And that  
22 consultant is the person that we've been working with,  
23 hopefully from USDR, Phil Zigoris. We're trying to bring  
24 him on board to help us with the air table and the  
25 transition to the data manager.

1           We're also looking at other options to make sure  
2 that we have access to technical staff through the UC and  
3 the CSU systems. So we're looking at all possible  
4 options to make sure that we cover all our bases there.

5           I also wanted to share that the outreach staff will  
6 be interviewing for a Northern California lead person  
7 this week or next week. And we will be working through  
8 the Subcommittee, the Finance and Administration, to  
9 provide a possible candidate selection in the upcoming  
10 week. Hopefully, we'll have something to announce out on  
11 the 25th, which is our next Commission meeting.

12           Moving on to protocols for the Commission, in  
13 Communications, wanted to share that I am working on --  
14 we are working on putting together travel information for  
15 the Commissioners that includes travel policy;  
16 information from CalHR; those policies that are in place,  
17 including appropriate reimbursement rates, filing  
18 requirements, methods of travel, and documents required  
19 for reimbursement to -- to name a few.

20           We'll be working through the Finance and  
21 Administration Subcommittee to bring forth a draft for  
22 the Commission that will include a more specific travel  
23 policy for the Commission as we move forward with getting  
24 back to business and traveling. So I wanted to make you  
25 aware of that.





1           And finally, in regards to the budget, as we  
2 mentioned before, we are working with the outreach staff  
3 to come up with a draft, Phase II: Outreach and  
4 Engagement Plan to transition from the grants or outreach  
5 contracts. And so staff is working on a plan that has  
6 detailed activities and costs to present to the  
7 Commission on June 25th. We'll be working with the  
8 Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee to bring forth the  
9 draft plan for the Commission to consider.

10           As I had mentioned last meeting, the outreach staff  
11 will take into consideration recommendations that have  
12 previously been provided by you, the Commissioners, at  
13 previous meetings, as well as recommendations by the  
14 Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee. And also we're  
15 drawing on the experience of our outreach team to provide  
16 information to be included in that plan.

17           So we're hoping that it will be a very robust plan  
18 moving forward to ensure that we're reaching all of  
19 California.

20           Chair, that concludes my report.

21           Are there any questions?

22           CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for Alvaro on his  
23 report-o?

24           Seeing none, can we take public comment for this  
25 agenda item, Katy? And this is agenda item number 3,



1 Executive Directors Report.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. And I'd like  
3 to remind those that the instructions are posted on the  
4 stream and have previously been read. If you choose to  
5 call in, please press star 9 to raise your hand  
6 indicating you wish to comment.

7 There is no one in the queue at this time. And the  
8 stream is caught up, Chair, so you know.

9 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Moving along to  
10 agenda item number 4, Outreach Directors Report.

11 Marcy, the floor is yours.

12 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Hello. Good afternoon,  
13 Commissioners and public. I wanted to thank you all  
14 again for continuing to do the redistricting basics  
15 presentations.

16 As I noted at the last Commission meeting, we have  
17 closed the speaker request form on June 4th as directed  
18 by the Commission and have been scheduling final  
19 presentations through July.

20 To date, we've completed 158 presentations as of  
21 today and twenty-four res -- twenty-five more  
22 presentations are still scheduled through the end of  
23 July. And the field leads are helping Wanda in  
24 scheduling, I think, about ten more. I had that  
25 somewhere it's not in my notes now. Field -- oh, yes.



1 Ten more.

2 Ann Marx, our outreach manager, has been putting  
3 together a summary of phase one activities in  
4 coordination with our communications team. That will  
5 also include an overview of the redistricting basics  
6 presentation effort and our reach. And we'll be sharing  
7 that with the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee this  
8 week for them to present at the next Commission meeting.

9 The outreach team has been working on our past and  
10 upcoming COI input meetings. I highlighted this week's  
11 Public Input Design Subcommittee the tremendous amount of  
12 planning that has gone into the logistical coordination  
13 to create a repeatable process, including creating a  
14 meeting script, registration forms, a tracking process  
15 for posting deadlines and deadlines for language access  
16 assistance, drafting templates for email that will go out  
17 to participants with login instructions, and coordinating  
18 and assigning field leads to support with the note taking  
19 product process in coordination with the line drawing  
20 team.

21 We have been meeting on going with our video  
22 streaming services team and lawn -- line drawers to  
23 really coordinate this process in advance of the June  
24 10th meeting and post the June 10th meeting did have  
25 internal staff briefing -- debriefing and also debriefing



1 with line drawers and our VSS Team to hammer out other  
2 logistical details.

3 As also highlighted earlier this week, the first COI  
4 input meeting went very smoothly. We had fifty-seven  
5 members of the public call in. Sulma Hernandez, our  
6 outreach coordinator, has done an extraordinary job of  
7 keeping all things COI input meeting organized and on  
8 track.

9 I just really want to reiterate what a great team  
10 that we have, and it's been a delight to work with all of  
11 them. I will defer to the Public Input Design  
12 Subcommittee to talk more about the June 10th meeting  
13 during the subcommittee report-outs.

14 I do want to go over the process for the COI --  
15 registration process for the COI input meeting just for  
16 the public as well. And to reiterate to all the  
17 Commissioners, fourteen days before the COI input  
18 meetings, we are posting registration forms to allow the  
19 public to sign up for a time block to join the COI input  
20 meetings.

21 The registration closes at 5 p.m. two days before  
22 the COI input meeting. And this allows us time to send  
23 participants their login details the day before the  
24 meeting and provide information to our Video Streaming  
25 Team and also the line drawers.



1           If someone from the public wants to register for an  
2 appointment time slot, they would click on the COI input  
3 meeting link on Input Registration Plus Information under  
4 the meeting date. They would pick a time slot to  
5 register, and click on the link for the time slot and  
6 then fill out the form to submit registration.

7           When they submit the form, they'll see a page that  
8 notes, thank you for requesting an appointment time slot.  
9 You'll receive an email the day before the CRC COI input  
10 meeting with details and how to log into the meeting.  
11 And when you submit, you'll also receive an automated  
12 email with a copy of your registration form. So this is  
13 something we were able to implement after the June 10th  
14 meeting.

15           One day before the meeting, individuals who  
16 registered will receive an email with instructions on how  
17 to access the meeting. It will include their login  
18 details and then instructions on when they join the  
19 meeting, reminding them to use the Raise Hand button when  
20 it's their turn to speak. The moderator will be  
21 identifying them by their assigned unique ID number,  
22 which is in the email, and then they'll be reconnected to  
23 the sis -- session with the ability to enable their own  
24 video and audio.

25           These notes, along with being in the email, are is



1 a -- are also a part of the script for the chair and also  
2 for the Comment Moderator during the COI input meetings.  
3 So they're announced at the beginning of the COI input  
4 meeting and then throughout as each speaker is  
5 introduced.

6 I also just want to highlight for members of the  
7 public who prefer to not provide information to register,  
8 or if all appointment time slots are full or if the  
9 appointment time slots are closed, they do have the  
10 option of calling in the day of the COI input to get in  
11 the queue to speak. The call in number for public input  
12 is 877-853-5247 and the passcode will be posted the day  
13 of the meeting and will also be available by calling our  
14 headquarters, which I didn't write in my notes right now,  
15 so I will repeat that at the end. But it's -- the number  
16 is also available on our website.

17 And I also just want to cover language access as  
18 well. Members of the public can request an interpreter  
19 for public input. Requests for interpretation must be  
20 submitted at least five business days prior to the  
21 meeting. The requests can be submitted via email to  
22 [interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov](mailto:interpreter.request@crc.ca.gov). It can be submitted on  
23 the appointment request form or it can be submitted by  
24 calling our office -- oh, this is office line 916-323-  
25 0323.



1           Also, requests for disability-related modification  
2 or accommodation should be made at least five business  
3 days prior to the meeting and should also -- or could be  
4 submitted in writing by mail at our headquarters 721  
5 Capitol Mall, Suite 260, Sacramento, California 95814 or  
6 by email at votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov.

7           All of the COI input meetings do have ASL on the  
8 live stream and closed captioning. This information, we  
9 have also worked with the communications team to make  
10 sure that it's on the website. It is on each link for  
11 the COI input -- for each COI input meeting.

12           Fredy is finalizing a flier for all of the COI input  
13 meetings. That also includes all of this information.  
14 So really just wanting to make sure that we're providing  
15 information about access and registration at this meeting  
16 and also for our field leads and on the website, as  
17 they're helping to promote these meetings. We do still  
18 have space for the upcoming COI input meetings for the  
19 up -- upcoming COI input meetings for appointments on  
20 June 19th and 21st, as well as the other meetings that  
21 have been posted that are within the fourteen-day window.  
22 The registration time slots are open.

23           And that was my report. I just -- I thought this  
24 was a good opportunity, in addition to providing an  
25 update to all of you, to really just re-emphasize this



1 information for anyone tuning in for the first time. And  
2 you -- all of this information that I have shared is also  
3 on our website, as well, in the Meeting section.

4 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Marcy.

5 Any questions for Marcy regarding her report out?

6 Yes, Commissioners Sinay and then Sadhwani?

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you so much, Marcy, for  
8 that thorough report. Two things.

9 One is, can we create a link for the public input  
10 sessions from our home page so people don't have to go to  
11 main page because people may not consider it a meeting?  
12 I mean, it took me a second to figure out where it was  
13 even as you were talking, because I had never looked it  
14 up.

15 Second, can you share with us and the public how  
16 we're doing outreach as we're moving into the region-  
17 specific COI and the input sessions, please?

18 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. And this is something that  
19 will be fleshed out in more detail in the outreach  
20 strategy that Alvaro had noted at the upcoming meeting.  
21 We are working with our field leads to right now be  
22 following up with organizations that have requested  
23 redistricting basics or have hosted redistricting basics  
24 presentations in the past.

25 They're reaching out to local governments and other





1 entities that Commissioners have been in touch with. We  
2 are working -- we'll be working with you Commissioners  
3 tonight on some of the transition planning, in terms of  
4 other contacts the Commissioners have been in touch with.

5 The detailed -- more detailed outreach plan will  
6 include specific sectors that we are working with the  
7 field needs to be reaching out to within the zones to  
8 ensure that field leads are reaching out to all  
9 Californians; that it's very succinct within each zone;  
10 that they're all following essentially the same playbook,  
11 in terms of who they're reaching out to; entities that do  
12 reach far and wide to individuals throughout the zones.  
13 And we'll talk about that in more detail and at the  
14 next -- when we present the more detailed plan.

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Sinay, follow up?

16 COMMISSIONER SINAY: All right. It was my -- my  
17 question was taken more broadly than it -- and that's my  
18 fault.

19 How can we help -- or is it to -- for the ones that  
20 are coming up right now before the Phase II Plan has been  
21 fully figured out and approved? Should we, if we have  
22 contacts in those regions, go ahead and just say, hey,  
23 heads up, you can register now?

24 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes, anyone is welcome to promote  
25 the pub -- upcoming COI input meetings. As I noted,

1 Fredy is just making one final tweak to the flier. We  
2 will have an additional email blast going out tomorrow  
3 for the June 19th and other upcoming input meetings.

4 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Sadhwani and then Alvaro,  
5 and then Kennedy?

6 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah. A couple of things.

7 Marci, can you remind me, what was the date that you  
8 anticipate the that Phase II Plan being available next --  
9 the next meeting? Next week, got it.

10 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah, that's -- that was our plan.

11 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. Thank you. So a  
12 couple of other thoughts. One, have we discussed -- and  
13 I recognize I had missed one meeting, but the fact that  
14 this Saturday is June 19th, it's Juneteenth.

15 Is that a concern at all for our upcoming meeting?  
16 So I just want to put that out there as a -- as a point  
17 for discussion.

18 And then this -- the other piece that I just wanted  
19 to raise, and perhaps this came up during the public  
20 input design, I'm not sure I wasn't able to tune in for  
21 that, but it seemed on June 10th that there were a  
22 number -- it appeared, in any case, I don't -- I don't  
23 know what the numbers were, that there were people that  
24 reserved time slots and then didn't show.

25 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Um-hum.



1 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Is that a fair assessment?

2 Yeah. Is there anything we can do about that? I  
3 mean, so for example, I think these days, you know, you  
4 have a dentist appointment or a haircut. And you make an  
5 appointment and then, you know, the day before you get a  
6 text message saying, you have an appointment at this  
7 time. You know, respond Y if you're going to keep it or  
8 N if you're not.

9 And can we do anything like that just to help us  
10 ensure that these slots are actually being filled?

11 And if there are slots that are opening up at the  
12 last minute, that we could try to, you know, do a final  
13 push to get people in last minute, potentially? You  
14 know, I -- filling those the slots I think is a -- is an  
15 important component. So I'm just curious if there are  
16 other ways that we might be able to think about doing  
17 that.

18 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. In terms of Juneteenth, I  
19 know that this was brought up when we -- the Commission  
20 was going over the original schedule. There were a few  
21 high -- holidays that were highlighted. However, that --  
22 we are still having our meeting on the 19th. For your  
23 other question, this was part of the discussion on Monday  
24 and I believe will be discussed further during the  
25 subcommittee report out. The phone lines were opened to

1 allow for people to also call in.

2 Just given the timing of the day bef -- because if  
3 people are letting us know the day before and we're  
4 already closing registration, it's -- part of that  
5 logistical process, in terms of getting everything over  
6 to our video team and to the line drawers to -- to prep  
7 for the next day to get out a registration link.

8 So I think if there is interest from the Commission  
9 in keeping the registration open longer, you know,  
10 hearing more feedback about -- about that process, I  
11 think just also having that context of, you know, needing  
12 to get stuff over to the -- the video streaming team and  
13 to line drawers and also for our field leads in prep and  
14 setting up a -- a tracking process on the back end as  
15 well.

16 Did I answer all of your questions?

17 CHAIR AHMAD: Great Alvaro and then Commissioner  
18 Kennedy.

19 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. Thank you.

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay, Alvaro and then Commissioner  
21 Kennedy.

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yes, thank you. So  
23 we -- we did have a lot of that conversation the other  
24 day. And so we're looking at options to try to fill or  
25 backfill some of those empty slots, if we have them.

1 There were some thoughts, and we're still looking at  
2 whether or not we can do them realistically because if  
3 you open it up beyond a certain point, then you get a  
4 flood of people.

5 It just impacts the rest of your schedule. And  
6 because you have a time slot, we want to be respectful,  
7 if you register for that time slot that you're available  
8 or that you can be heard during that time slot.

9 And -- and there are some challenges with that. And  
10 so that may be for the discussion that we'll have later  
11 today. I did want to kind of uplift that the June 19th  
12 is the one that we're talking about today. But right  
13 after that, the following Monday, we have the June 21st.  
14 And that also needs your help to get folks to become  
15 aware that we're having these public input meetings and  
16 to register.

17 So the sooner that we can get the word out -- and I  
18 think the question was asked by Commissioner Sinay, how  
19 can we help? You know, you have Twitter, you have  
20 Facebook, you have friends, family, let them know, and  
21 get the word out to know that we're having these two  
22 meetings, and that we'll have future meetings as well  
23 that are coming up. Thank you.

24 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Kennedy?

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair.



1 I just wanted to check with Director Ceja, is the  
2 flyer being done in multiple languages? You know, I have  
3 to say that I'm disappointed that to date, we've not had  
4 public input coming in in any -- in any other language.  
5 And I want to make sure that we're doing our part to make  
6 sure that people are aware that they can provide input in  
7 other languages. Thank you.

8 CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. Go ahead, Fredy.

9 DIRECTOR CEJA: So yeah, I've -- I've sent the  
10 finalized flyer over to Marcy, so I -- I believe it would  
11 be in our interests to have it translated so that we can  
12 send it out to multiple communities. But I -- I've just  
13 handed it over to Marcy, so I'm not sure what -- what's  
14 next.

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for Marcy's report  
16 out? Yes, Commissioner Toledo and then Andersen?

17 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Not particularly around --  
18 around this, I just -- around -- I did hear from a  
19 community member that as they were trying -- Spanish-  
20 speaking community member, that they tried to go on to  
21 our tool, it was during a presentation. And -- and that  
22 they weren't able to submit their -- and that -- their --  
23 their comments because they didn't have a map. So that  
24 the toolbox required them to issue a map prior to  
25 submission.

1           And because they didn't it -- issue a map, they did  
2 everything else, but didn't have a map to submit with  
3 their comments -- it didn't go through. So I'm not -- I  
4 just -- I didn't know who to give that information to.  
5 I'm not sure if that's even an issue. But I just wanted  
6 to make sure that we're all aware.

7           CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. And again, reminding my  
8 colleagues, we will have a debrief later on on the  
9 agenda. So if there's other items specifically related  
10 to COI input, I recommend you all to bring it up at that  
11 time. But for right now, if there's any questions  
12 directly for Marcy's report out.

13           Commissioner Andersen, and then Akutagawa?

14           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

15           Marcy, that was a great report. And I really  
16 appreciate all the information that you gave us,  
17 specifically for what a person who signs up actually  
18 gets.

19           Could we possibly get a copy of that? Because I'm  
20 being asked those questions.

21           Well, what do we do? I'm being asked more about  
22 that. And I don't have the information.

23           I'd rather have it be the official policy of exactly  
24 what's being given. And your documentation of that and  
25 where you just went through it very methodically was

1 wonderful, particularly the way it had all the numbers  
2 and all the email addresses. So I would really  
3 appreciate if we could -- Commissioners could get copies  
4 of that. Thank you.

5 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Marcy, you have a response?

6 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Just to add to that. Thank you  
7 for highlighting that. Fredy and I talked about this and  
8 creating a -- a document that would also guide the public  
9 through that process. So I essentially read off my notes  
10 and what we're looking at for that. So I will work with  
11 him to create that document to share. It will be posted  
12 on our website and -- and for you all as well.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Akutagawa?

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. Marcy, I don't know  
16 if this is a -- this is a real possibility, but I think  
17 as a society, we're used to making reservations and  
18 appointments for things, and then not showing up. And so  
19 to Commissioner Sadhwani's point, I mean, you know,  
20 unfortunately, I think, you know, that's the reality that  
21 we all face. And that's why airlines overbook their  
22 flights on the, you know, on the effort to ensure that  
23 they have full flights.

24 I don't know if you had enough demand where if you  
25 needed to you overbook, I guess, maybe by like five or



1 ten percent extra people so that you can ensure that the  
2 appointment slots will be full. Since there's not like  
3 individual slots, it's just a time block and so it could  
4 be possible that you just, you know, allow a few extra  
5 people into a certain time block on the assumption that  
6 there's going to be at least small -- a small number that  
7 are not going to show up at their appointed time.

8 And so that may be one way to help fill in. And  
9 obviously, the other thing is, you know, we'll all make  
10 efforts to try to ensure or to encourage people to sign  
11 up for the, you know, the public input meetings.

12 Chair, I do have a brief response to Commissioner  
13 Toledo. But I could wait until we get to the COI  
14 portion.

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, please do. Thank you,  
16 Commissioner Akutagawa.

17 Any other questions or comments for Marcy on her  
18 report out?

19 Yes, Commissioner Sadhwani?

20 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you. I just wanted to  
21 bring it back to the Juneteenth issue. I'm not  
22 suggesting that we don't hold the meeting, but I am  
23 wondering if there's something that we could do to alter  
24 the script in the opening of that session. It was  
25 recently passed by the Senate unanimously, I believe, to

1 make Juneteenth a Federal holiday. I think any time that  
2 the Senate, particularly the Senate, is able to pass  
3 something unanimously is a pretty huge accomplishment.

4 Certainly redistricting, as we note in the  
5 redistricting basics presentation, has been used  
6 throughout history in the United States to disenfranchise  
7 communities of color and black communities in particular.  
8 And I'm wondering if, you know, there would be support  
9 from the Commission, at least if we're continuing our  
10 meeting on this -- June 19th to have an opening comment  
11 that recognizes June 19th and the importance of hearing  
12 from black communities for the redistricting process.

13 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I so move that we modify the  
15 script to reflect this and have a discussion of the  
16 present -- a short little blurb on the importance of  
17 Juneteenth.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Point of  
19 clarification, Commissioner Andersen, is this for the  
20 Chair to provide sort of an opening introduction  
21 regarding -- on Juneteenth for that? Is that -- is that  
22 what the motion is?

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I did not specify, as I  
24 thought the staff should determine the best way if the  
25 Chair did that with the staff presented ahead of time.

1 So I would just like to actually -- I didn't want to  
2 dictate exactly who says it.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: But I'd like to have it --

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- brought up. Thank you.

7 CHAIR AHMAD: And another point of clarification,  
8 Commissioner Andersen, and this is just for this  
9 Saturday's COI input meeting, right?

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That is correct.

11 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. Okay. So we have a motion on  
12 the floor.

13 Do we have a second?

14 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes. Oh, Commissioner Sinay.

15 Any discussion? No? Okay. Can we take public  
16 comment, Katy, on the motion on the floor, which I will  
17 ask Commissioner Andersen to repeat?

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So could -- could --  
19 if I could just intro -- if I could just introduce one  
20 comment. I'm not sure that a motion is truly necessary  
21 for this. I think this is something that just  
22 administratively, the Chair -- the staff and Chair could  
23 work out on a script.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: If --

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Looks like --



1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I just -- I want to make  
2 sure it does indeed happen. And that's why I brought --  
3 I made the motion. So whatever mechanism we need to  
4 have, if we want to just do a quick, you know, thumbs up  
5 to make sure we get full Commissioner support or not.  
6 But I just want to move that forward. So I do -- I do  
7 recognize if we -- if the motion is not needed, I can  
8 withdraw the motion. Just please let me know.

9           CHAIR AHMAD: Anthony, I'm going to lean on you  
10 here.

11           EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: If I -- if we could  
12 maybe go to Commissioner Sinay, if that's okay --

13           CHAIR AHMAD: Sure.

14           EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- I believe she has  
15 a comment.

16           CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Sinay?

17           COMMISSIONER SINAY: I would agree that it doesn't  
18 need a motion, but we have been told on several occasions  
19 from staff that we didn't give clear direction. And when  
20 I asked what is clear direction, I was told a motion. So  
21 since staff has asked for clear direction equals motion,  
22 I would say we should move forward on a motion.

23           CHAIR AHMAD: If I may, myself and Commissioner  
24 Fernandez will be leading Saturday's meeting. And if we  
25 can, between the two of us, commit something -- drafting

1 something and introducing this piece on Saturday, would  
2 that be enough from a legal perspective and then also for  
3 Commissioner satisfaction? And I would want confirmation  
4 from both, Anthony, from the legal perspective, as well  
5 as my colleagues.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Chair, that would be  
7 fine.

8 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. And then colleagues,  
9 Commissioner Kennedy?

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I just think I'd like us to  
11 be on the record.

12 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

13 Commissioner Andersen, since you made the motion, I  
14 need some clear direction from you, whether your motion  
15 remains or you have withdrawn it.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I believe, if Commissioner  
17 Kennedy would like it to be on the record, I believe  
18 we'll do a motion.

19 I means that correct?

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So if I could --

21 CHAIR AHMAD: Pods --

22 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I could -- just a  
23 point of clarification.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, please do.

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The problem we have

1 if -- first of all, I don't again, I don't believe that a  
2 motion is necessary. Secondly, if we did go to a motion,  
3 we have the issue of it being properly agendized for this  
4 meeting.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So my recommendation  
7 would be that that's something that the Chair can  
8 administratively address. And I believe there's clear  
9 direction in -- in the event. Of course, all of the  
10 Commission could certainly state that they are in favor  
11 of that action. That does not require a motion.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: With that said, I will  
13 withdraw the motion, and I -- and I would request the  
14 Chair to ask for an acknowledgment of support of this  
15 idea from all the Commissioners and that it be added into  
16 the notes.

17 CHAIR AHMAD: How do I do that?

18 Do I just ask each one individually, or do you all  
19 trust Commissioner Fernandez and I to take this on and  
20 implement it into the script?

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Could I say -- could I say,  
22 do I see a hands up in support of this motion -- of this  
23 concept and idea?

24 Do I have a hands up?

25 CHAIR AHMAD: So we don't have everyone's hands up.



1           COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do not see everyone's  
2 hands up.

3           Any discussion about that?

4           CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Turner?

5           COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, I'd just like to say I  
6 appreciate the motion attempt. I appreciate the  
7 discussion. I think it would -- that it would have been,  
8 and this is for myself as well as everyone else -- I  
9 think it would have been more powerful.

10          It did not just become Juneteenth. It's been around  
11 forever. And for short, it -- we recognize that it did  
12 just pass from a Senate perspective, but when it came up  
13 before, we moved past it real quickly, gave it not much  
14 attention at all, and we still decided to move forward  
15 with it.

16          Commissioner Trena Turner, I'm speaking to me as  
17 well as all of you, and the fact that we moved forward  
18 with it and to have a statement made concerning it for me  
19 feels hollow. And I don't know why, but I just thought I  
20 wanted to say that.

21          So either way we go, of course I submit it. It's  
22 what we could do at the very least.

23          But since we're pressed for conversation about it, I  
24 thought I'd just share. That's kind of how I'm sitting  
25 in the moment, feeling that it's almost too little, too

1 late. And in retrospect, I wished I would have lifted it  
2 a little bit more and perhaps to not have the gathering  
3 on that particular day and have it pushed off to a  
4 different day is my personal thoughts, since we stayed  
5 here in the moment.

6 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Kennedy?

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: What I'm hearing is that a  
8 motion is not necessary. I still come back to, I would  
9 rather us be on the record.

10 CHAIR AHMAD: My understanding is that it's not  
11 agendized. And I'm --

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I'm not hearing that we can't  
13 do it. I'm hearing that it's not necessary to do it.

14 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. I'll defer to Anthony when it's  
15 appropriate to get clarification on that. But I did see  
16 Commissioner Taylor's hand up.

17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So my recommendation  
18 would be it's not agendized. It's not agendized, we  
19 wouldn't be able to take action on it as an item that  
20 wasn't agendized in advance. So I would recommend that  
21 certainly, there are other ways for the Commissioners to  
22 voice their support for what the Chair could otherwise  
23 administratively do only a few days before the actual  
24 meeting.

25 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Taylor?



1           COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Good afternoon, everyone. So  
2 I do kind of, you know -- and my thought process is  
3 probably similar to Commissioner Turner's.

4           I will say this, as we think about this further, we  
5 have as the Commission on given days acknowledged the day  
6 that it was. And I think that's appropriate whatever day  
7 it is, that that's a significant day to acknowledge that  
8 day prior to a meeting.

9           And then I also would like to say that, you know,  
10 people view holidays in different -- in different  
11 manners. You know, the significance of Juneteenth in  
12 combination with being civically engaged might be  
13 acknowledgment to some. So it's not always -- it's not  
14 always setting aside work. Sometimes being engaged,  
15 being working, being out in public, participating in the  
16 process that we're trying to improve speaks to the  
17 significance of Juneteenth.

18           So there's always different ways to look at every --  
19 to look at what's in front of us. Acknowledge the day,  
20 in my opinion, I think speaks to the importance of the  
21 day and work for it to provide a better democracy.

22           CHAIR AHMAD: Great. So what I'll do for the sake  
23 of time is bring this conversation back up when we get to  
24 our COI input debrief portion of our agenda, hopefully  
25 giving folks a little bit more time to think through how

1 best to approach this for this next COI input meeting.

2 Does that work for folks?

3 Yeah, Commissioner Sinay?

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sorry. I just -- it may be  
5 best to bring it up during the subcommittee updates, just  
6 because in that part of the agenda we do say that actions  
7 may be taken. And so it would be agendized versus on the  
8 Public Input Design Committee, it doesn't say anything  
9 about actions.

10 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. All right. Any other  
11 questions for Marcy -- Marcy's report out.

12 No?

13 Okay, Katy, can we open the line for public comment?

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. I would like  
15 to remind those to call in that the instructions are  
16 noted on the stream as they were previously read in this  
17 meeting. When you do call in hitting star 9, raising  
18 your hand and muting your audio will make it the best  
19 transition.

20 And at this time, there is no one in the queue.

21 (Pause)

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the stream is caught  
23 up at this time.

24 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. Moving along to  
25 agenda item number 5, Chief Counsel's report.



1 MR. PANE: Thank you, Chair. I have one -- one sort  
2 of brief comment and just notice that I understand that  
3 there's a regular interest to have Legislative updates.  
4 So -- and a way to get the Commission notice and regular  
5 notice of that Marian is going to be sending out weekly  
6 Legislative updates.

7 And I think she's going to start on Monday with  
8 those so that you all will have those at the ready. And  
9 we can certainly follow up with any particular questions  
10 you have. That's all I have for the Chief Counsel's  
11 Update, at least for today.

12 CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for our Chief Counsel?  
13 Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I appreciate a  
15 nice weekly update. However, we -- Marian has been very  
16 kind and given me a -- I guess sort of information as it  
17 occurs.

18 Does that mean it will be held and only done once a  
19 week? Or will it be, you know, in real time? It might  
20 be, like, a some -- like, would that be we get both or  
21 with a -- just a quick summary in the weekly? Or could  
22 you expand little bit more on that? Thank you.

23 MR. PANE: Sure, Commissioner Andersen. We could  
24 certainly do it as they occur. At a minimum, we were  
25 going to do them weekly.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

2 CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for our Chief  
3 Counsel and his report out?

4 Seeing none, Katy, can we take public comment on  
5 agenda item number 5?

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. As a  
7 reminder to those watching the livestream to call in is  
8 877-853-5247. The full instructions are on the stream.  
9 Please call in at this time. We do have one caller with  
10 their hand raised. And I'd like to remind those that  
11 this public comment is on the current agenda item.

12 Go ahead. The floor is yours.

13 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Hello, this is Renee Westa-Lusk. I  
14 was trying to dial in for the last agenda item. Well, it  
15 wasn't really an agenda item. It was a comment on the  
16 Juneteenth.

17 I -- I share the Commissioners that want to put it  
18 on -- put an action item together for recognizing  
19 Juneteenth. I don't understand if your parliamentary  
20 procedure wouldn't allow you to amend the agenda to allow  
21 to add items.

22 I go to other board meetings and they -- some other  
23 boards that I attend allow for amending the agenda at the  
24 meeting and adding items they want to address. I don't  
25 know if that's a possibility or not. But I share the

1 spirit of wanting to recognize Juneteenth. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
3 again, those calling in, if you would like to call in at  
4 this time, it is on item number 5, Chief Counsel's  
5 Report. And we do not have any other callers at this  
6 time.

7 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. Moving along to  
8 agenda item number 6 Communications Director's Report.

9 DIRECTOR CEJA: Great. Thank you, Chair.

10 I wanted to go down the list for my report, starting  
11 with interviews to date. This week we had Commissioner  
12 Ahmad speak to the San Dimu -- San Dimas Community Post.  
13 And we have upcoming interviews with KCBX Central Coast  
14 Public Radio with Commissioner Fornaciari, the voice of  
15 Orange County with Commissioner Akutagawa, Capital Weekly  
16 with Chair Ahmad, and then KUCI Radio with Commissioners  
17 Akutagawa and Turner.

18 So I'm going and doing a second round with those  
19 folks that have covered redistricting already and  
20 touching bases with them again to enter into Phase II so  
21 that they publicize that the fact that we're doing COI  
22 input meetings.

23 Social Media Analytics, Cecilia sent all the  
24 Commissioners an update, and this is something we're  
25 going to start doing. It's compiling the number of hits



1 that we receive on social media. And I'm not going to go  
2 through the whole report, but I will highlight a few  
3 things.

4 For Facebook from January to now, we've gone from  
5 162 likes to 904. For Twitter, we have reached 1,482  
6 followers. For LinkedIn, we have 184 total followers.  
7 For Instagram, we have 140, and for YouTube we have 49  
8 subscribers, and we're really pushing for 100 because  
9 after 100, we're able to do more features with YouTube.  
10 And the highest-viewed video on YouTube is actually the  
11 redistricting basics presentation at 334 views.

12 As far as website analytics are concerned, our  
13 database is at 11,004. When we began, we incorporated a  
14 mailing list that we had from Mailchimp that was at  
15 2,500. So I think we've made a substantial gain in our  
16 database numbers. And as far as how many times folks  
17 have viewed our page in the last month, we've gotten  
18 16,000 impressions, 594 views, and we're getting a good  
19 mix of desktop users, 358 and 228 mobile users.

20 So the numbers are not too far apart from each  
21 other. So folks are accessing our website in both  
22 manners. Most folks are coming from the U.S. And the  
23 way that folks are looking for our website is under We  
24 Draw the Lines. So that has the highest content there.  
25 And I'll -- I'll shoot over a more detailed report that



1 actually gives us the number of hits that we've received  
2 per Commissioner name and things of that sort.

3 As far as eblasts are concerned, we are at an open  
4 click rate of twenty percent, which is pretty average --  
5 that you want to stay in the twenty percentile click  
6 rates, so when folks receive our eblasts, twenty percent  
7 are actually clicking and opening the message. When we  
8 sent out a message indicating that we were hiring, that  
9 was the highest click rate at thirty-one percent. So  
10 people are interested in seeing what jobs we had  
11 available.

12 And as far as the contracts for communications  
13 advertising? Ceci and I we're working on building a plan  
14 for that. And then we had a conversation with Raul this  
15 week. So a lot of that is going to be guided by the sort  
16 of contract that we enter into.

17 So we'll have another conversation with him this  
18 week -- tomorrow actually -- to go over how we're going  
19 to utilize the money that we have set aside for social  
20 media ads and for radio buys. We might have to look for  
21 a contractor to just take a lump sum of money and then  
22 provide us with the service. But I'll report out more on  
23 that as we continue with the conversation.

24 Lastly, it was brought to our attention that during  
25 the COI meetings, we got that nice video rolling through



1 when we had intermissions that tells people how to log on  
2 to Draw My California Community and fill out their maps  
3 and their COI formation. And then in conversations with  
4 a Statewide Database that left us with areas that --  
5 where we had opportunities for other videos.

6 And so three main videos that -- that we identified  
7 that we need right now are What Is a COI? and Giving  
8 Examples so we can show that through those intermissions.  
9 Why is it important to participate and how the Commission  
10 will use COI information. If there are additional videos  
11 that we need right now, I'd be more than happy to -- to  
12 jot down some ideas or email them to me.

13 And in addition to those immediate need for videos,  
14 I'm also taking a list of additional videos that we just  
15 need in general to inform the public about how we're  
16 moving along in our process. And Commissioner Sinay has  
17 already sent me a few additional ideas on that.

18 And that's all I have for now.

19 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Fredy.

20 And any questions for Fredy for his report out?

21 Marcy and then Commissioner Kennedy.

22 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just want to add to what Fredy  
23 said when we met with this Statewide Database, they are  
24 coming out with a new video that's more for the user  
25 for -- on the COI Tool, which is a five-minute video and



1 then a series of shorter videos also. And so we met with  
2 them in looking at how the Outreach Team, in coordination  
3 with Comms, can develop a -- a training on the COI Tool.

4 And so looking at how this can be an interactive  
5 PowerPoint, utilizing and leveraging their videos also.  
6 So that will be something we'll report back on as well.  
7 But that was just some -- some context to that. And  
8 thank you, Fredy, for highlighting that.

9 DIRECTOR CEJA: Thanks.

10 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Kennedy?

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. I just  
12 wanted to ask Director Ceja when he prepares the web  
13 stats, if he could also at least seek out web stats on  
14 the 2010 Commission site, the .ca.gov site. I'm  
15 interested in seeing if people are still landing there by  
16 mistake and trying to navigate around.

17 I've heard, you know, people end up there because  
18 sometimes that's the first thing that comes up when you  
19 do a web search, and then they go and like, look for the  
20 current meetings or something, and they're not finding  
21 it. So I just want to get a sense from the statistics if  
22 we're still having problems with people ending up on the  
23 wrong website. Thanks.

24 DIRECTOR CEJA: Okay. Good point. Thank you.

25 CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for Fredy for his



1 report out?

2 Seeing none, Katy, can we call for public comment on  
3 agenda item number 6, Communications Director's Report?

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

5 The Commission will now take public comment on  
6 agenda item number 6. To give public comment, please  
7 call 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number  
8 95775048678.

9 Once you dial in, please press 9 to enter the  
10 comment queue. Please press star 9 to enter the comment  
11 queue. The full call-in instructions are read at the  
12 beginning of the meeting and are provided in full on the  
13 live stream landing page.

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

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Turner?

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, just real quick, while  
17 we are waiting.

18 Fredy, I just wanted to say the one-page analytic  
19 that was provided was amazing and so very informative.  
20 So I just want to say thank you for that. You all keep  
21 increasing -- upping your game on that.

22 DIRECTOR CEJA: Yeah. Thank you. And we'll play  
23 with the actual look of it so that it looks -- it's more  
24 readable. But yeah, we'll be providing this at every  
25 meeting from now on. Thank you.



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions are  
2 complete, Chair, and there is no one in the queue.

3 (Pause)

4 CHAIR AHMAD: All right. Moving right along.  
5 Agenda item number 7, Subcommittee Updates. We'll start  
6 with 7-A, Government Affairs and Census.

7 Commissioners Sadhwani and Toledo?

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I don't believe we have  
9 anything to report at this time.

10 Per -- Commissioner Toledo, anything?

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No, I think -- I don't -- I  
12 don't think we have an update at this time.

13 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. 7-B, Finance and  
14 Administration Subcommittee.

15 Commissioners Fernandez and Fornaciari?

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything  
17 substantial at this point.

18 CHAIR AHMAD: 7-C, Gantt Chart Subcommittee.

19 Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor?

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Nothing substantive to  
21 report.

22 CHAIR AHMAD: 7-D, VRA Compliance Subcommittee.

23 Commissioners Sadhwani and Yee?

24 VICE CHAIR YEE: We're looking forward to working  
25 with our new -- newly approved-- newly contracted VRA

1 Council and we'll be providing some training coming up  
2 starting on June 25th, we hope -- I'm sorry, June 30th  
3 and July 7th. That's what we're planning.

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Commissioner Yee, would it  
5 be helpful to discuss at this point the -- a little bit  
6 about the discussion from the Legal Affairs Committee  
7 meeting, just regarding working with the scope of the VRA  
8 subcommittee and working with council to develop a  
9 strategy plan for VRA compliance that we would bring back  
10 to the full Commission?

11 VICE CHAIR YEE: Sure. So of course, our own Chief  
12 Counsel directs outside council, including the VRA  
13 Council. So the question is from the Commission side,  
14 which body would work with our Chief Counsel in that  
15 interaction with VRA Council? And so the Legal Affairs  
16 Committee discussed this today and would like to  
17 recommend that the VRA Subcommittee continue its work on  
18 varying matters now to include working with the Area  
19 Council.

20 And so working with our Chief Counsel in directing  
21 VRA Council in its work, I believe that was the thought.  
22 So it's -- we believe it's not a -- any change.

23 The VRA Subcommittee was charged with doing  
24 committee subcommittee work for the Commission on all VRA  
25 matters. So of course initially, that included hiring

1 the VRA Council but also doing some initial VRA training  
2 which we arranged for. And then now going forward,  
3 working -- we're suggesting the VRA Council would just  
4 continue with its work now working with our Chief Counsel  
5 to direct VRA Council.

6 And so that would include VRA training as well as,  
7 of course, VRA compliance work. So unless there's any  
8 discussion or deliberation or disagreement with that,  
9 we'd like to simply continue with that work.

10 CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for our VRA Compliance  
11 Subcommittee?

12 Seeing none, Commissioner Yee and Sadhwani, is there  
13 anything else for your report out?

14 VICE CHAIR YEE: I believe that's all. Thank you.

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Moving right  
16 along, 7-E, Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee.

17 Commissioners Sinay and Fornaciari?

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, I don't have  
19 anything.

20 Do you, Commissioner Sinay?

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just -- just two quick things.  
22 As Outreach and Communication staff said, we are working  
23 on the Phase II: Community of -- you know, the activation  
24 phase where people submit their communities of interest.  
25 And we're also working on -- staff is working on an

1 analysis of what -- of what took place during phase one.

2 And Commissioner Fornaciari and I are working on a  
3 transition report just kind of to help us as  
4 Commissioners understand, you know, this was a  
5 Commission-driven outreach in phase one and we're moving  
6 now into a -- now that we have a full staff, into a  
7 staff-driven outreach and activation, and just kind of to  
8 help us see the difference and also what -- how much we,  
9 as Commissioners, did during that first phase.

10 So we may be asking staff to help us pull some of  
11 that information, but I think we have a lot of it. But I  
12 want to acknowledge once again all the Commissioners and  
13 thank you so much for all the outreach we -- we've been  
14 doing because we wouldn't be here without everyone  
15 spending so many hours on the phone, on email, and in  
16 conversations. Okay, let's not forget Zoom. So thank  
17 you all so much for being creative and really getting  
18 people engaged.

19 CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for our Outreach and  
20 Engagement Subcommittee?

21 Yes, Commissioner Turner?

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Just a quick question. I  
23 realize I don't have the answer maybe for that committee.  
24 I hope since this is where we are on the agenda, is --  
25 are we doing any proactive outreach or is there a letter?

1 Are we going back around sending out something to the  
2 specific zones when we have, for example, Zone D? Are we  
3 doing anything from a staff perspective or from a  
4 Commission perspective that goes to the specific zones  
5 for public input?

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.  
7 That was similar to the question that I had asked  
8 earlier. And I will -- Marcy, I think, would be good and  
9 just reiterate. Thanks.

10 We -- we'll have more detail once the plan comes  
11 out. But in the meantime, until the plan comes out and  
12 it's approved, Marcy will share what we will be doing.

13 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes. So the field leads are  
14 following up for the upcoming COI input meetings that are  
15 zone-specific to contacts in those zones. And so we are  
16 setting -- starting broadly and following up with local  
17 governments. The Commissioners have been in touch with  
18 entities that reach broad communities like schools,  
19 community colleges, libraries, also following up with  
20 organizations that have held a redistricting basics  
21 presentation and reiterating we're in this next phase and  
22 then working with statewide organizations also that had  
23 hosted presentations.

24 So I -- as I emphasized earlier, as a part of the  
25 Phase II really breaking down sectors, looking at the

1 sectors that field leads will be targeting within the  
2 zones to make sure that we are reaching broadly all  
3 Californians, and that each field lead is following the  
4 same playbook in terms of entities that they're engaging  
5 in a very, I guess, formatted process in terms of these  
6 are ways to participate. This is, you know, the  
7 Commission and here are ways to participate in the  
8 process.

9       So really just structuring that for the field leads  
10 for the Commissioners as well. Really looking at the  
11 outreach strategy that was developed already where the  
12 Commission identified accessibility, communities to  
13 target, whether it was geographic or other entities. So  
14 using that as a guide to further provide detail and  
15 direction for -- for the field leads.

16       CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions for Outreach and  
17 Engagement Subcommittee?

18       Yes, Commissioner Fernandez?

19       COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I just wanted to  
20 follow up with Director Kaplan that I also, for Zone D, I  
21 did forward an email with all of the contacts that I had.

22       So I sent it to her as well as to Andrew, right?  
23 Andrew's our -- he's filling in for the lead for North,  
24 since we don't have one. So that may be helpful for the  
25 other Commissioners as well so that they can add that to



1 their contacts.

2         DIRECTOR KAPLAN: And just to highlight, Andrew is  
3 filling in for Zone D. We -- I did note at my outreach  
4 report in the previous Commission meeting that the  
5 field -- the field leads and Sulma are splitting up the  
6 four northern zones.

7         If it's helpful, I can go through those counties and  
8 which field lead is covering those, if that's helpful for  
9 everyone to hear again right now. Okay, let me just pull  
10 up the map so I can also list the counties.

11         So first, Zone A, Del Norte, Humboldt County,  
12 Mendocino County, Lake County, Napa County, Sonoma County  
13 and Trinity County, that is Jose Eduardo. For Zone B,  
14 which is Butte County, Colusa County, Glenn, Lassen,  
15 Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, that is Sulma  
16 Hernandez, our Outreach Coordinator.

17         For Zone C, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San  
18 Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano is  
19 Kimberly. Although I -- and Zone D, Eldorado -- no --  
20 no, sorry Kimberly Briggs, our L.A. Lead. And for Zone  
21 D, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra Sutter,  
22 Yolo, and Yuba counties, Andrew Amorao is taking the lead  
23 in the interim, until we have brought on a fourth  
24 Northern California Lead.

25         CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Marcy.



1 Questions for Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee?

2 Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I did have one  
4 request. And this is kind of going back to the -- that  
5 we're saying the zone meetings are not strict to zone.  
6 They can also be -- anyone else can call in. And with  
7 the idea is the lot -- that stone line's being drawn. I  
8 would like to ask if the -- when there's a meeting for,  
9 say, zone -- particularly in the more sparsely populated  
10 ones with a large area-wide zones, if the couple of  
11 counties that are adjacent to those are also notified and  
12 like, just --

13 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Andersen, sorry, I don't  
14 mean to interrupt.

15 Is this suggestions you have for our debrief for COI  
16 input meetings?

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, this is for Outreach  
18 for these next two meetings that are coming up. And this  
19 is for the Outreach for promotion of those.

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So if this is not the  
22 correct time to say that, I'll see it -- I'll wait. But  
23 I would (indiscernible) something else.

24 CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah, I would -- I would just ask the  
25 subcommittee to please make it clear if this is something

1 that's under your purview or not or if this is something  
2 that should be moved to the COI input piece?

3 Yes, Commissioner Fornaciari?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think this is  
5 something we're going to bring up an COI input -- the  
6 feedback -- agenda item 8.

7 I think I captured that, Commissioner Andersen, on  
8 our list of topics, we were going to talk about this in  
9 this meeting at -- in agenda item 8 --

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh, okay.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- in the handout. Yeah.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: It -- yeah, it didn't come  
13 up in our -- in the public input meeting. That's why I  
14 brought it up here.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, I thought we had  
16 talked about that --

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- in public input meeting  
19 and in --

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Adjacent counties?

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, we talked about the  
22 counties and surrounding areas, I think is the way the  
23 conversation went.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. I did not interpret  
25 it that way. Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thanks.

2 CHAIR AHMAD: We'll bring that back up, Commissioner  
3 Andersen, once we get to agenda item number 8.

4 Are there any other questions for Outreach and  
5 Engagement Subcommittee?

6 No? Okay. Moving along. Language Access  
7 Subcommittee.

8 Commissioners Akutagawa and Fernandez?

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I don't believe we have  
10 anything to report.

11 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. Materials Development  
12 Subcommittee. That's Commissioners Fernandez and  
13 Kennedy.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything  
15 substantial. The last thing that we're waiting to be  
16 finalized is the paper COI Tool.

17 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Website  
18 Subcommittee.

19 Commissioners Kennedy and Taylor?

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: We have handed over a -- an  
21 extensive set of recommendations, and we'll start taking  
22 another look at the website once those are -- or once any  
23 of those are put in place and start working on our next  
24 set of recommendations. Thank you.

25 CHAIR AHMAD: Are there any questions for Website

1 Subcommittee on the report out?

2 No? All right. Moving along to Data Management  
3 Subcommittee. That'd be myself and Commissioner Turner.

4 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Um-hum. Thank you. Outside  
5 of what Director Alvaro shared earlier, we have no  
6 further updates for this meeting.

7 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. Outreach  
8 Contracts.

9 That's Commissioner Akutagawa and Le Mons.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: We don't have anything to  
11 update.

12 CHAIR AHMAD: Community of Interest Tool,  
13 Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy?

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: The latest update from the  
15 Statewide Database is, I think, encouraging. As of last  
16 Friday in the latest update, there were 383 registered  
17 users. That's an increase of fifty-nine from the  
18 previous week. So the increase from last week to --  
19 from -- from the previous week to the end of last week  
20 was more than 3 times as large as the increase on the  
21 previous 2 weeks and 323 community of interest  
22 submissions.

23 In total, that was an increase of forty-seven.  
24 Again, more than three times the increase over the  
25 previous report. Only one new community of interest

1 submission in a non-English language.

2 CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for COI Tool  
3 Subcommittee? Well, I'm sorry.

4 First of all, let me just ask Commissioner Kennedy  
5 and Akutagawa, were you finished with your report out?

6 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Actually, just very  
7 briefly, I wanted to respond to Commissioner Toledo about  
8 his input or his feedback. We were told by the Statewide  
9 Database for the kind of feedback that you might have  
10 around the -- the COI tool, please send it directly to  
11 the Statewide Database.

12 CHAIR AHMAD: Great, thank you.  
13 Marcy?

14 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I guess I just want to also add to  
15 that -- his -- Commissioner Toledo's comment. I believe  
16 that the geography is required in order to submit the COI  
17 Tool. So that -- that's perhaps why they couldn't the --  
18 the actual map geography is required to then have the  
19 complementing narrative as the submission, but.

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Perhaps that's something  
21 that Commissioner Kennedy and I can bring up with the  
22 Statewide Database. And partly because what struck me  
23 about what Commissioner Toledo did say is that some  
24 people may not have a map to do. But then if they're not  
25 going to submit a map, then we'd have to direct them over

1 to our website.

2 And it just complicates things. And I think it's  
3 better to capture the input, even if it's just written  
4 input without the map.

5 But Commissioner Kennedy, perhaps we can schedule a  
6 meeting with Statewide Database folks about that; what do  
7 you think?

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: I would agree. I mean, one  
9 of the things -- one of the points that I've been making  
10 is that we don't want any requirement for providing a map  
11 to be a barrier to people providing input.

12 You know, as long as someone can describe in writing  
13 what the boundaries of their neighborhood or their  
14 community of interest are, we should be able to find  
15 somebody to do the mapping part for them. I just -- I  
16 don't want people to feel turned off or obstructed by a  
17 requirement to provide an actual map, as long as they  
18 provide us with the boundaries.

19 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Andersen?

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. This is a -- I'm  
21 really glad you brought this point up, Commissioner  
22 Toledo. And I see the point for saying you can go to the  
23 Community of Interest Tool, but that's not the only way  
24 to get this information in.

25 And I think the issue is the Community of Interest



1 Tool is for -- to draw -- to put some geography in it.

2 Therefore, it doesn't need additional processing.

3 If it all comes to our -- if that kind of thing is  
4 exactly what would normally come to our office and we  
5 process it, there is a possibility it'll get confused if,  
6 like -- the COI tool would have to, like, kick it out.

7 So it has to have special handling.

8 So that's something I really wish you would address  
9 with the Statewide Database. But I see an issue with  
10 that, in terms of the entire purpose of it. It's like, I  
11 mean, if the Statewide Database has to, you know, direct  
12 it specifically to our website for submission, that might  
13 be a way to handle it for -- because it automatically  
14 needs processing, which is a little different than the  
15 COI information.

16 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Toledo?

17 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think a -- I think the  
18 feedback that I got was that they tried to do a map, but  
19 it was on their mobile device and it was almost  
20 impossible to do it on the mobile device. So they had  
21 done everything -- that means they were Spanish-speaking  
22 people trying to do their -- and weren't able to  
23 submit -- weren't able to do a map on the system, so I --  
24 and submit it. It wouldn't let them submit their, you  
25 know, after they went through and wrote all their



1 comments, weren't able to submit because they weren't  
2 able to draw a map. So that's the feedback that I got.

3 I certainly haven't tested it myself. I haven't  
4 gone on and seen and tested the issue. But I will relay  
5 this to the Statewide Database so that they're aware that  
6 there may be some issues with the mobile device function.

7 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Toledo. We  
8 have two minutes until our required break.

9 So Commissioner Turner, I saw your hand up.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Just real quick so I can  
11 understand also. And I know you're going to get answers  
12 to the Statewide Database, Commissioner Toledo.

13 Is this then assuming someone that did not log in so  
14 that they weren't able to bring it up later, did that  
15 have any -- or did they -- were they logged in as a  
16 guest?

17 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I actually don't know that.

18 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I actually don't know that.  
20 So I don't know if they logged in or if they didn't have  
21 an account. I don't know.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Because in addition to -- I do  
23 know that Statewide Database has said that it has to have  
24 the geography. But in addition to that, if someone  
25 starts a COI input -- if they start submitting and stop

1 in the middle, then it would seem it just raises  
2 questions for me because if I can start -- if I've put in  
3 my email -- if I can start and come back later, if I've  
4 started with a narrative, as opposed to a map, some kind  
5 of way, they should be able to hold that for me -- hold  
6 my place. So then I'm wondering, why can't they just --  
7 I know what's been said, but yeah, you just raise more  
8 issues. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

10 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. We are right up against break.  
11 So when we come out of closed session, we'll start up  
12 again with the COI Tool Subcommittee, in case we need to  
13 close the loop on any conversation.

14 But after our fifteen-minute break, we will be going  
15 into closed session regarding security and pending  
16 litigation. And we will be meeting in closed session at  
17 5:45. See you all then. Thank you.

18 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 5:21 p.m.  
19 until 5:45 p.m.)

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Welcome back from closed session. The  
21 Commission took no action during closed session. So we  
22 will pick up our conversation where we left off with the  
23 report out from the Communities of Interest Tool  
24 Subcommittee.

25 Commissioners Akutagawa and Kennedy?

1           COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I believe, where we left  
2 off, Commissioner Turner had just commented about the  
3 individual that had a challenge being able to save their  
4 Communities of Interest testimony because they weren't  
5 able to complete their map on the mobile tool. And so I  
6 don't know if there's any other comments or other  
7 questions that we should be aware of.

8           I believe we're, as a subcommittee, Commissioner  
9 Kennedy and I have taken an action that we would meet  
10 with the Statewide Database to ask about some of these  
11 questions. But I also know that Commissioner Toledo also  
12 offered to provide the input that he received from the  
13 individual who told them.

14           And I think that would be better because there may  
15 be other nuances that you may be able to share. I didn't  
16 realize initially that it was on a mobile phone and those  
17 are good details to also make sure that they understand.

18           CHAIR AHMAD: Are there any other questions for our  
19 COI Tool Subcommittee at this point?

20           No? All right. I did get a request to go back to  
21 Language Access Subcommittee.

22           Commissioners Akutagawa and Fernandez?

23           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair.

24           I think I did get a request from Director Kaplan in  
25 terms of whether we needed to approve the fliers to be

1 translated because in the past, for language access,  
2 we've come forward and approved certain documents.

3 I would just like to maybe -- maybe instead of  
4 having to come back every time we want something  
5 translated, we just allow staff to determine the  
6 appropriateness of having a document translated instead  
7 of for each document we have to come back for approval,  
8 just so that we're covered. And I'm hoping our Chief  
9 Counsel is okay with that.

10 Do I have to do a motion for that or?

11 MR. PANE: Commissioner, I was actually going to ask  
12 if you would -- you need to just to clarify, you're  
13 asking, do we need a motion for the ability for staff to  
14 on their own decide whether to translate communications?

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right, because in the past,  
16 what we've done is either in the Materials Subcommittee  
17 or in Language Access, we've actually had motions to  
18 translate specific documents into languages. And I don't  
19 want that to hinder us from moving forward in our  
20 translation in order to try to translate as many  
21 document, you know, that we come across.

22 So I feel at this point, every single document  
23 shouldn't come, you know, shouldn't have to get approved  
24 by the Commission, because as a Commission, we've  
25 already -- we've already stated our intention is --

1 MR. PANE: Yes. Agreed.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- to have our documents  
3 translated.

4 MR. PANE: And exactly --

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

6 MR. PANE: -- that's exactly what I was just going  
7 to say, because the Commission has already decided on the  
8 fact that they do want the -- the information translated.  
9 That's not something that they need to keep coming back  
10 to the Commission for, for specific reasons.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So they would not  
12 need to --

13 MR. PANE: So you do not need a motion.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

15 MR. PANE: And that is something that staff is able  
16 to do.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So unless there are  
18 any comments associated to that, that's how we will move  
19 forward.

20 I do see Commissioner Turner had a comment.

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Just a consideration.

22 Have we -- how are we keeping up with the costs?

23 Yes. We have said that we were going to do that. And as  
24 we continue to put out --roll out more material, videos.

25 Okay.



1 I'm just wondering where does the responsibility of  
2 cost in translations to have it blanketly left for the  
3 staff? I'm trying to weigh that out and hear how you are  
4 thinking about that?

5 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Well, it just so happens  
6 I'm on the Finance and Administration Subcommittee, the  
7 Language Access and also the Materials. So I will make  
8 sure that Commissioner Fornaciari and I stay on top of  
9 the costs. And I know that Director Hernandez has been  
10 keeping us informed of some of those costs.

11 Did you -- did you have -- okay. If it -- would  
12 that -- is that fine with you? Okay.

13 Commissioner Andersen?

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you.

15 I just want to say what's keeping -- could we keep  
16 track of just the translation costs separately? Because  
17 I noticed there were questions in terms of specific costs  
18 that might be different from one Commission to another  
19 Commission. That would be very important to know, you  
20 know, that all things are translated, were they not  
21 translated, and what our translation costs were, just  
22 keeping for, you know, sort of the Lessons Learned Group.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So I'll just ask that we'll  
25 please keep that. Thank you.

1           COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, definitely. Haven't  
2 been in Federal -- or in State government for many, many  
3 years. They do go to that detail in terms of the  
4 specific costs.

5           So it does get down to was it interpretation or was  
6 it translation? So that does get to that detail. So  
7 thank you.

8           Commissioner Sinay, I think you had your hand up.

9           COMMISSIONER SINAY: I did. But I think  
10 Commissioner Sadhwani had it up before me, so I can go  
11 after her.

12          COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Oh.

13          COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Oh. My question was  
14 somewhat different. I'm glad that we came back to the  
15 Language Access because I meant to ask this question  
16 earlier.

17          Previous -- in previous meetings, we've talked about  
18 the possibility of using some of the additional outreach  
19 funds that we have towards increasing our Spanish  
20 language interpretation, both for COI input meetings, as  
21 well as potentially for interpretation of our business  
22 meetings and having broad Spanish language interpretation  
23 being more readily available. And that that might be a  
24 way to further engage the Spanish speaking Californians  
25 that are out there. Just wondering if that's something

1 that has been looked at or thought about in any greater  
2 detail.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I do know that's something  
4 that we did bring forward, and I believe Raul's looking  
5 into it, is if we actually hire a Spanish interpreter. I  
6 will follow up with him to see what the status of that  
7 is.

8 And then Director Hernandez?

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Yeah, just to follow  
10 up on that. So we -- we are looking into that. But I  
11 think it's a slightly different question of having a  
12 staff person for translations. If I'm understanding  
13 correctly, you're talking about doing more of the  
14 translation or interpretation at meetings and --

15 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Interpretations, yes.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: -- and having Spanish  
17 meetings. So I'm just trying to clarify so that we all  
18 are talking about the same thing.

19 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. And I don't think that  
20 we've ever formally, as a Commission, given a directive  
21 in this regard. To me, it would be having Spanish  
22 interpretation at our meetings.

23 Right? Being able to live stream in Spanish.  
24 Somehow, some way. I don't know exactly how that would  
25 work out. I do know that other organizations are able to



1 do it.

2 My sense is that that would not be one person. I  
3 mean, even as we see, for example, for our ASL  
4 interpreters, you need to take a break.

5 Right? So I think we -- it would probably be, you  
6 know, finding a consulting group that would be able to  
7 assist us with Spanish language interpretation of our  
8 meetings. But if we have the additional funds available,  
9 this is an issue that's been brought up numerous times,  
10 and certainly I think important to many throughout the  
11 state.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. So we will look into  
13 that. And like when I say "we", staff will look into  
14 that, in terms of providing Spanish interpretation  
15 simultaneously during our meetings. Okay. Thank you so  
16 much with that.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: We'll follow up with that,  
18 thank you.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Just for  
20 clarification, is that for our business meetings or are  
21 we talking about COI meetings only? I'm just trying to  
22 clarify so that when staff goes through and looks at the  
23 put -- possible setups, we're clear on what we're looking  
24 at.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: My personal preference would

1 be for all meetings. But again, you know, I don't know  
2 if this is something that -- all Commissioners share this  
3 perspective with me or not. But I think it would be  
4 helpful to have a better understanding of what the cost  
5 for that might look like or maybe a breakdown of costs  
6 for if we did --

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Um-hum, right. Um-hum.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: -- you know, just the COI  
9 input versus business meeting, you know, both business  
10 meetings and COI input.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. So that would be --  
12 the direction would be to look at the costs. Is it -- if  
13 we do the COI input meetings, if we also include our  
14 business meetings, are we also going to include our line  
15 drawing? So --

16 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right. Absolutely.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- we'll probably have to  
18 split it up by day.

19 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yeah.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: So for each day, how  
21 much --

22 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Right. And I --

23 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: -- it would be, assuming a  
24 six-hour day.

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: And I think also the

1 technological component that would go along with that,  
2 how we would make that accessible to people.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I have no idea how to do  
5 that, but maybe Kristian does.

6 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Kristian knows. I think I  
7 saw somebody else's hand up.

8 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Sinay --

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you.

10 CHAIR AHMAD: -- and Turner.

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

12 I absolutely trust you, Commissioner Fernandez, but  
13 it does raise a red flag when someone says, I'm on this  
14 committee, this committee, and this committee, do you  
15 trust me? And I think we do need to be careful with  
16 that. But it did also remind me that we haven't seen a  
17 budget in a long time. And I thought we were promised  
18 them monthly. So if we could, at the next meeting, kind  
19 of get an updated budget and where we are on everything,  
20 that would be great.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Right. And I will  
22 apologize for that. And the reason we haven't brought it  
23 forward is that it hasn't changed officially because the  
24 Governor has not signed the budget yet. And once he  
25 signs the budget, then we'll actually have updated

1 information. And at that point, I have asked Director  
2 Hernandez to also come forward with not only the budget  
3 but an update on the expenditures to date so we have that  
4 information as well.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I meant the whole thing because  
6 we haven't seen expenditures in a really long time.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Um-hum.

8 CHAIR AHMAD: And Commissioner Fernandez, I just  
9 want to make clear that this item is -- is this item,  
10 Commissioner Sinay, you bring up for the Finance and  
11 Administration Subcommittee or the Language Access?

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Great point.

13 And I'll bring -- should I bring it up again later  
14 or can we all pretend I said it later?

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Just wanted to make sure that that was  
16 clear.

17 Commissioner Fernandez, you're wearing your  
18 finance admin hat.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes, that's my finance hat.

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay.

21 Commissioner Turner?

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, thank you. I wanted to  
23 go back to the language portion, and maybe this is --  
24 yeah, I think still language because I still want us to  
25 look at, and even thinking in terms of Commissioner

1 Sadhwani and the pieces that that she brought up, which I  
2 think is excellent. I definitely would be in agreement  
3 with all of that.

4 I also am wondering, is there a space and whose  
5 responsibility is it? Is it just Lessons Learned or is  
6 it Language Access to look at what we've done for  
7 interpretation, translation, and looking at the analytics  
8 that was provided earlier.

9 Are people actually clicking on utilizing the  
10 translation -- translated materials? If we're able to  
11 tell that because there is cost incurred with all of  
12 that -- costs that we don't mind spending that we want to  
13 spend for all Californians.

14 But at some point, I think it would be interesting  
15 to know if the material was ever used, because then we  
16 would -- then going forward, still need to be probably a  
17 little bit more cautious about how much -- and of course,  
18 the conversation can be tied in, was the outreach  
19 successful?

20 I know it's a larger and broad conversation. I just  
21 want to make sure at some point we're looking at the  
22 whole of it to say with fourteen languages, did we  
23 utilize all of that? It's great to see we had it, but we  
24 also spent money for it.

25 And was it worth it and did we make sure people knew

1 it was available? Did people take advantage of it?

2 So it's a whole kind of story that I'd like for us  
3 to be able to tell at some point, even if it is in  
4 Lessons Learned at the end to be able to say -- because  
5 we have some of that money that was spent could have been  
6 a no-brainer. Maybe we absolutely do all the translation  
7 for all of the meetings for the same cost. And so  
8 anyway, that was -- that's my comment.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner  
10 Akutagawa, do you -- my other partner on Language  
11 Access -- did you have anything on this?

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: No, I don't. I'm just  
13 taking notes, and I'm figuring we're going to be meeting  
14 about it at our next Language Access meeting.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Correct. Thank you.

16 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Sinay?

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: On Language Access, I promise,  
18 we do need to look a little bit better at our website  
19 because our website is definitely a barrier for language  
20 access unless someone knows how to translate the whole  
21 website, you know, hit, translate and all that. Right  
22 now, if you were to sign, you know, just signing up for  
23 one of the sessions, it's all in English, even the sheet,  
24 the Google sheet for Spanish, you know, so.

25 And maybe that's the idea that they need to do

1 Google Translate to get it to -- get to Spanish. But we  
2 need to put a note in there how to do it, because right  
3 now that -- to me, that's a real bottleneck.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

5 CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions or comments for  
6 our Language Access Subcommittee?

7 No? All right. Moving right along back to where we  
8 were. And thank you, everyone, for allowing Language  
9 Access to revive their report out. 7-L, The  
10 Cybersecurity Subcommittee.

11 Commissioners Fornaciari and Taylor?

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: We don't have anything  
13 significant to report.

14 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. 7-M, Incarcerated  
15 Populations State and Local Facilities Subcommittee.

16 Commissioners Fernandez and Sinay?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: We don't have anything  
18 significant to report at this time.

19 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. 7-N, the Incarcerated  
20 Populations Federal Facilities Subcommittee.

21 Commissioners Kennedy and Turner?

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: We have nothing significant to  
23 report at this time.

24 CAHIR AHMAD: Thank you. 7-O --

25 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Chair, can I --

1 CHAIR AHMAD: Oh, yes. Yes, go ahead.

2 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry. Thank you. I was  
3 recently in touch with the National Conference of State  
4 Legislatures -- Conference or Council, I'm not really  
5 sure -- NCSL -- who does a lot on redistricting and  
6 preparing states for the redistricting process.

7 And they had told me that they view Commissions such  
8 as ours, as their constituents. And as such they are  
9 attempting to provide services in terms of information.

10 They're actually having a call on the prisoner  
11 reallocation issue. So I just wanted to offer that to  
12 those subcommittees. If that's something that you wanted  
13 to participate in, I'm happy to get you that information.

14 They also have a redistricting book of some sort.  
15 They said they would be happy to send it to all of us, if  
16 you want one. So certainly I could work maybe with --  
17 maybe with Ravi or someone like that to help coordinate  
18 that, if that's of interest.

19 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Sadhwani. And  
20 just a clarification question.

21 All of that material you referenced is publicly  
22 available, correct?

23 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes, I believe it is.

24 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you.

25 Commissioner Turner, you had your hand up?





1           COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. I just wanted to  
2 clarify. I didn't quite get the name that you said  
3 initially, but was this at a Federal level or just all?

4           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: I'm not entirely sure. I  
5 was simply told that they're doing a call on additional  
6 information on prisoner reallocation. We might have  
7 already had all of that that information. We had a great  
8 panel on it earlier.

9           So I don't know the details of the -- the depths of  
10 that call. But I wanted to just simply make that  
11 available to the subcommittees, if it was something of  
12 interest that you wanted to participate in and learn more  
13 from -- or you know, talk to others about how they're  
14 doing it in other states or something like that.

15           COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. If you'd forward  
16 the information to staff so that we can get it, that  
17 would be great.

18           COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: You bet.

19           CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you.

20           Moving along to 7-0 Lessons Learned Subcommittee.

21           That's myself and Commissioner Kennedy.

22           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Please keep them coming.

23           CHAIR AHMAD: Any questions for Lessons Learned on  
24 our report out? Seeing none, 7-P, IT Recruitment  
25 Subcommittee.

1 Commissioners Andersen and Fornaciari?

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Nothing significant  
3 to report at this time.

4 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you. So that was agenda  
5 item number 7. We have covered all of the updates and  
6 report outs from our subcommittees listed under agenda  
7 item number 7.

8 Katy, we would like to open the line for public  
9 comment on any of the subcommittees that have reported  
10 out under 7-A all the way through 7-P.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, chair. The  
12 Commissioner will now take public comment on item number  
13 7-A through P. And to give comment, please call 877-853-  
14 5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.

15 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
16 raise your hand and enter the queue. The full call-in  
17 instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting and  
18 are provided in full on the livestream landing page.

19 We do have a caller at this time with their hand  
20 raised. And I will ask them to unmute. And go ahead,  
21 the floor is yours.

22 MS. HOWARD: Good evening, Commissioners. This is  
23 Deborah Howard with the California Senior Advocates  
24 League. I have a comment related to the conversation  
25 regarding outreach and engagement. I missed part of the



1 debrief meeting that you had about your public input  
2 meeting.

3       And went to listen to it this morning and the audio  
4 is not available. I bring this up because it's not the  
5 only time that this has happened. Regularly, the audio  
6 cuts out at about, oh, I don't know, a few minutes into  
7 the video. And the problem has been, I have a few dates  
8 for you at least May 24th, the June 2nd, and even the  
9 June 10th COI hearing itself.

10       I'm excited, and I know that you are also, that  
11 you're beginning your effort to engage Californians. But  
12 it really seems like this is a glitch (indiscernible) I  
13 shouldn't really be facing at this point. I think in  
14 coupled with the lack of transcripts, it simply  
15 undermines the ability of anybody who can't watch every  
16 single minute of your meeting in real time to engage.

17       You have invested enormous time and treasure to make  
18 every work -- all of the work that you're doing to be  
19 accessible, and yet it's not. I suspect -- I hope,  
20 actually, that you find this as unacceptable as I do.  
21 And I want to add that not a single one of the COI  
22 Commission -- submissions has been posted yet. And yet  
23 Kennedy -- Commissioner Kennedy pointed out this evening  
24 that --

25       MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.



1 MS. HOWARD: -- those numbers keep going up, and  
2 they keep going up faster. So I really hope that you can  
3 take these con -- into consideration.

4 I have one last thing. You just came back from  
5 executive session, and you did not report out what you  
6 talked about.

7 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

8 MS. HOWARD: You went into Executive session saying  
9 you were going to discuss security and pending  
10 litigation. I am not aware of any pending litigation,  
11 and I know that you have to keep that strategy --

12 MR. MANOFF: Two minutes.

13 MS. HOWARD: -- private. But if there is, in fact,  
14 litigation that has been brought, I think that has to be  
15 named. So I thank you for your consideration, and I hope  
16 that you will invest an additional commitment to make  
17 the --

18 MR. MANOFF: Past fifteen seconds.

19 MS. HOWARD: -- meetings as transparent as you've  
20 invested to do so. Thank you.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
22 that was all our public comment at this time.

23 CHAIR AHMAD: We'll give it a couple more seconds in  
24 case there's others who would like to call in.

25 (Pause)



1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the queue is still  
2 empty at this time, Chair.

3 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Katy. Moving on to agenda  
4 item number 8, which is the Public Input Design Committee  
5 report out, myself and Commissioner Fornaciari.

6 I will pass the mic over to you, Commissioner  
7 Fornaciari, and just keeping in mind that we do have a  
8 hard stop at 8 p.m.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So let's see.  
10 We had our Public Input Design meeting. There's a  
11 document that I put together that kind of summarized  
12 that.

13 I apologize. We didn't get it up until just today,  
14 so I'm hoping you all have had a chance to see it.  
15 Committee members, staff, line drawers attended. We  
16 discussed the input meeting from the 10th, lots of  
17 positive feedback from staff for their preparation, and  
18 how smoothly things went off.

19 I -- I referenced a feedback document that Alvaro  
20 put together and just realized that it's -- it wasn't  
21 posted for this meeting for all of the -- all of the  
22 Commissioners to see. So we should probably get that  
23 posted so that all of the Commissioners can see the  
24 feedback. So we discussed some of the points on that --  
25 on that feedback document.

1           So I got a couple of notes. There were a couple of  
2 pieces of public feedback during that meeting. One piece  
3 of public feedback was to -- that I wanted to bring  
4 forward to the entire Commission. So one piece was to  
5 consider that the use of social media to comment on  
6 public input to be viewed as support for that input.

7           And that -- and the second piece of public input was  
8 a question; and is the Commission considering providing  
9 opportunities to groups to present COI input? And we had  
10 set aside four dates near the end of our public input  
11 meeting time. But we as a Commission have not made a  
12 final decision on that. And so we're going to bring that  
13 issue forward to the Public Input Design meeting --  
14 Committee is going to bring that forward at our July 6th  
15 meeting and -- and rec -- bring forward a recommendation.

16           So there are a number of suggestions for the staff.  
17 I just want to kind of skim over this a little bit  
18 because there are a few things I think we need to talk  
19 about as -- as a Commission.

20           But I want to talk about the first bullet point.  
21 Since the transitions went so smoothly, the staff is  
22 going to -- we're going to reduce the transmission  
23 time -- transition time to one minute so we can enable  
24 more folks.

25           I think I want to circle back to the discussion that



1 we had earlier about maybe overbooking a little bit. We  
2 have allotted three minutes per person. The I -- I  
3 wrote -- I wrote down all the times for everybody's  
4 input, except I missed the first ten. And the average  
5 that I came up with was two minutes and five seconds.  
6 That may be a little skewed because I think the first  
7 several callers went three minutes, and I think a lot of  
8 the last callers went short.

9 But you know, somewhere in the neighbor of two  
10 minutes, maybe 2:10, 2:15 would be a more accurate  
11 number. And so you know, there is potential, you know,  
12 potential opportunity there to overbook a little bit.  
13 And -- and if everyone showed up, we -- we would still  
14 have time to get to them. So I would just offer that for  
15 the staff to consider.

16 And then, there are -- there are a few things  
17 further -- for further discussion by the Commission. We  
18 can talk about any of this. I just -- I just I want to  
19 share what I want to, you know, what I thought were the  
20 highlights.

21 And so if we look at the third bullet point, I think  
22 we've got, you know, there's a policy question here.  
23 When we voted to allow callers three minutes -- or -- or  
24 participants three minutes to provide input on their COI,  
25 I think that could be interpreted a couple of ways.

1 Right?

2 One would be that -- that each individual would be  
3 only allowed three minutes per meeting to provide public  
4 input. And the other way we could interpret is  
5 potentially that, you know, folks to provide three  
6 minutes for public input, and if there was an  
7 opportunity, they could get back in the queue and provide  
8 three more minutes of public input.

9 And so I think that, you know, providing some  
10 clarity on that topic might be a -- a good idea for --  
11 for the Commission to -- to talk about and provide that  
12 clarity to the -- to the staff moving forward and the --  
13 and the next chair so that we can then come to -- so we  
14 can understand how we're going -- how we're -- we're  
15 going to run our meetings.

16 So with that, I -- I didn't know if it was -- we  
17 wanted to talk about that point more at this point, or if  
18 we want to just open it up for general discussion.

19 Commissioner Ahmad, I don't know if you -- you had  
20 anything else you wanted to add that I passed over?

21 CHAIR AHMAD: No, you covered it pretty well. And I  
22 think there was just a conversation from earlier that is  
23 relevant to this agenda item that I would welcome the  
24 group to bring up again. But besides that, I think you  
25 covered it all.





1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Do you want me to drive?  
2 Commissioner Turner?

3 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Commissioner  
4 Fornaciari. I certainly would be interested if there are  
5 public -- if there's a public waiting to hear their  
6 thoughts on when it's time as well.

7 But when you lifted up the different interpretations  
8 of the three minutes, I certainly would like for people  
9 to stick with if we maintain a three minute -- I'm glad  
10 you did the average of two. -- if we maintain the three  
11 minutes, that we would stick to that her testimony and if  
12 someone had a different testimony -- a different COI that  
13 they'd like to submit, then they should call back in and  
14 give an additional three-minute time for their different  
15 COI.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinai and  
17 did -- Anthony, do you have a comment?

18 Okay, Commissioner Sinay?

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I like Commissioner Turner's --  
20 where she's going with this because we have made it  
21 really explicit that people belong to more than one  
22 community. And maybe one of the things we can do to make  
23 it more explicit and that the registration is we do ask  
24 them for what region or what area do you want to speak  
25 in? But we can also say what it -- what is the name of

1 your community, your COI, and see if they have multiples.

2 But I do feel that if we have the time, we should  
3 use as much time as we have when we have it, you know,  
4 allow the public to speak. And so if they -- if we have  
5 space at the end of the line for someone to step in, I  
6 agree with that. I think the issue is not allowing  
7 people to sign up for multiple, three -- you know,  
8 multiple times to speak in different sections, but that  
9 they can go to the last block of time, meaning that being  
10 the last -- back of the line.

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you.

12 Commissioner Kennedy?

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Thank you. I -- and this may  
14 be that I'm not recalling this correctly. I had thought  
15 at one point that when we were discussing the three  
16 minutes we had said that the three minutes would start  
17 once the mappers blocked the map to the correct portion  
18 of the state.

19 And I know that I found it difficult to follow the  
20 map zooming at the same time as I was trying to listen to  
21 the input from the speakers. So I just wanted to ask if  
22 we could clarify that. Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Yee?

24 VICE CHAIR YEE: Yes. So I was chairing the -- co-  
25 chairing the COI meeting, and I think I was chairing

1 during most of the repeat calls. I think one was  
2 actually helpful because the first time the caller  
3 called, the sound wasn't strong. And when she called  
4 back, it did clarify her input.

5       Nevertheless, I'm thinking the -- you know, we can  
6 announce clearly and repeatedly our general rule, if we  
7 wish to adopt it, of one three-minute testimony per COI.  
8 So a person can maybe call back or even make different  
9 appointments, as long as it's different COIs. But once  
10 somebody starts sharing, we've been told we, you know,  
11 not to interrupt and to not try to judge whether the  
12 comments, you know, are relevant.

13       So I didn't interrupt anybody. And for future  
14 Chairs of these meetings, I just want everyone to be  
15 clear on whether that is indeed the policy.

16       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So what I've heard  
17 so far is not allowing people to sign up for multiple  
18 time slots, but if there's an opportunity, they can call  
19 in and get it at the end of the queue. I've also heard  
20 that, you know, we could adopt a policy to make it clear  
21 that it's one three-minute testimony per community of  
22 input. And then a question about when the time starts,  
23 whether it's after the map is pulled up or during the  
24 map -- during the map being called up.

25       MR. PANE: Commissioner Fornaciari, if I could just

1 raise just one point on one of the potential items. One  
2 of the potential possibilities I'm hearing for  
3 clarification is that we would allow one three-minute  
4 spot per COI during a public input agenda item. The  
5 question I would like to raise for all of you is, it  
6 sounds like if we were to go -- if the Commission were to  
7 proceed on that line, that we are distinguishing content.

8 And we are saying you get more time if you have more  
9 COIs?

10 If you're not going to talk about more than one COI,  
11 which is content based, then you only get one three  
12 minutes. But if you talk about more than one COI, you  
13 get more time. So that would be my hesitation in any  
14 recommendation regarding that because I think we might be  
15 distinguishing among content.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I got -- just looked up.  
17 I don't know though -- I see Linda -- I mean,  
18 Commissioner Akutagawa, Commissioner Andersen, and  
19 Commissioner Turner. I don't know who was -- oh, and  
20 Commissioner Vasquez. I don't know who was -- and  
21 Commissioner Sadhwani.

22 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And Commissioner Kennedy has  
23 had his hand up.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. All right. I'm

1 going to randomly pick because I don't know who went  
2 first.

3 So Commissioner Sadhwani?

4 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Sorry about that. I'm  
5 listening to this conversation, and I understand both  
6 sides of it. I do -- yes, I do want people to have their  
7 opportunity to say what they need to say. However, I do  
8 think it's also somewhat unfair when, if you have the  
9 time to stay in line, then you'll get additional -- an  
10 additional three minutes or more.

11 And I think what I -- what was happening at our June  
12 10th meeting that I saw was that those people that stayed  
13 on and continued to provide additional testimony, that  
14 testimony gets amplified. And I do want to be cautious  
15 of that because I don't think the content was all that  
16 different, quite frankly.

17 My other question that I think I -- we don't have to  
18 answer it now, but in general, we had a caller who I  
19 believe identified himself from -- as not being a  
20 Californian. We had a caller who identified herself as a  
21 candidate.

22 How do we handle situations like that? Do we handle  
23 them? Do we want any policy around them? I leave that  
24 there for you all to think about.

25 But I -- I'm leaning more towards it's three minutes

1 per person and that's it. I think ultimately otherwise,  
2 people can really take advantage of that -- that time as  
3 well. And certainly we want to make that time available.  
4 But I think it ultimately ends up with unfair advantage  
5 for some.

6 CHAIR AHMAD: Okay. I'll be stepping in to help  
7 Neal. So please correct me on the order if needed.

8 Commissioner Akutagawa and then Turner?

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes, thank you. I agree  
10 with what Commissioner Sadhwani said. One, I just want  
11 to say, I think in my mind, I thought it was one three-  
12 minute slot, you know, opportunity to give your  
13 testimony. I think all -- I think perhaps in my mind  
14 also too, I also thought that we were going to be so full  
15 with appointments or people wanting to give testimony  
16 that there would not be an opportunity for people to just  
17 get back in line and give multiple testimonies.

18 I am concerned that if we give somebody three  
19 minutes and then we say, okay, well, you could get back  
20 in line and you could continue to elaborate on whatever  
21 you wanted to say, you know, that person for their  
22 particular COI could be speaking, possibly, depending on  
23 the number of times they are willing to call back in and  
24 wait in line, could be anywhere from, you know,  
25 additional three minutes. So it could be an additional

1 six minutes to who knows how much, whether it's nine,  
2 twelve, fifteen minutes in total around their particular  
3 COI.

4         So that's -- that is a concern. And -- and it feels  
5 a little unfair for others who are able to keep their  
6 testimony to within the three minutes. And even if they  
7 had multiple COIs, you know it's -- I think it's either  
8 their decision to speak about those COIs within the three  
9 minutes or they submit it in other, you know, there are  
10 other opportunities, other ways in which COI testimony  
11 could be also provided.

12         If that is uncomfortable for all of us in terms of,  
13 okay, well we don't want to cut anybody off then you  
14 know, the other alternative is -- is three minutes, then  
15 enough, if somebody wants to give testimony on multiple  
16 COIs in one shot instead of making them get back in line  
17 over and over.

18         And the other thing, I think -- I'm glad that  
19 Commissioner Sadhwani brought up the issue of somebody  
20 calling in from outside of California and also somebody  
21 who was a candidate for office. And both those people  
22 called back in multiple times. And it was a little  
23 uncomfortable, you know, in that sense.

24         So I also hear what Chief Counsel Pane also said, we  
25 cannot police or restrict because that is restricting

1 their freedom of speech. And so therefore, we are not,  
2 you know, we cannot do that.

3 And so you know, it becomes either we -- we're going  
4 to allow all and so we have to be able to tell everybody,  
5 hey, you know what, you could call in multiple times if  
6 you don't feel like you got a chance to say what you  
7 wanted to say. Or we just say to everybody, you know  
8 what, for this meeting, once you've given testimony,  
9 you're done.

10 I think there can't be, like, a squishy middle in  
11 this particular case. And I'm a little uncomfortable  
12 about the squishy middle.

13 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Akutagawa. I  
14 have Turner, Kennedy, and then Vasquez?

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you.

16 CHAIR AHMAD: And then Sinay, Andersen.

17 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you. I wonder if we're  
18 trying to regulate something that we cannot regulate.  
19 People do not have to give their names. If I call and  
20 give you three minutes of testimony and tell you my name  
21 is Trena, and call back and then say, my name is Lynell,  
22 because it is, and call back and give you my last name as  
23 Ms. Turner, I can call you anyway and give you three  
24 different COIs and tell you I may be calling for my  
25 mother because she doesn't want to talk live. I may be



1 calling back again for someone different.

2 Content, thank you for that reminder. Yes, I hear  
3 all of that. But if people call back, if they call and  
4 get different appointments, if they call and get back in  
5 line, we want to hear from Californians, and we want to  
6 hear from them until they are confident that we're clear  
7 in the testimony that they were trying to provide us. It  
8 might be the answer to give more time if that's what is  
9 needed.

10 But Commissioner Fornaciari just signed an average  
11 of two minutes or so, so maybe that's not the case. If  
12 indeed we -- the three-minute segments provide a break,  
13 it gives people a guideline to say, you know what, call  
14 in so that we can make this as fair as possible for many  
15 Californians as possible to call in.

16 But if I make several appointments and I'm doing it  
17 for different COIs by different names, if I call in to  
18 give you the same COI from a different perspective,  
19 again, there is nothing that we have set up legally  
20 that's going to stop Californians from doing that. And  
21 so I think we're spending a lot of time trying to say  
22 what they can't do when quite in fact, they can.

23 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Turner.

24 Commissioner Kennedy and then Vasquez, Sinay,  
25 Andersen, and then Toledo.



1           COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. I'll try to make this  
2 quick because others have raised the issue. I'll make  
3 this in the form of a question to Counsel. In the case  
4 of the caller from Michigan, I would not have a problem  
5 with someone calling from Michigan, raising a general  
6 point during general comment.

7           But when it is time for community of interest input,  
8 my question is can we cut off someone who identifies as  
9 calling from Michigan and saying, you're not a  
10 Californian, we don't have any reason to be listening to  
11 you during time set aside for hearing about communities  
12 of interest from Californians? Thank you.

13          MR. PANE: Thank you, Commissioner. I'd be happy to  
14 look into that and get back to you.

15          CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you.

16          Commissioner Vazquez, Sinay, Andersen, and then  
17 Toledo?

18          COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yeah, I think -- I am -- I'm  
19 just of the mind that if we have -- if this is -- if we  
20 have so much time, that this is a real practical problem  
21 for us, in terms of having so many folks come and just  
22 sort of stand in line for three-minute segments in  
23 perpetuity, that, for me is way to hold ourselves  
24 accountable for doing more outreach.

25          We need to fill those slots with a broader array of

1 input so that we're not just hearing from a select few  
2 voices. So I -- and at the same time, I'm also a bit  
3 uncomfortable, now, the more we think about it like this  
4 squishy middle.

5 And I feel like I am of the mind that I would  
6 like -- I would like to err on the side of giving  
7 community more flexibility because that -- there's a way  
8 to game any policy we make in this digital space. So I  
9 feel like I would rather be less rigid in our policy and  
10 use it as an accountability tool to increase the number  
11 of voices that we hear from at each meeting.

12 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioners Sinay, Andersen, and  
13 then Toledo.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. I think the one -- I'm  
15 just going to do my usual reminder that we have said from  
16 the beginning that all COI input is equal. It doesn't  
17 matter that it's a testimony or if we receive it in other  
18 formats. And so in other formats we will -- we have  
19 received it multiple times. You know, people -- some  
20 people have emailed the same COI. Yeah. And we're just  
21 going to have to balance that.

22 But to say that if someone calls in multiple times,  
23 that's going to have an effect on us, yes. But also, if  
24 someone calls, submits a COI, I mean, we're going to  
25 have -- we are fourteen people that will help each other

1 really pay attention. And yeah, it -- we're the human  
2 element that's going to make this real.

3 And again, these input sessions are one way of the  
4 public participating. And if we're spending time, money,  
5 and opening up a sess -- you know, opening these sessions  
6 for eight hours, or however long it is, and if people  
7 have not filled it in, but people have things to say,  
8 let's be open and use those resources wisely. So I'm --  
9 let's -- we've have already invested them.

10 So I've said two things. One is let's allow people  
11 to go to the very back of the line and speak if they have  
12 more to say. And two, we have to constantly remind  
13 ourselves that this is one way of getting input, and that  
14 all input is fair -- is weighed equally.

15 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Andersen?

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. And I appreciate  
17 the whole conversation here.

18 One thing I want to bring up that I -- is the policy  
19 is right now, they have three minutes of time. It  
20 doesn't say you have to -- you can only talk about one  
21 COI in that three minutes. You can talk about -- if you  
22 are really organized, you could do, you know, one, two,  
23 three, you know, a quick minute, quick minute, quick  
24 minute.

25 And we should not say there's only one COI per three

1 minutes because that's controlling content. And you  
2 know, if we want to do a policy of you get back in  
3 line -- one policy should be one appointment per meeting.

4 If you want to get back in line, and we realize  
5 you're -- the first question should be, is this about a  
6 different COI? Because if they start talking about the  
7 second COI, it's preferential. I mean, the same COI  
8 again, preferential treatment. I think that's quite  
9 obvious.

10 It's like, now you get more time and more time, more  
11 time. If they're talking about a brand new one, and  
12 again, that they've gone to the end the line, did not  
13 make an appointment for this. And then, I don't think we  
14 want to be scared of -- we lay out our policy and  
15 someone's gaming it and we have no control of that.

16 And that's, you know -- and they will. You're  
17 right. There is ways to get around and game stuff, but  
18 we can't not set a policy because we are worried about  
19 gaming it.

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Toledo?

21 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: My point's been made, so I'll  
22 pass.

23 CHAIR AHMAD: Commissioner Fornaciari, no more hands  
24 have been raised as of yet.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Okay. I have a --

1 I just have a comment on Commissioner Andersen's comment.  
2 If we allow people to come back in the queue and someone  
3 decides to talk about their COI again, and we stop them,  
4 then we're regulating content.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Isn't that us enforcing  
6 this -- a consistent policy?

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, well, I mean, if our  
8 policy -- I mean, our policy is people can get in the  
9 back of the queue and they have three more minutes.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No. I said for a different  
11 COI.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: But -- I know, I know, but  
13 then that would be regulating content.

14 And that would be up to the interpretation of the --  
15 of the Chair at that point, right?

16 Commissioner Fernandez?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I see where you're  
18 going with this, because what's the difference between  
19 that versus coming to the next COI input meeting and  
20 providing the exact same testimony? It's the -- you  
21 know, it's the same information.

22 But we're not going to ask them, is this a whole new  
23 COI?

24 In terms of a candidate providing testimony, I think  
25 I'm okay with it. I'm probably not okay with it if they

1 take up three slots. But they're Californian, we want to  
2 hear from everyone, that's good with me. And again,  
3 communities of interest, there's multiple ways for  
4 Californians to submit their communities of interests.

5 I like having just a three minute. I wasn't -- I  
6 wasn't sold on the get in line and do it again if there's  
7 time. But I -- I think that would -- I would be okay  
8 with that. But I strongly believe they should only be  
9 allowed to reserve one time slot in a meeting.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So in order to move  
11 things forward, based on what I've heard, I'm going to --  
12 I'm going to kind of throw something out there at this  
13 point.

14 That I would propose that we allow persons -- people  
15 who sign up for votes only sign up for a single  
16 appointment for a meeting. And that if the appointments  
17 are all completed in a given time slot or you know, time  
18 space, that we open it up to callers and not preclude  
19 anyone from providing multiple inputs and not regulate  
20 with that content would be.

21 Commissioner Yee?

22 VICE CHAIR YEE: I just want to note that if that  
23 had been the policy on June 10th, then we would have  
24 continued to take repeat calls from a small number of  
25 people if they continued to call back. You know, at the



1 beginning of that meeting, we did open ourselves up to  
2 repeat callers midway through that meeting, but it became  
3 a problem, it seemed. We stopped taking repeat callers  
4 and announced that publicly and then ended the meeting  
5 when we did. If we had allowed people to take us as late  
6 as we could go, then they may have.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I would -- I would  
8 offer to -- we are -- have a very small sample size.  
9 Right. One -- one meeting and we're -- we don't know  
10 what future meetings will hold. We have an expectation  
11 that -- I think all of us had a underlying expectation  
12 that the meetings would be full and jammed up.

13 So I saw Commissioner Fernandez and then  
14 Commissioner Turner.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: The difference with the  
16 first meeting is the one caller that spoke three times  
17 actually stayed in the -- what is it called, in the  
18 group?

19 In the queue. So they didn't -- they didn't  
20 actually leave and have to call back and get into the  
21 regular queue. They used their calling information for  
22 their block of time. So I believe what we're saying is  
23 you get to call in one time for your block and then you  
24 get bumped out and you have to go into the regular queue.

25 Is that correct, Commissioner Fornaciari? Is that



1 what we're saying?

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. And that each  
3 caller -- yeah, then you just have to call back and get  
4 in the queue every time.

5 And then Commissioner Turner?

6 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes, thank you. I'm terribly  
7 sorry. I thought you were frozen. And it was neat when  
8 you first started saying -- trying to do a recap, my  
9 system froze and I really want you to say it again.

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. So what -- what  
11 I -- what I guess I would -- what I would propose is we  
12 would only allow an individual to make one appointment  
13 per meeting. And if the -- if the appointments in a  
14 given block were all -- I mean, were all used up and we  
15 had that air time, we would open it up to callers, and we  
16 would -- we would not preclude anyone from calling back  
17 into the queue and providing additional input.

18 Commissioner Andersen?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I do have a question.

20 Is that possible to be enforced and to say, okay,  
21 now you're out by the staff? You know, we might say that  
22 that's a good idea, but -- oh, I see Marcy's going to  
23 answer that. Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, go ahead, Marcy.

25 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yeah. I get -- just in hearing

1 this whole conversation -- so there's a logistical side,  
2 if someone is coming in via Zoom and then we rem -- via  
3 video of their registered person coming in through video,  
4 if we remove them, we can block them from reentering.

5 If someone's calling in by phone, they -- when  
6 they're done, I believe they can be removed but then can  
7 call back in. So I think there's that, the getting  
8 clarity on your decision and then looking at the  
9 logistical side of when someone is calling back in,  
10 they're back in the queue -- in the line that they raise  
11 their hand to go into the queue.

12 And so there's this piece of tracking if someone's  
13 already spoken or not spoken. And I may have just  
14 confused everyone. I'm trying to explain this.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. But I think what  
16 we're saying is, you know, if the queue is your hand  
17 raised, you know, when you're done, you know, you call  
18 in, you're in the queue, you raise your hand, you give  
19 your -- you got your three minutes, then we remove them  
20 from the -- from the queue.

21 Then they call back in and reraise their hand?

22 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Yes.

23 MR. MANOFF: So I don't -- I can't really raise my  
24 hand, but I can give some clarity to --

25 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Okay, sorry.

1 MR. MANOFF: -- what Marcy was saying. This is  
2 Kristian talking.

3 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Sorry.

4 MR. MANOFF: So based upon the current direction,  
5 what we had planned to do was to remove people after they  
6 had spoken for three minutes. And at that point, they  
7 could only -- they could either watch the meeting on the  
8 livestream or they could listen to it on a listen-only  
9 phone call. So they wouldn't be able to raise their hand  
10 anymore.

11 Now, what you are suggesting, Commissioner  
12 Fornaciari, is that, let's say you had a person that  
13 either called in or joined via Zoom. They raise their  
14 hand, they give their comment, their hand is lowered,  
15 their comment ends. There is no line for them to get  
16 back in. It's simply a press of a button and their hand  
17 is raised again.

18 So there is no process for them -- they don't really  
19 need to, like, hang up their phone or turn off their  
20 computer. They, simply put, press a button, their hand  
21 would immediately go back up. And at that point, you  
22 know, that's -- I think that's what we're trying to  
23 figure out.

24 What do we do at that point?

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, is there a way for



1 you to disengage them from the call?

2 MR. MANOFF: Yes. We can remove them from the  
3 meeting. Once they are removed from the meeting, they  
4 cannot rejoin by that computer. And they can't call back  
5 in.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh, they can't call back  
7 in --

8 MR. MANOFF: No.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- using that same number?  
10 Oh, hm. That throws a wrench in the works.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. That was my question  
12 because I was pretty sure that's exactly how it went, so.

13 MR. MANOFF: That's -- that's ex -- so that's the --  
14 that is true. If they -- if we remove them by phone,  
15 they cannot call in from that phone. And so then we get  
16 into the weeds on some -- some technical issues. Based  
17 upon the direction we got at the last meeting, our plan  
18 was, is that once somebody was removed, they could call  
19 another number and to listen to the meeting because  
20 listening to the meeting by phone is important to the  
21 people that are watching.

22 But from that number, they would not be able to  
23 raise their hand. It would be a listen-only number. And  
24 we are ready to support the Commission with a listen only  
25 number where people wouldn't be able to raise their hand.

1 And then as far as people who joined by Zoom, they would  
2 still be able to watch the livestream so they could  
3 follow the proceedings that way once they were removed.

4 But otherwise, you know, we didn't -- we wouldn't  
5 remove them and they could just raise their hand after  
6 three minutes, essentially.

7 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Chair, Ahmad?

8 CHAIR AHMAD: Just an administrative update.  
9 Kristian has so kindly notified me that ASL can stay  
10 until 8:25 p.m., so we could use the additional time, if  
11 the Commission so chooses to exercise that.

12 I would have to stop around 8:20 to take our closing  
13 public comment, but just wanted to make that known. And  
14 we do have about two or three agenda items remaining.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Well, I mean, I -- I'm not  
16 sure where to go from here with this. You know, again, I  
17 think it's a very small sample size of a meeting.

18 Marcy, how are things coming along with sign-ups at  
19 this point for the next meeting?

20 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Let me -- give me a minute, and  
21 I'll circle back.

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

23 Trena, why don't you go ahead? I mean, Commissioner  
24 Turner, why don't you go ahead?

25 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah, I'm wondering from



1 perhaps Kristian, what happens now, how will you track  
2 the order of people when they raise their hands? So --  
3 because we're talking about people only being able to get  
4 back in at the end of the line. And if there are five  
5 people waiting with hands raised, the hand goes down.  
6 You said they can put their hand up again.

7       Isn't there already a sequencing in the queue that  
8 you know that they're at the back of the line?

9       MR. MANOFF: So essentially, the way that the hand-  
10 raising function works is it's a first come, first serve  
11 queue within a queue. So when you raise your hand, the  
12 first person to raise their hand will be chosen. But if  
13 there's nobody with their hands raised, then the person  
14 who raises their hand is just the first person chosen.  
15 So we're, you know, we -- we do -- we were aware of who  
16 had already given comment.

17       So to -- in the sense that we had -- a we had a  
18 really -- we had really good coordination between our  
19 teams tracking who had already called in and who had  
20 already given comment. But once you say -- basically if  
21 you were to give your comment, while you're giving your  
22 comment, we lower your hand. You finish giving your  
23 comment. If you hit raise hand again, yes, you do go to  
24 the back of the raised hands. But if there's nobody else  
25 with their hand raised, then you are the next commenter,

1 essentially.

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Okay. Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sinay and  
4 then Commissioner Akutagawa?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I don't want to get in the  
6 weeds.

7 You know, I think I agree with what you're saying,  
8 Commissioner Fornaciari, that we have a small sample  
9 size. You know, I don't get the -- I know we have three  
10 different slots of time people can sign up. And I don't  
11 know if there is a different number of people call for  
12 each of those slots or how that works and how the fourth  
13 slot works when people can just call in.

14 And if that's -- you know, my whole thought always  
15 was, if they get tossed to the fourth -- not tossed, but  
16 they get moved into the fourth slot, which is our open --  
17 our open session with no registration. But I'm concerned  
18 that we're trying to solve a problem versus think through  
19 a policy and let staff and contractors figure out if it  
20 can be done or not.

21 And I'm curious if what we want is more data from  
22 contractors to think -- contractors and staff to think  
23 through how to do this and then create the policy. But  
24 we can go in circles if we're trying to solve this  
25 problem right now.



1 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah.

2 Commissioner Akutagawa?

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah, I was -- I was going  
4 to -- to build on what Commissioner Sinay just said, I  
5 was going to just suggest that, Commissioner Fornaciari,  
6 given your comment that we have a small sample, just the  
7 one meeting, we have two meetings coming up this  
8 weekend -- or Saturday and Monday. What we could do is  
9 if it makes everyone -- maybe -- it gives all of us more  
10 comfort and also more data. Let's see what Saturday and  
11 Monday give us.

12 Our next meeting is on the 25th, and at that time,  
13 perhaps then we could assess, you know, what the next two  
14 meetings bring about, and then we could then have perhaps  
15 a little bit of a more informed discussion about was what  
16 happened on the 10th an outlier? Are we going to see  
17 additional or increased engagement now that we've done  
18 the first?

19 I agree with what Commissioner Vazquez said about  
20 it's on us now to make sure that all those slots get  
21 filled and we don't have this problem. So you know,  
22 that's really the better thing to really think about is  
23 how do we ensure that we get the slots filled up so we  
24 don't have to even debate this any further, you know,  
25 because we have so many people who want to give testimony



1 that everybody will only have their one time to give  
2 their public input. So if that might help move us along.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Toledo?

4 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. Just going to say from  
5 a policy standpoint, I think -- I think we all agree we  
6 want everyone to have an equitable opportunity to have  
7 input, that we don't want to unfairly treat others. And  
8 I think that's the guidance we want to give to staff to  
9 develop a process -- to work with us on developing a  
10 process to ensure that we're not giving anyone more than  
11 equitable a voice or an opportunity to give their  
12 voice -- or their -- or rather, I think is better said  
13 that we're giving everybody an opportunity to give their  
14 input equitably. And -- and I think -- I think from a  
15 positive standpoint, we just want to treat everyone  
16 fairly and consistently. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Sadhwani was  
18 trying to raise her hand, but didn't get noticed.

19 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I'm so sorry.

20 Commissioner Sadhwani?

21 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Thank you, no, I'm good.  
22 Others made the same comment. I think it's appropriate  
23 for us to wait at this point in time on making a policy  
24 decision until we have these next meetings.

25 Thank you, Commissioner Andersen, for noticing.



1           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, then, I think  
2 the guidance is for Alvaro and team to, you know,  
3 consider our input and the discussion that we had today  
4 and help us develop a policy that's in the spirit of what  
5 the Commission's looking for as far as fairness and  
6 openness and works with the technological capabilities  
7 that we have.

8           And Commissioner Turner?

9           COMMISSIONER TURNER: I'm not certain where you're  
10 going with that, Commissioner Fornaciari. I thought the  
11 instruction was that we -- or the direction was that we  
12 were going to wait to get more information and then  
13 continue the conversation. I think we're not -- I don't  
14 feel like we're on the same page with what we believe is  
15 fair.

16           So I'm not comfortable with just having staff  
17 determine what's fair. And we're still discussing what  
18 we believe is fair and equitable. So I would like -- and  
19 I am willing to have and go through the next couple of  
20 meetings and receive more data and then come back at the  
21 conversation. But I would like us to continue it.

22           COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Thank you. It's fair.

23           Commissioner Ahmad?

24           CHAIR AHMAD: I have a different request of my  
25 colleagues around COI input meetings. So if others have

1 comments on closing this loop, then I'll step back until  
2 you're ready for the next conversation.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Vasquez and  
4 Toledo?

5 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yeah. I just -- I did want  
6 to echo Commissioner Turner's request that we keep  
7 thinking through this. And just wanted to note that I am  
8 also uncomfortable with asking staff to think through  
9 what is fair. Thank you. I think that's on us to decide  
10 what is fair. We should be --

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay, okay. Okay, fair  
12 enough. Thank you.

13 Commissioner Toledo?

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah.

15 And I just wanted to highlight that we do have a  
16 policy on this, is my understanding, right? And really,  
17 it's optimizing that policy, if there's a way to  
18 optimize -- and I'm not sure -- to promote fairness and  
19 equity and all these values that we want to promote.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Marcy?

21 DIRECTOR KAPALN: I did look again at the sign-ups  
22 for Saturday. We have eleven. This is something staff  
23 has been looking at and working with the Outreach Team  
24 and really focusing on promotion and working with our  
25 Communications Team. Obviously, going into these

1 meetings, we're going to want to increase participation,  
2 but just flagging that number for you right now.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you.

4 Commissioner Andersen?

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right. Just a quick  
6 one.

7 They can sign up until when; Thursday or through the  
8 end of Thursday?

9 DIRECTOR KAPLAN: So right now, we have set them  
10 Thursday at 5 to close.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

13 Commissioner Ahmad?

14 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

15 Well, my request comes to my colleagues more of a  
16 process item regarding the COI input meetings. I would  
17 highly recommend that we, as Commissioners, narrow down  
18 our communication between us and our staff and  
19 contractors during the COI input meeting.

20 So while Commissioner Yee and I were moderating, our  
21 staff and contractors were getting suggestions or  
22 recommendations for direction from other Commissioners  
23 and it left folks kind of confused on what do we do? Do  
24 we, you know, you know, allow -- open the caller -- line  
25 or do we not? And so it really confused things on our



1 team who already had a process in place and a  
2 communication plan.

3       So if other Commissioners have, myself included,  
4 have recommendations during the COI input meeting, I  
5 would suggest that we funnel those through to the  
6 moderators for the moderators to then take forward and  
7 communicate with our staff or contractors or whoever the  
8 appropriate party is behind this. So I would just  
9 recommend that to my colleagues for our future COI input  
10 meetings.

11       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Is there anything else on  
12 this topic we want to discuss? I know we have other  
13 agenda items to get to.

14       Commissioner Akutagawa?

15       COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: This is more of a -- I'm  
16 not sure where it fits, so perhaps this is more directed  
17 to the Chair.

18       The last public comment did mention that there were  
19 some issues with the recording, so I don't know if this  
20 is something that you'll be taking up with Kristian, or  
21 is this something that -- I don't think we need to  
22 discuss, but I am kind of curious about it.

23       CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. I will be in communication with  
24 my Co-Chair, my Vice Chair in addressing that issue. And  
25 we will bring forth a closing-the-loop during the next

1 full Commission meeting.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Yee?

3 VICE CHAIR YEE: I'd like to get Counsel Pane's  
4 opinion on this.

5 So the June 10th meeting, you know, we started with  
6 one policy. We changed it midstream. And that's where  
7 it ended. It ended with no repeat callers and staff  
8 enforced that.

9 So if we're saying, okay, on Saturday, we start the  
10 same way with an open policy you can repeat call, but  
11 perhaps make it clear that the Chairs, which will be  
12 Commissioners Ahmad and Fernandez, can make that change  
13 the same way, you know, in a -- in this coming meeting,  
14 as well as, of course, the whole discussion of whether  
15 meetings can be ended early.

16 That's why you have a Chair to make decisions like  
17 that in real time. I mean, that's what happened on the  
18 10th. Everyone seemed to be more or less happy with  
19 that. You know it wasn't a problem.

20 So can we proceed with that?

21 MR. PANE: Commissioner, what I would recommend is  
22 just to -- just to sort of summarize as you did, when we  
23 discovered that we were going to have this hypothetical  
24 become a reality, we first wanted to make sure that we  
25 weren't overstepping under the law. And once we could

1 get as close to real time as possible, what we believed  
2 to be on solid ground and regulating time, place, manner,  
3 and not content, then the Commission acted consistently,  
4 based on that practice.

5       What I would recommend for next time, since we --  
6 since the Commission is deciding to take a larger sample,  
7 is that we be similarly consistent and we continue the  
8 practice that we started the first time until the  
9 Commission has evaluated it and makes a subsequent and  
10 different policy change.

11       COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner Sadhwani, did  
12 you have your hand raised?

13       COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes. I hope it's  
14 appropriate under this agenda item. But I do want to --  
15 again, I think I've said in the past that it is a  
16 priority for me to see some of the regions that -- where  
17 we will ultimately be line drawing. I'd like to get a  
18 sense of the Commission's interest in directing staff to  
19 begin to plan for hybrid meetings now that the state has  
20 lifted many of the restrictions.

21       Certainly, as we know, this state has allowed us to  
22 continue to meet virtually. But for me, I do have a  
23 great desire to go out and see the areas where we'll be  
24 redistricting, particularly those areas where I haven't  
25 visited previously. So it'd be helpful to get a sense of

1 where other Commissioners are on that matter.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. And one thing I  
3 neglected to say is that the topic that we are going  
4 to -- the Public Input Design Committee meeting is going  
5 to address it in our next meeting, the conversation we're  
6 going to have.

7 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: When is that next meeting?

8 CHAIR AHMAD: July 6th.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: July 6th.

10 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Okay. I'll certainly work  
11 it out with Alvaro here. But my interests, I know, for  
12 example, we have a meeting coming up in zones, I believe  
13 it's A and B, in the far northern areas of California.  
14 During the -- our discussions in the first eight, I had  
15 said, at that point in time, that I would absolutely come  
16 to the far northern areas of California to visit those  
17 regions. And I want to make good on that promise.

18 So even if we can't have that meeting in public, I  
19 do still intend to travel to that area and go and at  
20 least see some of these regions that -- I've where I've  
21 never visited before. And so I'd certainly invite other  
22 Commissioners to join me.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, thank you  
24 all.

25 Commissioner Ahmad?



1 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Fornaciari.

2 Are you done with the report out for the debrief for  
3 agenda item number 8? All right.

4 So in summary, we will be bringing up a lot of these  
5 discussion points again at our future meetings, once we  
6 have additional data points. We do have a COI input  
7 meeting on Saturday, Monday, and then again on Thursday  
8 before we meet again as a full Commission. So thank you  
9 for that report out.

10 Katy, can we open the line for public comment on  
11 agenda item number 8?

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair. The  
13 Commissioner will now take public comment on item number  
14 8. To give public comment, please call 877-853-5247 and  
15 enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.

16 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
17 enter the queue. The full call-in instructions are right  
18 at the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the  
19 livestream landing page in full.

20 There is currently no one in the queue, Chair.

21 (Pause)

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions are  
23 complete, Chair. And there's currently no one in the  
24 queue.

25 (Pause)



1 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you, Katy. Moving on to  
2 agenda item number 9, Legal Affairs Committee.

3 Commissioners Yee, and Toledo?

4 VICE CHAIR YEE: Thank you, Chair. Very quickly,  
5 the Legal Affairs Committee did meet earlier today to  
6 continue revisions on the Litigation Counsel contracts  
7 with Gibson & Dunn and Strumwasser & Woocher, the  
8 versions that were posted today have been slightly  
9 revised. And the revised versions will be posted for our  
10 next meeting on the 25th.

11 At the meeting on 25th, we will seek your approval  
12 on these litigation contracts. The two contracts are  
13 identical except for the billing rates which differ from  
14 the two firms. The Litigation Council budget, which is  
15 4.3 million for post map litigation, does need to be  
16 divided contractually. And we are going to propose a  
17 70/30 split. Seventy percent is from  
18 Strumwasser/Woocher, thirty percent to Gibson/Dunn.

19 We'll present more of a rationale for that on the  
20 25th, as well as staff will provide some background on  
21 how monies can be and contract amounts can be adjusted  
22 later as needed. But we have to put some amount on paper  
23 to execute the contracts. And so this is the split that  
24 we're going to recommend.

25 So please wait for the revised versions to appear in

1 the handouts for the 25th. And take a look at them. We  
2 will be seeking your approval on those contracts on the  
3 25th. Thank you.

4 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.

5 And Legal Affairs Subcommittee is Commissioners Yee,  
6 Toledo, and Sadhwani. I just want to make sure I clarify  
7 that.

8 Do we have any questions for our Legal Affairs  
9 Subcommittee?

10 Yes, Commissioner Fornaciari?

11 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: One very quick question.  
12 I see that Prof. Levitt is still on this contract.

13 Is that -- does he -- is he back on the team?

14 VICE CHAIR YEE: No, that isn't -- that is a  
15 mistake. We will correct that.

16 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

17 MR. PANE: Thank you for that.

18 CHAIR AHMAD: Any other questions or comments for  
19 our lack? Seeing none, thank you for that report out.

20 We will open the line for public comment on agenda  
21 item number 9.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

23 And once again, the Commission will now take public  
24 comment on item number 9. To give comment, please call  
25 877-853-5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678.



1           Once you have called in -- or once you have dialed  
2 in, please press star 9 to enter the comment queue. The  
3 full call-in instructions are read at the beginning of  
4 each meeting -- or of this meeting and are provided on  
5 the livestream landing page.

6           And there is no one currently in the queue.

7                         (Pause)

8           PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The instructions are  
9 complete. And there is no one in the queue.

10          CHAIR AHMAD: All right. Thank you, Katy. Moving  
11 along in our agenda, agenda item number 11, discussion of  
12 future meeting dates and agenda items.

13          So we do have a calendar out for our COI input  
14 meetings as well as our business meetings and our two  
15 subcommittee meetings that are greater than three people,  
16 so the Public Input Design Committee and the Legal  
17 Affairs Committee, through the end of September. I have  
18 received notice from our team that they are working on  
19 putting together the timetables for the remaining COI  
20 input meetings that we, the Commission, had directed  
21 staff to do. And once that is ready, they will bring it  
22 forward to share with the Commission.

23          Is there anything else on agenda item number 11 that  
24 any of my colleagues or staff would like to bring up at  
25 this point?



1 All right. Seeing none, I would like to open the  
2 lines for public comment on agenda item number 11,  
3 discussion of future meeting dates and agenda items.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Yes, Chair.

5 The Commission will now take public comment on item  
6 number 11. To give comment, please call 877-853-5247 and  
7 enter the meeting ID number of 95775048678.

8 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
9 enter the comment queue. The full call-in instructions  
10 are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided  
11 on the livestream landing page.

12 There is currently no one in the queue at this time.

13 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes, Commissioner Andersen, while we  
14 wait for callers?

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. Just a quick --  
16 I just checked and updated the future meeting dates that  
17 are on our website for meetings. It just goes through  
18 August 10th. It doesn't actually go through all the way  
19 through September right now.

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Yeah. So under -- if you look at the  
21 meeting materials under June 2nd, that was the schedule  
22 that the Commission approved and that schedule goes  
23 through the end of September. So you're correct, the  
24 website does not reflect the same schedule that we  
25 approved. But the website will be updated as we attach



1 times to those meeting dates.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. But right now, for  
3 the -- for the public to see that, they'd have to know it  
4 was on the handouts of the June 2nd meeting.

5 Am I correct?

6 MR. MANOFF: Um-hum.

7 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes. The June 2nd meeting handouts  
8 link includes the schedule that the Commission approved.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: All right.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Chair, I would like to  
11 remind those calling in to please press star 9 to raise  
12 your hand, indicating you're calling in to make a  
13 comment. Thank you so much.

14 We do have a caller with their raised hand.

15 And please go ahead. The floor is yours.

16 MS. HOWARD: Thank you. Commissioners, it's Deborah  
17 Howard with the California Senior Advocates League one  
18 more time. I want to say that we have a little bit of a  
19 insight about the audio issue.

20 When I used the video through Safari, I don't get  
21 sound. But when I use it through Chrome, it does work.  
22 So I wanted to give you that information. Appreciate  
23 your attention to this.

24 I do think the other transparency issues remain,  
25 like, posting the COI maps and also the transcripts. But

1 thanks very much. I wanted to give you an update on  
2 that. Appreciate it. Take care.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. And  
4 that was all our callers at this time.

5 CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

6 Commissioner Akutagawa?

7 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. You know, these kind  
8 of browser issues do come up.

9 And I'm wondering, is this a -- an issue for the  
10 Website Committee and maybe testing out our website on  
11 various browsers so that we can understand if there are  
12 these problems? At least there could be a note that  
13 could be put in next to the videos to say, you know,  
14 there will be performance issues using Safari, you know,  
15 we recommend using Chrome.

16 You know, I don't know how Firefox -- how it works  
17 on Firefox. So these may be things that might be worth,  
18 you know, either staff or I don't know if this is  
19 something that the Website Committee may want to take on.

20 CHAIR AHMAD: Thank you. All right.

21 Moving along to agenda item number 12, and that is  
22 public comment for items not on the agenda and items for  
23 future meetings.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

25 I would like to remind the public that the

1 Commission will now take public comment on item number  
2 12. To give public comment again, please call 877-853-  
3 5247 and enter the meeting ID number 95775048678 for this  
4 meeting.

5 Once you have dialed in, please press star 9 to  
6 enter the comment queue. The phone call and instructions  
7 are read at the beginning of the meeting and are provided  
8 on the livestream landing page in full.

9 And at this time there is no one in the queue,  
10 Chair.

11 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. I would ask that we stand at  
12 ease for a few minutes to allow folks a chance to dial  
13 in.

14 (Pause)

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Your instructions are  
16 complete and there is no one currently in the queue.

17 CHAIR AHMAD: Great. Thank you, Katy.

18 With that, we have covered all of our agenda items.

19 Are there any items that I had missed inadvertently  
20 or if folks haven't had a chance to bring up that are on  
21 the agenda?

22 Yes, Commissioner Yee?

23 VICE CHAIR YEE: Not on the agenda, but thank you to  
24 Commissioner Ahmad for a magnificent job sharing and for  
25 leaving things in such good order for my first chance to





1 Chair.

2 CHAIR AHMAD: This was definitely my surprise  
3 retirement party.

4 Commissioner Yee, you are going to make the process  
5 all that more better as we move along with this  
6 Commission. So I'm excited to hand the baton off to you.

7 And with that, this meeting is adjourned.

8 (Whereupon, Citizen's Redistricting Commissions  
9 Public Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.)

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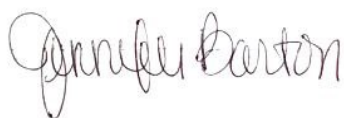
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JENNIFER BARTON

August 2, 2022

DATE

