

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2020 CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

DISTRICT MAP INPUT MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

11:00 a.m.

Transcribed By:

Delores Gauntlett

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Sara Sadhwani, Chair
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Isra Ahmad, Commissioner
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner
Jane Andersen, Commissioner
Alicia Fernández, Commissioner
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner
J. Kennedy, Commissioner
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner
Derric Taylor, Commissioner
Pedro Toledo, Commissioner
Trena Turner, Commissioner
Angela Vázquez, Commissioner
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Jesse Fraire, CNVP, Karuk Tribe, Siskiyou County
Terry Nguyen, Little Saigon

PUBLIC INPUT - CONTINUED

Lucas Zucker, CAUSE, Central Coast
Samuel Sukaton, CEVEF, Central Coast
Martha Howard, Temecula
Tammy Simms, Temecula
Caller PMI-0-006B, Riverside
Alberto Esquivel, LULAC, Riverside
Janet Barnabe
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Amrita Singh, AAAJ, AAPI, Assembly Map
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P R O C E E D I N G S

11:00 a.m.

1
2
3 CHAIR SADHWANI: Good morning. And welcome to the
4 California Citizens Redistricting Commission, for our
5 Public Map Input Session.

6 We'll begin by taking the roll. Ravi.

7 MR. SINGH: Yes. Thank you, Chair.

8 Commissioner Sinay.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

10 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

11 Commissioner Toledo.

12 Commissioner Turner.

13 Commissioner Vazquez.

14 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Here. Just in time.

15 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Yee.

16 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

17 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.

18 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

19 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez.

24 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Presente.

25 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

4 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

5 VICE CHAIR LE MONS: Here.

6 MR. SINGH: And Commissioner Sadhwani.

7 CHAIR SADHWANI: Here.

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

9 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thanks so much, Ravi.

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: And Commissioner Turner, here.

11 CHAIR SADHWANI: Oh. Thank you. Commissioner

12 Turner, we definitely did not want to miss you today.

13 So welcome, again. My name is Sara Sadhwani. I
14 will be serving as Chair today, along with my Vice Chair,
15 Antonio Le Mons, who is joining us as well.

16 First, a little bit of background on the Commission.
17 Every ten years after the Federal Government publishes
18 updated census information, California must redraw the
19 boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate, State
20 Assembly, and State Board of Equalization Districts so
21 that the districts correctly reflect the state's
22 population.

23 The fourteen-member Commission is made up of five
24 Republicans, five Democrats, and four not affiliated with
25 either of those two parties.

1 The Commission must draw the district lines in
2 conformity with strict, nonpartisan rules designed to
3 create districts of relatively equal population that will
4 provide fair representation for all Californians.

5 For more information, visit our website at,
6 WeDrawTheLinesCA.org.

7 Let me give a little bit of an overview of the next
8 three days. We're meeting today, October 21st, from
9 11:00 until 6:00 p.m.; tomorrow, Friday, October 22nd,
10 from 9:30 to 4:30; and also on Saturday from 9:30 until
11 4:30.

12 During these sessions we'll be receiving public
13 plans, so we'll be receiving presentations of multi-
14 district plans by the public, who will provide an
15 opportunity -- it will provide an opportunity to showcase
16 submitters' ideas, potential solutions, and specific
17 district boundaries.

18 Some of these plans might resemble some of the
19 visualizations that we've prepared ourselves, as some
20 will only be partial plans, covering part of the state.
21 Others may cover the entire state, and might resemble
22 full draft plans.

23 We will start each day off with appointments for
24 presentations, and then end the day with feedback to our
25 Line Drawing Team.

1 On Saturday, at the conclusion of all of the
2 presentations, we will open for public comment.

3 Participating in the October 21st to 23rd Meetings
4 is not the only way to submit public district maps to the
5 Commission. The Statewide Database has created a
6 fabulous tool called, Draw My CA Districts. It's an
7 online tool for creating district maps, and there's a
8 Draw My CA free-to-use plug in, for the open source GIS
9 platform, QGIS, where you can submit maps to the
10 Commission. For more information you can visit,
11 DrawMyCalifornia.org.

12 A couple of housekeeping rules before we get
13 started here. We just want to remind the public who have
14 appointments for today, to please join fifteen minutes in
15 advance of your presentation.

16 The Commission will be sticking to designated times
17 for the presentations, and enforcing the designated time
18 limits, and will provide a warning at one minute, and
19 thirty seconds, remaining.

20 As a reminder, we have available: Small submissions,
21 which included one to three district maps, those are six-
22 minute presentations; medium submissions, which included
23 four or more district maps, but not a statewide map, and
24 those are fifteen-minute presentations; large
25 submissions, which would be one statewide map, for thirty

1 minutes; and finally, extra-large submissions, which
2 would include more than one statewide map.

3 The Commission has enabled screen sharing for
4 presenters, so please have your maps handy to enable
5 screen share at the beginning of your presentation. All
6 of our -- all of the maps that are being presented today
7 are also posted on our website.

8 In addition, the Commission chose to not ask
9 questions of presenters, so there will not be any follow
10 up, after the presentations, from Commissioners.

11 And with that, I'm going to go to Katy, our
12 wonderful comment moderator, to go over the directions
13 and start us off with our first presenter.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

15 Welcome to the Public Map Input session. When it is
16 your turn to speak, you will be identified by your
17 assigned unique ID number. You will be reconnected to
18 this session with the ability to enable your own video
19 and/or audio, and to enable screen sharing. Please have
20 your maps handy prior to your appointment start time in
21 order to enable screen sharing.

22 The Commission will be enforcing appointment time
23 limits with a warning at one minute, and thirty seconds,
24 remaining. At the end of your public input, or at the
25 end of your time, you will be reconnected in a listen-

1 and view-only mode.

2 Right now we will have PM-001. And then up next we
3 will have PM-002. PM-001, I will be promoting you now.
4 PM-001, you can now enable your audio and video in the
5 lower-left corner of your screen. Click on Screen Share
6 in the bottom left of your screen. And you have done all
7 of these things. The floor is yours.

8 MS. RAMOS: Thank you so much, and good morning to
9 the Commission. My name is Belia Ramos. I serve as the
10 Fifth District Supervisor in Napa County, which is the
11 southern portion of Napa County. I have submitted this
12 map to the Commission for consideration, along with a
13 narrative. For purposes of my comments today, I'm going
14 to focus on the Congressional district specifically.

15 One of the unique things about Napa County is how a
16 rural county can be situated so closely to urbanized
17 counties, and has so many commonalities in those rural
18 heritage lands of Lake County, Sonoma County, and the
19 agricultural lands of Solano County as well.

20 We have one daily serving newspaper in Napa County.
21 We have one school district that serves, primarily, most
22 of the county. We have one main highway that runs from
23 the top to the bottom of Napa County, and we are known
24 around the world as the Great Wine Capital for the United
25 States. We have a robust tourism industry, and we are a

1 logistics hub in and around the North Bay. We have many
2 of these commonalities with the counties of Lake, with
3 Sonoma, and with Solano.

4 In addition, one of the things that makes Napa
5 County, and specifically the southern region of Napa
6 County, so unique, is that we play a vital role in that
7 transportation system that involves connecting Highway
8 29, Highway 37, and Highway 80.

9 As some of you may be aware, the flooding and
10 subsidence of Highway 37 really makes the partnership
11 between Solano County and Napa County even stronger, as
12 we advocate for the rehabilitation of this roadway
13 together.

14 In my narrative that I have included to the
15 Commission, I have highlighted these points and others.
16 It is important for Napa County to remain in the same
17 Congressional, Senatorial, and Assembly district so that
18 we can be able to advocate for ourselves as an
19 agricultural region, to push forward that vital economic
20 engine that we have, for the North Bay and for California
21 as a whole.

22 And I respectfully request the Commission's
23 consideration of that particular strength that Napa
24 County brings with its partners of Lake Sonoma, and
25 Solano County. And when I refer to Solano County, I am

1 talking about that south and western portion of Solano
2 County.

3 Knowing that the Commission has a long day ahead of
4 it today and tomorrow, I will submit, respectfully submit
5 the comments of the narrative that I have, the map, for
6 your consideration. And I very much appreciate the
7 Commission's -- giving due, pardon me, to give due
8 consideration to the fact that Napa County is one of
9 those rural counties that should remain whole for
10 purposes of all Legislative representation. Thank you so
11 much.

12 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
14 have PMI-002. PMI-002, I will be promoting you now.
15 PMI-002, you can now enable your audio and video in the
16 lower-left corner of your screen, and the screen
17 sharing -- and click on the Screen Share -- oh. You
18 found it. Perfect.

19 MR. FRAIRE: Great. Thank you so much. Good
20 morning, Commissioners. Thank you so much for this
21 public input opportunity.

22 We've had a chance to speak a little bit in the
23 past. My name is Jesse Fraire, I'm with the California
24 Native Vote Project, and really excited to share our
25 proposed maps with our Citizens Redistricting Commission

1 today.

2 As you can see, our proposal here is to -- our
3 proposal and our main goal here is to keep the Karuk
4 Tribe as one community of interest. Now, when it comes
5 to, you know, reconsidering our current district
6 boundaries, starting off with our proposed Assembly
7 district, you'll follow -- it'll be the same theme for
8 Assembly, or for State Senate, and for Congressional.

9 It's pretty minor in terms of the proposed impact
10 we're -- you know, we're thinking. We originally
11 received this request from Karuk Tribal members, it must
12 have been in 2019, where they notified us about the split
13 representation happening on their tribal homelands.

14 So the Karuk Tribe, I don't have it on here, but
15 basically plots of land mostly in Siskiyou County, and
16 crossing into a piece of Humboldt County, in the
17 northeast corner -- or in the northeast section of
18 Humboldt County.

19 So we do have, I believe it's a small Town of
20 Orleans that belongs to the Karuk Reservation, as part of
21 the Karuk Reservation. So our main goal is to keep this
22 COI together.

23 So as you can see here, the proposed line that we
24 submitted, or the proposed redrawing of the line would
25 include them, the little plots of land being here, so

1 kind of just expanding this boundary here towards the
2 coast a little bit from -- to be included into District
3 1.

4 We will be in more conversations with some of our
5 tribal leaders in Karuk to see how they would feel about
6 a potential alternative. We have heard, you know, some
7 of the testimony from some of -- from some groups in the
8 state who would like to modify the line to include more
9 of Siskiyou County within the coastal region, so within
10 District 2. So we'll be bringing that up to our leaders
11 at Karuk to see, you know, if that alternative would also
12 work.

13 But for now, this is what we're proposing, so just a
14 slight shift to the current line, to be inclusive of the
15 Karuk Reservation, as a whole, within District 1.

16 So that would be the same for the Senate district,
17 and also for the Congressional district, which I'm
18 scrolling over now, so mostly this line that I'm
19 highlighting here, would be slightly modified. But I
20 believe that's the main piece I wanted to cover.

21 And you know, can definitely follow up with some
22 more testimony, regarding any sort of preferences from
23 the tribe moving forward. The conversation, especially
24 with a potential modification, where Siskiyou would be a
25 bit more -- you know, a bit more split, but still with

1 the same goal, of keeping the Karuk Reservation as a
2 whole community of interest within one single district is
3 key.

4 Thank you so much for your time, and you know,
5 again, really appreciate this opportunity.

6 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we will have
8 PM-003. And then up next after that, we will have PM-
9 004. PM-003, I will be promoting you now. PMI-003, you
10 can now enable your audio and video in the lower-left
11 corner of your screen, and the Screen Sharing button is
12 in the middle bottom of your screen. One more time,
13 unique ID PMI-0003, you can now enable your audio and
14 video in the lower-left corner of your screen, and the
15 Screen Sharing button is in the middle bottom of your
16 screen. It is your appointment time and your opportunity
17 to share your maps -- visualizations. One more time; you
18 were unmuted. There you are.

19 MS. NGUYEN: I'm sorry.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That's okay.

21 MS. NGUYEN: New with this thing. Good morning.

22 CHAIR SADHWANI: Good morning. Thank you for
23 joining us.

24 MS. NGUYEN: Good morning, Commissioners. Thank you
25 for your time, and considering our community's request.

1 MR. MANOFF: Good morning, PMI-003.

2 MS. NGUYEN: Yeah. Good morning.

3 MR. MANOFF: Do you have a map?

4 MS. NGUYEN: And so since there's --

5 MR. MANOFF: I'm sorry to interrupt.

6 MS. NGUYEN: -- a time limit, and my comments --

7 MR. MANOFF: I'm sorry to interrupt. Excuse me.

8 Excuse me.

9 MS. NGUYEN: Yeah.

10 MR. MANOFF: I'm sorry to interrupt. Do you have a
11 map that you want to display today?

12 MS. NGUYEN: Yes.

13 MR. MANOFF: Would you like us to share that for
14 you?

15 MS. NGUYEN: Yes, please.

16 MR. MANOFF: Okay. Just a moment, while we bring up
17 your map; your time starts as soon as your map is
18 displayed.

19 MS. NGUYEN: Am I ready now?

20 MR. MANOFF: Yes, just a moment. I think we have
21 the map up now. Go ahead.

22 MS. NGUYEN: Okay. Hi. Good morning. Dear
23 Commissioner, thank you for your time and considering our
24 community's request. Since there are time limits, my
25 comment will be shorter than the statement I submitted,

1 that has more details.

2 I am Terry Nguyen (ph.), and I live and work with
3 Little Saigon area since 1982. Founded my business in
4 Westminster in 1987, and raised my children in this area.
5 My extended families and friends are all within the area
6 as well. My children, I have raised my children in this
7 area and my extended family.

8 My children attend the following school; Thomas
9 Paine Elementary in Garden Grove, Sarah McGarvin
10 Intermediate School in Westminster, La Quinta High School
11 in Westminster. Most of these schools are in
12 Westminster, but are within the Garden Grove Unified
13 School District; and Fountain Valley High School, but
14 within the Huntington Beach, Union High School District.

15 The proposed map visualization that came out on
16 October 4th for Orange County were concerning, and we
17 have to, respectfully, disagree with these. It is clear
18 that the maps were drawn by individual who does not live
19 in the area, and unfamiliar with the history of our
20 community, or unaware of the community's legacy and goals
21 over the forty years.

22 Let me first state that over 250,000 Vietnamese-
23 Americans call Little Saigon and Orange County as their
24 home. Furthermore, Orange County has the largest number
25 of Vietnamese residents outside of Vietnam. The Fall of

1 Saigon in 1975, brought over 2 million Vietnamese
2 refugees to the U.S. over the course of the next three
3 decades.

4 One of the first waves of Vietnamese refugees, who
5 left with Americans during the Fall of Saigon, is like my
6 dad and my sister were sent to Camp Pendleton in San
7 Diego. These Vietnamese refugees eventually migrated
8 north, and established Westminster as their new home.
9 Westminster later became known as Little Saigon. The
10 first Vietnamese grocery store, restaurant, doctors'
11 offices were established here.

12 Vietnamese refugees around SoCal would travel to
13 this area to buy and enjoy traditional Vietnamese food,
14 and be around those who shared their tradition.

15 My father even found Little Saigon Radio in 1993,
16 one of the first Vietnamese radio stations in the Nation.
17 Little Saigon began to expand in the late '80s; Garden
18 Grove, Fountain Valley in the '90s, and then more
19 recently, Huntington Park -- Huntington Beach, Rossmoor,
20 Seal Beach, and Los Alamitos.

21 Why our family established their business forty
22 years ago in Westminster and Garden Grove, we, the 1.5,
23 second generations have taken over those businesses, and
24 have started our own business in the same or surrounding
25 area, as mentioned above.

1 We have also tried to establish our own growing
2 family within this same area to be close to our parents,
3 churches, temple, and well-known and a lot of businesses
4 while maintaining our connection to community that share
5 our same interests, value, and culture.

6 The proposed map groups Vietnamese community with
7 other minority communities in Orange County, which does a
8 significant disservice to all the communities being
9 considered. We have fought tirelessly to preserve and
10 pass on tradition and culture to a latter -- later
11 generation. Each of the minority communities in Orange
12 they have their own needs and interests related to their
13 heritage and American culture that needs to be reflected
14 in each district's presentation?

15 Before I begin to explain the proposed map, please
16 note I never draw maps, so it might not be perfect. So
17 the first map a hundred percent of Westminster, as you
18 can see, Midwest City, Fountain Valley, Rossmoor, Los
19 Alamitos, and Seal Beach, each, eighty percent of Garden
20 Grove, and little over fifty percent of Huntington Beach,
21 including Huntington Harbor, the majority of 405 Freeway,
22 and 22 Garden Grove Freeway touches the City of
23 Westminster, Fountain Valley, Rossmoor, Los Alamitos,
24 Seal Beach, and Huntington Beach.

25 Northwest border, the lines stop at West Street in

1 Garden Grove, because as you drive east of West Street,
2 you can significantly -- see the change in the Vietnamese
3 business, which indicates that the area is less populated
4 with Vietnamese-Americans. Going a little south, we stop
5 at Missouri Lane in Santa Ana, since we also shared the
6 lines at the border Fountain Valley.

7 I don't think I have enough time. So you can see,
8 the map, you can see the southern east border, northern
9 border, western border, which take parts of the
10 Huntington Beach. And then the second map, ninety-five
11 percent of Santa Ana, part of Garden Grove, east and
12 west, borders Santa Ana, moves north through Orange
13 County -- Orange and into part of Anaheim.

14 The two maps clearly respect the geographic divide
15 between the various community, and would better serve the
16 interest, culture, tradition, and history of each, which
17 allows the community to flourish, and continue to
18 establish themselves.

19 MR. MANOFF: Hey, there. One minute remaining.

20 MS. NGUYEN: Yes. It would be the best interest of
21 the community to keep the current city that make up
22 Little Saigon, Westminster, Garden Grove, Midwest City,
23 Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Seal Beach, Los
24 Alamitos, Rossmoor, together.

25 I thank you so much for your time and consideration.

1 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Ms. Nguyen.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we will have
3 PMI-004. And then up next after that will be PMI-005.
4 PMI-004, I will be promoting you now. PMI-004, you can
5 now enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner
6 of your screen. You can also enable your screen share in
7 the bottom center.

8 MR. ZUCKER: Hi. Thank you so much, Commissioners.
9 It's great to be able to present before you. My name's
10 Lucas Zucker, I'm a policy director at --

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment.

12 MR. ZUCKER: Oh.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Do you have maps that you
14 would like to share?

15 MR. ZUCKER: I do. But I can -- screen share, it
16 might be easier for me to show --

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, please do.

18 MR. ZUCKER: -- the particular areas with the maps
19 and --

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yeah, if you would like
21 to start there, and then your time will start.

22 MR. ZUCKER: Great. I'm Lucas Zucker. I'm the
23 policy director at CAUSE, We are a social justice
24 community organization in the Central Coast, and we have
25 maps from the from the Assembly to Congressional level

1 for all of Zone E, and I also submit these as written
2 comment with more extensive information.

3 I'll get to it. But really, I think the big picture
4 to understand is -- oh, and I think I was told I had
5 fifteen minutes. It looks like the timer is for five
6 minutes, is that?

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We will reset that; one
8 moment.

9 MR. ZUCKER: So the Central Coast is really a region
10 of huge inequality from communities like Santa Barbara,
11 and Monterey, known worldwide for tourism, to
12 agricultural, farm-worker communities, and dealing with a
13 lot of economic and social challenges. And so
14 districting in our region is really important because of
15 those vast inequalities.

16 So can I go ahead and start, start with maps then?

17 MR. MANOFF: Yes, please go ahead.

18 CHAIR SADHWANI: Yes, thanks.

19 MR. ZUCKER: So in the Assembly here, we've got a
20 map here for Assembly district here combining most of --
21 or all of Eastern Ventura County. And Eastern Ventura
22 County is really distinct from Western Ventura County. A
23 lot of kind of suburban bedroom communities more
24 connected to commuters to LA, high levels of education,
25 and homeownership, biotech industry.

1 The division here is often at the Conejo Grade. And
2 we talk about, you know, up the hill and down the hill in
3 Ventura County. We don't have it quite there for
4 population balancing. You know, we cut here in
5 Camarillo, which can kind of, potentially, be an either.
6 But on the west side of Ventura County we've got this
7 Assembly district, which is really a high priority for
8 us.

9 And this combines these communities of interest that
10 we've highlighted a few times at the at the Commission,
11 that Commissioners have kind of referred to as the Port
12 Hueneme to Piru kind of stretch, from Hueneme, Oxnard,
13 Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru.

14 And these are really the kind of farmworker
15 communities of Ventura County, Western Ventura County is
16 much more agricultural, working class, you know, more
17 racially diverse.

18 So this is a coalition district where the total
19 people of color, CVAP population is the majority, you
20 know, it can be kind of cut in different, different ways.
21 But our priority is really to keep that -- keep this
22 community of interest together, and to keep this a
23 coalition district.

24 Moving a little bit north: We aim to keep all of
25 Santa Barbara County together in this Assembly district.

1 Our main community of interest here that we really work
2 with is in the farmworker towns up here in Northern Santa
3 Barbara County, Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and Lompoc. And
4 so those communities are very connected, and really
5 should be, should be kept together.

6 And there've been different districts in the past
7 that have either stretched them up to San Luis Obispo
8 County, or down with the rest of Santa Barbara County.

9 We really prefer to have our communities here
10 connected with the rest of Santa Barbara County, as
11 Southern Santa Barbara County has some significant Latino
12 enclaves, historically strong neighborhoods that really
13 had a major political voice. And whereas, San Luis
14 Obispo County, you know, really is, is one of the least
15 diverse counties in California, and has made it hard for
16 folks in this kind of Northern Santa Barbara County area
17 to get adequate representation.

18 And of course, you know, especially with COVID,
19 we've seen the importance of kind of county services, you
20 know, and keeping counties whole if possible.

21 We did include some of these, kind of southern towns
22 of San Luis Obispo County, which we see as connected to
23 Northern Santa Barbara County. This is Oceano, Grover
24 Beach, and Nipomo, especially Nipomo, is pretty connected
25 to Santa Maria.

1 We actually put a lot of -- the bulk of San Luis
2 Obispo County with West Bakersfield here. And so this
3 has been done in the past. It's not in the current
4 districts, you know, that the state has right now, but
5 one of the issues we really tried to focus on was VRA
6 considerations in the Assembly, where there is much more
7 potential to draw majority-minority VRA districts.

8 And so we worked with organizations in other areas,
9 in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, and Central Valley. And so
10 our conversations with folks in the Central Valley, like
11 the Waterford (ph.) Foundation, we really found that this
12 connection of San Luis Obispo County to West Bakersfield
13 would help draw four Latino VRA seats in the Central
14 Valley.

15 And we also do see those as connected. Certainly,
16 many people from the, you know, West Bakersfield area,
17 you know, go to San Luis Obispo County for recreation,
18 whether that's, you know, off-road vehicle recreation,
19 and in Pismo, or you know, sending their kids to Cal
20 Poly, and that kind of that world-renowned ag program
21 there.

22 But you know, this is kind of a part of rural
23 California that I would say, it's way more likely to find
24 farm owners than farm workers. You know, it's rural, but
25 it's different, you know, kind of much more middle-class,

1 and White, rather than Latino. Compared to, say, the
2 Santa Maria Valley to the south, or the Salinas Valley to
3 the north, which can be really distinct from San Luis
4 Obispo County.

5 So moving up a little bit, this here is the main
6 VRA, Latino district area, that's been a really important
7 protected district for years now. And it includes the
8 Salinas Valley, the big City of Salinas, as well as the
9 small Towns of Soledad, Greenfield, King City, and
10 Gonzales, as well as Hollister, Gilroy, Watsonville.

11 So these communities really form an important Latino
12 VRA district. We've tweaked it a little bit from the
13 current district, and took out Morgan Hill, which is
14 included in the current Assembly district. I think it
15 was probably included last time around for population
16 balancing. But it is much more kind of, you know,
17 suburban and affluent than these farmworker towns here.

18 We keep the Assembly district along the Monterey Bay
19 Coast, similar to how it currently is. It allows, and
20 this, you know, is different from the Commission's draft
21 Assembly maps, but keeping Monterey and Santa Cruz
22 together I think is valuable for community of interest
23 purposes.

24 And certainly there's a lot of environmental
25 communities of interest along the Monterey Bay, but

1 there's also a lot of connection with tourism, folks go
2 and stay, stay in Monterey or Santa Cruz, and you know,
3 go to the Aquarium, and the Boardwalk. And so it's kind
4 of connected economically. You know, as well as the
5 universities, both here and here, UC Santa Cruz, and CSU
6 Monterey Bay.

7 That does require for population balancing to
8 include this little bit of South San Jose and Morgan
9 Hill. You know, these areas, I would say, are a little
10 bit more connected to the suburban Bay Area. But they're
11 a little bit kind of at the fringes of the Bay Area, and
12 so maybe less urban than core of the Bay Area. And so
13 there's some connection there in terms of, you know,
14 conservation issues, and environmental issues, and they
15 happen -- they are currently connected in the Assembly.

16 So the other reason is in our communications with
17 folks in the South Bay where there's a large, I mean,
18 probably the largest Latino population in the Bay Area is
19 on the east side of San Jose. And then really large
20 portions of Islander communities of interest in the South
21 Bay as well. But this helps kind of protect some of
22 those communities, districts by, you know, doing this in
23 configuration.

24 Let me go to my Senate maps. So in the Senate, we
25 connect, as it is currently, Eastern Ventura County with

1 the Western San Fernando Valley. And these communities,
2 although they cross the Ventura and LA County line, have
3 a lot in common with each other. There are many kind
4 of -- many of them are really bedroom communities that
5 are commuters into Los Angeles. You know, not really
6 marks a lot of the difference between Eastern and Western
7 Ventura County.

8 You know, they are kind of middle- to upper-class, a
9 lot of kind of single family zoning, you know, well-
10 funded schools, you know, neighborhoods really concerned
11 with quality of life issues, so there's a lot of
12 connection between these areas.

13 Western Ventura County is much more connected to
14 Santa Barbara County. And you know, I'll talk a little
15 bit about this, this is one of our biggest priorities.
16 You know, you note here that this is the only place,
17 actually, where we're able to connect two of our kind of
18 main farmworker town community of interest in the kind of
19 Santa Maria Valley area here, and kind of the Oxnard
20 Plains, Santa Clara Valley area here. And they're both
21 able to be connected in one Senate district. And we
22 think that's really important for maximizing
23 representation at the Senate.

24 But also this region, this blue district, has been
25 connected really dating back to -- really prior to the

1 United States. I mean, this is kind of the core of
2 Chumash territory, you know, historically. And then in
3 that -- in the Spanish, you know, Colonial period was
4 really kind of a governing unit of the Mission System,
5 governed out of the Presidio in Santa Barbara, and you
6 know, continue to be connected.

7 Actually, Ventura County and Santa Barbara County,
8 in the original founding in California were one county;
9 and Ventura County split off of Santa Barbara County
10 later. They're connected by the Los Padres National
11 Forest, which really stretches through here, the Channel
12 Islands. And so a lot of kind of environmental
13 connections as well as, you know, it's a district that's
14 been hugely impacted by wildfire. You know, certainly
15 myself as well as, you know, many of our communities, we
16 have really dealt with that climate change.

17 Ventura and Santa Barbara County are actually the
18 fastest warming communities in the United States. And
19 issues like oil spills and that -- you know, and
20 environmental disasters from that. This is really one of
21 the first places where oil industry was developed in
22 California, and had the historic oil spill in Santa
23 Barbara that really stressed all along the coast; even
24 though we mostly hear about the Santa Barbara issue.

25 And particularly, Oxnard and Santa Maria are very

1 connected. They've been immigrant farmworker communities
2 since the sugar beet boom in the turn of the century. A
3 lot of those sugar beet towns are now strawberry towns
4 that, you know, were also big places for the Bracero
5 Program, and during the World War II era. And are all
6 communities now that have some of the largest in the
7 state, populations of indigenous communities from
8 Southern Mexico, specifically the State of Oaxaca, like
9 the Mixteco Community. And you've heard COI testimonies
10 from some of those folks as well.

11 Also, unique issues with pesticides, strawberries
12 are at the top of that Dirty Dozen list of pesticides,
13 and you know, groundwater contamination.

14 So yeah, this area is really connected to a lot of
15 the middle-class professionals in this community. You
16 know, what, graduate from UCSB. You know, this is really
17 the -- in the Senate, you know, we really see the
18 distinction between the southern and northern regions of
19 the Central Coast. I think as we were talking about
20 bigger districts, you can look at more of a regional
21 level.

22 So you know, we can -- refer to it as the Northern
23 Tri-Counties and the Southern Tri-Counties. But the
24 Southern Tri-Counties is Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San
25 Luis Obispo; Northern Tri-Counties is San Benito, Santa

1 Cruz, and Monterrey.

2 And these even have different area codes, so 805 is
3 these area codes, and 831, is these. Certainly have a
4 lot in common environmentally, but this area up north is
5 more kind of redwoods, this area down here is more like
6 chaparral. You know, there's they both have a lot of
7 berries, and grapes in agriculture, but up here is more
8 lettuce, and down here it's more citrus.

9 You know, down here folks are more likely to be
10 Gauchos from UCSB. And up here, folks are more likely to
11 be Banana Slugs from UC Santa Cruz. So we try to, in our
12 Senate and Congressional maps, there's much more ability
13 to kind of divide those two regions.

14 It's a little hard to because the Southern Tri-
15 Counties has much more population than the Northern Tri-
16 Counties, but that you see those kinds of lines playing
17 out.

18 San Luis Obispo County ends up kind of in the middle
19 And it is kind of part of the Southern Tri-Counties, but
20 here, this kind of southern part of San Luis Obispo
21 County, the Five Cities area around Pismo, is somewhat
22 connected to Santa Barbara County. You know, there's a
23 lot of commuting between Northern Santa Barbara County
24 and here. You know, there're certainly connections
25 around the kind of coastal, coastal issues and coastal

1 tourism between Pismo and Santa Barbara as well.

2 Northern San Luis Obispo County is more connected
3 to, you know, kind of Big Sur, up here, right? So
4 there're some connections, as well as, you know, you've
5 got, you've got kind of the Wine Country. It really is
6 throughout the whole region, right, but this is really,
7 San Luis Obispo County can kind of go either way, but
8 here we put most of it up with the Northern Central
9 Coast; so getting most of San Luis Obispo County,
10 Monterey County, San Benito, and Santa Cruz on the -- in
11 the same district, in the Senate here.

12 So you know, as I've talked about before, there're
13 huge disparities between some of the agricultural
14 farmworker towns, that are probably Latino, and they're
15 working class, and some of the coastal, kind of more
16 affluent, and kind of tourism, and university-based
17 communities that are -- that are here.

18 But ultimately, when we get to the Senate level,
19 we're often talking more regionally. You're not able to
20 create VRA districts as much in the same way. And you
21 know, these communities are really connected in many
22 ways. There's commuters who, you know, work in tourism
23 and domestic work in places like Santa Cruz and Monterey
24 that are more affluent communities, but extremely
25 expensive. And so folks live in places like Watsonville

1 and Salinas, and commute in.

2 You know, a lot of the environmental issues, the
3 runoff from the ag industry, you know, pesticides and
4 fertilizers; where those end up? Well, they end up in
5 Monterey Bay. If there's a fire in the Santa Cruz
6 Mountains, who is breathing in that smoke more than
7 anybody? It's farmworkers in the Salinas Valley who are
8 working eight to ten hours doing heavy manual labor in
9 the fields, right.

10 So there's a lot of connection between these areas.
11 You know, even if kind of demographically, and kind of
12 economically, they can be somewhat distinct.

13 Finally, I'll go to our Congressional maps. In the
14 Congressional level, we're actually almost able to put
15 the entire six-county, Zone E, Central Coast region into
16 three districts. It's the best kind of fit in that way.
17 So we really try to do that.

18 The Congressional, our understanding is under, you
19 know, Federal law --

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One minute.

21 MR. ZUCKER: -- the Congressional maps have much
22 more deviation than our State maps; so you see here,
23 where we kind of have a little bit of cuts in. We have
24 Ventura County district, and you know, Ventura County is
25 definitely, by far, the most densely populated of the six

1 counties of the Central Coast. And so you know, in
2 itself, is more than one Congressional district.

3 So what we do is, we cut here a little bit of Simi
4 Valley. Currently, Simi Valley is with the Santa Clarita
5 area in Congress, and so that's --

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thirty seconds.

7 MR. ZUCKER: -- somewhat the same. Sorry, how much
8 more time?

9 MR. MANOFF: Twenty seconds.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Twenty-four seconds.

11 MR. ZUCKER: Twenty-four seconds. Okay. Then we
12 put the -- Ohio Valley has some connections with Santa
13 Barbara, so we cut that that way, as well as putting all
14 of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties in one
15 Congressional district. And a little bit of this very,
16 very sparsely populated area here to get to population
17 balancing.

18 And then we have this kind of Northern Central Coast
19 Congressional district here, with a little bit of the
20 Santa Cruz --

21 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Mr. Zucker.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And at this time we will
23 have PMI-005, at forty-five minutes. PMI-005, I will be
24 promoting you now. PMI-005, you can now enable your
25 audio and video in the lower-left corner of your screen,

1 and your screen share in the bottom center. And if you
2 will, please, share your maps prior to beginning your
3 narrative. And you are -- there you go. Now you're
4 unmuted.

5 MR. SUKATON: Just going to get my timer set,
6 because so I don't think I'll be able to see yours.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect.

8 MR. SUKATON: All right. Good morning, members of
9 the Commission. I also want to thank Lucas, because he
10 has made my job a lot easier to talking to you about the
11 Central Coast.

12 As you may know, my name is Samuel Sukaton, I'm from
13 California Environmental Voters, Enviro Voters Education
14 Fund, you know as CLCV; just very happy to be here.

15 I'm just going to click through -- if it's going to
16 let me. You have these in front of you. This is mostly
17 for reminders and notification of others. You know,
18 we've been around since '72. Our emphasis is on clean
19 air, clean land, and water, climate justice, and we
20 recognize that a big part of that is participating in
21 expanding democracy, particularly for historically
22 disenfranchised communities, which is, if you're
23 wondering why our environmental organizations been around
24 here, all year, that's kind of why we've been here. And
25 that's the role that we are, there.

1 So just guiding principles for the conversation,
2 California has a number of bio regions, environmental
3 justice questions, polluters that create different policy
4 priorities to create different -- that shape communities
5 in different ways. And you know, this leads to unjust
6 impacts on communities, and some habitats, exploitation
7 of natural resources up and down the state.

8 And I will emphasize, our concerns map not neatly or
9 perfectly, but substantively with other COIs,
10 socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, economic corridors
11 through geographic proximity. And I will be noting a
12 couple of conversations from partners we work with, who
13 you have already heard from, or who you are yet to hear
14 from, through this broader kind of mapping process. We
15 don't always agree exactly on lines, but it's the
16 principles on racial justice, on contiguity, on expanding
17 the VRAs.

18 So with that in mind, the districts you will see we
19 specifically drew these to stay out of VRA seats, to
20 offer you freer hand, to kind of frame the comments of
21 some of our partners. There is some overlap. Sometimes
22 it's agreeable, sometimes it's not, and I'll actually
23 note the alternatives when we come -- when they come up.

24 These are some of the places I'll be taking you
25 today: The North Coast, the Sac Bay Delta, the Sierra

1 Nevada, the Angeles Crest, or High and Low Deserts, our
2 South and Central Coast, and two kinds of major
3 environmental justice area, the Inland Empire
4 Warehousing. I call it "America's closet" -- "America's
5 front door", and "America's closet", so the LA-Long Beach
6 Port Complex, and the Inland Empire warehouse logistics
7 area.

8 Taking it from the top, as one might say, we do
9 believe, and you probably remember our conversation in
10 April, where I emphasized the North Coast articulates the
11 specific community of interest, running from the Oregon
12 border down to the Golden Gate Bridge. While it's not
13 necessarily compact, it is clearly defined by both the
14 Klamath Range and the Pacific Ocean, and a number of
15 national forests, Six Rivers, Klamath, and Shasta, Mendo
16 (ph.).

17 I do want to before -- I think Paul Mitchell said
18 this in the redistricting room, but I liked the kind of
19 questions about wine, water, and need, they kind of
20 articulate how they're dealt with on one side of the --
21 one side of the Cascades, on one side of the Klamath
22 versus the other.

23 We're asking in that case, so our broader corridor
24 kind of looks very similar to both what currently exists
25 and what the California Native Vote Project is working

1 on. As you can see, kind of what maintains the coastline
2 with rivers that flow west, and I do actually want to
3 note, the Supervisor -- and let me just make sure I have
4 my notes right -- Supervisor Belia Ramos' comments about
5 how, kind of, there's an Eastern Sonoma, Napa, Solano
6 Lake community of interest at the bottom. And so as you
7 go down, it's going to kind of trigger some decision
8 trees.

9 And we do recognize that there's kind of 101
10 Commuter Corridor near Petaluma, as Santa Rosa's that --
11 logistics that shades into kind of an agricultural, and
12 then a cultural kind of leg in Solano and Napa space. My
13 mom grew up at Angwin at the PC, so definitely recognize
14 that that's very separate from the space.

15 We have the county line -- the county border between
16 Shasta and -- excuse me, between Siskiyou and Humboldt,
17 as our border. Did have conversations with Jesse of the
18 Native Vote Project, I'm glad to hear back about that.
19 We are willing to take in as much of Siskiyou as
20 necessary, to keep Karuk line whole, recognizing that
21 that's a priority for them.

22 So we do want to offer that be drawn out west rather
23 than east, because our partners at the Environmental
24 Protection Information Center at Arcade and Humboldt were
25 very insistent. And we support this of a unified and a

1 whole Humboldt within a 101 North Coast Corridor
2 District.

3 State Senate looks pretty similar. Again, I want to
4 note the Siskiyou piece, and the Assembly. As you can
5 see, our ten doesn't change much, it's marine dominated
6 with kind of a bit of the Sonoma County piece there,
7 because kind of there's a -- kind of we started to shade
8 off there.

9 To emphasize though, if we are going to be splitting
10 in the Assembly, I do want to make sure that a lot of
11 them are in coastal communities. Your Point Reyes, and
12 such, kind of remained tied in with the broader coastal
13 district. There's a kind of questions of stewardship
14 that overlap the same, and wanted to kind of land on and
15 emphasize that.

16 Moving on, let me just make sure I have -- I'm just
17 blowing through this, and the time isn't so much. But
18 yes, so Sonoma is the most populated, you're going to
19 have to split it. I just want to make sure that kind of
20 the Marin County, the Headlands, and the Tomales Bay kind
21 of stay with that broader North Coast district.

22 Moving over to the Delta, super interesting here,
23 Stockton is generally seen as agricultural, but kind of
24 the Bay Delta, opens up to a number of ports, right. The
25 deep water channel, Benicia, you got the confluence of

1 the Sacramento, and San Joaquin River, Suisun Bay, fifty-
2 seven reclaimed islands.

3 So like, there's a lot of really interesting kind of
4 moving parts at play here; questions of conveyance of
5 water, and a number of counties, Stockton has been huge
6 right now, I think -- I believe San Joaquin County just
7 can't fit in any single district on its own. So I kind
8 of want to kind of explore that with all of you.

9 With that in mind, so starting at Congress, as you
10 can see, here is CD 9. I think of Stockton as a saloon
11 door. Some doors open in one direction, saloon doors
12 swing in both. You've heard me use that metaphor before.
13 In this case, where Stockton is opening up west to
14 Antioch, and to the broader Bay Delta, so reflect to
15 Delta COI, but also kind of maintains distance between
16 other -- you know, your big Sacramento core, your big
17 Central Valley core, and your big East -- your big East
18 Bay core.

19 But there are maritime and recreational components
20 that are rooted in San Joaquin, but look to the whole
21 Delta to Benicia Bridge.

22 Moving to the Senate; and this is the door swinging
23 both ways; if you're pushing it and it's swinging both
24 ways, it swings out to 680 again, similar to CD 7, but
25 also swings south and east into Tracy in that -- like

1 you've got a Senate seat that -- recognizing that
2 stopping is not at the periphery of another region, but
3 the center of one of its own.

4 So you have that Lodi, Stockton, Tracy Corridor,
5 going as far south as Patterson, and then going is --
6 going east to 680, with Senate District 8 to the side. I
7 don't know if you can see that there in Valley Springs.

8 You know, the counties are split to maintain
9 population, but it reflects kind of San Joaquin COIs, and
10 it does keep it separate from the Bay Area, because
11 there're VRA questions there, as Lucas mentioned there
12 that we don't want to -- we don't necessarily want to
13 trip over them, because I know that that creates a
14 different -- a different set of moving parts.

15 You'll notice that that district nests two Assembly
16 districts very neatly, 13 and 12, and so 13 follows the
17 Delta, AD 12, kind of looks again south of the Tracy.

18 You have heard me talk about the Sierra. You have
19 heard me testify about the Sierra. Big thing, super
20 large, from Tehachapi to Fredonyer, a number of
21 watersheds, very much part of the lungs of -- the lungs
22 of the west, as it were, running through really all the
23 way to the Oregon border. But we really wanted to
24 emphasize, and you've got the calls, the entirety of Zone
25 G, most of the eastern parts of Zone D, and a fair amount

1 of Zone B.

2 I'm going to take that into districts now. So these
3 are the counties, as you can see. Again, Zones D and G,
4 and wanted to pop open our seat. So there's going to be
5 a number of Congressional districts submitted. But the
6 first thing I heard when I came here, was very clearly:
7 Please, you know -- that we don't feel a commonality with
8 the Desert, we don't feel a commonality with Victorville.

9 So you can see this is very much kind of the
10 existing forth, with a hard line at the Inyo County line,
11 which is very, very important to us. We recognize that
12 there're kind of other Sacramento watershed seats, but as
13 you can see here, like the Desert; the High Desert, the
14 Low Desert, which you'll see later, and the Sierras are
15 all distinct and separate, running as far north.

16 I do want to note also that, historically, and even
17 now, the Sierras have been drawn in with Fresno, with
18 Visalia, with Bakersfield, and with Roseville. If you're
19 going to have to draw on the pop (ph.), and I know you're
20 going to have to do it, I would ask that you do it once,
21 and I would ask that you do it along the I-80 Corridor,
22 in that like it's been clearly articulated. Like, you
23 know -- but folks don't identify with the Central Valley,
24 folks don't identify with Visalia.

25 I know there're some options that point there, if

1 you're going to draw in for pop, I would request that --
2 kind of that you look at Tahoe-Truckee Corridor going
3 into Roseville, Eldorado Hills, kind of that Sacramento
4 interface.

5 Otherwise, you know, too many straws outside of the
6 Sierra is going to kind of dilute the character of the
7 district, and we really want to emphasize that. As Lucas
8 even mentioned, like united by the forest, and that is
9 very clear, with the Stanislaus Assembly, the Sierra, and
10 Sequoia.

11 Moving to the Senate: The Senate has, again, we are
12 thinking regionally, it does capture from Sierra County
13 in the north, to Inyo in the south, as well as all of
14 Sequoia. And it leaves separation from the 99 Corridor
15 in the valley because, again, VRA seats there. It takes
16 in more than the Congressional seat. We think that -- we
17 want to make sure that this kind of -- the broader Nevada
18 to Mono Corridor, or Nevada to Inyo Corridor is captured
19 wherever possible. And I know the IVE Alliance has some
20 thoughts about that later this -- later this month.

21 Assembly here; you have got kind of a very specific
22 kind of Tahoe-Truckee Corridor on the one hand, and in
23 District 23, kind of a broader Gold Country Corridor. So
24 you have this I-80 here, but then it stops, and then you
25 have like the Coloma running all the way down into

1 Sequoia, there.

2 Moving to the desert, it runs across a number of
3 counties. I didn't know this, actually; Los Angeles,
4 Orange, Kern, San Bernardino, and Riverside, well, part
5 of the same county, initially during the states'
6 incorporation.

7 Inyo, of course, they've been very supportive of:
8 Please draw north, I want to make sure that's the case,
9 and a distinction is often drawn between High Desert and
10 Low Desert. That's often kind of like, conflated as San
11 Bernardino, Riverside. It's not quite the same, as
12 Commissioner Kennedy well knows.

13 And historically, also, the Low Desert and the
14 Imperial Valley have looked to each other, going back to,
15 I believe, Congressman Sonny Bono. They've got each
16 other then.

17 Moving to the High Desert components, you've got the
18 Mojave, generally articulated by the presence of Joshua
19 Tree, or not, and bordered by the San Gabriel Mountains
20 and San Bernardino Mountains. Places like Joshua Tree
21 and the Victor Valley, as well as Death Valley and Big
22 Bear. But again, you know, pointing Inyo north and to
23 fourth.

24 Low Desert components, you've got the Sonoran
25 Desert, the Salton Sea, and Coachella. Again, it's

1 lower, like its elevation is literally lower, and again,
2 that's more of a Riverside, Imperial, San Diego Corridor.

3 In Congressman then, as you can see, are my new CD
4 8, does incorporate kind of that broader Victor Valley
5 Corridor. And then goes west and east along the High
6 Desert, straight to Nevada, but ends at the Cajon Pass.
7 And Inland Empire and Victor Valley partners, will also
8 join in when emphasizing, that the Cajon Pass is a clear
9 boundary in San Bernardino County. As somebody who grew
10 up very close to the Pass; I rarely went up, and folks
11 rarely went down.

12 Like the High Desert and the Inland Valley are very,
13 very separate communities, and we're splitting counties
14 to accommodate, you know, majority-minority areas in Kern
15 and San Bernardino. You can see the existing 31 takes in
16 San Bernardino and Rialto, but does not go north of the
17 Pass.

18 And then moving to the Congressional seat, a little
19 bigger than you might think, but again, as I mentioned,
20 so the existing 36 incorporates the broader Low Desert
21 and Eastern Riverside County, Imperial has always had
22 kind of an affinity there. Folks move back and forth
23 across it. In conversation with some of our partners in
24 San Diego, we felt more federal representatives
25 representing the border was really crucial.

1 And then recognizing that, you know, there's an
2 Imperial Valley, Coachella Valley community of interest
3 that kind of shades into the Low Desert, and we honor
4 that here, by taking 36 up into San Bernardino.

5 And again, speaking as a local San Bernardino boy,
6 like just the broader kind of desert communities, even at
7 the supervisory level, it's hard to navigate because it's
8 just so damn big. And again, so we're having 8, kind of
9 takes in part of the High Desert, and then runs to Kern
10 along the High Desert, and then the Low Desert, and the
11 Salton Sea are in one district.

12 You've heard me mention this before, in April, about
13 a really strong emphasis on -- the Salton Sea is not an
14 environmental catastrophe waiting to happen, it's
15 happening right now. And so we've noticed at the
16 Assembly level that keeping the Salton Sea in one
17 Assembly district has focused a lot of attention around
18 that. And we want to make sure that's the case wherever
19 we can.

20 Moving to Senate: We don't actually get a chance to
21 do that here, in that, we do feel like there might be a
22 San Diego, Imperial, Latino VRA district; if there was
23 another way to draw them, I think we would like to see
24 the Salton Sea in other places; but this 28 here,
25 maintains the existing kind of Coachella is the piece,

1 right; and then shades off in High and Low Deserts as far
2 north as the Mojave National Preserve.

3 But again, you can see that hard line in your county
4 where we believe kind of the Sierra counties began. And
5 it was something very strongly articulated by our
6 partners in the Sierra; takes in Big Bear, Mojave,
7 Colorado River, as well as, again, the existing entirety
8 kind of Eastern Riverside Corridor, as far as the San
9 Bernardino Pass. And I can see my sister's place in
10 Banning in there.

11 Moving to Assembly: So 56, no really great surprises
12 here, this is very much in line with the existing
13 districts. It is Latino majority, at 54.5 percent, and
14 is going to be -- again, when we're going to deal with
15 the climate crisis, both the problems of the Salton Sea,
16 and the solutions, clean energy, when solar are going to
17 be happening here. And a lot of people are already kind
18 of living in this space, and thinking about this.

19 Moving to 42: So 42 historically had been centered
20 on Yucca Valley, very similar here, but it's also
21 overlooking into the High Desert, Palm Springs in the
22 Mojave Preserve, and those I-15, I-40 corridors; you'll
23 notice that I carved out the Victorville area there,
24 there's a rising African-American and Latino population,
25 I don't know if it's enough to justify a VRA district for

1 either community. But I think that like there's a
2 majority PLC (ph.) Corridor running from Victorville as
3 far west as Lancaster. And I want to make sure that,
4 like we're leaving a freehand for you all to think about
5 that, to make it so it kind of maximize representation
6 from, historically, disenfranchised communities of color.

7 Moving to the Angeles National Forest, to the Crest,
8 or as I tweeted at -- Dr. Sadhwani a while back, Bear
9 Country. So clearly, wildland, urban interface, right?
10 The San Gabriel's National Monument was established
11 during the last redistricting cycle, but it's bordered by
12 the Antelope Valley in the north, the San Fernando Valley
13 in the south. And it looks towards the San Bernardino
14 and Los Angeles Basins.

15 I have tweeted, I have joked with you, I say "Bear"
16 in every single one -- every single time I testify, to
17 kind of really emphasize that this was something that was
18 very important to us in the last cycle, and it remains
19 important to us.

20 We look at it slightly differently from some of our
21 partners, John Munson from Nature for All speaking to on
22 Saturday, and we very much enjoyed his maps as well, but
23 wanted to note kind of some of the major components, 214
24 and 39, Baldwin, and San Antonio, and the Monument.

25 So before I go deep into this district, you will

1 note I have Glendale and Burbank here. I mostly did that
2 just to give folks a freer your hand elsewhere. I will
3 note that one of our partners, Nature for All, is based
4 in El Monte, primarily African -- excuse me -- Asian-
5 American and Latino, and working to expand access to the
6 Monument. I am perfectly willing to exchange Burbank and
7 Glendale here for Alhambra, San Gabriel, El Monte, and
8 South El Monte in the 27th Congressional District.

9 John Munson will talk more about that, and some of
10 our other partners, but I just want to mention, like
11 going back to the saloon doors, Pasadena is a door that
12 opens two directions. It opens south to an Asian-
13 American and Latino community. It's growing to access
14 the Monument, and it opens north into the Monument
15 itself. And so kind of Pasadena District at the center
16 of that would be crucial for us.

17 As you can see, kind of -- we leave 32 kind of in
18 that Latino San Gabriel Valley area. Burbank and
19 Glendale, backing up to the 210, I think, would probably
20 be in a kind of a more -- or a wider district as it is
21 now. And then kind of recognizing, we did keep Arcadia
22 and these seats out, out for VRA reasons. But this could
23 be -- this could be this is, and I would support an Asian
24 influence in here.

25 Assembly, here in the 36, as you can see, kind of

1 Pasadena looks north. Pasadena currently is separate
2 from the Asian-American majority district in Alhambra.
3 We'd like to see that continue. So kind of La Canada,
4 Crescenta National Forest district (sic) here, and then
5 leaving space for Azusa and Duarte for a Latino seat, as
6 well as the VRA seats in the San Fernando Valley, I
7 believe there's two Latino -- a possibility for two
8 Latino seats there.

9 Moving to my hometown; so you know, forty percent of
10 the nation's consumer goods come through the ports of LA
11 and Long Beach; that's our front door, this is our
12 closet. Super heavy impacts on the logistics industry;
13 you'll hear about that from IE United, you'll hear about
14 that from the Black and Brown Redistricting Alliance,
15 you'll hear about that from a bunch of folks. But
16 massive air pollution and transportation hazards,
17 disproportionate impacts on people of color.

18 I remember a couple of years ago that, if you were
19 Black or Latino in San Bernardino County, you were six
20 times more likely to die of cardiovascular disease, for
21 this reason. This is why we wanted to emphasize this.
22 There's a lot infrastructure, you've got the Ontario
23 Airport, you've got the San Bernardino Airport, which is
24 kind of -- the Amazon Logistics Center, you've got the
25 World Logistics Center in Moreno Valley, and then major,

1 major shipping corridors, the 210, 60, the 10, the 15,
2 and the 215.

3 The 15, the 215, and the 57, also operate as
4 boundaries in this way. And I'll actually pop that up
5 right here. Here's kind of our Congressional lines, you
6 recognize our 27th, Angeles National Forest, our 36th,
7 Low Desert, and our 8th, north of the Cajon Pass that
8 we've talked about. Here's 31, which is San Bernardino
9 and Rialto together in a Latino majority seat with a
10 constant -- with African-American -- uniting African-
11 American populations in historic, kind of, San Bernardino
12 and Rialto.

13 San Bernardino is currently split at every level of
14 government. And that's something that we'd like to see
15 changed. And I know the IE industry the thought concurs.
16 35, as you can see here, splits Rancho Cucamonga and
17 Fontana, but takes in its kind of historic core of
18 Pomona, Chino, that's also fifty percent -- point one, 50
19 percent point 1 -- fifty percent Latino. And then CD 32
20 shades off into Los Angeles County. Kind of a San
21 Gabriel Valleys, Angeles Crest seat as well.

22 Moving to Assembly: As you can see, so any two of
23 these three, so 52, 40, and 47 can be nested into a
24 Latino seat, they're all at, or very close to majority
25 Latino CVAP, and similarly, we're acknowledging like

1 there's a Pomona kind of region, there's a Rancho
2 Cucamonga region, and there's a San Bernardino region,
3 all dealing with kind of shipping corridors, in different
4 ways. And then as you can see, that's up on 42, my High
5 Desert seat that I'd shown you earlier.

6 We don't go to Riverside County much, but because of
7 the high Latino population, there are a number of ways to
8 slice the salami on this one. And I know that. Again,
9 IE United, the IE Redistricting might some thoughts about
10 that as well.

11 Moving to the coast: So the South Coast runs, some
12 folks call the Bay of Santa Monica or -- not the Bay of
13 Santa Monica, the broader one is the Bay of Southern
14 California; coastal beach access, climate, biodiversity.
15 A lot of it is urban, so there's runoff, but there's also
16 kind of a wealth disparity, as Lucas mentioned in the
17 Ventura case, that also plays out here in the South
18 Coast.

19 You can notice some of the components, the Santa
20 Monica Mountains is a major -- has a boundary. You've
21 got the Ballona Wetlands, Catalina, a number of beaches,
22 the Ports of LA and Long Beach, which I mentioned
23 earlier, and some marine-protected areas.

24 Sea level rise, San Onofre decommissioning. We just
25 had an oil spill in Huntington Beach, all of these things

1 kind of articulate the very specific, kind of communities
2 of interest here.

3 We'll start with Congress: As you can see, kind of
4 where 26 isn't -- it doesn't map neatly, but it does
5 substantively with CAUSE's, kind of Ventura County map.
6 But you can see here there's kind of a Santa Monica,
7 Malibu, Manhattan Beach, to Torrance, to RPV Corridor,
8 47.

9 I've heard a lot of testimony about Long Beach. I
10 hear that there's definitely pushes to keep it together,
11 but with the VRA and with the ports, Long Beach, like
12 Stockton, is a saloon door, it swings in two directions,
13 it swings north and west, to the ports and to -- you
14 know, historic Latino, Black communities; and it opens
15 south in Orange County. And you know, that was one of my
16 earliest interlocutions for this Commission, as some of
17 you may remember.

18 I'll come back to the ports in a second. I wanted
19 to go through Orange County; as you can note, kind of
20 existing 47. So Long Beach does open up into Orange
21 County. There is like, Long Beach, Seal Beach,
22 Huntington Beach Corridor. But one of the ways I think
23 about this is, folks that drill and folks that deal with
24 the spill. So Long Beach, Huntington Beach, you have the
25 oil fields directly underneath them. There is a

1 balancing, as it were, of kind of drilling and kind of
2 recreation.

3 And then here in 49, there's kind of -- these are
4 the folks that they don't have any oil drilling, but like
5 the spill has come down to them, as some of you have been
6 following the Huntington Beach news, if it happens in
7 Huntington, it lands in San Clemente, it lands in
8 Carlsbad, it lands in Oceanside.

9 And so you know, actually I have had a conversation
10 with somebody in San Clemente, was like: Listen, we're
11 from Orange County, we appreciate it, but Huntington is
12 an hour away. And so as you can see, you've got this
13 kind of South County, and what San Diego calls the North
14 Coast, the Tri-Cities, framing MCB Camp Pendleton in a
15 separate kind of community there. And that stretch of
16 five articulates a different kind of lived experience,
17 similar but not exact to the kind of this Pacific Coast
18 Highway Corridor here.

19 Moving forward, I wanted to note we're also, as I
20 said earlier, we're trying to create space for -- to free
21 up your hands, to think about VRA, inland seats as much
22 as possible. As you can notice, we're trying not to
23 touch a lot of these community maps that were brought up
24 right before me as well.

25 The Senate seat again, here, kind of encompasses, as

1 Lucas mentioned actually, kind of a more regional
2 community of interest, but still coast dominating and not
3 inland. And then some of you -- some of you
4 Commissioners, may remember the conversation I had about
5 33, where we're creating a community of interest, where
6 the port opens north into I-710 and massive, massive
7 pollution -- pollution consequences and externalities
8 along that I-710 Corridor through South LA.

9 Historically, Latino and African-American, you know,
10 historic, like majority foreign-born, a lot of folks
11 dealing with asthma, but are also dependent on kind of
12 the shipping -- the shipping and trucking kind of pieces
13 that connect the port to South LA, and Southeast LA to
14 the rest of the world.

15 Breaking up Assembly here, again, so there's a
16 specific like Huntington, Laguna, and then Tri-Cities
17 kind of districts here. And again, it leaves space for
18 you to consider majority-minority seats elsewhere.

19 Really emphasizing the port complex here at the
20 Federal level, you'll notice CD 33 takes in PV, PV and
21 Torrance, 44 specifically emphasizes the Port of Los
22 Angeles, so that is like Pedro-Harbor Gateway Corridor,
23 and then 47 more of a Long Beach Corridor; again, not
24 neatly, but very closely.

25 The border there is California 1, and then 710, and

1 then California 110 on this side. Here again, in the
2 State Senate, wanted to emphasize that, you've got a Port
3 of Long Beach, like a Long Beach-dominated Senate
4 district, but also looks into -- looks broader at the
5 south, Southeast Los Angeles.

6 Lucas, in his fifteen minutes, very much cleaned up
7 on the southern part of the Central Coast. And I will
8 not belabor his points. They were excellent;
9 particularly his recognition of kind of this community
10 was a community before the United States existed. You've
11 got Chumash, you've got Mission, you've got the Presidio,
12 kind of articulating a really specific kind in community
13 and governance along the Central Coast. And I will not,
14 I will not belabor that.

15 But I will note some of the northern questions,
16 which again map neatly, but not exactly. We've got kind
17 of a Monterey, San Benito community of interest here. So
18 again, similarly agricultural, but also staying off of
19 the 5 and 99 Corridors, and these are -- you can see the
20 San Bernardino County border there. And then our 24 is,
21 as Lucas', is dominated by the Southern Tri-Counties
22 here; San Luis Obispo, Ventura, and Santa Barbara, which
23 you can see more adequately here. You've got that
24 broader kind of Los Padres District there.

25 What he didn't mention actually, is the Santa

1 Barbara oil spill. The Santa Barbara oil spill was one
2 of the major military's for the first Earth Day in 1970.
3 So that's the whole thing, that California kind of looked
4 like, again, with Huntington Beach oil spills, and then
5 people who have to live with them.

6 Moving here, as you can see, kind of, a Ventura
7 County district that includes Santa Clara River Valley,
8 and that eastern-southern half-whole (ph.), again, not
9 quite matching up, but glad to have that conversation.
10 And as with other things I've mentioned, you know,
11 conversations are ongoing, and we do feel like our
12 architecture is sound that we're willing to see a line
13 shift a little.

14 Assembly here, again, moving back up the Central
15 Coast, as you can see, there's kind of a San Benito,
16 Monterey here, and then there's a Monterey, San Luis
17 Obispo here, which nests, again, neatly into a single
18 Senate seat.

19 Recognizing that again, regional questions, and you
20 may not be able to nest, wanting to try and offer as many
21 ways to kind of think that through with you as possible.
22 So that actually concludes my presentation. But I will
23 end with just a couple of broader comments.

24 You'll see other iterations from some of our
25 partners in other parts of the state. So I know the

1 people's bloc is on deck. I know that the Inland Empire
2 Redistricting Hub is on deck. I know that the Orange
3 County People's Redistricting Alliance is going to be
4 reaching out. And all of those partners like we
5 recognize that their emphasis, as ours, is emphasizing
6 kind of racial and environmental justice.

7 We've framed our presentation in ways to kind of not
8 speak directly for them when they're going to speak for
9 themselves; and recognizing that there are a number of
10 ways to kind of think through environmental issues. We
11 have Shapefiles of major hydrologic basins, national
12 parks, kind of other environmental features. We are glad
13 to share with the Commissioners as they continue thinking
14 through this on live line drawing.

15 And as I mentioned, in places where there are, like,
16 clear or minor disagreements, for example, on the North
17 Coast with CNVP, glad to have the conversation and kind
18 of make some adjustments there; but we do feel like our
19 broader architecture, our North-South architecture in the
20 North Coast, our High Desert, Low Desert architecture, in
21 the desert, or one Sierra wherever possible, in our
22 Tahoe-Truckee versus Gold Country Corridors. We feel
23 that those broader kinds of outlines are sound.

24 It's hard to move a mountain, so making sure that
25 those pieces are thought of as we're kind of overlaying

1 elsewhere; glad to have the conversation.

2 It is always -- as always, has been an absolute
3 pleasure working with you. I'm looking forward to
4 continuing this process. And I know that you're going to
5 be bearing a lot today, but I trust that you've got the
6 resources; that you've cached the resources for this long
7 hike. That's my time.

8 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Mr. Sukaton.
9 Indeed, we do bear a heavy load. So thank you so much
10 for your presentation.

11 And I believe with that, we are going to go to a
12 break. We will be back at 1:00 p.m. for a second session
13 of presentations.

14 I want to offer a reminder to folks who are
15 presenting later this afternoon, to please log in fifteen
16 minutes in advance. As you might notice, not everyone
17 uses the entirety of their time, so it's possible that
18 your time could start a little earlier.

19 In addition, when folks are logging on, and it's
20 your turn, please be sure to share your screen, or let us
21 know if you need us to share our screen with your maps.
22 And the timer will start after you have shared your
23 screen. Okay.

24 Katy, any additional, anything? We're good?

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: (No verbal response)

1 CHAIR SADHWANI: Okay. Perfect. So with that,
2 we'll be on break until 1 o'clock.

3 (Whereupon, a recess was held until 1:00 p.m.)

4 CHAIR SADHWANI: Welcome back to the California
5 Citizens Redistricting Commission, as we continue to
6 receive public map inputs from the public.

7 With that, I know we have a number of appointments
8 in this next session. We will go until about 2:30.

9 And so with that, I'll turn it over to Katy, our
10 comment moderator.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

12 Welcome to the Public Map input session. When it is
13 your turn to speak, you will be identified by your
14 assigned unique ID number. You will be reconnected to
15 the session with the ability to enable your own video
16 and/or audio to enable screen sharing. Please have your
17 maps handy prior to your appointment time -- prior to
18 your start time, in order to enable screen sharing.

19 The Commission will be enforcing appointment time
20 limits, with a warning at one minute, and thirty seconds,
21 remaining. At the end of your public input, or at the
22 end of your time, you will be reconnected in a listen-
23 and view-only mode.

24 Right now we will have PMI-006A, and PMI-006B, we'll
25 be joining them at this time. PMI-006A, I will be

1 promoting you now. And PMI-006B, I will be promoting you
2 now.

3 MS. HOWARD: Hi. Hello.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment.

5 MS. HOWARD: My name is Martha Howard, and I --

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Ma'am, one moment,
7 please. If you have maps to share, if you will, please,
8 share those before you begin your presentation?

9 MS. HOWARD: Yes, I will. Thank you. I couldn't
10 access that until you came back. But I'm ready. Okay.
11 Oh.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Your screen share is
13 going to be the button in the middle bottom of the
14 screen.

15 MS. HOWARD: Yeah, but my -- it's on my desktop, so
16 just give me a -- God. Okay. Look, I'm just going to go
17 with my --

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can help you. It's
19 okay. I believe we have your maps, and we can share them
20 for you.

21 MS. HOWARD: Oh. You know what? That will be
22 wonderful. And that's one of my comments that I'm going
23 to have at the end of my -- oh. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Here is your map, and
25 your time will again?

1 MS. HOWARD: You're wonderful. Okay, so perfect.
2 So you can hear me now. So basically what I would like
3 to do is -- and can you share the maps on the page? I
4 believe 3 and a -- uh-huh, a little bit higher.

5 Okay. These are the proposed math maps that we have
6 for Assembly -- Congressional District 42. As you can
7 see on the right, it is a little head of like -- I call
8 it "the head of the dragon", so the proposed map is to
9 bring them all from San Diego and to stay in one.

10 Can you go to the top, please -- I mean, to the
11 bottom of the other one for the Assembly district? For
12 the -- uh-huh; and this is the proposed map for the
13 Assembly District 67. We want Temecula out of San Diego
14 completely.

15 And I know it doesn't look professional, and I
16 apologize for that. But I do want to give my
17 testament -- my testimony and my -- I'm sorry, I have
18 COVID, so I'm doing my best to be with you today. And
19 here I go, okay.

20 Respective Members of the Redistricting Commission,
21 my name is Martha Howard, and I thank you for taking in
22 consideration of a request to include Temecula
23 Congressional and Assembly district entirely in Riverside
24 County.

25 Under the current districting, Temecula had to go to

1 San Diego County to attain representation, isolating
2 Temecula and the surrounding areas in the districts that
3 are completely dominated by North San Diego County, with
4 Temecula and the surrounding Riverside County area, are
5 almost nothing -- have almost nothing in common.

6 It leaves the community and portion of Southwest
7 Riverside County with virtually no Congressional or
8 Assembly representation, and in great disadvantage.

9 Our community has effectively been without
10 representation for the past ten years, because the
11 Temecula area has been so damaged by isolation from
12 Riverside County, and almost totally controlled by North
13 County -- by North San Diego County, we are stressing to
14 this Commission that for the past ten years it has lived
15 with fragmented communities of interest.

16 Therefore, it would now be unfair for the CRC to
17 once again saddle us with that burden. Instead, the CRC
18 should do everything it can to include Temecula
19 Congressional and Assembly districts entirely in
20 Riverside County, where many communities of interest,
21 like public schools, its sport centers, and activities,
22 freeways, and transportation facilities, eating
23 establishments, entertainment venues, and job centers
24 like laboratories, Old Towne, Wine Country, Pechanga are
25 shared.

1 Our area has very little in common with much of
2 North San Diego County, which is much more rural and is
3 spread in the Temecula area. And our area does have a
4 lot in common with jurisdictions like Murietta, like Lake
5 Elsinore, Wildomar, and Menifee.

6 We share our water supplies, infrastructure, and I'd
7 like to add from Ida Robinson (ph.), as the Commission is
8 aware, the 2011 Redistricting placed much of Temecula,
9 which is in Riverside County, in the 5th Congressional
10 District, and the 75 Assembly District, both of which are
11 located, primarily, in North San Diego County, an area
12 with which Temecula has little or nothing in common.

13 Perhaps the best evidence that North San Diego
14 County has little, if any, in common with the City of
15 Temecula, can be found in the October 10, 2021,
16 Newsletter from the 75 Assembly District representative;
17 and I quote from her, "From San Marcos, to Escondido, to
18 Temecula, and every rural community in between; and I'm
19 always proud of our amazing district, and the wonderful
20 people who live here."

21 It should be noted that the City of Temecula is not
22 a rural community. Also, the San Diego County-based
23 Cities of Escondido and San Marcos are roughly 29 to 32
24 miles respectively, side of Temecula.

25 Assemblywoman, correctly described the communities

1 between those cities and Temecula as rural communities.
2 It should also be noted that the Riverside County-based
3 City of Murrieta adjoins Temecula. The neighboring
4 community of Orange Valley, a portion of which is
5 included in the Temecula Valley Unified District, adjoins
6 Temecula. And the Riverside County City of Wildomar,
7 Lake Elsinore, and Menifee are all located with proximity
8 of 20 miles of Temecula. None of these locales are rural
9 communities.

10 And lastly, I want to apologize. Like I mentioned,
11 I'm recovering from COVID, but I also want to make a very
12 important point to this Commission. On the last stage of
13 the redistricting, we do need an access centered --

14 MR. MANOFF: One minute remaining.

15 MS. HOWARD: -- in Riverside County. Okay. And so
16 I respectfully request that you provide us with
17 professional demographers and statisticians to help us
18 with the IT that is so important for the common citizen
19 to participate.

20 Thank you so much for everything you do. And I
21 apologize for not presenting my maps so professionally
22 with my PowerPoint. But I hope I can -- I could make my
23 point across for everyone in this community. Thank you
24 so much.

25 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much. No need for

1 apologies. You were absolutely perfect. Thank you so
2 much for your testimony.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And at this time we will
4 have PMI-006B. And will you be needing assistance with
5 showing the maps? Or are you able to share yours?

6 MS. SIMMS: I require assistance as well.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Okay.

8 MS. SIMMS: Thank you so very much. Appreciate
9 that.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. So that will
11 be PMI-006B, joined with our wonderful PMI-006A.

12 MS. SIMMS: Perfect. Thank you so much for having
13 us, and allowing us to go ahead and speak with you today.
14 I basically do have the same maps. Martha and I have
15 tried to work together a little bit. And I agree with
16 Martha, in that it's very difficult to navigate the
17 system, and be able to come up with something that is
18 maybe a little bit more presentable to you. I hope that
19 you do get to the point of what we're trying to put
20 across.

21 If you would just, yeah, go down to the very bottom
22 map, that would be great. And we share the same maps.
23 So you can what we're trying to do. And this is showing,
24 you know, what we would hope to be able to achieve.

25 What we currently have, obviously is -- our Temecula

1 area is in Riverside County. That's where we reside, but
2 we are currently represented by San Diego County. We
3 have just a very small sliver of our county that has been
4 removed to go ahead and go into San Diego.

5 The problem is that we do not have representation
6 here. I've been a resident here for thirty-four years,
7 and I've, many times reached out to my Congress people,
8 to my Assembly district people, and I've gotten nowhere
9 with them, because they don't have any interest in our
10 community, because we really aren't part of them, and let
11 that be known.

12 If you want to go to number 4, that would be great.
13 If you could, yeah, bring it up. And on our map here, it
14 shows, literally, that there is a solid line that goes
15 across the bottom for the 42nd, and that little tiny
16 sliver that comes up, that is, that is us. That is
17 Temecula. But our Temecula Town is also in two different
18 districts. Part of it is in 42nd, part of it is in the
19 50th.

20 So we -- again, we don't have direct representation
21 because of this. So I hope that that makes, you know, a
22 little bit of sense to you. And I'll just start with,
23 you know, what I wrote out.

24 Honorable Commissioners, thank you for the
25 opportunity to share my concerns for the upcoming

1 redistricting. My name is Tammy Simms (ph.), and I'm a
2 thirty-four-year resident of Temecula.

3 Temecula is in Riverside County, yet much of our
4 representation; that is the 50th and the 75th Districts,
5 is in San Diego County. We currently are split, part of
6 Temecula falls in the 42nd District, and the majority
7 lies in the 50th District, which is San Diego County.

8 We are asking to be removed from San Diego's 50th
9 District as we have had no voice, no representation, and
10 have very little in common with San Diego County. Our
11 community has effectively been without any representation
12 for the last ten years.

13 I urge the CRC to remove us from the 50th and the
14 75th Temecula Congressional and Assembly districts, and
15 place us back into Riverside County's, the 42nd and the
16 67th Districts.

17 Our county is Riverside, and our communities of
18 interest are also in Riverside County, such as, schools,
19 shops, entertainment, and restaurants, along with our
20 wineries, Pechanga Casino, which we share with our sister
21 cities, Marietta, Wildomar, Lake Elsinore, not San Diego
22 County.

23 Please do not allow us to be separated from our
24 communities of interest, and allow us to have
25 representation with Riverside County. Dividing our

1 community is counterproductive, and it is my hope that
2 you will be able to correct this with the current
3 redistricting and drawing of the maps.

4 I thank you very much for your time, and appreciate
5 your consideration for the betterment of my community.

6 Tammy Simms, resident of Temecula for thirty-four years.

7 I thank you very much.

8 And I'd like to also extend a great big thank you to
9 Sulma Hernandez, if she is present. She was very kind
10 and was very patient with me, and getting back to me when
11 I had questions. I just wanted to say thank you.

12 Thank you again.

13 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Mr. Simms.

14 MS. SIMMS: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And at this time we will
16 be going to PMI-008A, and PMI-008B. PMI-008A, I will be
17 promoting you now. And PMI-008B, I will be promoting you
18 now.

19 CALLER PMI-006B: Can you hear me?

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can, and the
21 other -- one moment -- so PMI-008A.

22 CALLER PMI-006B: Yes.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: If you would, please
24 share your maps prior to your narrative.

25 CALLER PMI-006B: Do you have to share -- ability,

1 if you could --

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes. Yes, we can help
3 you with that.

4 CALLER PMI-006B: Yes.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely, one moment.

6 CALLER PMI-006B: Ours are the last three maps.

7 Let's see. I don't know if these are the -- no, these
8 are not the ones. It's the ones that don't have any --

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Is that it?

10 CALLER PMI-006B: All right, this is it. Uh-huh.

11 Okay.

12 MR. ESQUIVEL: Let's start with the State -- the
13 Senate.

14 MR. MANOFF: Your time will begin now.

15 MR. ESQUIVEL: Thank you. Hello, Commissioners. My
16 name is Alberto Esquivel. I live in the City of
17 Riverside for the last thirty years. And I'm associated
18 with an organization known as LULAC, the League of United
19 Latin American Citizens. I'm a retired Spanish
20 broadcaster.

21 And I want to present to you our idea of Assembly --
22 I'm sorry -- the State Assembly -- State Senate, I'm
23 sorry, State Senate map that covers our areas of
24 interest. This is basically the same map that we are --
25 have been under for the last ten years, with the

1 exception of a few little changes that we have made. But
2 this is an area that covers the -- it starts with
3 Riverside, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, Perris,
4 Eastvale, Palm Gardens, and El Cerrito, Mid-Valley, and
5 Homeland, and other areas around.

6 We are in the western portion of Riverside County,
7 and we have been working with numerous community
8 organizations to bring about a community that is well-
9 organized and is moving forward. We are doing many
10 things that help the community as a whole, we're having
11 health fairs, free health fairs for people, we're
12 registering voters, we're giving all kinds of PPE --
13 articulate -- I'm sorry, articles for the COVID, people
14 that need these things for COVID.

15 We've been working with the school, spreading all
16 these articles around. We've been helping the schools,
17 we're helping the churches, and we have been helping each
18 other as organizations. We are a united community that
19 has been progressive for the last ten years. We have
20 been moving ahead. We have made quite a few gains. We
21 still have to make more, but that's in the near future.

22 Right now, we need to stick together, we need to
23 work together, we need to keep the same boundaries. And
24 one of the things we need to ask you, because there have
25 been other rumors about people trying to bring in other

1 areas into our area. We cannot work with the area called
2 Norco, or with the Corona area. These areas have never
3 worked with us. So therefore, we would like for them to
4 stay where they're at, and we'd like to continue where we
5 are at, with your help.

6 I'd like to move on to the Assembly map. And again,
7 that's basically the same areas. The difference with the
8 Assembly map is very, very little from the State Senate,
9 otherwise, and it's smaller. But Riverside, Moreno
10 Valley, Perris, Mid-Valley, Good Hope, Romoland, and all
11 the immediate areas around them, form our Assembly
12 district.

13 We need your help, again keeping it together,
14 because we're a community that is working together, and
15 has accomplished quite a number of things. And we need
16 the help to continue working. We have been working with
17 our state representative, and we need to continue working
18 with whoever represents us in Sacramento.

19 So again, we ask you to consider keeping us
20 together. And also, we ask you, to keep Norco and Corona
21 out of our area.

22 Let me add something here. There is a number of
23 organizations that are professionals, that have
24 professional demographers, that have come in and are
25 building new districts, that I assume they're going to be

1 presenting to you. But these are not the people living
2 in the community. These are people that are coming in
3 from the outside, and they have political ambitions, and
4 they want to do different things in different areas.

5 I can understand why they're doing it. But we are
6 working with our communities of interest. You have told
7 us that we should consider working in our communities of
8 interest. We consider a community of interest a place
9 where we live in, not somebody in San Bernardino, or in
10 Los Angeles doing the work that we're doing here as far
11 as the drawing the lines. So please, we appreciate that.

12 We need to go into the Congressional map as well,
13 if you will, please.

14 The Congressional map is slightly, a little
15 different, because we're involving an area called the
16 Jurupa Valley. We bring in Jurupa Valley also, and
17 besides the other areas there, I mentioned before.

18 MR. MANOFF: One minute remain.

19 MR. ESQUIVEL: Again, we ask you to keep us
20 basically where we're at, not bringing in any of the
21 other areas outside. We want to keep Corona, Norco, and
22 Hemet out of our areas. So anything you can do to help
23 us maintain our motivation to keep it going, and to bring
24 about better, better living for our residents, we would
25 greatly appreciate it.

1 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

2 MR. ESQUIVEL: Thank you so much for your time.

3 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much.

4 MR. ESQUIVEL: Now, I'd like to introduce our next
5 speaker, which is Janet Barnabe.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Up next, we will have
7 PMI-009A. And I don't believe PMI-009B is here yet.
8 PMI-009, I will be promoting you now. PMI-009A, you can
9 now enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner
10 of your screen. You can also share your screen in the
11 center.

12 And will the other -- will PMI-009 be joining you?

13 MS. ALLEN: He will not. No. That'll be just my --
14 me today.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. Okay. The
16 floor is yours.

17 MS. ALLEN: All righty. Thank you so much. Good
18 afternoon, Commissioners. Thank you so much for allowing
19 us to be with you -- be here with you today.

20 My name is Sky Allen, I use she/her pronouns. And
21 I'm the program director with Inland Empire United, or IE
22 United. Today, I'll be sharing Assembly and
23 Congressional maps for San Bernardino and Riverside
24 Counties as proposed by the Inland Empire Redistricting
25 Hub. We'll also be sending a Senate map later, but

1 Assembly will be our priority for this presentation.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Here we go.

3 MS. ALLEN: All righty. The IE Redistricting Hub,
4 is a regional coalition born out of Census 2020 Outreach
5 in the Inland Empire, comprised of twenty-two different
6 local community-based organizations.

7 Our partners all serve, primarily, low-income and
8 working class communities of color, in the two-county
9 region, and specialize in a wide range of issues,
10 including education, housing, workers' rights, immigrant
11 rights, environmental justice, criminal justice, and
12 more.

13 Our partners cover most of the two-county region.
14 We have partners in the High Desert, in the Coachella
15 Valley, and in the more metropolitan areas of the county.
16 We have less organizational coverage in the Morongo
17 Valley and in Temecula. The Hub is facilitated by my
18 Executive Director and I, from IE United, and coordinates
19 with other regional and statewide alliances and
20 organizations, primarily, through IE United.

21 The maps I'll be presenting on the Hub's behalf
22 today were constructed first and foremost with the State
23 and Federal redistricting criteria in mind, but given our
24 areas of expertise, and our organizing with working class
25 communities of color, it was critical for us to ensure

1 that VRA-compliant districts were drawn wherever
2 practicable, and that communities of interest we
3 recognized on the ground were kept together.

4 We, at the Redistricting Hub, also did not draw
5 these maps alone. We want to thank Advancement Project
6 for facilitating the IEU Redistricting Alliance, and
7 providing space for coordination and collaboration
8 throughout this entire process.

9 We also want to thank the Orange County Civic
10 Engagement Table, without whom, these maps likely would
11 not have been. And we also want to uplift Alliance San
12 Diego, the People's Bloc, the Black Census and
13 Redistricting Hub, and California Environmental Voters,
14 just to name a few.

15 The IE does not exist in a vacuum. I have the
16 confidence to share these maps with you today because I
17 know that they are in alignment with community voices in
18 neighboring counties, and bordering communities, as well
19 as our own.

20 Lastly, before I dive in, I also want to say that
21 some of our districts may resemble existing Assembly or
22 Congressional districts, but most of them do not. There
23 are definitely some areas where communities have not felt
24 entirely heard. So when we were drawing new districts,
25 we drew districts equal in population around our COIs,

1 not around incumbent addresses or existing maps.

2 All righty, community of interest time, so I'm going
3 to go from north to south, and from west to east, as I go
4 through these. We are very protective of our High Desert
5 community. The High Desert region is a region in San
6 Bernardino County comprised of the Cities of Hesperia,
7 Victorville, Adelanto, and Apple Valley, and in some
8 conversations, Barstow as well.

9 This region is separate from the more densely
10 populated areas of the county by the San -- and below the
11 San Gabriel Mountains, and are connected to those only by
12 a freeway, for some, the High Desert is a community you
13 drive through on your way to Vegas, but for our partners
14 and our community, is a vibrant rural community with a
15 deep sense of community.

16 As a rural area, there is a very particular kind of
17 hunger for investment, which allows for really meaningful
18 community building and organizing. The socioeconomic
19 desires of the region are shared between all of the
20 cities. But as you can see on the screen, the Black and
21 Grown communities mostly reside in Adelanto, Victorville,
22 and Hesperia.

23 In this slide, and in future slide, Latino
24 communities are in blue, and the Black communities are in
25 green.

1 Moving on to San Bernardino City; it's the namesake
2 of our county, the heart of our county, and one of our
3 top communities of interest, this cycle.

4 As you can see it, is densely populated and
5 incredibly diverse. Additionally, we are a coalition of
6 movement building organizations, and there's a lot of
7 movement building and organizing in San Bernardino, from
8 housing, to education, to the fight for clean air and
9 good jobs, the fight to rethink public safety, you name
10 it, San Bernardino organizes for it.

11 Currently, though, the city and its residents are
12 divided into two different Assembly districts, and we
13 urge you not to let that continue to be the case.

14 Moving on south to Riverside County, in the very
15 top-left, northwest corner of the county, you have Jurupa
16 Valley, Riverside, and Corona. One of the beating hearts
17 of the Latinx immigrant communities in Riverside County.
18 From language, to food, to shopping, to religion, this
19 community embodies the definition of a community of
20 interest. And in this presentation, we have outlined a
21 really incredible way to keep them whole.

22 Moving east, we have a community neighboring
23 Riverside, but with unique needs, and a blossoming
24 population, with similarly grouped Latinx immigrant
25 communities, but also a rapidly growing Black community.

1 Here is an area with a lot of people, but not a lot of
2 development. So it's beginning to see a lot more
3 developers, and residents, alike, flock to the region.

4 They need representatives that are truly responsive
5 to the cultural needs of the community, and their
6 opinions on how the district should be growing in the
7 next decade. The last thing I want to spotlight before
8 breezing through our map proposal, is the Eastern
9 Coachella Valley.

10 As you've heard at the public hearings this summer,
11 the Coachella Valley is a community with a very strong
12 sense of self, and a strong sense of community. Truly,
13 if you're looking at the macro level, that extends from
14 Palm Desert all the way down to Oasis. But with respect
15 to Assembly maps that are a little bit smaller, it is
16 really crucial to keep the valley east of Indio together.

17 Here is the most rural part of the area, with the
18 highest concentration of Spanish-speaking communities,
19 families with immigrants and residents impacted by the
20 Salton Sea.

21 I know I have limited time with you all this
22 afternoon. I think if you understand these sorts of
23 larger through lines with our COIs, you'll find our map
24 proposal really can just fall into place. And again, I'm
25 going to go to these quite quickly because you already

1 have access to them. But hopefully this will still be of
2 use as you have your conversations.

3 So this first one here: County boundaries are
4 sometimes meaningful, but oftentimes, at least on the
5 ground, they're a bit arbitrary. Our first district
6 here, though spanning two counties, is a single community
7 united by businesses and organizations serving all nested
8 cities, and it is also a VRA district.

9 To the east of that district, immediately, we have
10 another VRA district. At the heart of this one, are not
11 one, but two large malls that connect residents from all
12 over, to eat, shop, and be merry. We also have the
13 Ontario International Airport that brings many people to
14 the area, and forgive me, an absolute explosion of
15 warehouses that push people away.

16 We are very proud of this district. As I mentioned
17 a few minutes ago, San Bernardino City is the soul of the
18 county, but it is currently split in half by
19 (Indiscernible). Our version of the 2021 districts, keep
20 the city whole and connected to its neighbors in
21 Highland, Colton, and MusCOI, Rialto. You may also
22 recall the demographic maps that I showed you in briefing
23 our priority COIs, if so you will see that this district
24 keeps those Black and Brown communities together, and is
25 a very strong VRA district.

1 Moving north now: As I mentioned earlier, we are
2 very protective of our High Desert communities. So
3 trying to find ways to ensure VRA compliance, honoring
4 communities of interests in our region, and honoring --
5 and respecting communities of interest in other regions,
6 left us with having a lot of really long, thoughtful
7 discussions; and the agreement we walked away with
8 feeling pretty good about, are illustrated on the screens
9 and the ones to come.

10 Here, we have a VRA-compliant district that also
11 unites Black voters in the High Desert, and Antelope
12 Valley. Immediately north of that district, we have an
13 Assembly district connecting the rest of Antelope Valley
14 with California City and Barstow. And then immediately
15 south of that VRA district, we have the San Gabriel
16 Mountains kept together.

17 We really feel this configuration empowers voters in
18 a community where, historically, have not had significant
19 voting power, while also honoring COIs in a practical
20 way.

21 I'm going to hop south now to Riverside County and
22 share what we think is a really strong VRA district. If
23 you recall the COI that I shared with you earlier, you'll
24 find that this Assembly district lines up perfectly with
25 the map I shared, making this a very natural and

1 empowering, no-brainer of a district.

2 Similarly, we were able to draw a second Riverside
3 VRA Assembly district, in alignment with our COIs in this
4 area. I remind you that Moreno Valley and Perris have
5 very strong Latinx communities making up those two
6 cities. But we also have a growing Black population, a
7 growing population, period, in San Jacinto and Hemet, and
8 really deeply feel it is important that the district is
9 drawn in the way that we have it to empower those
10 communities as well.

11 IE-5 as labeled here, is sandwiched between the two
12 Voting Rights districts I just described. And this also
13 makes way for VRA districts in Orange County.

14 Here is the rest of San Bernardino County, and the
15 tip of the Coachella Valley, as well as it includes the
16 San Gorgonio Pass. This district allows for the Sierra
17 Nevada region to be kept whole to the north of San
18 Bernardino County. It also allows for the VRA districts
19 we have in other areas to exist in order to properly
20 balance population.

21 One more connected district. We have what is
22 labeled IE-7 here, which allows for VRA districts to
23 exist in every direction around it.

24 All right; as you can see here, by combining
25 Imperial County with the Coachella Valley, we were able

1 to have a VRA district for this Latinx immigrant
2 community as well. And hopefully a representative that
3 understands community environmental justice concerns
4 around the Salton Sea.

5 My last Assembly map here. We have connected
6 Temecula, Aguanga, Anza, and Lake Riverside with the San
7 Diego County.

8 All righty; very quickly here, I'm going to uplift a
9 few Congressional VRA districts that we were able to put
10 together. And I'll remind you that we'll be sending a
11 proposal, the PDF and narrative of Senate maps as well.

12 So this district actually does, unintentionally,
13 resemble the existing Congressional District 35. But
14 here it really does track with community preference.
15 Pomona, though technically a part of LA County, is very
16 much connected to Ontario, Montclair, and Chino.

17 Going back to our core COIs, you see that the
18 Greater San Bernardino area is able to be kept whole in a
19 single Congressional district as well, paired really
20 naturally with the surrounding cities and communities.

21 In Riverside, we were able to loosely pair our two
22 western VRA districts together to create a strong
23 Congressional VRA district.

24 And for the Coachella Valley, we've extended the
25 Assembly version of the map to include the San Gorgonio

1 Pass.

2 In conclusion, redistricting is fundamentally a way
3 to ensure that democracy is doing its job. That our
4 political landscape is a reflection of our communities,
5 and our political power matches our people power.

6 I want to thank you all for allowing me to share
7 today, how we can make real that promise for our
8 community. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my
9 Executive Director, Michael; or I, if you have any
10 questions, or need feedback. Thank you.

11 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Ms. Allen.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And up next, we will have
13 PMI-010, I will be promoting you now. PMI-010, you can
14 now enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner
15 of your screen. And are you able to share your own maps?

16 MR. ICHINOSE: Yes.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. If you will
18 share your maps, then your time will begin.

19 MR. ICHINOSE: One moment. Pardon me, just one
20 second. I'm sorry. One moment; I'm just having some
21 technical difficulties here.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're fine. We are
23 running a few minutes early.

24 MR. ICHINOSE: Okay, great. Perfect.

25 CHAIR SADHWANI: While we wait. I'll just also

1 offer for Commissioners. I believe one of our previous
2 submitters was cut off. He ran out of time and didn't
3 have the opportunity to present the last set of maps.
4 But as a reminder, all of those maps are posted on our
5 website. Thank you.

6 MR. ICHINOSE: Okay. Thank you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Are you ready?

8 MR. ICHINOSE: Yes.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. You may start.

10 MR. ICHINOSE: Great. Thanks so much,
11 Commissioners. My name is Daniel Ichinose, last name is
12 spelt I-C-H-I-N-O-S-E. I'm research director of the
13 Orange County Civic Engagement Table.

14 I'm presenting a multi-district public submission,
15 public map submission, on behalf of the People's
16 Redistricting Alliance.

17 I'll start a little bit with an overview of the
18 Alliance. It's a multiracial coalition of sixteen
19 community-based organizations that's been working to
20 center low-income communities of color and working
21 families in statewide and local redistricting. It's
22 aligned with the work of statewide and regional partners.
23 That includes Asian Americans Advancing Justice; we serve
24 as their Orange County lead.

25 And I've been in discussion with statewide groups

1 like, Black Census and Redistricting Hub, MALDEF, NALEO,
2 and working to align with regional partners like the
3 People's Bloc in LA County, IE United, who you just heard
4 from, in San Bernardino, Riverside Counties, and Alliance
5 San Diego and San Diego Hub, recognizing that any map
6 that is focused on a county, needs to be viable as part
7 of a regional and statewide map. So coordination with
8 these groups was really key.

9 I'll talk a little bit about the work that we've
10 done. We started in January educating community-based
11 organizations about the redistricting process. We held
12 several meetings starting in March, to identify
13 communities of interest, again focused on communities in
14 need.

15 We've mobilized communities to participate in
16 hearings, both July 8th and September 1st Communities of
17 Interest Hearings that the Commission held. And then
18 obviously map. So you'll see today Congressional, and
19 State Senate, and State Assembly maps that respect those
20 communities of interest.

21 So I think folks generally understand that Orange
22 County has experienced quite a bit of change over the
23 past three decades, transitioning from a county that was
24 sixty-four percent White in 1990, to one that is now
25 sixty-two percent people of color, according to the 2020

1 Census. Given that change, it's important to be mindful
2 of the related social and economic dynamics that have
3 emerged as a result.

4 So I want to go through a little bit of this. This
5 map shows the distribution of low-income population
6 countywide, and it illustrates, I think, what we see is
7 three clusters that are useful to keep in mind as we draw
8 maps.

9 First, we see a coastal community of interest. This
10 higher-income coastal area, we see an inland low-income
11 area along the 5 Freeway Corridor, from the county line
12 down to Irvine; and then a more affluent hillside area.

13 And this kind of clustering we see across a whole
14 host of social and economic characteristics. You know,
15 we just saw income. This map looks at immigrant
16 populations, and shows clustering of disproportionately
17 native-born populations along the coast, and the hillside
18 area, and immigrant communities along the 5 Freeway
19 Corridor.

20 This map is looking at Cal environ screen data. It
21 shows environmental hazards that demonstrate very similar
22 clustering, right, communities facing fewer environmental
23 hazards on the coast and hillside areas, and communities
24 facing greater environmental hazards along the 5 Freeway.

25 So across a whole host of socioeconomic indicators,

1 we see these three areas of alignment, a higher-income
2 coastal area, a lower-income area along the 5 Freeway
3 Corridor; and then again, a higher-income, more affluent
4 hillside area. And we ask that you keep these population
5 dynamics in mind as you draw lines.

6 Communities of interest were a major focus for our
7 line drawing. We have six listed here. I wanted to just
8 quickly go into three of these that I think are -- not
9 necessarily more important, but I think worth noting.
10 VRA partners, the Council on American-Islamic Relations
11 and South Asian Network identified the AMEMSA community
12 as a core community of interest.

13 This map shows the geographic distribution of AMEMSA
14 communities along the border between Los Angeles and
15 Orange County; so with clear concentrations in Bonaparte,
16 La Palma, Cypress, in Orange County, and Cerritos,
17 Artesia in LA County. So this is a community of interest
18 that crosses county lines. As part of their daily lives,
19 AMEMSA communities in Orange County crosses into Los
20 Angeles County, to shop in ethnic markets, dine in
21 restaurants, worship, and access social services in
22 Artesia and Cerritos.

23 PRA member organizations ask us to keep Buena Park
24 south of the Freeway -- 5 Freeway, La Palma, and Cypress,
25 together; with Cerritos, Artesia, in Orange County-based

1 districts.

2 A second Community of interest we wanted to raise
3 was that in South Fullerton and West Anaheim. This map
4 shows the distribution of low-income populations in the
5 area. In Fullerton, data on low-income populations show
6 that the lower-income area of South Fullerton, which you
7 see here, in the higher-income area of North Fullerton,
8 roughly divided by Chapman Avenue. Okay.

9 In Anaheim, we see the lower-income, West Anaheim
10 area, and the higher-income Anaheim Hills area, roughly
11 divided by the 55 Freeway.

12 So low-income residents in South Fullerton and West
13 Anaheim share common challenges, including environmental
14 justice concerns, and access to affordable housing.

15 The guidance we received from groups like Orange
16 County Environmental Justice was to keep these lower
17 income communities in South Fullerton and West Anaheim
18 together, and drawn in different districts than more
19 affluent communities in Yorba Linda and Anaheim Hills.
20 Okay.

21 Our final community of interest that we wanted to
22 note before getting to the maps was around Irvine. You
23 may know that Irvine is one of the fastest-growing cities
24 in the state, and that this dramatic increase has been
25 fueled by growth in immigrant communities.

1 So with growing numbers of Asian-American, Pacific
2 Islander, and AMEMSA residents, the city is also home to
3 an emerging low-income population with needs that are
4 similar to those of Latinx communities in Costa Mesa.

5 So this map shows the distribution of low-income
6 population, which you can see between Costa Mesa and
7 Irvine. You know, recognizing common needs related to
8 affordable housing, language access, and other concerns,
9 and we even see public programs that provide rental
10 assistance and workforce development targeting both
11 cities.

12 So PRA partners, Orange County, Asian-Pacific
13 Islander Community Alliance, and RA for Justice, asked us
14 to keep Irvine and Costa Mesa whole, drawn together with
15 parts of Tustin, where possible; and apart from more
16 affluent coastal communities like Newport Beach, and
17 Laguna Beach.

18 So it's important to note here that given the
19 concentration of low-income and immigrant communities in
20 Costa Mesa, we don't consider the city to be part of the
21 higher-income coastal community of interest. One other
22 thing to note here, this map shows immigrant communities.
23 It may be tempting to divide Irvine, but this map shows
24 immigrant communities northeast, and southwest of the 5
25 Freeway that should be kept together. So this is why we

1 want Irvine to remain whole at all Legislative levels.

2 So let's go ahead and dive into the maps, again,
3 starting with the State Assembly level. Certainly, you
4 know, all of our work starts with legal compliance. We
5 see a Federal Voting Rights-complaint district in Central
6 Orange County. This one is labeled OC-1. Okay. It's
7 built with a Latinx CVAP of about fifty-six percent, that
8 includes Santa Ana, East Garden Grove, West Anaheim, and
9 Orange. Okay.

10 We see a second district labeled here, OC-2, that
11 unites immigrant and low-income communities of interest
12 in South Fullerton and West Anaheim; Korean-American
13 communities in North Buena Park and West Fullerton, and
14 maintains the integrity of the Little Arabia community.

15 Our third Assembly district is labeled OC-3, and
16 this brings together two communities of interest, the
17 AMEMSA community to the north, and the Garden Grove,
18 Westminster, Fountain Valley, again, Vietnamese, Pacific
19 Island communities to the south. We want to recognize
20 that as we draw districts, right, we have Voting Rights
21 Act obligations in LA and Orange County, that really
22 constrain the orientation of these districts.

23 So you may see some districts that seem a little
24 springy. But again, they're built to both comply with
25 Federal law, and respect communities of interest. Okay.

1 Our fourth and final State Assembly district is here
2 labeled OC-4. And this brings together low-income and
3 immigrant communities in Costa Mesa and Irvine. Again,
4 with shared needs and concerns that are much different
5 than those in affluent coastal communities, like Newport
6 Beach, and Laguna Beach. Okay.

7 At the State Senate level, this was probably the
8 most difficult level for us. We started with VRA
9 compliance, and this district labeled OC-1 can be drawn
10 with a Latinx CVAP of just over fifty percent; 50.4
11 percent. That includes parts of Santa Ana, West
12 Fullerton -- sorry -- South Fullerton, West Anaheim, East
13 Garden Grove, and La Habra. Okay.

14 And this is also uniting disproportionately Latinx
15 immigrant and low-income communities, and maintains the
16 Little Arabia community of interest in West Anaheim.

17 This is our second Senate district, which brings
18 together our community -- AMEMSA community of interest to
19 the North, Vietnamese and Pacific Islander community of
20 interest in Garden Grove and Westminster. Both
21 communities of interest share experiences as immigrants,
22 and common needs related to language access. You can see
23 it also maintains a coastal community of interest between
24 Seal Beach and Laguna Beach. Okay.

25 Our third district includes the immigrant

1 communities in Irvine, because of VRA compliance dynamics
2 we did have to divide our community of interest between
3 Costa Mesa and Irvine; so recognizing that the VRA does
4 place this kind of constraints on our line.

5 At the Congressional level, finally, again starting
6 with VRA compliance in this district labeled OC-1, as is
7 other levels, bringing together communities at Santana,
8 South Fullerton, West Anaheim, including places like East
9 Garden Grove; again, disproportionately immigrant income
10 communities, and also maintaining the Little Arabia
11 community of interest.

12 This is our second Congressional district, labeled
13 OC-2, which brings together Korean-American communities
14 of interest, AMEMSA communities of interest, and our
15 Vietnamese and Pacific Islander communities of interest,
16 around Westminster and Garden Grove.

17 Again, this is a little bit of a stringy district,
18 but it's drawn to align with Federal Voting Rights Act
19 compliance in LA and Orange County, while respecting,
20 again, these communities if interest. Okay.

21 This is our third Congressional district, labeled
22 here OC-3. And again, as on other levels, it works to
23 maintain the integrity of low-income and immigrant
24 communities in Costa Mesa and Irvine, while drawing in
25 low-income -- similarly low-income communities and

1 immigrant communities in and around the City of Orange.

2 Okay, so that's a quick presentation. You obviously
3 have our overarching narrative. And we wanted to leave
4 you with a few takeaways from our maps. First, that
5 there are Voting Rights Act compliance obligations at all
6 levels, State Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional.

7 We also feel it's important to recognize that the
8 VRA districts in LA, and Orange County, and the Inland
9 Empire, shape surrounding districts, right; and in some
10 cases force less-compact configurations, and the crossing
11 of county lines.

12 You'll see from our proposal, there is some flow of
13 population between LA and Orange County on the coastal
14 side. Certainly our communities of interest --

15 MR. MANOFF: Forty-five seconds.

16 MR. ICHINOSE: -- in Buena Park, Cerritos, Artesia
17 area, and then between the VRA districts in LA and OC --
18 I'm sorry -- LA and the Inland Empire --

19 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds remain.

20 MR. ICHINOSE: -- there. Finally, we ask you to
21 recognize these coastal communities of interest -- I'm
22 sorry -- these communities of interest clusters on the
23 coast, in inland urban areas along the 5 Freeway Corridor
24 and on the hillsides, and recognize that the alignment
25 between low-income and more affluent coastal and hillside

1 communes of interest is possible.

2 Thanks so much for your time and we look forward to
3 continuing to work with you in this redistricting --

4 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much, Mr. Ichinose.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
6 have PMI-011. And then up next after that will be PMI-
7 012A, and PMI-012B. PMI-011, I will be promoting you
8 now. PMI-011, you can now enable your audio and video in
9 the lower-left corner of your screen. And you can share
10 your maps with the Share Your Screen button in the middle
11 bottom of your screen, as you have done. And the floor
12 is yours.

13 CALLER PMI-011: Good afternoon. I'm calling today
14 to speak about the map that I am proposing for Assembly
15 district in those Orange County Foothill communities that
16 Daniel just spoke about. I realized, having watched the
17 earlier presentations, that my map does not have labels
18 for the cities or the communities I'll be speaking about;
19 so if I may, I'd like to just quickly orient, again, the
20 Commissioners to the area that I'll be speaking about.

21 And I'd like to display this Google Map that shows
22 the layout of this region just south of LA County line,
23 where we have the cities to the east of 57 Santa Ana
24 Freeway, Yorba Linda, Placentia, Villa Park, this region
25 that I'm calling the Foothills.

1 And what I'd like to just share as my narrative
2 today around this Foothills Assembly district proposed is
3 that the cities east of the 57 Santa Ana Freeway
4 Corridor, and west of the Orange County, San Bernardino
5 County border, including those cities I just mentioned,
6 and the unincorporated Silverado Canyon area, are part of
7 the same county Supervisorial district, and Board of
8 Education districts. They share very similar profiles,
9 and will best be represented relative to common issues of
10 concern, around open spaces, environmental protection,
11 property values, transportation, and commuting, public
12 schools, employment, access to quality, commercial retail
13 and entertainment.

14 So to achieve effective representation, the Cities
15 of the proposed Orange County Foothills Assembly District
16 should not include cities outside of Orange County or
17 west of the 5 Freeway or 57 Corridors, which are very
18 dissimilar to these foothill communities.

19 The region is particularly vulnerable to
20 environmental threats related to fire. It's highly
21 sensitive, ecologically, and in terms of animal
22 population, as well as transportation, and severe traffic
23 impacts. My proposed district map population totals
24 approximately 494,000. It includes Asian population of
25 31.33 percent; Latino population of 21.55 percent; and

1 White population of 43.61 percent.

2 I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to
3 advocate for fair representation in this area of Southern
4 California, by way of Assembly district boundaries that
5 reflect the Orange County Foothills communities of
6 interest. Thank you.

7 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And at this time we have
9 PMI-012A, and PMI-012B. And following this presentation
10 will be a fifteen-minute break.

11 PMI-012A, I will be promoting you now. And PMI-
12 012B, I will be promoting you now. And to both of our
13 presenters, A and B, you can now enable your audio and
14 video. And will you be needing assistance for sharing
15 your maps?

16 MS. KITAMURA: No. We should be good. Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. If you will,
18 please share your maps, and then begin your narrative.
19 And that will start your time.

20 MS. KITAMURA: Can. Can you see our screen?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

22 MS. KITAMURA: Great. Good afternoon,
23 Commissioners. My name is Deanna Kitamura. I am senior
24 staff attorney with the Voting Rights Program, and Asian-
25 Americans Advancing Justice, Asian Law Caucus.

1 I'm here with my colleague, Amrita Singh, senior
2 research analyst at Asian Americans Advancing Justice Los
3 Angeles.

4 Thank you for providing time for us to present to
5 you. Our two organizations spearhead the AAPI, and
6 AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative. Our goal is to
7 empower the Asian-American Pacific Islander, Arab, Middle
8 Eastern, and Muslim communities in California during the
9 redistricting process.

10 Building on what we did in previous redistricting
11 cycles, we created a network of local organizations in
12 six regions that goes from Sacramento to San Diego. We
13 held a series of workshops in these regions for local
14 organizations, residents, and community leaders. All
15 told, we ended up holding over thirty web-based
16 workshops. We focused on educating the community on
17 redistricting and the state redistricting process and how
18 to get engaged.

19 We helped people submit COI testimony by creating
20 and sharing a fact sheet and template, and we walked
21 through the process with some community members.
22 Workshop participants defined the COI for us, provided
23 maps and priorities, and provided feedback on our
24 proposed district configurations.

25 In addition to our workshops, we engaged AAPI and

1 AMEMSA's community leaders directly, and worked with
2 stakeholders in other communities to understand their
3 priorities, and find compromise.

4 Here are the locals of the anchor organizations for
5 our collaborative. Each anchor organization invited
6 other local organizations, local leaders and residents to
7 be part of the collaborative. We have some statewide
8 anchors, such as AAPI specific empowerment, and EPIC,
9 which stands for, Empowering Pacific Islander
10 Communities.

11 But many are grassroots organizations working in
12 specific counties such as, Asian Solidarity Collective in
13 San Diego, Hmong Innovating Politics, and Jakara
14 Movement, both working in Sacramento and the Central
15 Valley, with Jakara Movement also in the San Francisco
16 Bay area. OCCET, who just finished about ten minutes
17 ago, has our Orange County anchor, as Daniel Ichinose
18 pointed out.

19 They conducted their own set of meetings, some of
20 which we attended. We have adopted their Orange County
21 districts into our proposals. We invite you to read more
22 about each of our anchoring partners in our submission
23 introduction.

24 We have three principles in how we develop our maps.
25 The first is that we want our proposals to respect the

1 Federal Voting Rights Act, not just because it's required
2 by law, but we want to ensure that underrepresented
3 communities have equal opportunities to participate in
4 their political process, and elect candidates of their
5 choice.

6 The second principle is that districts should
7 respect communities of interest in neighborhoods while
8 also respecting other traditional redistricting criteria.

9 And the last is that while our goal is to uplift the
10 AAPI and AMEMSA communities, we did not want to do it at
11 the expense of others.

12 Therefore, we collaborated with other stakeholders
13 such as Black, Latino, LGBTQ, immigrant refugee, and
14 environmental groups in order to respect the integrity of
15 other historically disenfranchised communities. We also
16 monitored many of the COI Input calls, to understand
17 other interests as well.

18 Our proposal includes all eighty Assembly districts
19 within plus or minus 1.5 percent deviation. We include
20 twenty-three districts that are over fifty percent Latino
21 citizen voting age population. And we include three
22 districts that are over fifty percent Asian citizen
23 voting age population.

24 Our districts are based on input received at our
25 workshop, as well as discussions we had with our regional

1 anchors and local leaders. In Appendix B of our
2 submission, which is in multiple parts due to its volume,
3 we included community testimony from those who have
4 appeared before you, who represent our collaborative.

5 Some of the community members supplemented their
6 testimony, so the submissions may not be identical with
7 what you already have. We also want to note that we
8 previously submitted Shapefiles for many of the COIs
9 discussed in the community testimony, and which will be
10 discussed today.

11 If you compare our districts with other civil rights
12 and environmental organizations, you may notice
13 similarities. And in some regions you may see exactly
14 the same districts. That's because we work in
15 collaboration with those groups to develop proposals that
16 would respect underrepresented communities.

17 I want to now turn it over to my colleague Amrita
18 Singh, to present the Assembly districts, starting in
19 Sacramento and moving south.

20 We encourage you to review our entire proposal since
21 we are only providing highlights today. Thank you.

22 MS. SINGH: Thank you, Deanna. As Deanna mentioned,
23 my name Amrita Singh, I am the senior research analyst
24 with Asian Americans Advancing Justice Los Angeles.

25 As Deanna mentioned, we submitted a statewide

1 Assembly map proposal. In this presentation, we are
2 going to emphasize and -- we're going to emphasize the
3 priorities of the AAPI and AMEMSA communities of interest
4 specifically.

5 Beginning with the Sacramento region: So here is an
6 image of Assembly Districts 6, 7, and 9, within the
7 Sacramento region. Beginning with Assembly District 6,
8 within Assembly District 6, the Afghan and Syrian refugee
9 communities of interest are kept whole in the Arden-
10 Arcade and the Carmichael neighborhoods.

11 Also in Assembly District 6, the Sikh community
12 requested that the City of Antelope be kept in a district
13 with Roseville and separate from Granite Bay. They
14 expressed a misalignment with regards to priorities with
15 SES (ph.). Also, the Sikh community mentioned that the
16 Sikh members within the City of Antelope and Roseville
17 are a unified community that's anchored by the local Sikh
18 Temple as well -- the Roseville Gurdwara.

19 Moving on to Assembly District 7: Within Assembly
20 District 7, the Southeast Asian communities of interest,
21 Del Paso Heights and Lemon Hill are kept together, the
22 Southeast Asian community have common interest in tenant
23 protections, language needs, and access to safety net
24 programs.

25 In Assembly District 9, Elk Grove is kept all with

1 South Sacramento. Many residents within this region are
2 low-income, and are immigrants, and face challenges with
3 regards to hate crimes, housing affordability, and
4 limited English proficiency.

5 Also, within Assembly District 9, you can see that
6 the neighborhood of Evergreen is kept whole. This
7 particular community of interest have shared interests --
8 they're adjacent to the Sac River, and have shared
9 interest in maintaining and preserving the Sac River
10 levee system.

11 So moving on from the Sacramento region to the Bay
12 area here is -- here are our proposed Assembly Districts
13 17 and 19, within San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.
14 Assembly District 17 has Chinatown and Japantown whole
15 and together. With respect to AD 19, the Asian-American
16 community expressed that the Excelsior neighborhood
17 should be kept all with Ocean View, Merced, and
18 Ingleside, basically, the Outer Mission -- the Outer
19 Mission neighborhood along with Portola, this valley, and
20 Bayview; so this region here.

21 Also, within Assembly District 19, the Sunset and
22 Richmond districts are kept whole, and within that area,
23 it is primarily family-oriented neighborhoods with many
24 Chinese-Americans with shared interest in education,
25 public safety, and language access.

1 Another feature of Assembly District 19 is that Daly
2 City is whole, and kept with Filipino-American
3 communities in Westborough, and Buri Buri (ph.). The
4 Filipino-American communities have shared concerns about
5 language access, protections for essential workers, and
6 health care access.

7 One thing to note also is that given the
8 concentration of Filipino-Americans and how their
9 community extends beyond the Daly City boundaries, to
10 accommodate that, Assembly District 19 reaches below
11 those COIs, but also part of the San Francisco Peninsula
12 is drawn in with Assembly District 10 with Marin. Also,
13 Assembly District 19 is an Asian-American opportunity
14 district with over fifty percent Asian CVAP.

15 Moving on, just below Assembly District 19, two
16 Assembly Districts 22 and 24, so within these districts,
17 the Pacific Islander communities identified several
18 communities of interest. And just to note, the Pacific
19 Islanders face systematic disparities in areas of
20 education, health care, employment, and housing.

21 With respect to Assembly District 22, many of these
22 COIs have been kept together. So I know it's difficult
23 to see here, but the Pacific Islander community
24 identified three communities of interest in Redwood City,
25 all of them are kept whole and together, along with two

1 communities of interest in Northern San Mateo County, one
2 in San Bruno, and one near the San Francisco Airport.

3 With respect to Assembly District 24, the Pacific
4 Islander community identified the North Fair Oaks
5 neighborhood, along with the Belle Haven triangle, both
6 are kept all with East Palo Alto, due to shared interest
7 around education, employment, and housing affordability.

8 Moving on to the East Bay, to Assembly District 18:
9 Within Assembly District 18, the Oakland Chinatown area
10 is kept whole, along with a Cambodian community of
11 interest, both are within and overlap the East Lake,
12 Little Saigon neighborhoods, as well as San Antonio.

13 These neighborhoods have many Asian-American
14 immigrants and refugees who face pressures of
15 gentrification and displacement, and have shared needs
16 for language access and social services.

17 Another feature of Assembly District 18 is that the
18 Koreatown North business district is kept whole, within
19 the Temescal neighborhoods, so this region in its
20 entirety. This area is home to many Korean, Yemeni, and
21 Ethiopian small businesses, as well as restaurants and
22 residents, with shared interest in small business
23 support, language access, and neighborhood safety.

24 Moving on just south to District 20, also in the
25 East Bay; in Assembly District 20, San Leandro is kept

1 with Ashland and San Lorenzo, along with the City of
2 Hayward, which is kept whole along with Union City.

3 So these cities have a large Filipino-American
4 population, as well as a large working class Asian-
5 American population. Both have shared interests around
6 immigration, employment, and education. Another thing to
7 highlight with regards to Assembly District 20, is that
8 the Centreville neighborhood is kept whole, the
9 Centerville neighborhood within Fremont. There are many
10 Afghani-American immigrants residing there with shared
11 interests around immigration access, language services,
12 and culturally specific social services, education,
13 parks, and community spaces.

14 Moving on from the East Bay, just south, to proposed
15 Assembly District 25, in the South Bay. In Assembly
16 District 25, several Fremont neighborhoods are kept
17 together, specifically Irvington, Mission San Jose, and
18 Warm Springs. In addition to South Fremont being in this
19 district, Santa Clara is kept whole, as well as Milpitas,
20 and the neighborhood of Berryessa.

21 So one thing to note about this specific district;
22 is that there are many Asian ethnic, and religious groups
23 residing here, as well as Muslims that have multiple COI
24 concentrations in these cities.

25 Now, all of them are not depicted here. We did give

1 an extensive, I believe it's called Appendix B, with
2 all -- a list of all of our COIs and a narrative going
3 along with them. So please reference those.

4 But these communities do have a number of
5 overlapping COIs within the region, and they have strong
6 cultural ties to religious institutions, schools, and
7 ethnic businesses. Another common interest among
8 residents within this area, are that they share economic
9 ties to the tech industry.

10 And finally, Assembly District 25 is drawn as an
11 Asian-American opportunity district; more than fifty
12 percent Asian CVAP.

13 Moving on from the Bay Area to the Central Valley,
14 to proposed Assembly District -- oh, sorry -- we have
15 proposed Assembly District, South Bay. I forgot about
16 one more district.

17 So Assembly District 27: Within Assembly District
18 27, the Alum Rock neighborhood is kept whole. Many
19 Filipino-Americans and Latinos reside in this
20 neighborhood, which is adjacent to a Vietnamese --
21 adjacent to two Vietnamese COIs along Story Road, also
22 within this district is the Evergreen and Silver Creek
23 neighborhoods. Within this specific COI many Punjabi,
24 Sikh, Vietnamese, and Filipino families are residing
25 there with strong cultural connections, as well as shared

1 interests in education and language access.

2 Now, moving on from the Bay Area to the Central
3 Valley: So here is our -- is the proposed Assembly
4 Districts 23 and 31. Just to note, Assembly District 31
5 is drawn as a Latino VRA District. One goal that I want
6 to be -- that wants to be uplifted here is that the
7 Southeast Asian community here, specifically the Hmong
8 community, has requested that their communities of
9 interest be kept whole, and within Assembly District 31,
10 if possible.

11 This proposed Assembly District 31, does keep many
12 of the Hmong COIs whole. Also, I'd like to uplift the
13 AMEMSA COIs, one is Masjid Fresno. These are Arabic-
14 speaking COIs within Assembly District 31. Masjid Fresno
15 is near Fresno State, and then Masjid Badr here in the
16 northern portion of the Assembly district.

17 The community asked that their COIs be kept whole
18 and together. Masjid Badr, does have some overlap with
19 the Sikh COI, right here, which runs along the west
20 Fresno 99 Corridor.

21 The Sikh community has shared priorities when it
22 comes to local school districts and the need for more
23 language access. They also have concerns with
24 environmental and health issues caused by pollution from
25 Highway 99, and a desire for more recreational activities

1 and access to parks.

2 Moving on from the Central Valley to the Los Angeles
3 area, here is proposed Assembly Districts 51 and 53. So
4 both Assembly Districts 51 and 53 are drawn as Latino VRA
5 Districts, in Assembly District -- in both districts,
6 there are five Asian-American ethnic neighborhoods that
7 are whole and together within both districts. They
8 include Chinatown, Little Tokyo, historic Filipinotown,
9 Koreatown, and Thai Town.

10 So all five Asian-American neighborhoods have been
11 recognized by the City of Los Angeles, and have strong
12 historic preservation goals of projecting and celebrating
13 AAPI culture and heritage. One thing to note, in
14 particular, is that they are all in close proximity to
15 Downtown Los Angeles, and share similar social and
16 economic characteristics.

17 Additionally, Chinatown and Little Tokyo should be
18 in a district together, as both are densely populated
19 with low-income, and limited English-proficient renters,
20 who are at risk of displacement from gentrification.

21 So again, I just want to reiterate, with respect to
22 both of these districts, are that they are drawn as
23 Latino VRA districts, and they do keep what the AAPI
24 community requested, was that these specific
25 neighborhoods be kept whole and within the two-district

1 configuration.

2 So moving on to Assembly District 49 in West San
3 Gabriel Valley: Ten years ago -- AD 49 was the first
4 Assembly district in California with over fifty percent
5 Asian citizen voting age population; since then, the
6 Asian-American community has grown and has been able to
7 elect their candidate of choice.

8 As it's currently proposed here, it remains an
9 Asian-American opportunity district with over fifty
10 percent Asian CVAP. Within the boundaries of AD 49,
11 Alhambra, Arcadia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel,
12 South Pasadena, and Temple City are kept whole since
13 nearly all of these cities are majority AAPI, and have a
14 large proportion of limited English-proficient
15 immigrants. One thing to note with this particular
16 district is that the AAPI community members did request
17 that San Marino remain separate from the district. There
18 were concerns about differing SES priorities that may
19 conflict with working class AAPI communities within the
20 district.

21 Moving on to East San Gabriel Valley to Assembly
22 District 57: Assembly District 57 is drawn as a Latino
23 VRA district, and the AAPI community, the core of the
24 community of interest includes Hacienda Heights, Rowland
25 Heights, Diamond Bar, and Walnut, these cities are either

1 majority or near-majority Asian-American, and share
2 common interests, and it's been requested that the four
3 of them remain together.

4 Moving on to Assembly District 46 in West Side Los
5 Angeles: Within AD 46, there are two Japanese-American
6 enclaves, Sawtelle, also known as Little Osaka, and the
7 Venice Culver City COI; so both are home to Japanese-
8 American community centers, religious institutions, and
9 shops that are a magnet for the local Japanese-American
10 community.

11 Just south of District 46 is Assembly District 66 in
12 the Los Angeles South Bay. So here I'd like to emphasize
13 that the AAPI community does want to keep Torrance whole
14 and with much of Gardena. South Bay is home to the
15 largest concentration of Japanese-Americans and Japanese
16 immigrants in Mainland U.S., and it is also home to a
17 growing Korean-American community.

18 Both cities have an important -- have important
19 cultural institutions, and both share a business corridor
20 that's filled with culturally sensitive shops along
21 Western Avenue, which runs from Gardena to Torrance.

22 Moving on to Assembly District 62 and 64, also
23 within the South Bay: Here, I do want to emphasize that
24 throughout the Assembly map proposal, we have
25 collaborated with other groups, but specifically with

1 regards to 62 and 64; we engaged in a great deal of
2 discussion with South LA community groups, and in
3 particular, Black community partners. So with that said,
4 Assembly District 64 is a Latino VRA district.

5 With regards to Assembly District 62, West Carson is
6 kept whole with Carson. Carson is home to a large
7 Filipino-American population that holds many educational
8 programs and festivities in Carson. The growing Filipino
9 community is moving west -- is moving west to West
10 Carson, however; so that we request that West Carson --
11 if Carson be cut, that West Carson be kept whole to the
12 adjacent area.

13 In addition to the Filipino-American community,
14 Carson is also home to a Samoan community with many
15 Samoan institutions, including churches. Also, within
16 Assembly District 62, Hawthorne, Lennox, and Inglewood
17 are kept whole.

18 The Tongan community members have been living in
19 these three cities since the 1970s and within them is the
20 largest concentration of Tongan churches.

21 Moving on from 62 and 64, still in the South Bay of
22 Los Angeles, is Assembly District 63 and 70. The
23 proposed Assembly District 63 is drawn as a Latino VRA
24 district. You'll notice here that there is a Cambodian
25 community of interest. The Cambodian community has

1 requested that if the community of interest is cut, that
2 it be cut along the Signal Hill boundary, and that the
3 southeastern portion will remain with the Latino VRA
4 district.

5 Long Beach is in fact a gateway community for
6 Cambodian immigrants, and has the largest Cambodian
7 American population in the U.S. As a predominantly
8 immigrant refugee community, the COI has many policy
9 interests related to their low-income and limited English
10 proficiency.

11 Moving on to Districts 72 and 68 in Orange County, I
12 believe you just saw this configuration for the -- for
13 these Assembly districts, from OCCET. So just really
14 briefly, just want to, you know, uplift the AMEMSA
15 community of interest, of Cerritos and -- Cerritos,
16 Artesia, crossing the county line and being paired with
17 Buena Park and Cypress, also keeping the Vietnamese
18 community together, as well as recognizing the growing
19 community -- the AAPI and the AMEMSA communities in
20 Irvine, within Assembly District 68.

21 So moving on to San Diego, Assembly District 77:
22 Within Assembly District 77, the Convoy District is kept
23 whole, with the larger Kearny Mesa neighborhood, and it
24 is kept in a district with Claremont, Linda Vista, and
25 Mira Mesa, the Conway District is a crucial business and

1 cultural center for the AAPI community in San Diego, and
2 is home to many small businesses and community centers.

3 And finally, within San Diego is the Assembly
4 District 79. Within this Assembly district, the broader
5 City Heights area is kept whole. This particular
6 community of interest has long been home to a refugee --
7 of two refugee communities arriving to the San Diego
8 area.

9 The shared challenges and priorities of this
10 community include high levels of limited English
11 proficiency, extremely low-income, and the need to access
12 culturally competent in-language supportive services.

13 In Assembly District 79, I will also want to note
14 that the northeastern section of National City of the
15 AAPI community within this region, identifies, or is
16 strongly connected to the Paradise Hills neighborhood.
17 So it's essentially an AAPI community of interest here,
18 which is kept whole, also within Assembly District 79.

19 And that brings us to the end of our Assembly map
20 proposal presentation. Thank you so much for your time.
21 This proposal specifically uplifts priorities from the
22 AAPI and the AMEMSA communities of interest, and also
23 respects Voting Rights Act, and other COIs, and other
24 traditional redistricting criteria.

25 Thanks again for your time. And I believe my

1 colleague, June Lim, will follow and share our
2 Congressional maps for Southern California.

3 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. Thank you so much.

4 And with that, Katy, I believe that we are at the
5 end of this session?

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, correct.

7 CHAIR SADHWANI: Okay. So we will be going on a
8 short break. And we will come back at 2:45 for our third
9 session of the day, for those submitters with
10 appointments.

11 Thank you so much. I'll see you at 2:45.

12 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 2:30 p.m.
13 until 2:45 p.m.)

14 CHAIR SADHWANI: Welcome back to the California
15 Citizens Redistricting Commission, and our Review of
16 Public Map Input.

17 I believe we have a number of submissions for this
18 afternoon with appointments.

19 So I'm going to hand this over to Katy, our
20 wonderful comment moderator, to get us queued up. Katy.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

22 Welcome to the public Map input session. When it is
23 your turn to speak, you will be identified by your
24 assigned unique ID number. You will be reconnected to
25 the session with the ability to enable your own video

1 and/or audio, and to enable screen sharing. Please have
2 your maps handy prior to your appointment start time to
3 enable your screen sharing.

4 The Commission will be enforcing time limits with a
5 warning at one minute, and thirty seconds, remaining. At
6 the end of your public input or at the end of your time,
7 you will be reconnected in a listen- and view-only mode.

8 Right now we will have PMI-013A. And then up next
9 after that will be PMI-014A, and PMI-014B. And PMI-013A,
10 I will be promoting you now.

11 And I have a question.

12 CHAIR SADHWANI: You have a question?

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: PMI-013A, you can now
14 enable your audio and video in the lower-left corner of
15 your screen. Is PMI-012A going to be presenting with you
16 instead of 012B?

17 MS. LIM: Oh. I'm going to be presenting by myself.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You are going to be
19 presenting by yourself. Okay well that's fabulous. If
20 will please -- do you have your maps to share?

21 MS. LIM: Yes.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Wonderful.

23 MS. LIM: I'm sharing it right now. Can you see it?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. And your
25 time begins now.

1 MS. LIM: Great. Thank you. Good afternoon,
2 Commissioners. My name is June Lim, and I am the
3 demographic research project director at Asian Americans
4 Advancing Justice, Los Angeles. I will be presenting the
5 AAPI and AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative's
6 proposed Southern California Congressional Maps.

7 Right before the break, you just heard about our
8 collaborative and our process for engaging with and
9 gathering information from community members across the
10 state. So I'll proceed to the next slide.

11 Here, again, are the logos for our anchor partners.
12 Advancing Justice Los Angeles is here in Los Angeles, and
13 our Southern California regional anchors are EPIC and
14 APCON, also in LA, OCCET Orange County, and Asian
15 Solidarity Collective in San Diego.

16 Each anchor brought other local organizations,
17 community leaders, and residents to the discussions. And
18 as with at the Assembly level, we adopted OCCET's
19 Congressional districts which were presented earlier
20 today into our proposal for Orange County.

21 Here, we visit our three principles for drawing
22 districts, which are to: Respect the Federal Voting
23 Rights Act, respect the integrity of communities of
24 interest and neighborhoods, while also respecting other
25 traditional redistricting criteria, and working in

1 collaboration with other diverse stakeholders to respect
2 other disenfranchised communities' priorities.

3 Our Southern California Congressional proposal
4 consists of twenty districts covering the San Gabriel
5 Valley, Metro Los Angeles, the west side of Los Angeles,
6 and the South Bay, all of Orange County, and all of San
7 Diego.

8 All districts are drawn within a deviation of plus
9 or minus eight residents from the ideal. Seven of these
10 twenty districts are over fifty percent Latino citizen
11 voting age population. Our districts are based on input
12 we received during our workshops, and direct discussions
13 with local leaders and residents. We take into
14 consideration the region's COIs, many of which were
15 shared in the presentation before this, by my colleagues,
16 Amrita Singh, and Deanna Kitamura.

17 As with our Assembly proposal, our Southern
18 California Congressional submission includes the
19 community testimony previously submitted to you by those
20 that represent our collaboratives, which you can find an
21 Appendix B.

22 Again, our districts were drawn in collaboration
23 with other civil rights and environmental groups, some of
24 which have submitted mapping proposals similar to ours.
25 And our goal, again, is to uplift the AAPI and AMEMSA

1 communities, while respecting Black, Latino, LGBTQ,
2 immigrant, refugee, low-income, and environmental
3 communities of interest.

4 So in this slide are the proposed Congressional
5 districts in metro Los Angeles, CD 34, is drawn as a
6 potential Latino Voting Rights district. In these two
7 districts, we keep the COIs of key ethnic neighborhoods
8 whole. These are, Chinatown, historic Filipinotown,
9 Koreatown, Little Tokyo, and Thai Town.

10 As mentioned in the previous presentation, these
11 five enclaves are recognized by the City of Los Angeles
12 as distinct neighborhoods that are well known to city and
13 larger county residents alike. They've long served as
14 gateway communities for immigrants, and these enclaves
15 are all significant cultural centers for their respective
16 ethnic communities, where long, established landmarks,
17 institutions, businesses and restaurants are located,
18 owned, and frequented by community members.

19 To reiterate what was shared earlier in our Assembly
20 map presentation, Chinatown and Little Tokyo residents
21 have shared policy interests, and community members in
22 these two ethnic neighborhoods have similar socioeconomic
23 statuses, or SES, and face similar challenges. As such,
24 community members in these two COIs, specifically
25 requested to be put together in one district.

1 Here, we have our West San Gabriel Valley
2 Congressional District. It includes the Cities of
3 Alhambra, Arcadia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Gabriel,
4 and Temple City. The percentage of AAPIs in these cities
5 range from forty-five to sixty-two percent, the
6 percentage of AAPIs in the cities who do not speak
7 English very well, range from forty-five to sixty-two
8 percent, which is also a reflection of the large share of
9 immigrants that make up these communities.

10 These communities have shared policy interest due to
11 residents having similar social and economic
12 characteristics with other communities in the area. As
13 such, they should be paired with communities with similar
14 demographic profile and needs.

15 Here, in this slide, we have our East San Gabriel
16 Valley district. It is drawn as a potential Latino VRA
17 district. It keeps whole and together the core four
18 cities that are considered the AAPI community of interest
19 in the East San Gabriel Valley. These are: Hacienda
20 Heights, Rowland Heights, Diamond Bar, and Walnut. To
21 the extent feasible, these communities should not be
22 paired with those, west of the 605.

23 Moving on to the South Bay area of Los Angeles:
24 Here is one of our South Bay districts, here, our
25 community is asked to keep Gardena whole with the non-

1 coastal portion of Torrance, and with other communities
2 with similar socio economic interests. The residents of
3 Torrance and Gardena are pretty economically diverse, and
4 while both have a solid middle class, many low-income
5 AAPI seniors reside in both cities.

6 Because of this, Gardena should be paired with North
7 and Central Torrance, and paired with South Los Angeles,
8 rather than the higher-income areas of West and South
9 Torrance, Palos Verdes, and other coastal cities.

10 Kept whole and together in this district are also
11 the Cities of Hawthorne, Inglewood, and Lennox, as they
12 are in our Assembly maps, where many Tongan community
13 members have lived for several decades. These cities are
14 considered a major hub for the Tongan community, as there
15 are several established faith-based institutions where
16 the Tongan community members gather and provide support
17 for one another.

18 Here, we have two more of our South Bay districts,
19 the Pacific Islander and Filipino-American community
20 members in Carson strongly expressed that the City of
21 Carson should be kept whole to the extent possible. Due
22 to population equality limitations, we actually had to
23 split Carson into two districts in our Assembly plan, but
24 given the larger population in Congressional districts,
25 Carson should be kept whole at this level of government.

1 Additionally, the Carson and West Carson
2 communities, Carson and West Carson communities should be
3 kept whole and together as they share cultural and
4 socioeconomic interests.

5 In CD 43 and 39, there is a Cambodian COI in Long
6 Beach and Signal Hill that should be kept whole to the
7 extent possible, if not kept whole the COI can be cut at
8 the Signal Hill-Long Beach boundary. There is a
9 potential Latino VRA district and Long Beach, drawn here
10 as District 43.

11 Therefore, the Cambodian COI is cut in our proposed
12 map along the Signal Hill boundary. The southwest
13 portion of this COI is paired with Latino communities to
14 the west, as they share many policy concerns related to
15 language access, and are of lower income than communities
16 to the east and Signal Hill.

17 And our last district in Los Angeles: Here is our
18 West Los Angeles district, which keeps whole and together
19 two Japanese-Americans COIs located in West LA. As
20 shared in our Assembly plan, both Sawtelle, Japantown,
21 and Venice, Culver City, are home to many Japanese-
22 Americans in the area and -- Japanese-American residents
23 and cultural institutions, and many residents in the area
24 are members of and attend the cultural centers, faith-
25 based organizations, and gather as a community, and for

1 community events at these institutions, and other
2 culturally significant stores, and shops.

3 As mentioned at the beginning of this presentation,
4 we adopted OCCET's districts, and since they were
5 presented by OCCET earlier today, I'm going to continue
6 southward to San Diego.

7 So here we have our Districts 50 and 52. And in
8 this proposal, CD 50 is drawn as a potential Latino VRA
9 district, it and 52 are drawn while respecting a
10 potential Latino VRA district, an adjacent Imperial
11 County.

12 And CD 52 is one of the COIs that community members
13 identified. That COI includes the Convoy district within
14 the larger Kearny Mesa neighborhood, and is kept whole
15 and together with the neighboring communities of
16 Claremont, Linda Vista, and Mira Mesa.

17 The Convoy district is a crucial and growing
18 business and cultural center for the AAPI community in
19 San Diego. The district prides itself in having many
20 minority-owned small businesses, multicultural community
21 centers, and pan-ethnic religious groups that cater to
22 diverse communities.

23 The City Heights COI is defined by our community
24 members, is larger and extends beyond its historic
25 boundaries, eastward all the way to La Mesa, and

1 overlapping with the Oak Park neighborhood.

2 This expansion reflects the growth of the diverse
3 community that resides in and calls City Heights. The
4 largest City heights COI has a significant number of AAPI
5 and refugee residents, that share challenges, priorities,
6 and needs. Over sixty percent of City Heights AAPI
7 residents are immigrants. Over half speak English less
8 than very well, and over half of its community members
9 are low-income.

10 If the broader, larger City Heights COI has to be
11 cut to respect the potential Latino VRA district, we ask
12 that the traditional boundaries of City Heights be kept
13 whole.

14 In CD 50, the AAPI community in the north eastern
15 corner of National City identifies closely with the
16 community in Paradise Hills. They share many businesses,
17 community centers, and schools that bring them together
18 despite city boundaries. Community members in these
19 areas have asked to keep them together with the
20 southeastern part of San Diego.

21 In closing, I thank you for the opportunity to
22 present to you our proposed Southern California
23 Congressional districts.

24 The next presentation will be from my colleague who
25 will present our Bay Area Congressional proposal. Thank

1 you very much.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

3 And right now we will have PMI-014A. And joining
4 them will be PMI-014B. And then up next after that, will
5 be PMI-015A, and PMI-015B. PMI-014A, I will be promoting
6 you now.

7 PMI-014A, it appears PMI-014B is not here. Are they
8 not joining you today?

9 MR. GOFFARD: Ah, yeah, that's correct. It'll just
10 be me presenting.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Wonderful. And do you
12 need assistance with sharing your maps?

13 MR. GOFFARD: No. It should be -- it should be all
14 good. Let me -- no.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect.

16 MR. GOFFARD: Is that working? Can everyone see
17 this?

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

19 MR. GOFFARD: Okay.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You may begin.

21 MR. GOFFARD: If there any issues, please stop me
22 and just let me know. Okay.

23 Well, good afternoon, Commissioners. It's really
24 nice to be here with you all today. My name is Sietse
25 Goffard, I'm a senior voting rights program coordinator

1 at Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Asian Law Caucus.

2 Thank you for your service on this Commission. And
3 thank you for inviting us to present the AAPI and AMEMSA
4 Bay Area Congressional proposal today.

5 I think you all already heard a lot about our AAPI
6 and AMEMSA State Redistricting collaborative. So I'll
7 probably skip this slide, but I will highlight some of
8 the organizations that we work with.

9 Our Bay Area map proposals are based on more than
10 ten community workshops we held around the region. Our
11 organization, Asian Law Caucus, is based in San
12 Francisco, Chinatown, and we worked with regional
13 partners, including the Asian Law Alliance, CAIR-SFBA,
14 and the Jakara Movement.

15 My colleagues, earlier, in previous presentations,
16 also went through the principles. These are the same
17 ones we followed previously. So I'll also skip this
18 slide.

19 But I will share some Bay Area regional highlights
20 of our maps. Our Bay Area Congressional proposal
21 includes ten districts. They've all been drawn within a
22 deviation of plus-or-minus four residents from the ideal
23 population. Each of these districts has been drawn in
24 collaboration with other civil rights and environmental
25 groups, resulting in a proposal similar to some other CRC

1 submissions. So you may see some -- you will see some
2 similarities.

3 Now, let's dive right into the maps. And we'll
4 begin with a map of Congressional District 12, which
5 contains most of San Francisco. San Francisco is home to
6 several important COIs that should be kept both whole and
7 together.

8 First, is San Francisco's Chinatown, a cultural
9 center for Chinese Americans and home to many senior,
10 limited-English proficient immigrants; many residents of
11 Chinatown are working class, and are low-income tenants
12 with shared policy needs, including tenant protections,
13 language assistance, and access to community services.

14 San Francisco's Japantown is one of the few
15 remaining Japantowns in the United States, and is the
16 site of many Japanese cultural events and businesses.
17 Many seniors live in the area, which struggles with
18 issues of affordable housing and displacement.

19 And finally, the Excelsior neighborhood has a
20 significant number of low-income Asian residents, many of
21 whom have been displaced from other parts of San
22 Francisco due to rising housing costs.

23 Portola, Visitacion Valley, and the Bayview should
24 be kept whole, together, and with Excelsior. These are
25 working-class neighborhoods where residents face similar

1 economic challenges. They are also home to many recent
2 Asian immigrants with limited English proficiency, as
3 well as Pacific Islander communities that have shared
4 cultural interests.

5 Now, moving south, we have District 14, which covers
6 most of San Mateo County, AAPI communities in Daly City,
7 Westborough, and Penn, also known as Buri Buri, have
8 requested to remain whole and together, these
9 neighborhoods make up a major Filipino-American community
10 of interest.

11 Nearly one in three residents of Daly City are
12 Filipino, and there are significant Filipino residential
13 concentrations and community spaces in Westborough and
14 Buri Buri as well. Many Filipinos in these areas are
15 immigrants, essential workers, and health care workers.
16 This district is also home to significant Pacific
17 Islander neighborhoods that wish to be kept whole and
18 together as well.

19 And as a community that has been historically
20 underrepresented, Pacific Islanders face many systemic
21 disparities in the areas of education, health care,
22 employment, and housing. Buri Buri, in addition to being
23 the home of Filipino Americans, is home to Samoan
24 communities with shared interests, and multiple Samoan
25 churches.

1 And it's also worth noting that there are
2 additional, significant Pacific Islander neighborhoods in
3 and around San Bruno, Redwood Village, North Fair Oaks,
4 the Belle Haven Triangle, Home Park, and west of El
5 Camino Real, near Mount Carmel. These communities would
6 like to be kept whole and grouped together in the same
7 Congressional district. Okay.

8 Now, let's jump across the Bay. We'll start up
9 north, and I will gradually make our way south. But we
10 begin with here, with District 11. District 11 was drawn
11 in consultation with the Black Census and Redistricting
12 Hub to keep lower-income communities of color in
13 Richmond, San Pablo, Hercules, Vallejo, Martinez,
14 Pittsburgh, and Antioch together. And they shared
15 interests around housing affordability, environmental
16 justice, and transportation. Okay.

17 Moving south, we have District 13, which includes
18 areas in Oakland, Alameda, Berkeley, Piedmont,
19 Emeryville, and San Leandro. Here, there are several
20 major communities of interest that should be kept whole
21 and together.

22 Oakland, Chinatown, and Downtown Oakland is a
23 business, residential, and social service center for
24 Asian-American communities in East Bay. Chinatown
25 residents face pressures of gentrification and

1 displacement. The area around Downtown Oakland and Lake
2 Merritt is also home to more than ten senior housing
3 complexes that serve elderly Chinese, Korean, and
4 Vietnamese residents.

5 Many Asian American communities, including refugees
6 from Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, have also moved to the
7 San Antonio neighborhood and the Eastlake, Little Saigon
8 neighborhood. They have shared needs around language
9 access, culturally tailored services, and affordability
10 for low-income families.

11 And finally, here we have communities in KONO with
12 shared interests and small business support, language
13 access, and neighborhood safety. KONO is a diverse area
14 with family-run businesses serving many immigrant
15 communities, including Korean-Americans, Ethiopian, and
16 Middle Eastern enterprises. There is also a high
17 concentration of Yemeni communities in the area, and
18 multiple mosques that serve as gathering places for
19 Muslim communities.

20 So because of these strong economic and cultural
21 ties, these communities have requested to be kept
22 together in a single Congressional district. All right.

23 Now, our next map here is District 15, which
24 includes Hayward, Ashland, Cherryland, Union City, Castro
25 Valley, Newark, Dublin, and Pleasanton. Union City has a

1 large Filipino community with shared interests around
2 immigration, employment, and education.

3 Communities in Union City have expressed the desire
4 to be kept with Hayward as they both have numerous
5 Filipino, and South Asian immigrants, and working class
6 families. This major corridor houses many ethnic
7 businesses, community-based organizations, churches, and
8 educational institutions.

9 In addition, we've heard that communities in the
10 unincorporated areas, Ashland and Cherryland, would like
11 to be kept with Hayward as well. Ashland and Cherryland
12 border Hayward and are directly linked to the
13 communities, jobs, and lifestyles of the City of Hayward.
14 And for example, the Hayward Area Recreation Department
15 actually services residents in Ashland and Cherryland,
16 which indicates the interconnectedness of these
17 communities.

18 And finally here, our district proposal also keeps
19 together the growing AAPI populations in Dublin and
20 Pleasanton, and the growing Filipino community in
21 Livermore.

22 Continuing our move south, we have District 17.
23 This district boasts an incredibly vibrant, large, and
24 diverse AAPI community with an Asian CVAP of
25 approximately forty-nine percent.

1 Here, once again, there are multiple communities of
2 interest that wish to be helpful in together. First is
3 the Centerville area of Fremont, home to many African-
4 Americans, as well as African businesses and social
5 services. Fremont-Irvington neighborhood is also home to
6 many South Asians and Muslims, and there are numerous
7 Punjabi Sikhs near Mallory (ph.) Avenue, Niles, and
8 Mission San Jose.

9 Another important community of interest to keep
10 whole is Berryessa, home to many Asian Americans,
11 including large numbers of Chinese, Punjabi Sikh,
12 Filipino, and Vietnamese residents. Many of them work in
13 tech-related jobs, are immigrants, and have shared
14 cultural, linguistic and religious interests.

15 And finally in this district, we wish to highlight
16 the Cities of Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Cupertino, many
17 Punjabi Sikhs from Sunnyvale and Cupertino attend the
18 Silicon Valley Gurdwara located in Santa Clara, while
19 many young Muslim families and professionals from
20 Sunnyvale go to the Muslim Community Association in Santa
21 Clara. There's also a Korean business district along El
22 Camino Real, which serves nearby residential communities
23 in both Santa Clara and Sunnyvale.

24 So overall, across District 17, multiple large Asian
25 ethnic groups have interconnected communities between

1 Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Cupertino, as well as
2 Milpitas area and Fremont. People are tied together
3 through religious institutions, and they work in the tech
4 industry, so we've heard a lot of community feedback that
5 they'd like to be kept whole in the same district.

6 Further south, still, is District 19 here, which
7 includes much of San Jose, Morgan Hill and Gilroy. And
8 here we want to highlight the significant Filipino-
9 American community in Eastside, San Jose, especially in
10 Alum Rock, where churches, schools and parks serve as
11 community gathering spaces that bring the Filipino
12 community together.

13 Many Filipinos in Eastside San Jose work in health
14 care, teaching, and other essential services. Filipino-
15 Americans in Alum Rock and Eastside San Jose share many
16 socioeconomic interests with nearby Latino communities
17 and low-income Vietnamese communities.

18 There are also large Punjabi Sikh, Vietnamese, and
19 Filipino communities in the Evergreen area, and major
20 Punjabi Sikh communities in the Silver Creek area with
21 shared educational and cultural interests, as well as a
22 need for language assistance. These are mostly
23 residential areas where people are brought together
24 through schools, and places of worship, such as the Sikh
25 Gurdwara in Evergreen.

1 And finally, we'll end our presentation with our
2 Districts 18 and 20. District 18 contains cities and
3 suburbs in San Mateo and North Santa Clara County, as
4 well as suburban cities southwest of San Jose. These
5 cities house many -- these areas house many tech workers.

6 And then further south of that, we have District 20,
7 which was drawn in consultation with CAUSE, and "CAUSE"
8 stands for the Central Coast Alliance United for
9 Sustainable Economy, and this was drawn to keep Santa
10 Cruz with other coastal communities and towns along
11 Highway 101.

12 So that wraps it up for the maps. In closing, we
13 want to thank you all for your service on this
14 Commission, and for the opportunity to present our Bay
15 Area Congressional proposal to you.

16 If you have any questions about these maps, or the
17 previous maps we showed, or if you'd like to take a
18 closer look at our COIs, please do check out the
19 narratives and testimonies that we've submitted in
20 Appendix B of our submission.

21 We truly hope the community feedback we've shared
22 today will be helpful for the Commission's work. Thank
23 you very much, again, for this opportunity.

24 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will

1 have a PMI-015A, and it looks like we have PMI-015B with
2 us as well. And then up next after that, we will have
3 PMI-016. PMI-015A and B, I will be promoting you. And
4 will you be needing assistance sharing your maps today?

5 MR. WESTALL: I should be good. I think I'm still
6 waiting on Mr. Callender as well.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We have you both here.

8 MR. WESTALL: Okay. I see.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yeah.

10 MR. WESTALL: Great. So let me pull up the screen.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect. We see you here
12 at headquarters, and everywhere else.

13 MR. CALLENDER: Great. And whenever you're ready, I
14 can start.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

16 MR. CALLENDER: All right. Thank you. Thank you
17 for your time today. Thank you for your service to the
18 State of California. And thank you for providing the
19 California Hawaii NAACP the opportunity to testify and
20 submit our maps.

21 I'm Rick Callender, president of the California
22 Hawaii State Conference. We maintain fifty-seven
23 branches from throughout the State of California, from
24 Humboldt down to San Diego.

25 As you know, under the criteria set out by the

1 California Citizens Redistricting Commission, it requires
2 the Commission to avoid splitting communities of
3 interest. And as you know, communities of interest are
4 commonalities that have a shared interest or passions
5 that may benefit from cohesive representation in the
6 Legislature.

7 It's the NAACP's belief that redistricting should
8 focus on communities, not politicians and incumbents.
9 And as such, I'd like to advocate for my community. I
10 ask that the Commission keep my community together in the
11 redistricting -- in the redistricting plans.

12 The community I'm focusing on is the African-
13 American community, as well as other communities of
14 color, and making sure that we keep them together.

15 As Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act prohibits
16 diluting the voting strength of the commission of -- of
17 the communities of color, the redistricting plans that
18 reduce the ability of voters of color to elect candidates
19 of their choice, and it's the NAACP's belief that the
20 Commission should, and may be legally required to draw
21 majority-minority districts where there are
22 geographically -- where they are geographically compact
23 and sufficiently large communities of color kept together
24 and avoid distinct, where racially polarized voting and
25 avoid, basically, separating -- putting into communities

1 where racially polarized voting occurs. And if such,
2 those kinds of districts are drawn, where White voters
3 may routinely defeat candidates of color.

4 So California, as everybody knows, we are a
5 progressive state, but we must not forget the history of
6 racial discrimination in its voting. Until 1970,
7 literacy tests were used in California to keep voters of
8 color from the polls. And just until last year,
9 California did not allow those on parole to vote. It was
10 one of the very little -- we were one of the very few
11 states that still had that on the books.

12 Just this last cycle, the Commission was sued for
13 diluting the voting strength of Black voters in LA County
14 by cracking Black districts. The NAACP will continue to
15 stand firm on protecting Black districts, and other
16 districts of color, and I hope that the Commission will
17 do that as well.

18 So I want to thank you for your time. I want to
19 thank you for your consideration. And again, thank you
20 for your service to California.

21 And now I'd like to invite Andrew Westall to cover
22 our submissions.

23 MR. WESTALL: Thank you, Mr. Callender. My name is
24 Andrew Westall. I'm the technical director for the Equal
25 Representation Project. And we've been working with the

1 NAACP and other African American, African Diaspora, and
2 Black organizations across the state to develop these
3 maps that we have submitted to you.

4 Today, what we'll do is we will go through a
5 presentation of areas of concern to the African-American
6 community throughout the State of California, in the
7 Assembly, in the State Senate. And then at the end of
8 the presentation we'll also provide you with the Board of
9 Equalization plan.

10 In general, I think it's important to understand, as
11 a demographer and as a redistricting expert, what your
12 line drawing philosophy is, and how you develop that
13 philosophy. And so certainly our philosophy is keeping
14 African-American and Black communities together across
15 the State of California. But we also want to be able to
16 respect the State Constitution and utilize county, city,
17 and unincorporated area boundaries as much as
18 practicable.

19 And certainly, as you can see with some of the
20 Congressional maps that you've been reviewing, that's
21 very difficult to do given the population deviation
22 that's required. But certainly with respect to State
23 Assembly and State Senate districts, I think it's very
24 easy to do.

25 And then when you do split cities, like Sacramento,

1 Oakland, Los Angeles, San Diego, all of these cities,
2 even cities like San Bernardino and Santa Ana, all of
3 these cities have defined neighborhoods, and have GIS
4 layers that are available to the Commission. And most of
5 them can be downloaded online. Some of them you'd have
6 to actually contact the city.

7 But as you look at how you're going to split some of
8 these cities, I would really encourage the Commission to
9 pull that down, because certainly much like it's used in
10 Los Angeles with neighborhood council boundaries, a lot
11 of these other cities have well-defined neighborhoods
12 that make a lot of sense in terms of when you -- where
13 you decide to actually draw lines.

14 One of the other things that we think is very
15 important, and this is also a constitutional requirement
16 with respect to the State Senate districts, is start with
17 nesting of the State Senate districts.

18 Certainly, there are areas of the State of
19 California in which you cannot nest because of Federal
20 Law and Voting Rights Act reasons. But I think it's
21 really important for nesting to occur, because it really
22 allows for cohesive representation in a particular area
23 between two State Assembly districts and a State Senate
24 district.

25 And then as you look at changing those State Senate

1 districts for those legal reasons and for those VRA
2 reasons, really minimize the number of changes. And so
3 you know, really try to look at an internal pool of two,
4 three, four districts in which you can make those changes
5 without disrupting nesting in other parts of the state.

6 One of the other things that isn't talked about much
7 is where you actually start drawing your lines, and where
8 you make a decision about to start really can have an
9 impact with respect to the rest of the map. And so
10 certainly there has been a history, over the last couple
11 of decades, to draw from Marin County north, as you're
12 looking at stuff, and drawing from San Francisco County
13 south, and so that you don't cross the Golden Gate Bridge
14 with respect to your line drawing.

15 One of the other major factors, particularly in the
16 Assembly and Senate map, is what to do with San Luis
17 Obispo County, because certainly San Luis Obispo County
18 makes a huge difference in terms of what districts in the
19 north and districts in the south look like.

20 In our line drawing philosophy, we kept San Luis
21 Obispo County going south to Santa Barbara County. And
22 if you've ever been at the county line between Monterey
23 County and San Luis Obispo County, what you'll find very
24 quickly, is that as you're driving south into San Luis
25 Obispo County, the landscape changes from a very

1 agricultural, flat area down into canyons.

2 And so it certainly makes a lot of sense, from a
3 community of interest standpoint, to link to San Luis
4 Obispo County and its wine and farming areas in the south
5 to Santa Barbara County.

6 So with that, we're going to go through a variety of
7 districts in the next thirty minutes. And well, with all
8 of these plans we'll start from north to south. And so
9 we'll start in Sacramento County and end in San Diego
10 County for both the Assembly, Senate, and certainly the
11 Board of Equalization is a little different. But that's
12 what we'll go through. And as you can see, we'll go
13 through a variety of districts.

14 We used the same district numbers that are currently
15 numbered for ease of use, and for the Commission and the
16 public, all of our maps, entire statewide maps, for the
17 State, Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization, are
18 available on the Commission's website as well.

19 And as you can see, since we're only showing about a
20 quarter of the map, it's important that the public and
21 the Commission know that you can see other districts and
22 how it shapes other districts as well.

23 So with our first district here, this is District 7,
24 in the City of Sacramento. In the current District 7,
25 you have rural communities to the north of the City of

1 Sacramento that are linked to the City of Sacramento's
2 current Assembly district, along with West Sacramento,
3 you know, areas like Elverta and Rio Linda, and --

4 MR. CALLENDER: Andrew, I don't think your maps are
5 progressing. You're still on the first thing.

6 MR. WESTALL: Can you not see it? Are you there?
7 Can you see it now, Rick?

8 MR. CALLENDER: No. I still see -- I'm wondering if
9 anyone else is, or if it's just for me. But it's just as
10 redistricting presentations go on the first slide.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: You're not advancing in
12 the -- you're not in presentation mode, so you're not
13 advancing, but you can actually click the map on the
14 left. There you go.

15 MR. WESTALL: Yeah. So let's just do it this way.
16 That'll be easier. Thank you. Thank you, Rick.

17 So in general, once again, this first map is the --
18 deals with the City of Sacramento in the State Assembly.
19 And as I was saying, there are northern, rural,
20 unincorporated areas that are currently linked with this
21 district along with the City of Sacramento.

22 What the current Assembly district does, and what
23 some of the visualizations that we've seen to this point
24 do, is they split the African-American communities in
25 South Sacramento into two districts. And that's

1 something that occurred ten years ago. And certainly
2 once again in the visualizations that the Commission is
3 looking at, that seems to be the case so far up to this
4 point.

5 And we're really talking about those areas like Oak
6 Park, you know, the county unincorporated --
7 unincorporated areas of Fruitridge Pocket, and Lemon
8 Hill, Parkway, and Florin. And really that whole area
9 that goes from the South City Farms area, all the way
10 over to Belvidere and Power Ridge. Really that area of
11 Sacramento, which is the heart of the African-American
12 community in Sacramento, it has a lot of similar income
13 issues, has a lot of educational issues that are similar.
14 And really what we're asking for in Sacramento; is to
15 keep that area together.

16 We've also linked this district with the City of
17 West Sacramento, which you know, even though we're
18 crossing the countyline in into Yolo County here, West
19 Sacramento has much more in common with the City of
20 Sacramento than the rest of Yolo County, as I'm sure some
21 Commissioners are familiar with.

22 The causeway between the City of West Sacramento and
23 the City of Davis is a tremendous barrier, and so it
24 makes sense to us to keep West Sacramento contained with
25 the City of Sacramento.

1 And once again, our ask here is really to keep those
2 African-American communities in South Sacramento and
3 Southeast Sacramento together with those unincorporated
4 areas that are contained there as well.

5 The next map shows the reciprocal of that district.
6 And this is the other district that covers the rest of
7 the City of Sacramento. As you can see with this map, we
8 held the Sacramento County line with San Joaquin County,
9 and we'll talk about that in a second. But in this
10 particular district, really, what you're doing is
11 grouping the South Sacramento, Asian-American communities
12 with the City of Elk Grove, and other communities in the
13 southern portion of Sacramento County, all into one
14 district.

15 And so the areas, certainly, of South Sacramento
16 that are listed here, along with the City of Elk Grove,
17 have a lot of synergy and areas in common. And then,
18 once again, you're picking up the rural areas of
19 Sacramento County while, once again, maintaining, as you
20 can see, that red outline around the sides, the
21 Sacramento County line.

22 The next district here is District 13, and this is
23 in San Joaquin County. We don't show this in our State
24 Senate maps, but we did draw a State Senate map, which
25 included almost all of San Joaquin County in one Senate

1 district.

2 In this particular map, we wanted to keep the City
3 of Stockton whole in one district, and really link it to
4 rural communities and an adjacent county there with
5 Oakley, Knights, and Brentwood.

6 And so this is really Sacramento -- or excuse me --
7 Stockton, plus its unincorporated areas, plus the rural
8 areas, the rest of the rural areas to the west of San
9 Joaquin County.

10 The next map here is what I would call a Bay-Delta
11 district. And so even though it crosses into three
12 different counties, you are linking African-American
13 communities together while also creating a Bay-Delta
14 district, which some of the COI testimony that the
15 Commission has heard is something that some folks would
16 like to see.

17 And so with respect to the Cities of Vallejo, the
18 Cities of Antioch, and Fairfield, and certainly if there
19 is room to fit Pittsburgh in here, although it's a very
20 large city, that would be another city that you'd want to
21 keep in this district, because you do have well-defined
22 and large African-American communities in those three
23 cities that I mentioned. And so we tried to group all of
24 those together. But once again, try to keep the Bay-
25 Delta area together in one district in terms of

1 representation.

2 The next district is Assembly District 15. This is
3 the district that currently goes from Oakland to
4 Richmond. And we would ask that the Commission would
5 continue this configuration there -- in there, I think
6 some of the visualizations that we've seen so far do
7 exactly that.

8 In general -- and we'll get to Oakland in a
9 minute -- in general, linking portions of the City of
10 Oakland with the City of Richmond, where you have large,
11 once again, African-American communities. You know, it's
12 very important to us, and something that helps with
13 representation in a district like this.

14 As we'll see in a minute, it's difficult to keep the
15 City of Oakland together in one State Assembly district,
16 particularly with the Cities of San Leandro and Alameda.

17 And so with that particular district, you know, and
18 this is something that has been in place for at least
19 twenty years, the City of Alameda and the City of San
20 Leandro have been together with the City of Oakland in
21 one State Assembly district.

22 In this particular State Assembly district, once
23 again, we used the community lines that are defined by
24 the City of Oakland as the boundaries for various
25 portions of it to get the population. And really, you're

1 looking at an area just south of Lake Merritt that would
2 go north to the 15th District that we just looked at.

3 And once again, you know, using those community
4 boundaries are extremely important. Oakland was one of
5 the places where they didn't have an easy way for you to
6 download that. And so we just, you know, used maps to be
7 able to create this map. But once again, it's built on
8 those community and neighborhood boundaries provided by
9 the City of Oakland in their GIS library. And so that
10 was the Bay Area and Northern Sacramento.

11 Now, we'll continue into Los Angeles County. The
12 first map here is Northern Los Angeles County, and the
13 Antelope Valley. As you can see, this district is
14 bordered on three lines, on the east, the west, and the
15 north, with county boundaries. And the important thing
16 here is really to keep the Cities of Palmdale, Lancaster,
17 and the unincorporated communities that surround
18 Palmdale, Lancaster, all together in one district.

19 And so this particular district keeps those African-
20 American communities in the Antelope Valley together,
21 really keeps the entire Antelope Valley together. It
22 does split a small portion. As you can see, a small
23 portion of the City of Santa Clarita, it's not a very
24 populated area of the city currently, and so it just made
25 sense to balance the population there and split the City

1 of Santa Clarita, as opposed to dividing up this
2 particular community.

3 The next district we have is District 41. And while
4 this is -- you know, there isn't a large African-American
5 community in this particular district, we did want to
6 highlight it.

7 As you I'm sure have heard in the COI testimony, the
8 importance of holding Pasadena and Altadena together in
9 one district is very important to the African-American
10 community. We also have enjoyed, and really support a
11 lot of the visualizations that you've done in this part
12 of the state, with respect to the State Assembly plan,
13 and keeping the foothills community together in this
14 particular district.

15 One thing I would say, is that certainly it makes
16 more sense to include La Canada and La Crescenta in this
17 district than, say, the City of Glendale. If you're
18 familiar with the City of Glendale, and the City of
19 Pasadena, there's really a dividing line between those
20 two cities, called the Verdugo Hills. And the City of
21 Glendale is considered to be part of the San Fernando
22 Valley, where the City of Pasadena is part of the San
23 Gabriel Valley.

24 And so which is -- what we've shown here, is really
25 a San Gabriel Valley, mostly a San Gabriel Valley

1 Foothills Assembly district that goes over into San
2 Bernardino County and picks up the City of Upland and San
3 Antonio Heights, unincorporated just north of that
4 particular city.

5 Now, we're getting into the heart of the City of Los
6 Angeles. And one thing that we'll say about Los Angeles
7 is that -- and I think it's important to highlight, in
8 the L.A. Times today, there was a great editorial by the
9 Chair of this Commission, ten years ago, Connie Malloy,
10 and I would really encourage the Commission to read that
11 editorial because it not only applies to the two
12 Congressional districts that she was talking about in Los
13 Angeles, but it also applies to the State Assembly plan
14 and the State Senate plan.

15 Under the Federal Voting Rights Act, you know, there
16 is -- in the same way that you can draw Latino majority
17 CVAP districts, and Asian American majority CVAP
18 districts, you can't do that with the African-American
19 community, because you just don't have large
20 concentrations, really anywhere in the state.

21 And so with the African-American community, while
22 you do have the Federal Voting Rights Act; it's important
23 that the Commission also pays attention to the U.S.
24 Constitution's 14th Amendment and the Equal Protection
25 Clause, because the districts that are currently in Los

1 Angeles, in the State Assembly, and the State Senate are
2 all coalition districts.

3 And so we'll start with the 54th, and I'll go
4 through and explain how that works. So the 54th District
5 is truly a coalition district among African-Americans,
6 Asian-Americans, Jewish voters, as well, and the student
7 population of UCLA.

8 And so in this particular district, you have the
9 communities of Hyde Park, Leimert Park, Baldwin Hills,
10 Crenshaw area, and the Baldwin Hills, West Adams, and
11 Jefferson Park, as well as the unincorporated areas of
12 View Park, Windsor Hills, the Ladera Heights, the City of
13 Culver City, which has been in this district for more
14 than twenty years, as well as Mar Vista. The community
15 of Mar Vista, the community of Sawtelle, which is between
16 the 10, the 405 Freeway, the City of Santa Monica, and
17 Wilshire Boulevard, which has a large student population
18 in that living in that area, as well as AAPI population,
19 and then, of course, Westwood and the UCLA Campus.

20 In our opinion, this has been an African-American
21 coalition district for many decades, and it can continue
22 to be so. There's no reason to do much to this
23 particular district then, other than really respecting
24 those African-American communities once again, trying to
25 use neighborhood Council boundaries as often as possible,

1 and keeping that coalition together, once again, of those
2 students, Jewish voters, the AAPI community, and the
3 African-American community, which anchors a good section
4 of this particular district.

5 The next district is District 59, which is just to
6 the east of the district that we just looked at.

7 District 59 is also a coalition district. It's a
8 different type of coalition district between African-
9 American voters and Latino voters.

10 In this particular configuration, in District 59, it
11 includes areas that are completely contained in the City
12 of Los Angeles, from Harbor Heights to Gramercy Park, and
13 from the 54th District that we just looked at to the city
14 line. And it also includes portions of -- sorry about
15 that -- portions of Florence-Graham, which is an
16 unincorporated area next to the City of Los Angeles.

17 Once again, this is an African-American coalition
18 district. It currently has, and would continue to have a
19 majority Latino CVAP. But the important thing is that
20 the African-American community that lives in this area,
21 is kept whole and together in one district.

22 The next district is the district that is just to
23 the south and to the west of the two districts that we
24 just talked about. This is the 62nd District, which is
25 also an African-American coalition district, includes the

1 City of Inglewood, the unincorporated areas of Westmont,
2 and West Athens, and it includes a portion of the City of
3 Gardena as well -- and the whole communities of Lawndale,
4 Hawthorne, Bel Air and Lennox.

5 And it also includes portions of the City of Los
6 Angeles. Here you have the communities of Westchester,
7 Playa del Rey, Playa Vista, Del Rey, and Venice, which
8 are all currently in this particular district.

9 Once again, this is another African-American
10 coalition district. It's a coalition of African-
11 Americans, Latinos, and White voters to the Westside.
12 This is mostly driven by homeowners in most of these
13 areas, and is also a district that is -- that African-
14 Americans have the ability to elect the candidate of
15 their choice.

16 The last district here is District 64. And in the
17 visualizations that we've seen so far, you have something
18 similar to this, which we feel that we can support. But
19 really, when talking about those other three districts,
20 you know, it would appear that the Commission
21 visualizations are collapsing in African-American
22 coalition districts.

23 And so we're going from four to three. And what,
24 once again, what we're advocating for is for four
25 coalition districts in Los Angeles County.

1 And so we did like the visual -- one of the
2 visualizations that you had for this particular district,
3 I think it was very similar. I think MALDEF also has a
4 very similar district to this, although slightly
5 different geography. And so in general, for this
6 district, once again, it's an African-American coalition
7 district. You also have Latino voters, and White voters,
8 you have the AAPI community, particularly Filipinos, and
9 the Samoan community in Carson.

10 And so this district goes from the rest of that
11 section of Florence-Graham in the south, the City of Los
12 Angeles, communities of Watts, Green Meadows, and Vermont
13 Vista, and the Harbor Gateway. And then comes down and
14 includes the Cities of Compton, the entire City of
15 Carson.

16 And certainly, you're going to see a lot of maps
17 that split the City of Carson. But the City of Carson is
18 only 95,000 people. There's really no reason to split
19 the City of Carson in the State Assembly map.

20 And then this district also includes the community
21 of Wilmington, which has a lot of synergy with the City
22 of Carson with respect to the oil facilities that cross
23 over the border of both communities as well.

24 And so once again, this is an African-American
25 coalition district. It has a Latino CVAP majority as

1 well. But once again, it does give the opportunity for
2 African-Americans to elect a candidate build -- who can
3 build coalitions through this district.

4 And that really can be said for all four districts,
5 right. African-Americans alone cannot get elected to
6 these districts. It's really a history of many decades
7 of building coalitions across these communities that
8 allow African-American leaders to get elected. And it's
9 not to say that these districts wouldn't elect a Latino
10 candidate, or a White candidate, or an AAPI candidate,
11 but it's really that coalition building across a variety
12 of communities that provides for African-American
13 representation in Los Angeles County.

14 The next district here is the district just to the
15 east of District 64 that we looked at. This is District
16 63. Certainly, the Commission has gotten a lot of
17 interest with respect to the City of Long Beach, and what
18 to do with the City of Long Beach.

19 In our particular plan, we did split the northern
20 portion of the City of Long Beach from the rest of the
21 city. But in the current State Assembly map, you'll
22 notice that the City of Long Beach is split into three
23 districts, not two.

24 So we tried to minimize those splits with respect to
25 the City of Long Beach, once again, trying to use

1 community boundaries in the city, and build a VRA
2 compliant Latino district that goes from Lakewood to
3 Maywood in the north. And this is really a 710 Corridor
4 district, for the most part, with the exception of the
5 City of Lakewood.

6 The next district is the district just to the south
7 of that. Once again, this is the City of Long Beach,
8 along with the community of San Pedro, the City of Signal
9 Hill, and the City of Hawaiian Gardens to bring it to
10 population. We certainly respect the -- you know, the
11 residents of the City of Long Beach and their desires to
12 keep the city together as much as possible. And we also
13 felt that it was very important to keep the port
14 communities of Los Angeles -- Los Angeles and San Pedro
15 here, and Long Beach together in one district, so that
16 you have full representation with respect to port
17 activities in Southern California.

18 With that, we're going to San Bernardino County, and
19 in San Bernardino County, the idea here is really to keep
20 San Bernardino and Highland together in one district.
21 You have a large African-American community in Highland
22 and San Bernardino that really should be kept together.

23 I think the Commission has some great visualizations
24 out with this -- with respect to this area, and really
25 tried to keep those areas together in one district. It's

1 a little difficult because you're trying to keep Latino
2 VRA districts just to the south of this particular
3 district whole as well. And so this district not only
4 includes San Bernardino and Highland, but also includes
5 the African-American community that's in the more west --
6 eastern portion of the City of Rancho Cucamonga.

7 The next district south of that deals, once again
8 with Inland Empire Communities, San Bernardino County
9 communities. As you can see with the red line at the
10 bottom, in both the previous district, and in this
11 district, we utilized county line between Riverside and
12 San Bernardino County.

13 And so this district really keeps the City of
14 Fontana, which although it looks a little weird, it is
15 the entire City of Fontana there; the City of Fontana,
16 Rialto, and Colton, and Bloomington, all together in one
17 district.

18 Once again, this is a Latino majority CVAP district,
19 right, Latino majority VRA district. But that being
20 said, the African-American communities in this area have
21 a lot of synergy and relate together, and particularly
22 this corridor between the 215 Freeway on the east, and
23 the 15 Freeway on the south. And really that 10 Freeway
24 and that 210 Freeway are also major boundaries. And that
25 really is what holds this district together, and holds

1 these communities together.

2 The next district we wanted to show you is down in
3 Riverside County. And as you can see up at the top
4 there, once again, we're holding that county line between
5 Riverside and San Bernardino County.

6 Certainly, with respect to this area, I know we do
7 have some issues with the visualizations that have been
8 out there so far. We would like to see a district that
9 keeps the City of Perris and the City of Moreno Valley,
10 with most of the City of Riverside. And this particular
11 map does that.

12 It's really, in order to keep those African-American
13 communities that are based in those three cities, all in
14 one district. And so when you remove the City of
15 Riverside from a district like this, and you add in
16 communities like Hemet, and San Jacinto, and a lot of the
17 rural, unincorporated areas that are kind of in between,
18 those have a lot less in common, really, with the City of
19 Perris, and the City of Moreno Valley, than they do with,
20 say, somewhere like Beaumont and Banning up in Riverside
21 County, up to the east of here in Riverside County.

22 And so once again, we're asking that the Commission
23 really consider keeping Riverside, Moreno Valley, and
24 Perris all together in one district. Once again, this
25 is -- you know, this is a district of where you have

1 large African-American communities, and growing African-
2 American communities.

3 The last Assembly district that I'd like to talk
4 about today is in the City of San Diego, and some
5 adjacent cities. Once again, in this area, we are
6 concerned about some of the visualizations that we've
7 seen so far.

8 This particular district, once again, uses whole
9 communities in the City of San Diego, as outlined in the
10 map from Linda Vista, all the way down to Paradise Hills.
11 It includes the unincorporated areas of La Cresta and
12 Bonita, and includes the Cities of Lemon Grove and La
13 Mesa.

14 The African-American community in the City of San
15 Diego is really east of the 5 Freeway, and south of the 8
16 Freeway. And so as you can see, we really tried to use
17 that eastern -- or that western boundary in the southern
18 portion of this district, as the 15 Freeway, to keep all
19 of those communities together, but would still have the
20 ability to build a VRA-compliant Latino district, the
21 80th District just south of this.

22 And I think really one of the most difficult things
23 that the Commission did, you know, that was hard to
24 swallow ten years ago, is splitting the Cities of Chula
25 Vista and National City between these two districts.

1 I don't think there's any reason why the Commission
2 should have to split those particular cities, and they
3 really should be kept whole once again in the 80th
4 District. I think the other reason -- the other thing
5 that we're looking at in terms of the visualizations, is
6 we're very concerned that we're taking -- we're not only
7 splitting the African-American communities in San Diego,
8 but we're combining them, not just with La Mesa, Lemon
9 Grove, and La Presa, but you're also combining them with
10 communities like Santee, Lakeside, Jamul, and El Cajon.

11 All of those four areas, which are in a different
12 valley, just to the east of here have, historically, had
13 issues with racially polarized voting. In general, White
14 voters voting against minority voters.

15 And so the visualizations that we've seen so far,
16 we're extremely concerned that you're not only fracturing
17 the Black community in San Diego, but you're also
18 combining them with racially polarized voters to the
19 east, which have nothing in common with this particular
20 district.

21 And so we would ask that with respect to this
22 district, not only keeping African-American communities
23 whole, keeping a majority of the City of San Diego, but
24 also continuing to include the Cities of La Mesa and
25 Lemon Grove, with this particular district, which once

1 again have much more in common with the City of San Diego
2 than they do with cities to the east.

3 With that, you know, and this will certainly go a
4 little quicker now. We'll go to the State Senate. As I
5 said before, with respect to the State Senate, we're
6 really encouraging nesting as much as possible. And so
7 we, in our State Senate plan, we nested all of the
8 districts. We did not choose to fix some of the VRA
9 issues that I'll point out from time to time when we're
10 going through this.

11 But in general, we wanted to show the Commission
12 what nesting looked like, and really encourage, once
13 again, the Commission to begin with nesting in the State
14 Senate district and then -- the State Senate districts,
15 and then make the changes that are necessary to comply
16 with the law from there.

17 So once again, starting in Sacramento, those two
18 State Assembly districts that we saw earlier, have been
19 nested into one State Senate district, keeping the City
20 of Sacramento whole in one State Senate district. Once
21 again, the visualizations that we've seen would seem to
22 appear that the State Senate districts would continue to
23 split -- would split the City of Sacramento and combined
24 other State Assembly districts.

25 And so once again, we would encourage the Commission

1 to not only keep all of the African-American communities
2 in Sacramento County, in one State Senate district, but
3 also to keep the City of Sacramento whole in one State
4 Senate district. And once again, this is almost
5 completely contained in the County of Sacramento, once
6 again, with the exception of the City of West Sacramento
7 and Yolo County.

8 The next slide that we have here is the State Senate
9 district in the San Francisco East Bay. Once again,
10 going from the City of San Leandro, to the City of
11 Richmond, keeping the City of Oakland whole together in
12 one State Senate district as well; and with respect to
13 this, you know, certainly we like the visualizations in
14 the Assembly. We would encourage the Commission to keep
15 the City of Oakland together, and keep the African-
16 American communities together in the East Bay, all in one
17 district.

18 Certainly, it would be nice to add the City of
19 Vallejo to this district, but given the population
20 numbers, it's just not feasible. But at least if we're
21 able to keep Richmond, all the way down to San Leandro
22 together, that would be a good district, not just for the
23 East Bay, but also for the African-American community.

24 Going back to Los Angeles County, this district,
25 once again, nests the two State Assembly districts that

1 we saw in the City of Los Angeles and the City of Culver
2 City earlier. And once again, this is a coalition
3 district, African-American coalition district. And it
4 gives the opportunity for African-Americans to elect a
5 candidate of their choice.

6 But once again, they're not the only candidates that
7 would be elected to a seat like this. This is outside of
8 Culver City, Ladera Heights, and View Park-Windsor Hills,
9 and a portion of Florence-Graham, this district is
10 completely within the City of Los Angeles.

11 The next district, District 35, which is the State
12 Senate district just to the south of District 30, once
13 again, nests the two districts that we've seen. We did
14 make one small change to this particular portion of the
15 State Senate map. We did include all of the City of
16 Gardena into District 35.

17 I think there are some policy -- good policy reasons
18 to split the City of Gardena in the State Assembly map.
19 If you look at the City of Gardena, most of the northern
20 portion of the city is primarily African-Americans, and
21 the southern portion of the city is mostly AAPI; the API
22 community and the White portion of Gardena, which have
23 much more synergy with the City of Torrance.

24 But once again, in the State Senate map, we worked
25 to keep Gardena whole. And this is the only deviation we

1 did from the nesting in our State Senate map. But wanted
2 to show you what it would look like, because it seemed
3 important to keep that community together once you get to
4 the State Senate level.

5 Going back out to the Inland Empire, you know, we
6 didn't show this district earlier with the kind of
7 Pomona, Montclair, Chino, Ontario sections, but we did
8 show the district to the east of it, and really feel once
9 again that the Commission should do nesting in this area,
10 do nesting with a district like this. And once again,
11 this is a majority Latino VRA district.

12 Going back up to District 23; this includes, and I
13 know it's difficult to see, but this includes the City of
14 San Bernardino and the City of Highland in a district
15 with most of the areas in the High Desert to the north
16 that a lot of African-Americans have been moving to for
17 cheaper housing, particularly in Hesperia, Apple Valley
18 and Adelanto.

19 We couldn't quite create a district which included
20 all of that area in this particular -- in this particular
21 Senate district. But it was important to, once again,
22 link those African-American communities of San Bernardino
23 and Highland with those northern communities, to keep
24 African-Americans -- to keep African-Americans to
25 continue to have ability and a voice to express

1 themselves, and to build political coalitions in San
2 Bernardino County.

3 As you can see, once again, the State Senate
4 district, in many areas, holds the San Bernardino and
5 Riverside County line.

6 The next district, once again, just south of that,
7 in which, once again, we saw a portion of this earlier in
8 the State Assembly plan. But once again, nesting
9 districts, in District 31, and keeping the City of
10 Riverside whole together in one particular district, and
11 linking it with other communities that would be part of
12 this State Assembly district that you can view in our
13 State Assembly plan.

14 Once again, this keeps the African-American
15 communities in Riverside County together, all in one
16 district. And as you can see, in both our Assembly and
17 Senate plans, we keep that that county line together in
18 this portion of the map. And also keep the county line
19 there with Orange County.

20 Lastly, in the State Senate plan, we have District
21 40 and district -- and this is certainly one that I'm
22 sure your attorneys and demographers will want to change,
23 because this is not a majority Latino VRA district. And
24 so certainly with respect to our State Senate plan, you
25 know, this is probably not a possible scenario, but we

1 wanted to show it to you anyways.

2 And really what the Commission will likely have to
3 do in the State Senate plan is link that 80th Assembly
4 District with a lot of areas to the east, in particular
5 Imperial County, to get to your majority Latino VRA
6 district.

7 But in this particular district, once again, it
8 keeps those communities whole. You can see in the State
9 Assembly district, in the 80th, once again, National City
10 and Chula Vista are kept whole in this district, and as
11 well as the City of San Diego, communities from Otay Mesa
12 all the way up, once again, to Linda Vista.

13 Lastly, I'd like to talk about the Board of
14 Equalization. I would imagine the Commission is not
15 going to get a whole lot of Board of Equalization
16 submissions. And so we did want to provide one to you.

17 In terms of the Board of Equalization plan, really,
18 there's a couple of things: One, keeping counties whole
19 in the plan and really only trying to split Los Angeles
20 and San Bernardino Counties because of population. One
21 of the issues that we have with the current Board of
22 Equalization plan is it crosses -- because they focused
23 more on nesting of the Assembly districts to build the
24 Board of Equalization plan in the counties, which is
25 certainly, you know, one of the criteria under the State

1 Constitution, we would encourage the Commission to really
2 look at keeping counties whole as much as possible, when
3 you're building this plan.

4 And so with that being said, the first district here
5 currently does not have the northern counties of the
6 State of California. They are included in a different
7 district. And we felt that these communities really
8 should be kept whole in one State Board of Equalization
9 District, and keep all of Northern California whole in
10 one Board of Equalization district.

11 Obviously, we realize that this district stretches
12 all the way down into Northern Los Angeles and San
13 Bernardino Counties, once again, those High Desert
14 valleys that we were talking about earlier.

15 But that being said, you know, as you build these,
16 there's only four districts, and you have to be able to
17 come to population in one location or another.

18 District 2, what we did with this particular
19 district, is we removed those northern counties and
20 really created a Bay Area district and a central coast
21 district together for District 2, for the Board of
22 Equalization.

23 And so in the north it starts with Sonoma, Napa, and
24 Solano County, and ends with Ventura County at the
25 bottom. This district is all whole counties. It does

1 not split any county boundaries. And once again, it
2 keeps those Central Coast communities and the Bay Area
3 counties all together in one particular district.

4 The next district is District 3, which is the Board
5 of Equalization district that's primarily in Los Angeles
6 County. This district currently has the County of
7 Ventura, which was removed for District 2, which we just
8 saw. And the other anomaly here is that because of the
9 nesting that was done, Chino Hills, which is in San
10 Bernardino County, is contained in District 3, and the
11 City of Pomona is in district -- in the adjacent
12 district.

13 And so by keep cleaning up that county line and
14 putting Chino Hills back with the rest of the San
15 Bernardino County, and Pomona, with the district that has
16 the majority, the vast majority of Los Angeles County, we
17 were able to come to population with, including the City
18 of Santa Clarita, as well as kind of that northern
19 polygon that you see in the geography.

20 And so this -- once again, this is a district that's
21 fully in Los Angeles County, and really would encourage
22 the Commission to do that, as they look at the Board of
23 Equalization plan.

24 And then lastly, we have District 4, which includes
25 all of Orange County, Riverside County, San Diego County,

1 and Imperial County, and includes most of the populated
2 areas of San Bernardino County. You know, it's really
3 going from Upland and Chino Hills, in kind of that area,
4 all the way over to the -- through the City of San
5 Bernardino, and then getting county unincorporated areas
6 in the far desert communities just north of the Coachella
7 Valley --

8 MR. MANOFF: One minute remaining.

9 MR. WESTALL: And so with that, that's our Board of
10 Equalization plan.

11 Rick, I don't know if you want to just wrap it up
12 with anything. But we're done.

13 MR. CALLENDER: I just want to thank the
14 Commissioners for their time and service, and hope you
15 will take in consideration the NAACP's proposals. I know
16 we have forty-four seconds; so if there're any burning
17 questions, we'll take it now.

18 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much for this
19 presentation.

20 MR. CALLENDER: Thank you.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And up next, we have PMI-
22 016. I see that -- PMI-016, I will be promoting you now.
23 PMI-016, you can now enable your audio and video in the
24 lower-left corner of your screen, and you can enable
25 screen sharing in the bottom center.

1 (Pause)

2 MS. HARRIS: Did you say PMI-106 (sic)?

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, I did. Are you
4 Logged into the meeting on two different machines?

5 MS. HARRIS: I am. Do I need to drop the one -- the
6 one that you're seeing -- we speak on, is the one I want
7 to use.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That's perfectly fine.
9 It may affect your connectivity to have two machines
10 going depending on your internet.

11 MS. HARRIS: Okay.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: But if you would like to
13 keep them both connected, and it works effectively,
14 that's perfectly fine.

15 MS. HARRIS: Okay.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And do you have your maps
17 ready to share?

18 MS. HARRIS: I do.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Perfect.

20 MS. HARRIS: And I just submitted this to Sulma. So
21 forgive me, Sulma, for not putting it all, one hundred
22 percent in your hands.

23 My name is Daphne Harris (ph.). I'm a resident in
24 95823. I approach the redistricting from my front door,
25 my census tract, and then tried to move it outward. I

1 know that we're looking to have maps that are tied
2 directly to various districts, and I'm trying to bring
3 that together. I tried to use the tool that you provided
4 to us, and was unable to get some of it to occur.

5 Now, I'm having problems advancing this. Is there a
6 reason? What do I need to do to advance?

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: That would be on your
8 computer, not ours.

9 MS. HARRIS: Okay. There we go. Okay. So the map
10 that I submitted to the CRC deals directly with my
11 community, which would be District 8, which is within
12 District 6, which is our Assembly district. One of the
13 things that happened to us in 2010, and through '13, was
14 our district was separated and divided in half.

15 And I think that the NAACP just mentioned that a
16 moment ago. If you look at this particular map, it shows
17 a North-South boundary as opposed to an East-West
18 boundary. And a lot of the drawing of the maps recently,
19 and 2010, went east-west, which cut a lot of our voting
20 bloc in half.

21 So where I live is at the cross section of Mack Road
22 and Tangerine, which is next to Center Parkway, and that
23 voting bloc is predominantly senior family homes. And
24 there are some intermingling of apartment complexes
25 within this.

1 One thing that I noticed about our new district map
2 is that it, basically, created a lot of transient living,
3 where people would be living in apartment complexes one
4 to two years, and they wouldn't get the benefit of the
5 full ten-year time frame. So that's something that I
6 would like for the district to take note of when they're
7 actually drawing maps, and trying to keep ZIP codes and
8 communities together.

9 As opposed to -- and I hear -- I'm hearing a lot
10 about cultural, and ethnicity, and different cultures
11 being a voting bloc with one another. But when you're
12 crossing across different ZIP codes, and you're breaking
13 ZIP codes in half, the proximity and how you live, and
14 where you live, has a big impact on how you live.

15 Having the appropriate housing, having the
16 appropriate education in schools, and having the
17 appropriate economic-base and employment is important.
18 And that's something that I want you to take a look at as
19 you're looking at various maps.

20 This is the Assembly map drawing for the State of
21 California right now. I pulled this information off of
22 ZIP Data Maps.com, and I hope that you use that tool when
23 you're drawing your maps, to get a better understanding
24 of how communities are tied together.

25 We have a lot of communities of interest, and a lot

1 of them, like I said, are going across ethnic background,
2 and cultural background. We need to also look at
3 socioeconomic support and capacities. We're getting a
4 lot of services. We also need to have capital
5 investments in our organizations and in our districts.

6 District 3, I just heard the NAACP saying that they
7 wanted to keep Yolo County on the side of Sacramento. I
8 don't have an opposition to that, but what it does do is
9 it cuts voice of those who are in Yolo County, West
10 Sacramento, it makes it more of a rural discussion, a
11 river walk discussion. And then those of us in South
12 Sacramento are not benefiting from those choices and
13 decisions that our current representation is making.
14 District 6 is where I live and work, reside.

15 This is the map that was drawn in 2013. I'm looking
16 to make sure that we don't just grab organizations or
17 areas that are economically stable while leaving the
18 underserved on their own. If we have a mix with the
19 geographic layouts and boundaries, I think you'll see
20 more of a mix of services within a community, and you'll
21 see more cohesion and cohesiveness in the community.

22 Most of the resources are coming down from the U.S.,
23 to the state, to the county, to the city. And again, I'm
24 bringing it to my bloc and just seeing what has changed
25 in the last ten years over the twenty years.

1 We've noticed that we're getting a lot of services
2 in our area, but not a lot of infrastructure development,
3 resource, and maintenance, and we're not getting a lot of
4 employment opportunity. So we're looking to have more --
5 not a "food desert". I'm tired of our area being
6 referred to as a food desert.

7 MR. MANOFF: One minute.

8 MS. HARRIS: We're looking to have more grocery
9 stores, more banks, things of that nature. And I think
10 you have a mix by ZIP code, and people living in the same
11 region that gives them more of a synergy. This is a map
12 of how District 7 looked in the past, and I noticed a lot
13 of District 7 is encroaching on the City of Sacramento.
14 And I'm looking for you to have them go more southbound.
15 And they were developed as rural community --

16 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds remain.

17 MS. HARRIS: -- and established themselves as a
18 rural community. And so we're looking for you to have
19 them increase their population accordingly.

20 And I appreciate your time. And I appreciate the
21 service that you've done on the Council. Thank you.

22 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you so much.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that is all of our
24 appointments for today, Chair.

25 CHAIR SADHWANI: Excellent. Thank you so much,

1 Katy, for moderating all of those appointments.

2 We're going to take a short break, until 4:30. And
3 then we will be back with the Line Drawing Team in order
4 to provide direction -- some clarifications to the Line
5 Drawing Team, and directions as well.

6 Thank you, everybody. We'll see you back at 4:30.

7 (Whereupon, a recess was held until 4:30 p.m.)

8 CHAIR SADHWANI: Welcome back to the California
9 Citizens Redistricting Commission as we complete our day
10 of receiving input and public maps. We've had a
11 fantastic day. We've definitely received a lot of great
12 information from the public.

13 We reserved this last hour, or so of our day, to
14 spend a little time with our Line Drawing Team. I
15 understand that there were some questions and
16 clarifications that may have been needed from our
17 discussions last week. So we're going to receive those
18 questions, and then we'll also be able to give a little
19 bit of direction, if there was anything from today, or
20 the public comment that's come in, if there's any
21 additional direction to line drawers that you'd like to
22 give.

23 So with that, I'm going to turn it over to Karin Mac
24 Donald and her team. I believe there were some
25 clarifying questions.

1 MS. MAC DONALD: Yes. Thank you so much. Hello,
2 Commissioners. Thank you so much for having us back.
3 And thanks for this opportunity to ask for
4 clarifications.

5 I have two of my colleagues here who would like to
6 talk to you, please, about some clarifications based on
7 the direction that you gave last week.

8 And first is going to be Kennedy, who has a very
9 brief question. And then after that she will be followed
10 by Jaime, who has perhaps a little bit more extensive
11 questions for you.

12 So with that, over to Kennedy; thank you.

13 MS. WILSON: Hello. Good afternoon, Commission. I
14 just have, as Karin said, a brief clarification. So as
15 we're avoiding splitting small cities when possible, for
16 example, the City of Shafter, which was north of
17 Bakersfield. Would you like to extend that direction
18 from your Assembly plan to your Senate and Congressional
19 plan as well?

20 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yes, that was that was the
21 intent. Sorry, I thought that was clear. Thank you.

22 MS. WILSON: Thank you; and understood.

23 MS. MAC DONALD: With that, over to Jaime. Thank
24 you so much.

25 MS. CLARK: Thank you. Sorry, I'm kind of setting

1 up my --

2 CHAIR SADHWANI: Actually, if you don't mind, for
3 just one second. I think Commissioner Yee had a hand
4 raised?

5 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. Just wondering
6 how we're applying that to census designated places. I
7 don't recall whether we discussed that or not. Are we
8 making a conscious effort not to split census-designated
9 places as well?

10 MS. MAC DONALD: Yes.

11 MS. CLARK: I'm just going to answer first of all.
12 For all line drawers we are, you know, not
13 intentionally -- we are intentionally trying to not split
14 census-designated places, as well as cities.

15 COMMISSIONER YEE: Excellent. Thank you.

16 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. Thanks so much. Go
17 ahead, Jaime.

18 MS. CLARK: Thank you. My questions mostly are
19 around Senate visualizations. In my notes, the notes
20 that I received from staff, there wasn't a ton of
21 direction and feedback for the Senate plans. And so I am
22 wondering, this is in some ways similar to Kennedy's
23 question, because it's about extending and applying
24 direction and feedback given for other levels of
25 districts to the Senate plan as well.

1 And if it's helpful, I can share my screen. So and
2 to kind of like look at everything together, so one
3 second while I'm organizing my -- all my windows and
4 stuff here. Okay. So what's on the screen right now is
5 Senate visualization B from last time. And specifically,
6 I kind of wanted to talk about the -- but you know,
7 specifically I wanted to ask about some stuff on like the
8 coast, and Long Beach, and the Harbor Gateway areas.

9 For other versions of visualizations, for other
10 levels of district, the direction was for Long Beach to
11 be oriented with areas to the north, sometimes following
12 the 710 Corridor, additionally received feedback to try
13 and keep San Pedro with the Harbor Gateway Cities, and
14 Compton and Carson, and additionally heard sort of about
15 the 405. The 405 being sort of following that or being
16 maybe like a good boundary to keep cities whole, but for
17 that to generally be a boundary. And just wondering if
18 those could apply to the Senate as well, to the Senate
19 visualizations?

20 CHAIR SADHWANI: My sense that would be, yes.

21 But Commissioner Sinay.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was going to agree with you.

23 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. I like it when we're in
24 agreement, Commissioner Sinay.

25 So I think that that's the answer for you, Jaime,

1 unless any other Commissioners wanted to weigh in. Any
2 additional questions or clarifications?

3 MS. CLARK: That was it for me.

4 CHAIR SADHWANI: Excellent. Very good. So we did
5 reserve -- oh, a couple of more hands.

6 Commissioner Kennedy.

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Chair, I'm wondering if I
8 could request, this is not a clarification. This is a
9 new request. Is that something that I can make at this
10 point?

11 CHAIR SADHWANI: Yes. Go ahead.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you. So on
13 Senate visualization, SDB, San Sunny (ph.); I'm wondering
14 if you could show us what -- two Assembly districts
15 nested within or closely within that Senate district
16 might look like.

17 MS. MAC DONALD: Well, we wouldn't be able to do
18 that right this very moment, but --

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No, no, no, no, no. No, no.
20 I wasn't expecting that.

21 MS. MAC DONALD: Just making sure I understand.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah.

23 MS. MAC DONALD: So yeah, we can take a look at that
24 next week, absolutely. Yeah.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Perfect. Perfect. Thank

1 you.

2 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. Thank you.

3 Commissioner, Sinay.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Last week, Jaime was really
5 good at kind of making it -- putting in yellow the
6 districts that we were considering for VRA. And I was
7 hoping that all the line drawers could maybe do that in
8 the coming weeks so that, you know, we could be
9 consistent. Because I know we've talked about them, but
10 you know, it's just a lot of information is coming at us
11 right now. And we're trying.

12 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you for that.

13 MS. MAC DONALD: We can do that. Thank you --

14 CHAIR SADHWANI: Perfect.

15 MS. MAC DONALD: -- for that suggestion.

16 CHAIR SADHWANI: And so with that if -- Karin, if
17 you and your team don't have any additional
18 clarifications, I want to open the floor. We heard a lot
19 of great ideas from the public throughout the day today.
20 This is an opportunity to discuss some of the things that
21 we have heard today, and also to provide any possible
22 direction to the line drawers, if there was something
23 that you saw that you'd like to see if it's possible to
24 incorporate, presumably by next week, now would be the
25 opportunity to do so.

1 Commissioner Sinay.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm following the rules. I
3 raise my hand. So this goes back to some of the comments
4 we got on Monday, wasn't it Monday? Yeah, Monday, wow,
5 it's a long week. On Monday some people called in about
6 northern San Diego, and I agreed with them, I just didn't
7 want to give my opinion on what I'd like to see. But
8 since now that we've gotten communities of interest
9 around it.

10 But I'm looking at keeping Camp Pendleton,
11 Oceanside, Carlsbad, Solana Beach, and Del Mar together,
12 seeing how that works. And honestly, when I toss these
13 out, I apologize. I am not thinking Congressional,
14 Assembly, or Senate yet. I figure you guys will read my
15 mind, and know which one it's supposed to be. Sorry.
16 I'll get better at it as we move along.

17 And then the other one -- let me leave it at that
18 because others may have some. If not, I will continue.

19 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. And I believe mind
20 reading may be one of Karin's many talents. So let's see
21 how she does it that direction.

22 Commissioner Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I did hear one
24 thing that was interesting today. We've been always
25 trying to keep our communities of interest together. And

1 there's an issue in terms of, we didn't quite know how to
2 handle the Karuk Tribe up north, in Del Norte, in
3 Siskiyou County.

4 And today we heard from the -- I can't remember the
5 actual -- the vote, the California Vote Native (sic), I
6 think it was, who actually said, they actually had a
7 couple of proposals, and one of which was, take the Karuk
8 Tribe from the western portion of Siskiyou and add it to
9 the coastal.

10 And I was wondering if we might be able to see
11 something like that. Because, again, that was an issue
12 we didn't know what to do, and how to handle that. And
13 that seemed, in terms of the best -- the community wanted
14 to stay together, and we didn't know how. So I'd like to
15 possibly see that. Thank you.

16 CHAIR SADHWANI: Great. Thank you for that.

17 Commissioner Fernandez.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: I wasn't going to comment,
19 but I'm just going to comment to what Commissioner
20 Andersen said. I guess what I heard from that, I did
21 write that down, that the Karuk Tribe, they were actually
22 requesting that the north eastern portion of Humboldt be
23 taken, and put with Siskiyou. And I believe our second
24 caller also said the same thing.

25 So that's not what I was going to talk about, but

1 that's what I wrote down.

2 I'm going to reserve my additional visualizations,
3 because we provided -- or I provided so many last week
4 that I can't remember if they're -- potentially can be in
5 conflict, or what I requested. So I'm just going to wait
6 until this week's -- or next week's, to provide feedback.
7 Thank you.

8 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good, thank you.

9 Commissioner Toledo.

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. And I think I
11 would support Commissioner Andersen's request. I think I
12 agree with that as well. My understanding from the group
13 was that they were going to go back to the Karuk Tribe to
14 see if an alternative proposal would be acceptable as
15 well. But being able to see both them -- you know,
16 keeping them together is a priority, and figuring out
17 where we could keep them together would be -- you know,
18 if we had more options, that's always preferable.

19 Then yes, I was just going to ask if my fellow
20 Commissioners could just add the 'why". You know,
21 because I can't mind read, and so -- I wish I could --
22 but to the request. It's a very short sentence, and it
23 may just be, because of transportation, or because these
24 communities really similar, or whatever it may be.

25 CHAIR SADHWANI: And I think that's a really helpful

1 suggestion, Commissioner Toledo.

2 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

3 CHAIR SADHWANI: Especially given, in light of the
4 conversation that we had had as a Commission yesterday.
5 It's about providing a little bit of additional
6 justification for the requests.

7 Commissioners Sinay.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: My why? I was told right
9 before that I talk too much, so I was trying to be quiet.
10 My "why" on why keep Pendleton, Oceanside, Carlsbad,
11 Solana Beach, and Del Mar, is really because they are
12 along the 5. They are coastal cities, including
13 Pendleton. We forget Camp Pendleton is actually this
14 large swath of ocean that will always -- it's a huge
15 reserve, yeah, that will always be military, even if the
16 base leaves, because there're so many unexploited
17 ordinances, so all of that is critical to kind of work
18 together.

19 And it is a community that does work together, as
20 much as others have been saying Oceanside, Vista, San
21 Marcos, Fallbrook, that way. The real connections are
22 down the coast. Okay. So now, can I go to my other one?

23 Wait, where was my other one? Oh, we have -- no,
24 I've got many. I've got many, but I'm trying -- I've got
25 two pages, but I'm trying to stay focused on -- so on

1 Monday we also heard a lot from communities east of the
2 110. And I just wanted to make sure that we're really
3 looking to ensure that we're doing the best we -- not the
4 best we can, but just really -- I guess I'm looking for
5 some guidance from you all, on how to work with some
6 of -- I mean, how to look at communities east of the 110,
7 as well as South LA, and parts of Central LA.

8 Because we've received a lot of input, and I really
9 want to make sure that in our next visualization, we're
10 at a place that we're all feeling more comfortable.

11 Because I'll be honest, my initial reaction was: Well,
12 I'm not really going to pay that much attention until we
13 get more information. And then, yeah, so it's time for
14 more information. So I'm just asking if we can, at the
15 next visualization, that area can be massaged a little
16 bit better.

17 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good, thank you.

18 Commissioner Akutagawa.

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just wanted to add in my
20 perspective. I do support what Commissioner Andersen
21 said about the Karuk Tribe. The notes that I took, was
22 that we would take from a portion of Siskiyou. And I
23 also want to just note that -- and I know -- and I think
24 this is part of the challenge; we're hearing conflicting
25 testimony, and COI inputs.

1 But we've heard some very passionate -- I'll say
2 very passionate COI input, that the communities along the
3 coast, particularly from Humboldt -- Del Norte to
4 Humboldt, down to Mendocino and Trinity, are very
5 different from the more inland portions of Siskiyou.

6 Although I could support, and it would be
7 interesting to see a visualization that would enable, at
8 the very least, right now for us to be able to see the
9 Karuk Tribe being kept in an entire district. And so
10 even if it means splitting Siskiyou County, that would be
11 interesting to see.

12 I also wanted to just respond to what Commissioner
13 Sinay was saying about the communities east of the 110,
14 and I think this also includes the communities that
15 border LA and Orange County, because I know we're hearing
16 quite a bit, and there seems to be different perspectives
17 in terms of whether some communities should stay within
18 LA County or in Orange County, too.

19 And I think that's going to be the continued tension
20 around that area. I think what I just want to -- just
21 say is, it's also, and I think this was brought up
22 potentially -- I think it was by Commissioner Fornaciari
23 at one point, about who are the people who are calling in
24 and speaking to have certain communities engaged -- or
25 not engaged, but attached to their communities. And I

1 think that that's also going to be important for us to
2 keep in mind.

3 So I want to just reiterate what Commissioner Sinay
4 said in asking people to call in, if you are in one of
5 these communities that is kind of being tossed about.
6 You know, tell us what you want. I think that would be
7 helpful for us because we're trying to really listen to
8 what the communities are saying. Thank you.

9 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. I put my own hand up
10 here in the queue. I had a couple of thoughts. And none
11 of these are completely new direction. I think the
12 refinements and things that we talked about last week.
13 But in some of the areas where I think we were struggling
14 last week, I think we were presented with some ideas
15 today.

16 And so my direction simply would be to take a look
17 at those and see, does that fit with some of the other
18 things that we -- other directions that we've already
19 given as we were stitching together this map.

20 Some of those include, for example, we saw districts
21 in Ventura County that included that corridor from Port
22 Hueneme to Piru. I thought that was really helpful. I
23 remember we had had an exchange about that area last
24 week. I think I think they presented some interesting
25 ideas for us to consider.

1 And so I think it would be great to, you know, add
2 that as a potential scenario for us to look out for next
3 week, which I think was already given. But I think they
4 had some good thoughts there.

5 In South LA, I think we had we had had some
6 conversations about the -- sort of the odd pairing of the
7 beach cities with the more inland areas of South
8 Central -- south in South Central Los Angeles. I think
9 we saw a lot of interesting ideas there.

10 I particularly appreciated some of the ideas brought
11 forth by Asian-Americans advancing justice in that area.
12 I thought it was interesting because they were looking,
13 not only at Asian-American populations, but how to
14 maintain Asian-American COIs, in conjunction with areas
15 that are also more heavily African-American.

16 And so I remember there were some that had,
17 maintaining Torrance, for example, and connecting that
18 to, I want to say Lawndale, but I would mean to --
19 Gardena, and I think I need to go back and look at it a
20 little bit more closely. But I would offer that those
21 were some great options for us to possibly consider.

22 And so I think we are reasonable to work those in,
23 and see what's feasible, and doable with the other
24 pieces, that we have moving, would be really great.

25 Finally, in Orange County, I think we had gone back

1 and forth on a lot of the different kinds of ways in
2 which Orange County could be -- could potentially be
3 examined. You know, I think some of the options that we
4 saw today, including Cerritos and Artesia from Los
5 Angeles, I know Little India, I think, is in that area,
6 for example; and having that come into some of those
7 Orange County districts.

8 I know we had struggled also with the Irvine,
9 Tustin, and Costa Mesa area. We had received a whole lot
10 of testimony on that area also. So I thought that there
11 were some great ideas coming out of that presentation
12 that we could take a look at, and explore further.

13 Commissioner Yee.

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Just to go back to the
15 Karuk submission. And let me share a screen, because I
16 just heard two different ways. I wanted to try to nail
17 that down. I believe the proposal was to keep Siskiyou
18 County together, but at that little corner of Humboldt,
19 the northeastern corner of Humboldt, which has the
20 census-designated place, of Orleans, which is a -- has a
21 population there.

22 So that was -- I believe that was the suggestion,
23 and it was for the Senate plan, but also I think it was
24 the same suggestion for Assembly. But Del Norte is kept
25 the same.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Can I say something on
2 that?

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: Sure.

4 CHAIR SADHWANI: Oh, sure; Commission Fornaciari.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So the notes -- the
6 notes I have is, is that was a suggestion from the
7 California Native Vote project. But the California
8 Environmental Voters, their suggestion was to go into
9 Siskiyou and bring part of Siskiyou to the coast, because
10 they were trying to honor the Humboldt County request to
11 keep Humboldt County whole.

12 And so I mean, what I'd like to see is have the
13 mappers look at both of those options and see -- help us
14 understand what the tradeoffs are; if that sounds okay.

15 CHAIR SADHWANI: That sounds perfect.

16 Commissioner Sinay.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I was curious. Are there any
18 restrictions in us separating the Los Angeles Port and
19 the Long Beach Port? We've heard very clearly from Long
20 Beach, they want to stay together. And now, we're
21 hearing from communities of interest that, well, maybe we
22 need parts of Long Beach, you know, to create VRA
23 communities, or whatever.

24 And so I would like to know if there are any
25 restrictions, or anything that's keeping us from that,

1 because we keep -- we keep saying we're going to do --
2 you know, we want to keep Long Beach together, but if we
3 need to -- we need to understand if that's even legally
4 feasible or not.

5 The other pieces, I just wanted to confirm, because
6 I can't remember what we said and didn't say. And so
7 this is just in general. But I saw it on several of the
8 presentations is -- and the input, is making sure that
9 we're keeping Richmond whole, making sure that Oakland is
10 whole as much as possible, and with Emeryville. And that
11 Pittsburgh, Antioch, and Bay Point stay together as much
12 as possible. And then I have questions for us next --
13 you know, next time we're talking, because I still need
14 some training.

15 CHAIR SADHWANI: No problem. Commissioner Vazquez.

16 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: Yeah. Thank you. I just
17 wanted to add to Commissioner Sinay's point about Long
18 Beach. I agree that I think we should try as much as
19 possible to keep Long Beach together. And I believe what
20 I heard from the mappers in one of our sessions, was that
21 many of the -- or many of the plans that were presented
22 began with keeping Long Beach whole, and extending
23 outward from that presumption.

24 And I just am wondering if we need to provide
25 direction to see a plan that explicitly does not start

1 with Long Beach, because I think all of -- all of the
2 visualizations we saw, did move with that assumption,
3 sort of serving as a primary pivot point for the LA
4 visualizations. So no direction yet, I just wanted to
5 clarify.

6 CHAIR SADHWANI: Jaime, did you want to jump in and
7 respond?

8 MS. CLARK: Yeah, I can. I can clarify that --

9 CHAIR SADHWANI: Jaime, we're having a hard time
10 hearing you.

11 MS. CLARK: Sorry about that. I hope you can hear
12 me better now.

13 CHAIR SADHWANI: Yes.

14 MS. CLARK: I wanted to clarify that keeping Long
15 Beach whole, you know, definitely was not like the
16 starting point, and the ending point. And also based on
17 Commission direction, and really based on public input,
18 we hadn't heard very much about, you know, Long Beach
19 going with Seal Beach, for example. Or other areas on
20 the -- or in Orange County with the exception of, you
21 know, Los Alamitos, Cypress, in some cases.

22 But having heard a ton of input saying, you know:
23 Just put Long Beach with Orange County areas. And so to
24 not kind of create a bubble, where it was like, okay, now
25 what do we do with this population that's in Long Beach

1 that might not have a partner based on your direction.

2 It was kind of like looking at the VRA areas, and
3 then moving population around, in general, to try and
4 maintain as much of your direction, and of course keep
5 all the criteria in mind. So I apologize for any
6 confusion that was caused by that.

7 CHAIR SADHWANI: Commissioner Vazquez, did you have
8 any follow up?

9 COMMISSIONER VAZQUEZ: No. Thank you.

10 CHAIR SADHWANI: You got it. Commissioner Toledo.

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I think we've mentioned this
12 before, but I just wanted to highlight it again. Just
13 the importance of keeping the Asian-American community
14 out in Los Angeles together, specifically the downtown
15 neighborhoods of Chinatown, the historic -- especially
16 those immigrant communities, right; the Chinatown,
17 historic Filipinotown, Koreatown, Little Tokyo, Thai
18 Town, keeping them together as much as possible, in a
19 Congressional district, and other nesting districts.
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. Commissioner
22 Fornaciari.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I just have a general
24 question for our Line Drawing Team. We touched on this a
25 little bit last time. Are there constraints that you

1 feel that you're under at this point that are causing you
2 difficulty that you would like to ask us to revisit?

3 MS. MAC DONALD: Do you mean aside from time?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: That's not our constraint.

5 MS. CLARK: Just answering for myself right now. So
6 much of what is happening in LA County is really driven
7 by Voting Rights Act considerations and -- yeah, so
8 which, you know, isn't necessarily -- I think that that's
9 the driving force behind a lot of like: Ooh, trying
10 really hard, but maybe not able to implement every single
11 direction, or every single wish, of the Commission. But
12 things are going good, and I'm really excited about next
13 week, to present our works in progress to you.

14 CHAIR SADHWANI: Great. Thank you. We are looking
15 forward to it as well.

16 Commissioner Fernandez.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: Yes. Thank you, Chair.
18 Was it yesterday, I can't remember. My days are
19 blurring. I think it is yesterday, Karin, you had told
20 us that next week we'll just have one map to look at,
21 instead of A versus B. I guess my concern right now is
22 if we're providing you with direction to show the
23 Karuk -- the two different scenarios, then that's two
24 different maps.

25 So I am I guess in my opinion, that would be

1 conflicting because I'm expecting to see just one map of
2 Assembly, Senate, and Congressional. But if we're asking
3 you to do two separate visualizations of the same area,
4 that no longer is one map, that's two separate maps for
5 that area. So if you can just clear that for me, that'd
6 be great.

7 CHAIR SADHWANI: I think Commissioner Fornaciari
8 also wants to jump in here, too.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. So I guess what I
10 was asking for was to help us understand what the
11 tradeoffs are, not necessarily to draw two different
12 maps. Does that make sense?

13 MS. MAC DONALD: (No verbal response).

14 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay.

15 MS. MAC DONALD: Yeah. So is that clear? Because,
16 I mean, also we have three plans, right? So it's one
17 visualization for each plan, so you know, if there's
18 not -- if your direction is not specific, when you say,
19 you know, try to do this in the Assembly, or try to do
20 this in the Senate, or try to do this in the
21 Congressional plan, then that gives us the flexibility to
22 try it out in one of the three. And you know, there are
23 some possibilities there, and then at least you'll see it
24 and then we can move from there.

25 CHAIR SADHWANI: Great. Commissioner Toledo.

1 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So I just wanted to
2 acknowledge the great work the line drawers are doing,
3 especially given all of the feedback that they're getting
4 from the Commission. And the challenges, and meeting all
5 of the redistricting guidelines, right, and rules, and
6 our direction has always been, Jaime, and to follow
7 the -- to be in compliance with the Voting Rights Act.
8 So I think you are -- you're doing exactly what we want
9 you to do. And I think it's -- I just want to
10 acknowledge that and thank you for everything you guys
11 are doing. Appreciate it. Bye, bye.

12 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you for that, Commissioner
13 Toledo. I think you're the official cheerleading squad
14 for our Line Drawing Team.

15 Commissioner Sinay.

16 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Jaime, I was going to say the
17 same thing, that we want you to start with the VRA, we
18 all -- that's one of the areas that we're like: Are we
19 you know -- yes, you're doing great.

20 A couple of things, this is going to be unpopular,
21 but I'm going to say it anyway. I've been looking again
22 at all the comments that we've gotten up in the north
23 coastal and inland area, and what's very interesting is
24 if you read them very closely, they say: Please keep
25 Humboldt to Marin, together, most of them. They don't

1 say Del Norte.

2 And I know we had one person call us saying we can't
3 get from Del Norte to Humboldt unless we go -- but if you
4 read the Del Norte ones, they say: We like this idea, put
5 us with Siskiyou. And so if we -- if it does give you
6 more flexibility, I know Del Norte is small, but if it
7 does give more flexibility on how to create the maps, and
8 you know, it doesn't have to be for all three of them.

9 But I just did want to bring that up that I was
10 trying to figure out what the pattern is. And that's
11 kind of where it fell.

12 And I agree with Commissioner Sadhwani; so that's
13 two today, guys, so if you're -- she's not even paying
14 attention to me. But that there were some interesting
15 ideas, I think, for the Central Coast. And that was an
16 area that we were kind of stuck on, especially when we
17 created it from Pacifica all the way down to -- where'd
18 we go all the way down to, Commissioner --

19 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Santa Cruz.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. We went further down than
21 Santa Cruz. We went all the way down to Santa Barbara, I
22 think. Yeah, it was a long -- it was a big -- it was a
23 big district. But I thought that there were some
24 interesting ideas.

25 The idea of keeping Santa Barbara together, and the

1 reasons why, I thought were interesting. And of course,
2 the most interesting, in a way, was looking at San Luis
3 Obispo and connecting it to the Central Valley, to
4 Bakersfield. I don't know how Bakersfield or -- you
5 know, but I just wanted to say that there were some good
6 ideas and I know we were kind of stuck in that area, so
7 feel free to explore what works well.

8 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I will add my appreciation
10 to the Line Drawing Team. So let me just start there.

11 CHAIR SADHWANI: We're going to get you some pompom
12 tomorrow.

13 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes. You could get me
14 pompoms too. And if there was an emoji, I would even put
15 that up there too.

16 I kind of want to follow up on something that
17 Commissioner Fornaciari said. And I'm just wondering,
18 given where we are in terms of the line drawing, because
19 I feel like it would -- there are going to be tradeoffs
20 that we have to make. But the thing is, if we're -- you
21 know, we're quickly marching towards, you know, having to
22 come together around maps.

23 But I feel like there's still some missing pieces of
24 information. And I and I know we've tried to be as
25 intentional and as thoughtful about the numbers, and

1 other things like that. But I guess, for the Line
2 Drawing Team, you know, with what Commissioner Fornaciari
3 said, in terms of understanding some of the tradeoffs in
4 certain kind of choices that are going to need to be
5 made.

6 Is there a way to bring more of those to us, given
7 what's likely been previously conflicting visualization
8 requests; and given where we need to move towards? Are
9 there other ones that it would be easier to bring those
10 to us, and say: We have some conflicts, here are the
11 tradeoffs; can we answer these now? Instead of, just
12 creating full blown visualizations; and I guess that's my
13 question to the Line Drawing Team.

14 MS. MAC DONALD: May I answer that, Chair Sadhwani?

15 CHAIR SADHWANI: Of course. Yes of course.

16 MS. MAC DONALD: I think that's the -- those are the
17 opportunities that we're going to have once we don't
18 have, you know, multiple plans to go through, and
19 multiple visualizations to go through and try to find
20 pages frantically to look at. So I think once we're on
21 one plan next week, that's exactly what we can do.

22 So I think that our team can serve more as a
23 resource to you, and we can have more of a conversation
24 about, you know: You have this idea, okay, so if we
25 implement this, then, you know, X, Y, and Z may be

1 happening, so you know, what is your direction based on
2 that? So I think that's exactly where we're going. And
3 thank you for bringing that up.

4 CHAIR SADHWANI: Mr. Becker.

5 MR. BECKER: Hi. I know there've been a lot of
6 questions about getting a little more direction on VRA,
7 and I wanted to give you an update because -- and Karin
8 has alluded to this a little bit as well. We have
9 completed, it appears, the analysis of racially polarized
10 voting. And when I say "we", I mean, I have had very
11 little to do with it. It is mostly almost all been Dr.
12 Gall. And we are -- she's putting the final touches on
13 kind of the comprehensive analysis. And at the, I
14 believe, October 27th meeting, we'll be ready to go
15 through some of this with you.

16 And so this is going to be where we can talk about
17 the areas where the Voting Rights Act appears to require
18 that the Commission attempt to draw districts that would
19 enable -- that would give the opportunity to particular
20 minorities to elect candidates of their choice.

21 One of the things to keep in mind, and I'm talking
22 about this broadly right now, we'll get into more
23 specifics on the 27th, is there might be places where
24 Gingles 1 is met, meaning fifty percent -- barely over
25 fifty percent of a district can be made with a particular

1 minority population.

2 But it might be, from looking at the voting patterns
3 in that area, that a district would need to be at a
4 higher level to give an opportunity to elect. And by the
5 way, with different minority groups in different areas,
6 that level might be different.

7 We've talked about this before. There are places
8 where, quite frankly, maybe in California, certainly in
9 the country where forty percent minority population,
10 giving crossover patterns is sufficient, there are other
11 places where you need fifty-five percent or higher. So
12 we're going to take a look at this, and give you the best
13 advice we can, and give you as much of this as is in open
14 session as possible.

15 And one of the challenges we'll face, I think, is
16 there might be areas where you can draw a certain number
17 of, barely fifty percent districts, but that could result
18 in virtually no opportunity to elect because that's not
19 sufficient. So you might, in some places, have to draw
20 slightly fewer to enable there to be enough districts
21 that actually could have an opportunity to elect.

22 Hopefully that makes sense. And we'll get into more
23 specifics on October 27th. But I wanted to give you kind
24 of a preview of all that. Does that make sense to
25 everybody? Does anyone have any follow up questions?

1 CHAIR SADHWANI: It looks like -- oh, do you have a
2 follow-up question?

3 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: But it might be too specific,
4 and so --

5 CHAIR SADHWANI: Oh. Sorry.

6 MR. BECKER: I mean, I will tell you if it's too
7 specific.

8 CHAIR SADHWANI: Commissioner Fernandez.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: That is great news. I just
10 wanted to like: Yippee. You know, like fireworks and
11 stuff. So great news that the analysis is done. Now,
12 does that -- and you probably have to educate me on this
13 part of it -- does that also include for a coalition,
14 potential districts, or?

15 MR. BECKER: So coalitions are exceedingly rare.
16 I've made this point before. It may be that where a
17 single minority community does not reach the Gingles 1
18 threshold, and there are no other minority communities in
19 the same area that do reach the Gingles 1 threshold, that
20 it might be possible to build a coalition; and we'll give
21 you some advice on that where that's possible.

22 The hardest -- coalitions are rare because they
23 first need two minority populations, that neither of
24 which fit the Gingles 1 by themselves, to combine to form
25 Gingles 1. And then after that, they need to be very

1 cohesive together, and then everyone else needs to be
2 cohesive against them; if that makes sense.

3 So it is a harder threshold to meet. But we are --
4 there's not a lot of areas where that's a possibility.
5 But we are looking at some areas, and we'll give you some
6 advice on that.

7 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. Commissioner Toledo.

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And my question would be: I
9 recognize there're some areas where the CVAP might be
10 around fifty percent, and not enough to elect
11 individuals. How does the Commission, and maybe this is
12 something that you can maybe think about, and bring back,
13 but how do we take into effect, or can we take into
14 consideration a future, you know, the future trends in
15 population? Or is it something that we can't do?

16 MR. BECKER: No, no, it's -- this is actually a
17 really good question, because in some ways we are looking
18 at the past, because that's all we have, and trying to
19 predict the future based on that. And there are certain
20 areas where particular candidates create a political
21 dynamic that might not be in existence always.

22 I'll give you an example that's not related to
23 California. A Congressman named Sanford Bishop in
24 Southwest Georgia, who's African-American, can use to get
25 elected, in an area where it's not entirely clear any

1 other African-American could get elected. He just
2 happens to be a particularly, really, popular candidate
3 in that area.

4 So that we'll try to take those into account, and
5 that level of specificity will be something that we would
6 need to address in closed session, because it may be
7 something that would be at issue, would be subject to
8 expert testimony in litigation, that level of
9 specificity.

10 But we can, absolutely, in open session, talk about
11 whether we think the Gingles 2 and 3 are met in an area,
12 and getting to that level.

13 And also, I know there has been some discussion of
14 this. Dr. Gall is looking at past elections on the
15 district level, but all racially polarized voting
16 analyses are done at the precinct level. So she has
17 precinct-based data.

18 So there might be areas in which, and we're trying
19 to figure out how best to draw a district, once we
20 determine the Voting Rights Act protects a population in
21 a particular area. There might be areas where we can
22 give advice and say: There are precincts over here that
23 might be more conducive to maybe having slightly higher
24 crossover, or things like that, that we've seen
25 historically.

1 And all of this is: You don't know who the
2 candidates are going to be in the next ten years. You
3 don't know what population mobility trends are going to
4 be in the next ten years. You don't know what birth
5 rates are going to be in the next ten years, although
6 birth rates don't really apply for the next ten years;
7 but whether people who are eighteen are going to move in,
8 in the next ten years.

9 So we're doing the best we can with the information
10 we have. And you should absolutely ask questions about
11 that if you think that's an area that we should be taking
12 into account. But that, again, you want, when the Voting
13 Rights Act applies, and it doesn't apply in some places,
14 and we're going to tell you that, or it doesn't appear to
15 apply, or it doesn't appear to protect a particular
16 minority group; in California, that's usually for the
17 very good reason that non-minority members are very
18 willing to vote for the minority candidate of choice. So
19 that's a positive thing.

20 But where a minority group is protected by the
21 Voting Rights Act, we'll try to give you advice along
22 those lines, and give you options.

23 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you.

24 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. Commissioner Akutagawa.

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you, Mr. Becker, for

1 what you've shared with us so far. I just want to make
2 sure, going back to the very beginning of what you were
3 talking about, in terms of, you said that there might be
4 some places where Gingles 1 is met, and then in some
5 places, you know, to be able to meet at least the minimal
6 requirements of Gingles 1. And then you might need to
7 go -- we might need to go higher in terms of our
8 minority, I think CVAP I believe is?

9 MR. BECKER: Yeah, higher or lower; and yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Higher or lower depending
11 on what it is. I want to -- I think I want to just
12 clarify, or make sure I'm understanding it correctly.
13 And then also for the benefit of maybe others who are
14 also having the same question too.

15 Let's say that in an area where we have to go a
16 little bit higher to achieve the kind of CVAP that we
17 need to achieve, I guess the, VRA district -- and I'm not
18 sure if I'm actually asking it correctly -- but if we
19 need to go higher, that means -- the way I'm translating
20 it is that we'll need to draw the district lines in such
21 a way that enables us to get that higher number.

22 And then that means that in other places then it's
23 not exactly "packing", I don't think, but it also means
24 that in another area, like an adjacent area that would
25 neighbor that district, their CVAP of minority voters may

1 go down because more needs to be pulled. Am I explaining
2 it right?

3 MR. BECKER: Now, so I think what you're getting at
4 is a really important point, which is that, this is
5 constantly a balance. I mean, we are balancing a variety
6 of things constantly, and you can see this in the
7 visualizations that the line drawers have already
8 created.

9 We're trying to figure out ways to keep communities
10 of interest together, but what happens when communities
11 of interest cross county boundaries, right? Those are
12 two equal criteria under the California Constitution, and
13 so we're trying to figure out how to balance those things
14 out.

15 I mean, that really constructive conversation we
16 just had about the tribe up in Siskiyou and Humboldt
17 Counties, and how to balance out those factors. It's
18 very, very similar here.

19 So in most of these places there will be some
20 tradeoffs. And one of the things California Constitution
21 does for you, which is really good in the context of
22 Voting Rights Act, is it tells you the Voting Rights Act
23 takes precedence over the other criteria, with the
24 exception of equal population. And within the Senate and
25 the Assembly, equal population, you have some flexibility

1 of plus or minus five percent legal -- the ability to
2 waver within it. With Congress, it gets a little more
3 difficult.

4 Now, the other thing is, you know, when we're
5 drawing the lines, and I'm sure you know, Karin, as
6 always, Karin, I'm going to ask, if I say something that
7 makes you scream, or is wrong, you're going to just jump
8 in, and tell me to shut up immediately.

9 It's not like there's a magic number. And even the
10 fifty percent number isn't a magic number. Remember,
11 those are preconditions. There's a reason they're called
12 "preconditions". They're thresholds. They get you in
13 the door. All you have to do is be able to show that a
14 minority can form a majority in a district. You have to
15 show that they're cohesive. You have to show that others
16 are voting cohesively against them.

17 But at that point, that doesn't tell you how to draw
18 the district. That just tells you that you're supposed
19 to try to draw a district. And then you have to see what
20 the voting dynamics are. There are variables here in
21 terms of registration rates, participation rates,
22 political dynamics, that might go on in a certain area.

23 So we're going to do our best to advise you. And
24 yes, there will be -- there'll be some tradeoffs to be
25 made while respecting the constitutional hierarchy that's

1 been established in law.

2 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And I have one more follow-
3 up then, just for additional clarification. We could be
4 looking at some districts that have a minority-majority
5 population, but because the non-minority voters are
6 willing to cross over and potentially, vote for that
7 minority candidate, even if there is a minority-majority
8 population, it may not necessarily signify that this is a
9 VRA district?

10 MR. BECKER: Right. Thornburg v. Gingles is very
11 clear. It doesn't protect minorities -- the Voting
12 Rights Act doesn't protect minorities who don't need
13 protection. And we judge that based on what has
14 happened, historically, in past elections. In
15 California, California is a place that has progressed
16 amazingly since 1965, and even since 1980s, I mean,
17 we're -- and there are places where, absolutely, I think
18 it's very likely we'll be able to say: Gingles 1 can be
19 met, but Gingles 2 or 3, or in many cases both, aren't.

20 And so this is not an area that the Voting Rights
21 Act requires a district to be drawn. Does that mean you
22 can't draw a district without the other criteria that
23 have -- that happens to be majority-minority? No,
24 absolutely, you can. You just have to take in the other
25 criteria that's not a racial consideration.

1 It may be that -- in fact, it may be that it's hard
2 not to draw one, as you take into account the cities, and
3 the counties, and the political boundaries. And that's
4 completely fine. It just means that the Voting Rights
5 Act wasn't the reason that you had to do it. Does that
6 make sense?

7 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

8 MR. BECKER: Okay.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

10 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. Thank you.

11 Commissioner Fornaciari.

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. First off, I want
13 to thank you for this conversation, on behalf of the
14 Commission and the people of California. Because we've
15 been at it for fifteen months; we've given numerous
16 presentations, each one of us, and we've talked about the
17 Voting Rights Act, and we still have lots and lots of
18 questions about it. And you know, it's -- even with all
19 the training we've had too, we still have lots and lots
20 of questions.

21 So I think it's a great conversation that we're
22 having for the people who are involved in this, and in
23 watching this, that they can help -- help them understand
24 what it's all about, and the complexity that we're trying
25 to deal with here. And so thank you for that.

1 I think you've kind of already answered this in the
2 questions that Commissioner Akutagawa, and other
3 questions. But when you started, you said that there
4 might be some cases where the minority is forty percent,
5 and there's enough crossover vote to enable them to elect
6 the candidate of their choice. So then that wouldn't
7 qualify as under the -- under Gingles 1?

8 MR. BECKER: So the level of crossover vote, so
9 remember, we're looking at old districts and old
10 precincts, the level of crossover vote that's -- and by
11 the way, these are all -- we're using statistical
12 methodologies to estimate this, because we don't have
13 everyone's vote.

14 But we've gotten pretty good at this. So what we're
15 doing is we might find an area where Gingles 1 is met,
16 where Gingles 2 is met, the minority group is cohesive,
17 and Whites are voting 80:20 against the minority
18 candidate of choice. And I'm speaking hypothetically
19 now.

20 I think one of the things you're all going to really
21 enjoy is, is next week we're going to move from the
22 hypothetical to the practical in a very -- in a really, I
23 hope, useful way. But if it's like 80:20, that's
24 probably still cohesive Gingles 3 polarized voting
25 against the minority candidate of choice.

1 Now, however, when we look at some of the precincts
2 and we start drawing which precincts come into a
3 district, we might find precincts where thirty percent of
4 the White population might be more likely to vote instead
5 of ten percent, because we're looking at the overall
6 district, right.

7 So we might be able to find precincts where it
8 appears the crossover vote is a little bit higher. And
9 so that will help us determine how to draw a district
10 that neither packs nor cracks, because this is really,
11 we're getting back into balancing. Because on the one
12 hand you want to have a district that gives minorities
13 the opportunity to elect candidates of their choice if
14 they're protected under the Voting Rights Act, but you
15 don't want to pack them into a district that might affect
16 their ability to influence or elect district candidates
17 in other districts, neighboring.

18 And unfortunately, people don't all live in, you
19 know, nice squares that we can just put together like
20 LEGOs. And I hope, hypothetically, that answers your
21 question.

22 We're going to get into some specifics that I think
23 will be helpful. One of the things, so far, that I've
24 seen, I'll tell you again to tease this out, is there --
25 we have not -- it's pretty clear where Gingles 2 and 3 is

1 met, it's pretty clear where either one or both is not
2 met, and there's not very many places where we're having
3 to kind of discuss a potential gray area, which is good
4 news, I think. Because there are some -- you know, if
5 you have enough elections, or not enough elections, you
6 can often get to places where we just don't know what's
7 happening here, really, because we have a long-time
8 incumbent who hasn't had opposition, and you know,
9 something like that.

10 Fortunately, I think we're seeing we're seeing some
11 pretty clear data here that I hope -- hopefully we'll be
12 able to help you -- to help direct you.

13 CHAIR SADHWANI: Thank you. Commissioner Yee.

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Continuing on the same line
15 of thought, thinking about the remedial phase, let's say
16 we've gotten to a point where we're trying to draw a
17 district. And you mentioned that, of course, there's the
18 CVAP, but then all the other factors registration rates,
19 turnout rates, the degree of racially polarized voting,
20 the crossover vote rate.

21 So could you say just a little bit more about how,
22 when we get there, we'll actually -- I mean, we'll
23 actually do the math on all those variables; or how does
24 that work?

25 MR. BECKER: Yes. There would be a lot of math for

1 you all to do. No the --

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That may be a good thing.

3 MR. BECKER: So a lot of that is baked into the
4 racially polarized voting analysis already. So if we
5 need -- and there will be -- there might be times you
6 will have questions, and we need to dig deeper into the
7 numbers to get at some of those things. But there's also
8 going to be times where it's really not that hard, you
9 know.

10 And I think there's also relevant testimony that
11 might come in, that might help advise us on this. If
12 there are members of the minority community advocacy
13 groups who are saying, you know: We think this is the
14 level at which to set a district here, that's relevant.
15 It's not dispositive, but it's relevant.

16 And so to be able to get that information, take that
17 in, we'll look at the racially polarized voting analysis,
18 we'll be able to see are -- is there a disparity between
19 the Latino and White voting rates based on historical
20 patterns? We also have the totality of the circumstances
21 we can look at.

22 And there's broad history in California that we can
23 go to, to look at historical discrimination. There are
24 areas where discrimination, in the last fifty years, has
25 been -- has had more of a negative effect, has been more

1 somewhat more prevalent than in other places, and with
2 regard to different communities, and we can talk about
3 those things.

4 Now, if the Gingles -- three Gingles pre-conditions
5 aren't met, we don't -- we'll need to get into that. But
6 if they are, then we can discuss that a little more to
7 see. Or if there's a -- or if we think it's a, somewhat,
8 gray area and we need something to tip the balance one
9 way or the other, we can discuss that as well.

10 COMMISSIONER YEE: So at some point, I guess, we
11 will be trying to construct effective opportunity
12 districts; is that the right way to say it? And is
13 there -- I don't know -- how clearly is that defined? I
14 guess, is what I'm getting at. You know, how do we know
15 when we've created one?

16 MR. BECKER: We do the best we can given the data
17 that we have available. So what we'll be looking at is,
18 again, those historical voting rates, precinct-based
19 analysis aggregated up to the existing districts that we
20 have. We will look at -- I mean, we may be able to look
21 at political dynamics.

22 There are places where there's something unique to a
23 district that's happening that we want to discuss. There
24 may be candidates that share identity with some of the
25 racial community that end up being outliers. There might

1 be candidates that appear to share identity with members
2 of the minority community, but aren't, and those
3 elections might be outliers.

4 Again, I hate to be cryptic here, because we will
5 talk about this more, once Dr. Gall has completed. But
6 those are all things we'll take a look at. And then
7 we'll do the best we can. And if we're going to err,
8 we're probably going to err slightly on the side of
9 making sure that an opportunity to elect is not diluted;
10 but always with that attentiveness to potential packing
11 in our mind.

12 CHAIR SADHWANI: Commissioner Turner.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Thank you, Chair. I wanted to
14 go back, and you may have said this, but I want to
15 confirm and have it clear in my mind, Mr. Becker. You
16 talked about Gingles does not protect minorities that
17 does not need protection, and the voting rights district
18 may not be needed based on voting patterns, tracts, all
19 of that.

20 I guess in the back of my mind, I'm holding what I
21 heard in some of the testimony today that lifted as a
22 flag, one of the visualizations that would, potentially,
23 put what was previously a protected area into -- or I
24 think it was one of the previous areas, that was a CVAP;
25 you know, that was a protected area, that now, based on

1 our visualization, where actually, was putting it in an
2 area where there were precincts that were voting against
3 minorities.

4 And so the question I'd have is, is that as we move
5 forward in the process, will there be an opportunity to
6 do kind of like a post-VRA analysis to be sure that our
7 proposed maps that we're creating won't cause an issue
8 where there previously wasn't one?

9 So I know you're doing analysis with -- based on
10 what's going on now, and I would -- wanting us to be
11 cautious. That that intrigued me, that says that one of
12 our proposals, based on voting patterns actually would
13 draw in districts that was, intentionally, voting against
14 minority voters.

15 MR. BECKER: So yeah. That's actually a really good
16 question. So first of all, I should be clear, the Voting
17 Rights Act always protects minority voters. In the
18 redistricting context it requires the three pre-
19 conditions before a particular minority population in a
20 particular area requires a district to be drawn where
21 they have the opportunity to elect. So we're really just
22 talking about how it works in redistricting here.

23 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

24 MR. BECKER: I wouldn't call it post-analysis. I
25 think we're doing -- we're going to be doing that as we

1 go to make sure. I would be very surprised if you didn't
2 get submissions, or comments, that might have been
3 directed at a particular location, unintentionally, but
4 would have Voting Rights Act implications, if applied
5 without further balancing.

6 I guarantee you, you've had some had something like
7 that, that that's absolutely happened. So I think when
8 we're -- when you all are giving instructions to the line
9 drawers, after the advice that we're going to be able to
10 give you, we should absolutely consider that. And you
11 should be asking us to do this along the way.

12 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh.

13 MR. BECKER: You know, take a look at -- one of the
14 things we know, not all minority populations, even within
15 a particular minority group, are the same throughout
16 California or throughout a region. Not all White voters
17 are the same throughout California or throughout a
18 region.

19 So there are different precincts, there are
20 different areas that might vote in different ways. And
21 we're going to do our best to give you advice on that,
22 because the main goal of the Voting Rights Act, once
23 we've determined that protections apply to a particular
24 community, is that we do our best to draw a district that
25 gives them the opportunity to elect a candidate of their

1 choice.

2 And so we're going to need to constantly ask those
3 questions. My guess is there might even be the point in
4 time where we're getting down to a very granular level on
5 the data to see what, you know, what's best here, how
6 can -- you know, what particular precincts and census
7 blocs are we going to include to also give as much weight
8 as possible to other redistricting principles, while
9 maintaining the Voting Rights Act?

10 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah.

11 MR. BECKER: The primacy of the Voting Rights Act
12 over those other redistricting principles.

13 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yeah. And if you'll allow me
14 a little bit more on that. So I'm saying "post", and yes
15 I think -- and I know we want to do that as we go along,
16 but I know we'll get to a point where we'll be grabbing
17 population to balance out on districts. And as we're
18 grabbing populations, I won't have the voting history
19 analysis based on who I'm grabbing, necessarily.

20 And so I'm saying "post", so that as we're balancing
21 out numbers, if I'm pulling numbers out of a district
22 that has a voting history one particular way, will I know
23 it? Or will that automatically flag somewhat?

24 MR. BECKER: So as we're doing that, you can always
25 get the demographics, which will be helpful because we're

1 going to have some -- we'll have a pretty good idea of
2 what voting looks like within certain areas, and the
3 precinct geography in the census geography doesn't always
4 align. In fact, it rarely aligns, if I'm remembering
5 correctly. So you're going to be looking predominantly
6 the census geography, because that's going to have the
7 best demographics. The precinct lines are going to be
8 redrawn once you draw the districts.

9 But we'll do our best to give that to you. I mean,
10 if there's, you know, it's conceivable there might be an
11 area with a minority population in the middle, and on one
12 end there is a White population that is a little more
13 prone to crossover voting. And on the other end, there's
14 a White population that's less prone to crossover voting.

15 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

16 MR. BECKER: And I hope we'll be able to give that
17 to you based on the analysis that we've run. And does
18 that -- is that the kind of question you're asking?

19 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

20 MR. BECKER: Okay. Yeah.

21 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes. Thank you.

22 CHAIR SADHWANI: Great. Commissioner Toledo.

23 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. One of the -- I
24 guess my question is, in the past you've mentioned how
25 diverse California is, and just the dynamics in

1 California a little bit different than the rest of the
2 country. And so one of the questions I have around
3 crossover is, in districts where -- and we have seen
4 quite a -- couple of districts where their
5 majority/minority almost -- and actually the districts
6 are almost, very few White voters are in them, right?

7 MR. BECKER: Uh-huh.

8 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: We have very few. So when it
9 comes to those districts, is crossover voting still -- is
10 it the nonprotected? I guess, how do we calculate
11 crossover voting?

12 MR. BECKER: Yeah. We've had --

13 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Is it the White voters not
14 voting for the minorities? Or is it the nonprotected
15 minorities; are those factored in as well?

16 MR. BECKER: So this is -- and we've talked about
17 this a little bit before, the Supreme Court has not
18 definitively ruled on this, but I think it's pretty
19 clear, that if a particular single minority group
20 satisfies the Gingles preconditions in totality of the
21 circumstances, they're entitled to the protections of the
22 Voting Rights Act, and an attempt to draw a district that
23 would enable them to elect a candidate of their choice.

24 If the rest of the population in that district is
25 multiracial in a different group, and they are voting

1 cohesively against that candidate of choice, I believe
2 that satisfies the third Gingles precondition.

3 And I think the -- I think that the massive weight
4 of the law is in favor of that. And so it might be that
5 minority group A satisfies Gingles 1 and Gingles 2. And
6 minority groups B, C and the White community all don't
7 vote for the minority A candidate. Maybe they vote for
8 different candidates, but they don't vote for the
9 minority A candidate; then, I think that -- I think that
10 satisfies Gingles 3, and entitles them to protections
11 under the Voting Rights Act.

12 In which case, we would then look at the voting
13 patterns to see, in the remedial phase, as Commissioner
14 Yee was mentioning, in the remedial phase: What do we
15 have to draw to give effect to the protections that they
16 enjoy under the Voting Rights Act?

17 And then we are going to get into some -- I can tell
18 you the analysis we have, it looks at Latino vote, Black
19 vote, Asian vote, White vote, separately. So we're going
20 to have an idea of that. And there are places where the
21 White vote and the minority vote, is very cohesive
22 together.

23 It's kind of exactly what, you know, many of us hope
24 the Voting Rights Act would lead to. People are voting
25 for candidates based on merit, not based on race; there

1 are other places where that's true; but there are places
2 where minority group B might vote with minority group A
3 pretty regularly, but minority group C and the White
4 community are voting in a different way. And we'll have
5 to take that into account.

6 And we'll give you that advice. We will get into
7 that level of detail, probably in closed session, because
8 like it's really detailed in some of these areas. Where
9 we can we're going to try to do this in open session as
10 much as possible. And I think I think that -- I think a
11 lot of that will be able to be done in open session.

12 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Appreciate that; great
13 explanation.

14 CHAIR SADHWANI: Very good. Any final comments,
15 questions, or direction to line drawers?

16 With that, we will not be taking public comment at
17 this time. We're going to hold that -- oh.

18 Commissioner Sinay. Sorry about that. Always
19 having the last word.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No. You will have the last
21 word.

22 CHAIR SADHWANI: All right, okay.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Just, Andrew, when we're
24 looking -- I think, Andrew, you're doing San Diego. When
25 we're looking at parts of the east county, especially El

1 Cajon, can we try to -- there're the hills and then
2 there's the valley in El Cajon, and that's why it's
3 called "a drawer", "El Cajon". And if there's a way
4 to -- I don't know if you can figure out where the lines
5 are, or if we need to put it out there for the public,
6 for the public to share with us how they define "the
7 hills" versus "the valley"? I think demographically
8 they'll definitely be wealthier individuals live in the
9 hills and the valley.

10 MR. DRECHSLER: Yes, we will definitely look at
11 that. And if there's clarification that we need, we will
12 come back to you during tomorrow's session and ask for
13 that clarification.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. And one of the hard
15 things is that is the second largest Chaldean Community.
16 But as we know, Middle Eastern communities don't have --
17 don't show up on the census. So just using demographics
18 that say "White" isn't going to -- doesn't give the full
19 picture.

20 MR. DRECHSLER: Okay.

21 CHAIR SADHWANI: I think on that, we've received a
22 fair amount of communities of interest testimony in
23 identifying some of those communities, yeah. So we can
24 probably rely on that.

25 With that, this brings our day to a close. Behind

1 the scenes this afternoon, Andrew, from our staff has
2 been taking notes. In the past we have read those notes
3 out in live session. We're actually going to hold on
4 that. We're going to switch up that format just a little
5 bit, and on Saturday we'll be reviewing the written
6 notes. They will be posted on our website. And we will
7 be taking a motion to approve them on Saturday.

8 With that, we are in recess until tomorrow morning.

9 Thanks, everybody. Have a good night.

10 (Whereupon, the District Map Input Meeting
11 adjourned at 6:00 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, of the videoconference recording of the proceedings provided by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.



May 18, 2023

DELORIS GAUNTLETT, CDLT-257