

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023

9:30 a.m.

Reported By:
Bruce E. Carlson

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J. Kennedy, Vice Chair
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner
Jane Andersen, Commissioner
Alicia Fernández, Commissioner
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner
Patricia Sinay, Commissioner
Pedro Toledo, Commissioner
Angela Vázquez, Commissioner
Russell Yee, Commissioner

STAFF

Corina Leon, Staff Services Manager
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel
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Wanda Sheffield, Office Technician
Kevin Healy, IT Consultant

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator

ALSO PRESENT

ASL Interpreter
Captioner

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENT

Sofia Quinones, East LA Boyle Heights Coalition

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P R O C E E D I N G S

9:30 a.m.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Good morning, California. I hope the New Year is progressing well enough for everyone.

I just want to say before we get started, while turmoil might appear to be all around us, there's always a bright horizon to work towards. So anyone experiencing any hardship, or challenges, or struggles as we see on the news, we wish them well.

It is February 10th, 2023, at approximately 0930 hours. And I would like to call this meeting to order.

My name is Derric Taylor. I'm your rotating chair for this meeting, along with Vice Chair Ray Kennedy.

Wanda, can you please call the roll?

MS. SHEFFIELD: Yes. Good morning, everyone.

Okay. Commissioner Toledo.

COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Turner.

Commissioner Vázquez.

Commissioner Yee.

COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Ahmad.

I have Commissioner Akutagawa.

1 Commissioner Andersen.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

3 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fernández.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Presente.

5 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Fornaciari.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

7 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Kennedy.

8 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Here.

9 MS. SHEFFIELD: Commissioner Le Mons.

10 Commissioner Sadhwani.

11 Commissioner Sinay.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

13 MS. SHEFFIELD: And Chair Taylor.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Wanda. I am present.

15 We can begin with, are there any Commissioner
16 announcements, anything Commissioners would like to say,
17 or advise us of, or inform us of over the last month or
18 so?

19 Commissioner Sinay.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Chair. I just
21 wanted to let everyone know that February; my fellowship
22 has started with How Women Lead, and the core of -- it's
23 a Latina cohort from all over the Americas, so it's very
24 exciting. They're all social impact leaders. And the
25 intensive part is this month, and it's 8 to 12 Mondays

1 and Fridays.

2 So I'll be in and out today, but I will be back all
3 afternoon. And the reason I'm sharing is just because
4 this is the -- my project is with Common Cause and
5 promoting Independent Redistricting Commissions
6 nationally. So it does link back to the work that we've
7 all been doing.

8 And I've had an opportunity several times to talk
9 about the work we did together. And that's why I'm mushy
10 right now, is that yesterday someone really got me going,
11 asking me questions. And I had to say that in this world
12 of turmoil, it was an honor to serve with you, and in
13 California, and see what democracy is really about, and
14 hear from Californians, and see how messy and beautiful
15 it all is. So thank you.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay. Any
17 other announcements, any other statements from
18 Commissioners?

19 All right. It looks like we're ready to dive into
20 the day's meeting. So from there, then we'll go to
21 agenda item number 2, and admin updates.

22 Corina? Corina, I think you're on mute.

23 MS. LEON: Thank you. Is that better? Thank you,
24 Chair Taylor; and good morning, Commissioners. Good to
25 be here.

1 I wanted to start off with just mentioning that
2 Commissioner -- or the Executive Director Alvaro, he has
3 been offboarded. And we have hired a retired annuitant,
4 Kevin Healy, who is present here today, and we've hired
5 him to assist the Website Subcommittee with determining
6 the data storage options for our website and COI data.

7 Kevin, are you? Okay. He'll be on soon. And
8 then -- oh, there you are. Hi, Kevin. I wanted to
9 introduce you to everybody.

10 MR. HEALY: I'm here.

11 MS. LEON: Hi. So Kevin is here to help us, or help
12 the Website Subcommittee with data storage options. The
13 other thing I wanted to share is that we've made a lot of
14 headway with the UI and data storage. Commissioner
15 Andersen has been leading us with that, and we've had
16 several meetings with Analytica. And we're pushing along
17 in finding homes for our data and how we're going to
18 access that, and that's coming along, made a lot of
19 headway there. And Commissioner Andersen will share a
20 lot of that during the Website Subcommittee.

21 The other thing I wanted to mention is the website
22 is coming along well. Martine (ph.) is I'm getting all
23 the videos posted in that. We have found we're ready to
24 go through ADA, a scan for compliance, ADA compliance for
25 our website. And Commissioner Andersen and I, we may

1 need a -- we will need accessibility, website
2 accessibility person to help with that because a lot of
3 the documents may need some work. So I have recommended
4 somebody that's a web Accessibility SME. She has a lot
5 of experience with websites and with that -- in
6 particular website accessibility, that was her
7 responsibility with Department of Education.

8 So I was going to -- I wanted to ask the
9 Commissioners' permission to hire her to help out with
10 that effort. BCP, we had a meeting yesterday with DOF,
11 and I thought it was very promising, and Commissioners
12 Fornaciari and Fernández will be speaking to that.

13 Working on the interagency agreements, being that
14 we're, you know, downsizing so much, we're working that
15 out. It's a little bit new to the DGS, so been working
16 with Jaime Tovar so he's been helping out with that
17 effort for HR, Budget, Accounting, and OBAS, and legal
18 services for the work -- if we have new contracts. So
19 those should be in place in a week or so.

20 And then I'm contacting the DGS leasing agent to
21 work out the rental if -- I'm hoping that they see
22 that -- to extend the courtesy of providing us office
23 space. So I'm working on that.

24 And then I think the last thing I wanted to mention
25 is TECs, I believe we have those up to date. And if

1 anybody has any questions to please let me know, and
2 we'll take care -- Wanda and I will take care of that.
3 Thank you.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Any questions related to
5 our admin update, or for Corina?

6 Oh. Commissioner Kennedy. Go ahead.

7 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. Corina, can you just
8 give us a little more on the office space; because I
9 guess I thought that was already taken care of?

10 MS. LEON: Sure. I've contacted Nathan (ph.), and
11 he wasn't involved, so he referred me to a gentleman with
12 DGS. I just talked with him this morning, so he referred
13 me to another person. So I'm kind of following. I don't
14 know if -- they haven't asked us to pay rent. I haven't
15 seen anything, but I want to make sure and confirm that
16 it's going to be extended as a courtesy. I'm just
17 looking for confirmation for that.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Corina. Any follow up,
19 Commissioner Kennedy? Or you've got the answer you're
20 looking for?

21 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: (No verbal response).

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Any other admin
23 questions?

24 All right. Corina, it looks like we are off the
25 hook.

1 MS. LEON: Thank you.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: And we'll move on to our Chief
3 Counsel update. Counsel Pane.

4 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Good morning, Chair. Good
5 morning, Commissioners. I did want to give you a little
6 bit of a brief update since our last meeting. Continue
7 to have discussions with the Attorney General's Office,
8 just working out some various details, and trying to
9 address the questions that you all have asked. So
10 continue to chase, chase us down to work with them to get
11 to a finalization.

12 Commissioner Kennedy highlighted a -- introduced a
13 bill that -- with the U.S. Congress requiring the use of
14 Independent Redistricting Commissions, it's H.R. 157. It
15 was just introduced, and so I will monitor that
16 legislation and inform all of you as changes occur.

17 With that, I don't have any other announcements.
18 But I'm happy to answer any questions anybody has.

19 Commissioner Fernández.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Good morning. Thank you.
21 Anthony. I did have a question, because I really
22 appreciate you monitoring these bills and kind of keeping
23 an eye out. And so with your discussions with the AG's,
24 Attorney General's Office, is that a service that they
25 would also provide to us? I mean, is that activities

1 that they would provide?

2 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Good question. I do. I do
3 think they would. Yes. And yes, I will make sure that
4 that's something that is within their purview. But it
5 is. They, typically, will monitor State Legislative
6 bills, but certainly they also keep an eye out on related
7 Federal bills for client -- departments who are relevant.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. A follow
10 up on that, I thought they were not going to give a
11 specific person. So how would that occur, you know, if
12 they're following the bill? I thought that would have to
13 be at least one person to kind of continue following
14 these things. I was not under the impression that that
15 was what the AG did, or would do for us at all. It was a
16 very specific case-by-case basis.

17 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Well, what would happened, I
18 think, is the arrangement sort of is taking shape a
19 little bit, is there is an ask for legal services, and
20 then we find out from them who -- we certainly could ask
21 for a dedicated person, but they wouldn't, at this point,
22 dedicate a particular individual who everybody could go
23 to. So what we would do is we would -- there would be a
24 single attorney who would maybe receive all the incoming
25 requests from the Commission. And then, depending upon

1 availability and who the AG dedicates, or may be a person
2 to address a particular question.

3 So if there was an interest in looking at or
4 monitoring bills, the AG's Office may dedicate a
5 particular person to just that function and inform the
6 Commission, as needed, on those. In addition, what may
7 end up happening, as an alternative, is if that's
8 something that's within the portfolio for the Commission,
9 the attorney that represents or participates in the
10 Commission meetings as part of the -- you know, the
11 counsel report, could also provide a summary on whatever
12 bill is relevant for the Commission at that point.

13 So I think there's a couple of ways the AG's office
14 could do it. I can't speak for them exactly how. I
15 don't have an answer as to exactly how they would do it.
16 The most they would provide for me at this point is to
17 say they would run -- they can't say right now that it's
18 a dedicated attorney, but what they would say is, they
19 would receive the ask, the legal service request, and
20 then they would be in contact as to who could work on
21 that.

22 And that may be one attorney all the time, the same
23 attorney. And we would certainly put in a request for
24 that. But it may also not be. But they would do that.
25 I mean, they -- summarizing, or otherwise, providing

1 advice on interpretation of legislation is something that
2 they could do.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, just a quick
4 follow-up on that. What, would we have to bring it to
5 them, to their attention with: Hey, follow this, follow
6 that, or you know, you often find things that we don't
7 necessarily know about, and bring to our attention. And
8 then, too, on that, I was not clear that they would be
9 sending an attorney for our meetings? I didn't think
10 that was ever a possibility.

11 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: No. I think there're sort of
12 two Commissioners, there's about two -- well, there could
13 be more areas, but certainly one of the areas that I've
14 had discussions with them is on Bagley-Keene. So they
15 would absolutely have someone support the Commission
16 during Commission meetings, and provide any related
17 advice during Commission meetings.

18 They just wouldn't be able to say at this point who
19 that person -- who that attorney is. But that is
20 definitely something that I've been discussing with them
21 about, is one major area where the Commission needs legal
22 assistance.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

24 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. Commissioner Kennedy.

25 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I'm wondering. This may

1 not have come up yet, but if they could set up a single
2 email address to which any legal query, or request that
3 we had could be directed, and then they could direct it,
4 or they could give access to that account to anyone who
5 would be handling that, but so that we, essentially,
6 would have at least a virtual single point of contact for
7 legal support.

8 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you. Yeah. I will
9 definitely mention that as a way to do things.

10 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernández.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Thank you,
13 Anthony, for working with them. And you know, it sounds
14 like there's going to have to be some back and forth, and
15 maybe a list of -- initial list of services that we would
16 need. So hopefully, maybe you're working with Corina on
17 that so that we have something in place moving forward.

18 You know, as we get down to just Corina, at some
19 point we're going to -- we're going to need to make sure
20 that she's in the loop, included in the loop and with the
21 communications. And I know she has been in the meetings
22 with the -- that you've had with the Attorney General's
23 Office. So I'm also, maybe, hopeful that, is the AG
24 willing to, like, for our future meetings for the -- at
25 least until the end of the fiscal year, even though

1 you'll be here, maybe also attend. Just so that they
2 know and see maybe what some of our questions are, what
3 some of the support that you provide, so that they're
4 familiar with the type of services that we would require.
5 Thank you.

6 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Definitely noted. I will make
7 that request to them.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Any other questions for
9 Chief Counsel Pane? And Counsel Pane, you should
10 consider all these queries, a compliment. We're trying
11 to find the same level of service we've had over the past
12 in our new status. So yeah, we're --

13 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: -- we're looking for that quality
15 within that allotment of legal hours, so we're
16 struggling. Any other questions?

17 Thank you very much, Chief Counsel Pane.

18 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Kristian, if we can open up the lines
20 for public comment regarding agenda item 2, which is our
21 admin updates and our Chief Counsel report.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing, Chair.

23 In order to maximize transparency and public
24 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
25 taking public comment by phone. To call in dial the

1 telephone number provided on the live stream feed, it is
2 877-853-5247. When prompted, enter the meeting ID number
3 provided on the live stream feed, it is 85436289451 for
4 this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant ID
5 simply press the pound.

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

14 Please make sure to mute your computer or live
15 stream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during
16 your call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert
17 for when it is your turn to speak. And again, please
18 turn down the live stream volume.

19 And there's no one in the queue at this time, Chair.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. We'll give me the moment
21 for it to catch up -- I mean, mesh.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And those instructions
23 are caught up, and there is no comment in the queue.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian. We will move on
25 to our subcommittee report, agenda item number 3. We

1 will begin with the Finance and Administration Committee,
2 which is Commissioner Fornaciari and Commissioner
3 Fernández.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Neal will start.

5 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: And I was too quick on the
6 button there.

7 So let's see. As Corina mentioned, we met with some
8 folks from the Department of Finance yesterday. And the
9 meeting went very well, I think. So we met with three
10 folks, Charles LaSalle (ph.), who is the analyst who is
11 working on our program, Emma Chung-Wirth (ph.), who is
12 his supervisor, and kind of temporarily in charge of our
13 work. And actually there, Emma's supervisor, Amy Jarvis,
14 who is a -- I see her title here -- she's a program
15 budget manager, so she's pretty far up the ladder in the
16 Department of Finance.

17 So what we did is we gave them a bit of background
18 and context about, you know, how we see the Commission as
19 an ongoing entity. We want to continue to work with the
20 work we want to continue to do is, we posted a document
21 that we shared with them just for FYI purposes. And so
22 we shared that document with them, and spoke to the work
23 that we're proposing to do over the next several years,
24 and then tried to justify why we need the additional
25 approximately a couple hundred K to do that work.

1 And so we went through our speech. And then there
2 were a number of questions, especially from Amy and Emma,
3 and you know, really good and thoughtful questions by
4 them. And I think that they're -- I mean, I think they
5 had a lot better -- I mean, clearly, they have a lot
6 better understanding of what we're proposing to do, and
7 why we're proposing to do it, and what is the legal basis
8 for us to continue to work. I mean, that was one of the
9 first questions.

10 As you know, there was a thought that we were just
11 close to be done once the maps are done. But we shared
12 with them the legal language that indicated that we can
13 continue to work, and then the basis for what we want to
14 do. And then there was a question about the Legislature,
15 and does Legislature know what we're doing.

16 And I'm going to turn that over to Commissioner
17 Fernández to share her response, right.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. So they did ask us
19 that question, and since I'm also part of the Legislative
20 Subcommittee, I did let them know that we do have some
21 partners that we work with. We have a scheduled meeting
22 every two weeks. We meet if we have to. If we don't, we
23 cancel it. And so they are -- I did let them know, that
24 they are aware of our desire, as a Commission, to
25 continue to move forward, and to continue to build up the

1 future Commission, the 2030 Commission, so that they can
2 spend more time on redistricting, versus setting up the
3 office, and hiring, and staffing, and contracts, and
4 outreach, and education.

5 So they were a little surprised that we are in
6 contact with the Legislature. And I did let them know
7 that we were successful in the last cycle, where we did
8 have a bill that was -- that passed, having to do with
9 our state incarcerated population. But I think that's
10 good that we let them know.

11 And also the document that, and Commissioner
12 Fornaciari noted that we shared with the Department of
13 Finance, we also posted that as a handout, so that the
14 Commissioners would be aware, and the public would be
15 aware of the information that we have forwarded to
16 Finance.

17 I think that -- and they did say, I believe, they
18 would let us know -- Commissioner Fornaciari, in March,
19 early March?

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Uh-huh. Yeah. They were
21 treating the conversation that we had with them as a
22 formal request because they're doing a spring revise or
23 something like that, right now. It's going on right now,
24 this week they're due. And so they're just going to
25 treat the conversation as if we submitted a formal

1 request, and they're going to actually run it up the
2 flagpole, the conversation, up to their leadership and
3 potentially to the Governor's Office to kind of get their
4 position on it.

5 But they were very interested in where the
6 Legislature was with regard to what we're planning to do.
7 And that's the question to Commissioner Fernández. If we
8 had -- if the Legislature was aware, or whatever, and you
9 know, they were kind of, I think, a little bit maybe
10 surprised that we have a biweekly meeting with the
11 Legislature, but that the Legislature is aware.

12 And I kind of get the feeling that, you know -- that
13 they feel like we're sort of an odd duck here with regard
14 to how this all works, compared to all the other
15 government entities, or the other entities they work with
16 in State Government. And so there was an interest in
17 where the Legislature stands on this. And you know,
18 maybe we can, you know, get them all on the same page,
19 and they will enable us to move forward with our proposed
20 work. And we should know for --

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And I just want --

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: -- March.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. And I just wanted to
24 clarify, when I say "Legislative", it's Legislative
25 staff. We do not meet with any members, any elected

1 officials. So I just want to make sure that the public
2 is aware that it's the staff that we meet.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Uh-huh.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And then besides the
5 meeting with the Department of Finance, which actually is
6 very -- it's a crucial -- it's crucial that we find out
7 if it's a yes or a no. And I think one of the other
8 subcommittees would go into that further.

9 But we also, Commission Fornaciari and I also met
10 with Corina and Alvaro, and we are -- we're working on
11 the report that we're mandated to forward to Department
12 of Finance and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by
13 the end of the -- excuse me -- by the end of the fiscal
14 year. And that would have the budget information for the
15 last couple fiscal years, and that information would be
16 forwarded to them. And theoretically, that would be used
17 to fund the future Commission.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So one of the big
19 things we're waiting on, on that, is the information from
20 the State Auditor, and on the money they spent, and how
21 they spent it, and we're not going to get that info
22 until; May?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: May.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah?

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So it's due in June, so.
2 But we'll work -- we worked on the draft before Alvaro
3 left, and so we we'll continue to refine it, and get a
4 draft out to you all to review and provide feedback on.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Do we have any questions
6 for our Finance and Administration Committee?

7 Already we have one. Commissioner Andersen, go
8 ahead.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: First of all, great job.
10 And thank you very much. I know this is taking a lot of
11 time, and effort, and thought to how you can just get up
12 there and say everything that you need to say. So thank
13 you.

14 A quick question: Did they ever discuss about why
15 they're kind of, like, at the gate telling us what we can
16 and can't have. I mean, you know, that's always struck
17 us as, the Legislature has already approved it, the money
18 has been approved, yet they're sort of reappraising it.
19 You know, we have often talked about how that's not being
20 appropriate. Did they happen to even mention anything
21 like that?

22 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Commissioner --

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We didn't ask them that
24 part. We're just trying to get the BCP approved.

25 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So I think, Commissioner

1 Andersen, I think part of that is due to the language
2 that's put in by the Legislature into the budget bill
3 that funds the Commission. And so normally the way it --
4 and Alicia, correct me if I'm wrong here -- but normally
5 the way it works is a -- the department will work with
6 the Department of Finance on a proposed budget. They'll
7 go back and forth, and then that budget goes to the
8 Legislature. The Legislature approves it, and that
9 department gets all their money.

10 But the Legislature, in this case, didn't want
11 fourteen newbies running amok with state money, and
12 spending it all like, you know, drunken sailors or
13 something. And so they put language in there that said,
14 the Department of Finance will have the authority to dole
15 the money out as they saw fit.

16 And so you know, that's a big part of it. And so
17 you know, I mean, that's potentially something that we
18 could work on for next time around and demonstrate that,
19 you know, the Commission is able to manage the money
20 effectively, and maybe we cannot have that caveat in the
21 language down the road. But you know, down the road.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: And Commissioner Fornaciari, that's
24 an interesting caveat, in that every ten years you get
25 fourteen new drunken sailors, so.

1 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Right. Yeah. And so
2 maybe I mean -- so that's something, you know, that we
3 can think about is how, how can we propose to, you know,
4 define fully functional in a way that the -- that the
5 Legislature is comfortable that we -- that there are, you
6 know, people in place who understand State Government
7 enough to manage the Commission effectively.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much. Any other
9 questions for our Finance Committee, Finance
10 Administration Committee?

11 All right. With that, we're going to continue to
12 move forward. The pacing is wonderful. And I shall turn
13 it over to our Lessons Learned Subcommittee.

14 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Chair. And thanks
15 to those colleagues who have gotten comments to us, both
16 Commissioner Yee and I are, I guess, working at outside
17 jobs, real jobs these days, but still trying to devote
18 some time to Commission business. So we are digesting
19 and figuring out how to handle the input that we have
20 received so far.

21 For those of you who haven't, I would say you're not
22 entirely off the hook, in that we would still be happy to
23 have your input if you have any to give. Just because
24 the 20th of February has come and gone -- sorry -- 20th
25 of January has come and gone, doesn't mean that we can't

1 take input that we haven't yet received. So if you are
2 interested in providing input and haven't yet, please do,
3 and we still anticipate having this, not necessarily
4 ready for voting by the March meeting, but certainly
5 before the end of the fiscal year, we do anticipate
6 having this report ready.

7 It is quite a -- it is quite a beast. Seventy-five
8 pages, approximately, is the body length. Once we add
9 all of the appendices, and then we plan to add to it, I
10 would estimate another fifty pages, at least, of
11 appendices. So we're talking probably 125 to 150 pages.

12 You know, the purpose of this was always to give the
13 2030 Commission a single source for as much information
14 as we could put together that would help make their lives
15 easier. So I'm not surprised with the length of it. And
16 hopefully when the 2030 Commission comes around, they
17 will indeed find it useful.

18 Commissioner, Yee.

19 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. Commissioner Kennedy.
20 Indeed, January, we put the revising on pause, waiting
21 for input, and we do appreciate the input that's been
22 coming in, and definitely welcome further input. January
23 20 was -- you know, used to be a deadline just to get a
24 deadline out there. But Commissioner Kennedy and I were,
25 otherwise, employed for most of January, and so February

1 is the big revision month, and our goal is to get a next
2 draft -- at least the next draft out by the March
3 meeting, depending on what the input looks like and how
4 realistic that will be. We've also been promised a
5 significant input piece from -- our friends at NALEO, so
6 we're looking forward to that and there may be others as
7 well coming.

8 By the way, some of the comments, you know, point
9 out that we really need a strong executive summary, and
10 that's absolutely true. And we did not even draft one
11 yet, because it just seemed like something that could
12 wait until we had a better sense of the whole scope of
13 the report. So we definitely intend to feature that in
14 the next draft.

15 Also late breaking, I'm sure you all saw Alvaro's
16 significant Executive Director report, that draft that
17 came out just last night, or that I saw just last night,
18 and I'm kind of curious what other people think the
19 future of that should be. You know, it relates to the
20 Lessons Learned report in a lot of ways, quite a bit of
21 overlap in some ways.

22 It's not quite a finished product. It could still
23 use some revision and proofreading, I think, but should
24 that just simply be a standalone, something that exists
25 in our archives? Or what should we do with that; any

1 thoughts?

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy, then
3 Commissioner Fornaciari.

4 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. And this is, in part,
5 why I had asked, several meetings ago, that he submit it,
6 initially, to the Lessons Learned Committee because it is
7 so closely related to the Lessons Learned report.
8 Unfortunately, we did not get that submitted to the
9 Lessons Learned Subcommittee first.

10 I mean, there were certainly very useful information
11 in there. I would say that, you know, it really opened
12 my eyes on a number of fronts. It also confirmed
13 something that I had said a couple of times along the
14 way, which was that I wish we had gotten some of this
15 information in the form of more detailed reports from the
16 Executive Director as we went along.

17 And I think that -- you know, probably prompts me to
18 add something to the draft Lessons Learned report about,
19 you know, the Commission may wish, they don't have to,
20 but they may wish to provide the Executive Director with
21 a reporting template, to ensure that they get at least
22 certain minimum items reported back to them.

23 My feeling was always that we got answers to
24 questions, but if we didn't have questions, we didn't get
25 nearly as much reported to us as I would have liked in

1 order to follow what was going on. Like I say, the
2 report itself really, I think, is valuable, and I think
3 we could -- we could probably both include it as an annex
4 to the Lessons Learned report, but also do our own
5 summary of it as, perhaps, a separate standalone
6 document. Thank you.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fornaciari.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I think,
9 Commissioner Kennedy, really, really great points about
10 reporting, and what the expectations of the next set of
11 Commissioners might want to have with regard to
12 reporting. So I can -- I'm going to just try to speak to
13 Alvaro's intent on this document. And it was, his intent
14 was as a stand-alone document for the next Executive
15 Director and team to have to -- you know, kind of a
16 reflection of what happens behind -- in the back office.

17 I haven't had a chance to look at it yet, so I just
18 want to respond to Commissioner Yee's question about what
19 we should do with it, and just share his intent. But
20 then I'm not sure who we want to have, you know, do some
21 editing on it, to get it to a final state and -- I don't
22 know.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you for all the
25 comments so far. The one thing that I read, I was struck

1 with almost immediately, is all the things that are in
2 this Executive Director's summary, before Alvaro came on
3 board, are wishful thinking, specifically about what the
4 role the California State Auditor did, because it's
5 basically incorrect all the way along. This is more like
6 for Lessons Learned, these are things we would have liked
7 the State Auditor to do, but they did not.

8 Like, you know, in terms of: Oh, they supported us
9 through this, they supported us through that. No. That
10 is not what happened. I mean, there was some -- I was
11 skimming through this, and I thought: That's not right.
12 That's not right. And that's not right. You know, that
13 would be nice. And you know, the idea that the
14 biggest -- one thing he put in there, the biggest reason
15 why we had such a problem getting documents out and
16 things, is because the Commissioner didn't understand
17 state procedure. That wasn't the case at all. It was,
18 we only had two staff, period. That was it.

19 And you know the eight -- from the time we all
20 became fourteen, we really had no other use of the State
21 Auditor. And that's what Commissioner Kennedy kept on
22 saying: We need to be fully functional. We weren't even
23 close. And that really struck me as, for Lessons
24 Learned, we really need to read back and go: That would
25 be nice. That would have been nice. And request these

1 from the State Auditor.

2 It was such a -- it really opened my eyes to Lessons
3 Learned from back at that time, which as times moved on,
4 you know, I sort of had forgotten about it. So I would
5 like us to take some of the -- you know, the first eight
6 to kind of go through that and go: That's not what
7 happened. And revise it. And so even if just really for
8 Lessons Learned, but also for correct -- just for it to
9 be correct.

10 And then, so I also thought about; who edits this as
11 a -- it was an issue. I am not sure who ultimately
12 oversees this, except that I do see this as a Lessons
13 Learned item. And there's one other item, I can't think
14 of right now, but that was what struck me is, it was a
15 great summary document, or it needs to be corrected for
16 historical purposes, because to be accurate, and then
17 also to be included in the Lessons Learned, I think.

18 So I kind of like it as a stand-alone document, as
19 an insert, so it's an appendices, say, in the Lessons
20 Learned document, but it does need to be corrected. So
21 thank you.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernández.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you, Chair. I have
24 not had a chance to review it. Commissioner Fornaciari
25 and I -- I know we had forwarded like this three-page

1 document a couple of months back. And I had to respond
2 and say: Actually, what we really want is all of this
3 other information in terms of back office. So I was
4 hoping that it would have been forwarded prior to him
5 leaving, so that we could go through it, so Commissioner
6 Fornaciari and I could go through it. We could provide
7 feedback.

8 I'm really -- I'm challenged right now. I'm torn.
9 I'm torn right now of editing someone's document. So for
10 sure I'm going to review it, but I don't feel comfortable
11 editing somebody else's document, because that's from his
12 perspective. We can do a rebuttal or some other
13 documentation where we disagree. But I just -- I don't
14 know, because he's not here. Unless he's willing to --
15 if we call him and if he's willing to take some of our
16 suggestions and change his report, but at the end of the
17 day, it's his report. It's not the Commissioners'
18 report. I guess that's how I see it.

19 And so I would opt to have it as a stand-alone
20 document that this is from his perspective as the
21 Executive Director. I really, again, I wish that we
22 would have had an opportunity to provide feedback, and
23 maybe some back and forth. And potentially, we could
24 reach out to him to see if he's still willing to do that.
25 But at this point, I'm just hesitant to make any changes

1 to his report. Thank you.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And if I can take a
3 moment, I would agree wholeheartedly with Commissioner
4 Fernández. I would think it's a stand-alone document. I
5 wouldn't want to edit his perspective, views, words on
6 any form if we chose, or have a rebuttal, or if we wanted
7 to address something that was factually inaccurate. I
8 think that's how we would address it as a rebuttal. But
9 I'd be against changing his is words or views. Editing
10 for punctuation would be one thing. Editing his ideas, I
11 think is a -- or his perspective I would not be in
12 agreement with. Thank you.

13 Commissioner Kennedy.

14 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: So it sounds to me like we're
15 probably actually closer to a path forward on this than
16 we might be thinking, because, you know if -- my initial
17 sense was, let's have it as an appendix, but let's derive
18 a document from it. So the document that we derive from
19 it can be, yeah, our word rather than his words. So we
20 edit his for grammar, et cetera, but we leave the
21 thoughts as they are and then come up with a -- a shorter
22 document that is our views on what he put forward;
23 include both of them with the Lessons Learned report.

24 And the one thing that I would say is, if Admin and
25 Finance, as the subcommittee that probably worked most

1 closely with him on all of the admin and finance stuff,
2 could take a first shot at coming up with a document with
3 points where we might see things differently from him,
4 and then share that with Corina, and then Corina can
5 bring it to the attention of the Lessons Learned
6 Committee and Subcommittee, and we can go there. That's
7 how I would see it. Thanks.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee.

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, that
10 sounds good to me. I think Lessons Learned, we can
11 certainly do the proofreading. But for input, I'm
12 wondering even -- I mean, if just raw input from those of
13 you who want to comment on it, and just include that, you
14 know, as an appendix to that appendix. Maybe because,
15 you know, we may not even all agree exactly on how to
16 respond to different items in his report. So just to
17 include those raw comments, and may or may not be worth
18 the effort to come up with a fully digested, fully
19 edited, fully approved response document that represents
20 all fourteen of us.

21 As long as -- as long as the content is there, you
22 know, anyone who's really interested will find it. And
23 you know, it just might be easier to get collated
24 responses rather than a fully digested and rewritten
25 consensus document to respond to his report. That's my

1 thought.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. The one
4 thing I think we, sort of out of respect, we owe Alvaro a
5 chance to -- you know, so the time before he was there
6 it's not -- it's not his fault that he had made certain
7 assumptions and things, because he had to make
8 assumptions on what happened there.

9 There's a whole section about what he thinks, and
10 what would have helped, and that's totally opinion, and
11 that's fine. But there's a lot of things which just are
12 factually incorrect. And I know if I wrote a draft and
13 gave to someone and it had factually incorrect
14 information, I would really appreciate a chance to
15 address that.

16 And I think, you know, given all the time Alvaro
17 spent with us, he deserves that. Now, whether he has
18 time to do it, and he says: Hey, sorry, I don't know.
19 But we get direction from him because I -- you know, it
20 clearly says "draft" all over it as well. So to take
21 that and just put it in without going back to him and
22 saying: Hey, you know, sorry that didn't happen, this
23 didn't happen, you know, that wasn't what happened, you
24 know, certain things like that.

25 Now, he'll say: Well, so-and-so told me, you know,

1 that's what it was. And if he wants to say that's what I
2 want to keep in that's -- it's his document. But the
3 other items which I don't know if they'll: Oh. Whoops.
4 Okay, I didn't know that, I didn't know that. And as I
5 said, if it was my document, I sent a draft to someone
6 and then they just published it knowing information in it
7 was incorrect, it would really bother me.

8 And so I think we owe Alvaro, you know, out of the
9 time he gave us, the chance to have a relook at this
10 document. Then we can do whatever, we're saying, I agree
11 with the rest.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other comment?

13 So Commissioner Andersen, maybe to your point, would
14 you suggest that we would extend to Alvaro an opportunity
15 to submit another draft?

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Or you know, certainly
17 we can get in touch with him. I mean, I can write a few
18 things that, you know that I, I know are correct. You
19 know, this is given, you know, the time before he was
20 hired, there are certain things he said, you know: The
21 State Auditor did this, and this, and this, and that's
22 not true. It was basically, you know, Raul and -- oh,
23 dear, I'm blanking right now. Our two staffs who did,
24 and walked us through all of this.

25 COMMISSIONER YEE: Marian?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And there are, you know,
2 there are certain things -- yeah, exactly. And there are
3 certain things that, you know, it makes sense that he
4 assumed we had staffing people to help us do that, but we
5 did not. And that makes -- the reason why this is
6 important, is because if an Executive Director assumes
7 that: Oh, well this, see, we got this, this, and this,
8 that is not the way it's going to be in 2030, unless we
9 can change it.

10 They will be once the eight are set, they're turned
11 over to other people -- or to other people that don't
12 work. But the training we did as the full eight, that
13 was not with the State Auditors, that was with Raul
14 and -- anyway, I'm blanking.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Marian.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Marian, yeah, Marian,
17 exactly. And who brought in, you know, the stuff that
18 was set up, the canned presentations. So it's a -- it
19 would be a disservice to the 2030 if we leave -- the
20 Executive Director says: Oh, see, this is already in
21 place for us, where it is not -- for the 2030, when it's
22 not. So that's, yeah, that's another reason why I
23 want -- I'd like it to be accurate. And I'd be happy to,
24 you know, jot some things together. I would ask some of
25 the other -- the first eight as well, to help on that.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Toledo.

2 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah. I'm just struggling
3 with asking a former employee to take time to work on
4 this without compensation. So that's my biggest concern.
5 You know, working through some of these edits and
6 working -- getting some feedback to him, I think that
7 would be great if we are able to somehow compensate him
8 for the time. And I'm not sure how, or if he's willing,
9 and whether we could do that.

10 That being said, I also would feel uncomfortable
11 editing somebody else's work because it is, specifically,
12 from his perspective. And until there's that, an
13 iterative process of giving feedback, and I think we
14 just -- or we weren't able to give that feedback prior to
15 his departure. So that's my two cents. Thank you.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Kennedy.

17 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I mean, I understand
18 where Commissioner Toledo is coming from. But you know,
19 going back to what Commissioner Fernández said, the Admin
20 and Finance Subcommittee did try to get a more
21 substantive report from him early enough on, that we
22 would have had time to have this done, quote/unquote, "on
23 the clock", and or that when -- in a way, I feel like
24 we're due this one way or another. And you know, yeah,
25 being able to compensate would be nice. But you know, in

1 a sense, we we've already paid for it. I'd like to get
2 what we paid for. Thanks.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you.

4 Commissioner Fernández.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I agree with Commissioner
6 Kennedy. But I feel at this point, honestly, like to try
7 to go back and forth with Alvaro, and try to get edits, I
8 feel it may be more appropriate to just take his
9 report -- his report. It is how it is. And if there are
10 some factual inaccuracies, then we can state that on an
11 addendum, or some other page.

12 I don't -- I just feel we take it, and we just move
13 forward with it. And of course I'll review it. And I
14 hope that the rest of you review it as well. But again,
15 it's his report from his perspective. So for me, it's
16 hard for me to say what his perspective was, because it's
17 his perspective, right. It's like telling someone their
18 opinion is wrong. Well, it's his opinion? It's not
19 wrong. So that's just how I'd say we should move
20 forward.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Ahmad?

22 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. Just chiming in on this
23 conversation, I think you should just take what we got
24 and move forward. I think it's completely inappropriate
25 to contact a former employee to do work for us in this

1 case. I just imagine if any one of my former employees
2 called me to finish some type of something for them, I'd
3 be like: What the hell? Not okay.

4 So I think we should just take what we got. And I
5 think it's, this point has been brought up multiple times
6 already. This was his perspective, and there's truth in
7 his perspective as well. And he didn't write this
8 document for the Commission, he wrote it for the next
9 Executive Director, which is a different role than what
10 we played in our past here. So I just wanted to chime in
11 there.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Commissioner Yee.

13 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. Appreciating everyone's
14 input. And you know, I'm thinking, you know, and
15 Commissioner Andersen is completely correct. You know,
16 we don't want to mislead the next ED. You know, we can
17 put comments even in brackets, right, editor's comments
18 in the text, I mean, that's not inappropriate, I think.
19 So why do we do that? So that it's unmissable, you know,
20 by somebody actually reviewing -- reading the thing.

21 So yeah, I think there's certainly ways that we can
22 simply comment and respond to points that need additional
23 factual input that would make it clear, and without
24 changing his actual text and just making it clear what's
25 his, and what's not.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

2 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I mean, that that sounds
3 like a good approach to this. I like also Commissioner
4 Fernández's suggestion basically of kind of an errata
5 document might not -- might be more than one sheet, but
6 you know -- but whether we -- whether it's a separate
7 document, or whether we incorporate it as footnotes or
8 bracketed texts, I think we're on track, and we know how
9 to move forward with this. Thank you.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. Yeah, as
12 I'm the one who sort of brought up this, and I think
13 I'm -- I've probably read a bit more of it than most.
14 And I'd really like, because there are sections where
15 it's absolutely you know, I think this, and this, and
16 this, the next director, da, da, da, da, da; and which is
17 all very interesting, and you know, that's the stuff, his
18 opinion, and it's absolutely valuable, whether or not
19 like, well, maybe I wouldn't agree with that. But so
20 what?

21 And then, but there're factual things which were
22 incorrect. What I really liked about Commissioner Yee's
23 proposal is to put those corrections right there in that
24 document as a errata, that would be very valuable,
25 because what I don't want to have happen is the next

1 director say: Look, we don't need that because we already
2 have this, and that's a -- which we don't have.

3 And I like it. If it's another document that can
4 get lost, if someone is going to go: Here's the Executive
5 Director Summary, and just read that and think it's
6 correct factually. You know, and it's very different.
7 There are parts where it said, will actually say: This
8 happened, this happened, this happened. And then he
9 says: And what will be helpful is, da, da, da, da, da.

10 So he really does kind of make a difference in what
11 he's saying as fact, and what are his opinions. And I
12 really think it would be valuable for the next director
13 to make sure that the facts are there. Also
14 additionally, because these, some of the items which
15 aren't correct are items which we are trying to make
16 Legislative changes on, so I think it'll be very valuable
17 to have it in the document.

18 I really appreciate Commissioner Yee's idea. That's
19 a very, very good one, to get around it.

20 Additionally, I would like to contact Alvaro to let
21 him know what's going on, and give him the opportunity,
22 because I have been, as a former employee, contacted on
23 previous jobs for questions, and clarifications, and it's
24 sort of a -- it's a courtesy almost. As an engineer, if
25 another engineer comes and works on something that you

1 did, you, as a courtesy, contact them. It doesn't mean
2 they change anything, or whatever, but it's just a
3 courtesy.

4 I understand Commissioner Ahmad's idea, like: Wait,
5 they want to call and do what? No, it's more of a
6 courtesy, which I would -- I would like us to do, so.
7 And thank you very much, Commissioner Yee. That's a
8 great idea.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other question or comment?

10 So I do think that this is embedded in the Lessons
11 Learned Subcommittee. I agree with Commissioner Yee's
12 suggestion, and I think that we, as Commissioners, after
13 reviewing the documents should provide feedback en masse,
14 so that it is a cumulative product, and not piecemeal
15 from each one of us.

16 What would you need from us, Commissioner Yee? What
17 direction, or where would you like to -- where would you
18 like to go?

19 COMMISSIONER YEE: Well, I guess just to settle that
20 this is being assigned to Lessons Learned, and that we'll
21 receive feedback through Corina, and make good use of it.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: That's it. That's where I land,
23 settled in Lessons Learned, and Commissioners review the
24 document, provide the feedback to Corina, or funnel to
25 the Lessons Learned Subcommittee. And you guys have more

1 work.

2 And any other -- any other questions for the Lessons
3 Learned Subcommittee?

4 Thank you. I mean, Commissioner Kennedy,
5 Commissioner Yee, a wonderful job, you guys. It's
6 something to emulate. I appreciate the work project.

7 COMMISSIONER YEE: It's a lot of work, but it -- you
8 know, it's truly a pleasure, because I just love our
9 story. Every which way I can find to tell it, and retell
10 it, I'm happy to do, so.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Going once, going twice.
12 This committee's report is sold.

13 On to the Website Subcommittee, myself and
14 Commissioner Andersen; Commissioner Andersen has been
15 doing a lot of the technical heavy lifting. So I'm going
16 to turn it over to her, and Corina, and Martine, and
17 Kevin, and it's a growing group.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. Thank you, Commissioner
19 Taylor. Yeah. Commissioner Taylor has been very
20 gracious and makes everything if he can. I mean, sort of
21 getting into the weeds with the whole group, as
22 Commissioner Taylor just said. And it's a really good
23 thing we have, because there are many items that have
24 arisen which we didn't know about.

25 Now, first of all what I -- okay, I want to talk

1 about three different things. The first one is the ADA
2 compliance. And then the second is the companies that
3 we're sort of going with, or we're proposing to go with,
4 the software, that sort of thing. That's essentially the
5 user interface, the data. And the third will be the
6 Senate deferral maps. And I'm going to have
7 recommendations that -- actually, you know, the
8 Committee, so recommendations for each of those items.

9 And number one, I want to talk about the ADA
10 compliance because -- and the recommendation on this is
11 that we hire another RA whose specialty is ADA compliance
12 for websites. And there, just briefly, I think it has to
13 be very brief because we all know our website must be ADA
14 compliant. And it turns out, you know, we're -- we have
15 been busy moving content from our existing dot-org
16 website to the dot-ca.gov website.

17 But it turns out that Martine, for all the work
18 he's, been doing is wonderful, is not knowledgeable about
19 ADA compliance. So he's been moving all the content, but
20 that does not mean it's ADA compliant. There's a whole
21 other step involved, and it turns out there are -- so
22 what one needs to do is evaluate an entire website as it
23 stands, make modifications in it to be ADA compliant.

24 Then, every document that you then bring in, and
25 update, and to put on, anything you post on your website

1 requires, essentially, like to -- you know, to be
2 screened, sort of. You have to have tags and things put
3 on it. It isn't just what font are you using, what
4 size -- you know, what style, and size, or font, you
5 know -- or margins. It's more than that.

6 And while we have Corina, who excels at, you know,
7 all things technical, this is not her expertise. And we
8 really need to hire someone who, this is their expertise.
9 And I'm going to -- the reason why I'm going sort of --
10 make a little stop right there is, to do this we would
11 need to have a vote. And I don't know if we want to do
12 this now or we want to talk a little bit about later.
13 But I'm concerned because it would be a special vote.

14 So Corina, could you please give us a little bit
15 more information on this -- oh, I do see that
16 Commissioner Fernández has a question.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes, go ahead.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Actually, not a --

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes, go ahead, Commissioner.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Actually, not a question --
21 okay. That's what I was going to say. If it's hiring
22 personnel, we don't have a supermajority right now. But
23 if it is a personnel services contract that can be under
24 10,000, then I do not believe it requires a supermajority
25 vote. I was trying to give you options. How's that?

1 MS. LEON: Yeah.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: But I'm sure, there may be
3 other options too, those of the two that I know of.

4 MS. LEON: Okay. I think we do have -- I mean, I
5 think we have the special -- for the special vote. I
6 believe we have the numbers for that, if we wanted to do
7 that but we --

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We're missing -- we only
9 have two Democrats on right now.

10 MS. LEON: Oh.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Can we phone a friend.

12 MS. LEON: Kennedy --

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We possibly can?

14 MS. LEON: Yes, actually, Commissioner Turner gave
15 me her number to call her if she needs to be on. So the
16 web SME that I know -- I get that she's been -- that was
17 her specialty was web accessibility. She took care of
18 all the Department of Education. And there're certain
19 tools, there's three tools that are required to do this.
20 And I think -- do you want me to go into the cost of
21 those, or is that something different?

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, I don't think we
23 need to do that --

24 MS. LEON: Okay. Yeah.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- right now to --

1 MS. LEON: So there's three tools that are required.
2 And you know, she would come on board and just, you know,
3 assist Martine, and work on that part of the website, and
4 getting that compliant. So there are tags and that, that
5 need to be put on the documents before you post them, on
6 PDFs and that -- and that's what she would work on, is
7 strictly that part of the website, and making sure it's
8 also meeting state standards as far as the look, and
9 everything.

10 So she's very familiar with all of that, and she's
11 very good, very reliable. I've worked with her on
12 several projects myself. So I do recommend her as a
13 person that could take care of this for us.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And then one thing I'll say,
15 the bonus is, and then she would also visually train
16 Corina.

17 MS. LEON: Yes; on those too, yeah.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: To then, how to -- yeah, how
19 to use this, you know, the different software, there are
20 actually three different softwares involved.

21 MS. LEON: Yeah. And I'm familiar with two of them.
22 So I've done a little bit of it, but she's very fast.
23 She's fast, and she can get this done before June. You
24 know, she can get this done for us.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And that's the other reason

1 is -- that we're recommending to actually hire the
2 person, is because between now and June -- well, actually
3 in terms of moving forward with UI project, and that sort
4 of stuff, the website has to be ADA compliant, and we are
5 trying to make sure that everything we put onto this also
6 works. We don't want to have to then, after the fact, go
7 back and try to modify it, so it's all ADA compliant.

8 So getting her on board, doing this quickly now is
9 the most -- one, it makes the most economical sense
10 because, Corina does not know this, and would have to
11 take a lot longer to do it. Where if we hire someone
12 who, this is their expertise, we can essentially work
13 with an expert on it, and then learn from that in half
14 the time. And we need to do it in half the time, so we
15 have time to finish the rest of it before the end of
16 June.

17 MS. LEON: Okay. And that we do need to have a
18 Website Accessibility Certificate attached to our website
19 by July 1st. That's a requirement as well.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: So the recommendation is from the
21 Websites Subcommittee is that we hire a SME -- I just was
22 looking for a chance to say "[shm-ee]", hire a subject
23 matter expert for website accessibility, correct?

24 MS. LEON: Correct.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Now, does that vote need to take

1 place in closed session, as it is, it's a personnel
2 matter.

3 MS. LEON: That's what I understand Anthony -- from
4 Anthony that it does.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: And so my understanding is that we,
6 tentatively, in our pre-meetings, we had thought that
7 that vote would take place at 1:30 when we had sufficient
8 Commissioners to conduct that vote; does that sound
9 correct?

10 MS. LEON: Yes.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay. So for the moment, we are
12 going to -- so we have a -- do we need a motion to go
13 forward for that?

14 MS. LEON: Uh-huh. Yes. A motion and a second
15 motion. Okay.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: We need a motion and a second, for
17 that hiring -- hiring proposal, correct?

18 MS. LEON: Uh-huh. Yes. That's my understanding.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: So I'm anticipating a motion from
20 Commissioner Andersen, which I will probably second.

21 MS. LEON: Yes.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: And that's from the Website
23 Subcommittee?

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. I move that we
25 authorize Corina to hire an RA in a -- a SME, in the

1 field of the ADA compliance for the website.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: And I would second that. Any
3 discussion? Commissioner Fornaciari.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: So yeah, I was just
5 wondering, that was a question I was going to ask. This
6 is an -- this would be an RA position?

7 MS. LEON: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Okay. So we should --
10 well, actually doing the vote -- so we'll vote -- I
11 propose we vote in closed session on this. So is that.

12 MS. LEON: Uh-huh.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Does that --

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Taylor; is that
15 correct?

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah. They were just trying to get
17 the procedure correct. Is the close session on the
18 hiring of the person, and the motion for the acceptance
19 of the role?

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. Correct.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: And we have Anthony here with his
22 hand up; thank you, for a little bit of guidance.

23 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Good morning. Yes. So I
24 think, I think what Corina is asking for is a motion to
25 proceed with that. The actual vote would be a personnel

1 matter voted, meaning with a supermajority in closed
2 session.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. So with that, I'm
4 modifying my motion slightly. I move that we proceed --
5 allow Corina to proceed with the hiring of an RA for this
6 SME position for the ADA compliance of the website.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And I accept the
8 amendment. So any further comment?

9 Kristian, can you open the line up for public
10 comment as it relates to the motion on the floor?

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing, Chair.

12 The Commission will now take public comment for the
13 motion on the floor. To give comment, please call 877-
14 853-5247, and enter meeting ID number 85436289451. Once
15 you've dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the
16 comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at
17 the beginning of the meeting and are provided on the live
18 stream landing page.

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

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And let me know when the
22 feed has caught up to us.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Those instructions are
24 complete, and there is no one in the queue.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Copy. So now we vote on proceeding

1 forward with this. It's not a hiring decision, correct?

2 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: So I think -- if I could just
3 jump in here. I think what Corina is trying to do is
4 just to get a sense from the Commission that this is
5 something that you would do in closed session.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes. Yes.

7 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: That's all this is. It's
8 really a preliminary step.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Got it. Got it. So then we will
10 move forward with the vote in closed session.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Then, I'm going to
12 move on to -- thank you very much, everybody. The next
13 item is actually specifics with the user interface, the
14 data, and even our maps.

15 Just briefly, you know that we're talking about
16 using Snowflake for holding our data, and Analytica was
17 the company we've hired to, essentially, build our user
18 interface. And in working with the two of them, it turns
19 out that Snowflake is not appropriate at all. We moved
20 into a contract, the emphasis being security and
21 maintenance, but what they do is they actually are very
22 secure. And yes, they maintain their things, but secure
23 to a level of, say, hospital data, individual hospital
24 data.

25 Our data is actually public data. And where this

1 comes into play is our -- essentially our Airtable, as
2 you look at it right now, we have, essentially, an Excel
3 spreadsheet, right, that has data in it, and then it has
4 links, and those links to our different types of files,
5 our PDFs, our JPEGs, our shapefiles, we need to have
6 links that are available, that our user interface
7 addresses these links.

8 Well, Snowflake generates a new link every twenty-
9 four hours, because it's that private so -- and they're
10 called static links. They essentially don't do that.
11 And for us to pay for them to be updating a new link
12 every twenty-four hours is, of course, costly. And
13 which, if we needed that service, it would be more than
14 worth it. But that's just not what we need at all. We
15 actually need static links.

16 And for them to try to do that, it's very Rube
17 Goldberg. It's just you don't -- to try to do that is
18 really meshing things that don't mesh, and shouldn't, and
19 we really got into the weeds about how they could and
20 couldn't, and everyone kind of went: This is really not
21 appropriate; you know, thanks very much, but this is not
22 going to work.

23 So we have switched out that and we basically --
24 also it turns out, you know, part of our data; now, I'm
25 talking not just the Airtable, but our other information

1 that we also have to have with the links are videos,
2 videos for our meetings, also for all our training, and
3 things on our -- we actually have training about how to
4 use our map viewer, trainings on all the training that we
5 did. Those are all videos. And not even stores videos,
6 if they stored data they tend to store -- well, I
7 don't -- I don't want -- I'm trying to make this short
8 version not into the weeds.

9 So we looked around. It turns out that our videos,
10 we're actually going to go into a YouTube channel. We'll
11 actually have our own YouTube channel, as the Governor
12 does, many of the state agencies have. And then we
13 started looking at, okay, what do we do for the actual
14 data-data, and that's where we hired, actually, Mr.
15 Healy.

16 And so I might actually have him sort of actually
17 introduce himself, and tell a little bit about you,
18 because you've been extremely valuable to get us
19 understanding what our options are, what's available in a
20 very, very quick, which is why we're looking -- you know,
21 why we've hired him in the first place. This has gone so
22 much quicker, and so much faster, because of his
23 expertise.

24 So Kevin, could you please introduce yourself and
25 just tell us a little bit about yourself, please?

1 MR. HEALY: Well, it's nice to meet you all. I've
2 worked in IT for about thirty years. I started with
3 control systems in the power industry, and I spent the
4 last fifteen years at the State Data Center running
5 the -- for those who know what it is -- WebSphere
6 infrastructure on UNIX for EDD, DMV, health services, and
7 working on other projects as they came along. So I don't
8 like getting into a lot of the IT stuff because most
9 people kind of fall asleep when I start talking.

10 But yeah, Snowflake was a -- excuse me -- is an
11 excellent product, but it's just not something that you
12 guys need for your website at this point? I don't know
13 if there's anything else you want me to cover.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, thank you, Kevin. We
15 might have you jump in.

16 But Corina, do you want to kind of just do a quick
17 rundown of, you know, the data where -- sort of what
18 we're going to be -- what we're talking about now,
19 instead?

20 MS. LEON: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And a part of this is,
22 there's a few things -- this is more of an update. We're
23 still working out some of the details, but I'll have you
24 give us, you know, where we are now, please, Corina?

25 MS. LEON: Okay. So what we're doing now is -- oh,

1 it's just timing is very surprising sometimes, right. So
2 while this was going on, when we were realizing that
3 the -- Snowflake wasn't able to do static links with us,
4 for us without a third-party app, we were contacted by
5 the Department of Transportation and Technology because
6 our maps -- district maps are very --

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Actually, I'm going to hold
8 you there on that one.

9 MS. LEON: Okay.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Because I actually want to
11 talk just briefly. You know, the data part that's in our
12 Airtable.

13 MS. LEON: Okay.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: We actually have to have a
15 place for that.

16 MS. LEON: Right.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So I believe Snowflake --

18 MS. LEON: Yeah.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- and remember we talked
20 about the different links, shapefiles are different.

21 MS. LEON: Right.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Because not only does our --
23 when we were talking about our data, and what we're doing
24 for our website, our map viewer of our districts that
25 also expires, we actually have to have a whole new way of

1 putting our map viewer on our website.

2 MS. LEON: Uh-huh.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So this is an item that we
4 hadn't really been talking about as far as for the full
5 Commission at all.

6 MS. LEON: Right.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That was still out there.

8 MS. LEON: Right.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And so that one I want to
10 get into in just a minute.

11 MS. LEON: Okay.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. If you could just,
13 say, back to where the data and the Tableau are.

14 MS. LEON: Oh. Well, I brought that up because I
15 was thinking during those meetings that we discovered
16 there's a data.ca.gov that we thought might be a fabulous
17 place for our public data. But as it is, we have too
18 many files, so that that didn't work out. So now we've
19 been looking at possibly -- we do have a cloud service
20 through CDT that we use right now for our Airtable.

21 And so we might -- I've been making some calls and
22 getting -- wanting to get some figures on that, the cost
23 on that. So that's one option. And the other option is
24 we can actually store these files, because now we're down
25 to -- when we were looking at Snowflake, we were in need

1 of a database, but actually we have a flat file for a COI
2 data that Analytica is actually going to be able to store
3 within the application.

4 So that relieved that need of a database, so we
5 don't have that need, nor necessary to maintain that
6 database. So then we're down to the attachments, which
7 are PDFs, and image files, and shapefiles. So as it
8 turns out, along with -- and Commissioner Andersen will
9 get into that with -- part of data.ca.gov, they have a
10 geoportal section, and so they have the tools for maps,
11 the Esri tool. And so they are working on right now,
12 being able to create a condensed file for our shapefiles,
13 the COI shapefiles, to be able to display on our UI.

14 So that's looking very successful right now.
15 They're working on it. And so we have a lot of progress
16 there. And so with that taken care of, now we're down to
17 PDFs and image files; so that's where we're thinking
18 maybe that what we're going to look into is our cloud
19 storage option, or we can actually store those, I can
20 create a SharePoint space, and secure it, and offer those
21 files. They can actually access them through a
22 SharePoint drive.

23 And they're testing that out right now. I put those
24 out there. Sent that link to Analytica, and they'll be
25 letting us know how that works out. Is that accurate?

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

2 MS. LEON: Yeah.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Yeah, Analytica is
4 basically using a program called -- it's called Tableau.
5 So I guess it's more than just a program, isn't it?

6 MS. LEON: Uh-huh.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And Tableau is actually kind
8 of what -- it's a little bit like Airtable sort of in
9 that -- it's more than that, and Tableau will actually be
10 what Analytica is using for us to then grab our files and
11 things from multiple different locations. And in this,
12 because one thing that we're trying to make sure is we
13 can see it as a map, you can actually see the file, you
14 know, the JPEG, in the shapes -- specifically the
15 shapefiles.

16 You know, all the things from We Draw My Community,
17 all those sorts of things. And in doing this, that's
18 when it also came out that: Oh. By the way, or you know,
19 showing our districts, our total district maps, that also
20 is going to expire. We need a place for those too, which
21 I was actually not aware of. But it turns out that there
22 is this, we're going to just kind of briefly dashed --
23 zipped over that, the data.ca.gov is another branch of
24 the California Department of Technology, and it's used
25 for all public agencies' data, but --

1 MS. LEON: Open data.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- yeah, open data, open
3 data. But as you said, ours is not just a data, it's
4 actually data with links and things. So it's really not
5 appropriate to be stored there, the data. But part of
6 this, the group also is called the Geoportal. And it
7 turns out that they have big maps. They have school
8 district maps, they have all the maps, and they are
9 trying to be the authoritative site for mapping in
10 California.

11 There was a similar kind of group -- well, I don't
12 know if the -- Esri, but they also use the Esri, which we
13 have used on our map viewer. So it's like a perfect
14 match. But it turns out that they came to us.

15 And Corina, I'm going to have you quickly tell us
16 how we kind of walked into this backwards.

17 MS. LEON: Okay.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: But it's exactly what we
19 need and -- go ahead.

20 MS. LEON: Well, Department of Technology and
21 Transportation contacted us for a meeting because it
22 turned out that Department of Education has also accessed
23 our maps, and they're using them to display the school
24 districts within the new districts, the Geoportal. And
25 so they are in -- they are really -- our maps are very --

1 in high demand, and really used and wanting to be used by
2 many, many other public entities.

3 And it's a perfect match, and that they weren't
4 aware that we were a state agency. So when we explained
5 that to them, they were just thrilled. And they offered,
6 as a courtesy, because they usually charge -- they do
7 charge for the departments to put their -- to use the
8 Esri and the map hub. They don't charge to put your
9 data, the open data portal that they host for no cost,
10 that's a courtesy to all state agencies.

11 But the Geoportal they do charge a fee. And because
12 they're really excited about having our maps, they're
13 offering to do that as a courtesy. And what that does
14 for us is, number one, free us from the need for the
15 licenses. But it also is that they will maintain our
16 map. And so that's a big plus as well.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: You know, I see we're
18 getting particularly short on time. Commissioner
19 Fornaciari.

20 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Just you know, one
21 thing that would be really nice, if there was some way
22 that we could search, you know, via keyword or whatever
23 for our -- the documents, you know, right now, all of our
24 documents that we posted, you have to know which meeting
25 it was from, and how to dig it up. But you know, I'm

1 wondering if there's a way that we can structure it so
2 that our documentation is searchable.

3 MS. LEON: Okay. Yeah. Yes. So we're talking
4 about the website, one of the tools that we do need is
5 called a Mapper, and what it'll do is map out all the
6 documents within our website. So I think we can use that
7 tool to provide like an index. I'll talk with -- I'll
8 talk with Tammy (ph.) on that. But I think that tool
9 will help us with that.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. What Corina is
11 talking about there's a -- there's kind of three
12 different softwares for ADA compliance, and one of those
13 is Mapper, which the bonus is, it kind of puts out your
14 website in -- essentially like an index. And so we're
15 thinking of the dual purpose there, that we'll actually
16 have that, so we can, actually, for our own purposes, but
17 we can probably use that somehow or another as a tool to
18 do exactly that. To sort of search, you know, what we
19 need for it. We don't have to restructure it. Basically
20 what we're doing here is -- so I'm kind of jumping to my
21 next topic, essentially --

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Andersen?

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: If we have a pause. We'll go ahead
25 and take that pause. We have to take our fifteen minute

1 back, a break, and we will return in fifteen minutes and
2 we'll come right back, right back to where we were.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: That's exactly what I was
4 going to say. Thank you.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: At 11:15. Thank you. See you guys
6 in a second.

7 MS. LEON: Thank you. Thank you.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Return at 11:15.

9 MS. LEON: Okay.

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

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back to the February 10th,
13 2023, Meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting
14 Commission. We left as Commissioner Andersen was giving
15 the Website's Subcommittee report. We will return to
16 that spot.

17 And take it away, Commissioner Andersen.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you very much, fellow
19 subcommittee member, as well as Chair Taylor. So just in
20 kind of a summary, the first one was ADA compliance. The
21 recommendation was that we hire someone, an expert. The
22 second one is, you know, what's going on with, who we're
23 hiring -- you know, who we're trying to hire, and who
24 we're working with. Basically, as far as the user
25 interface, we do have a rough link of what it's looking

1 like. And we will be, if we haven't already, we'll
2 forward that to the Commissioners.

3 They could have -- could you please have a play
4 around with it? See if, you know, when you are using the
5 COI information and the Airtable, you know, what did you
6 look for? And to make sure that you can get that
7 information, and/or more, out of this new user interface.
8 It does look very different.

9 So that'll be forwarded to you, if you could, you
10 know, play around with it a little bit, as I said, and
11 send any comments, probably to Corina directly, I think.
12 And then she'll forward it to the subcommittee. And the
13 recommendation from the subcommittee on -- so this whole
14 topic is to allow Corina and the Admin to move forward
15 with the vendors and contracting as was previously -- we
16 previously authorized her, but it's just, we're making
17 changes.

18 And then, there is from this item of Lessons
19 Learned, and has come out of that, and specifically is,
20 we had the website as part of the communications group,
21 which was never intended, and it has always been awkward,
22 and someone came off Commission -- because that's not
23 really what they do, and not really what they're trained
24 for.

25 The website is integral to every subcommittee, and

1 it's like the office, and the phones, and the computers.
2 I would -- at least we recommend that be moved to Admin
3 and have the appropriate technologically trained person
4 doing it, which would -- it would have eliminated so many
5 headaches all along the way.

6 And so I can get more to that, definitely. But I
7 think we all think back: Boy, would that have helped?
8 And having that person involved in the administration
9 part for the contracts involved, any kind of technical
10 would have saved us a lot. We didn't know at the time,
11 and we duplicated and it's -- we've gone around and
12 around, and: Oh, I didn't know that, and that person
13 wasn't talking to this person, because it wasn't at the
14 admin level.

15 And so I would highly recommend that. Then, moving
16 back to our mapping and the shapefiles from our data,
17 this is when we got into a meeting with the -- under the
18 data.ca.gov, which again, is part of the California
19 Department of Technology, CDT, the Geoportal portion.

20 This is very exciting and we'll actually show you --
21 well, it actually would appear similar to our mapping
22 tool. But the way -- and I'm sorry -- I'm going to have
23 to go back to Corina on this one. The way we got into
24 that is, they actually came to us for a whole other
25 reason.

1 And so Corina, do you want to talk about that?

2 MS. LEON: Yeah. My understanding is that the
3 Legislature has asked Department of Transportation,
4 because they're also into maps big time, to handle the --
5 how I understand it, is there's between 2020 and 2024 --
6 am I going in the right direction?

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, actually I was just
8 going to say how they --

9 MS. LEON: Okay.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- basically the Senate
11 deferral maps.

12 MS. LEON: Yes.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Is what we're talking about
14 here.

15 MS. LEON: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. And why they were
17 looking for it, I really don't want to get into, but
18 Department of Transportation --

19 MS. LEON: Yeah.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- was looking for those
21 maps.

22 MS. LEON: Right. Right. Well, they actually found
23 us because Department of Education used our maps --

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

25 MS. LEON: -- on the Geoportal. So that's why they

1 looked for us. And so they really -- I mean, our maps
2 are in very high demand. And so that's why Geoportal,
3 we've been working with Sam (ph.), and his boss has
4 offered us, as a courtesy, to host our maps and the use
5 of their Geoportal, Esri hub, to display our maps. And
6 then we can embed that, just like it looks right now
7 currently, into our website.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right.

9 MS. LEON: And that's how that would work.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. For our map viewer,
11 and also, we're also going to use them for -- they're
12 also on a different level; they'll be also hosting our
13 shapefiles.

14 MS. LEON: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So we can actually grab
16 that --

17 MS. LEON: Correct.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- back to our user
19 interface.

20 MS. LEON: Correct. Correct.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And the things that come out
22 about this is the Senate deferral maps, currently -- and
23 just quickly, I think we all know what those are. Do you
24 know how we do for -- we're actually numbering our Senate
25 districts, we actually decide what is odd and what's

1 even, when you start from the north, and head east, and
2 move that way as you're numbering.

3 But for the Senate maps you have to go: Hang on a
4 sec, because every -- it staggers, in 2022 the new
5 districts that were up for election were the even ones,
6 not the odds. So in '22 to '24, or you know, blank-2 to
7 the blank-4, you know, every ten years, there is a
8 stagger there, where the even -- the new even districts
9 get -- elected new people. But The People who were in an
10 even district last time but now are actually in an odd
11 district, they're kind of thrown out. And basically
12 there's an old -- there's people who are deferred, and
13 the people who are accelerated.

14 And this is how we -- to minimize that -- is how we
15 numbered our districts. So we sort of created this. But
16 that map doesn't exist. Well, you can imagine that the
17 Senate just, in the House Senate Rules Committee, is in
18 charge of actually deciding, who gets what, and who --
19 you know the people who, quote, "aren't represented", who
20 actually represents them? And the people who are doubly
21 represented, who represents those?

22 And to do that, they kind of had to look at a map
23 somehow or another. And everyone is asking us, it turns
24 out, we're getting staff level -- we're getting questions
25 about that all the time. And we point, we say, talk to

1 the Secretary of State. No one there answers the phone
2 because they don't have that bandwidth to do it, and the
3 Senate did something or rather.

4 So basically there is a real need for this map. And
5 we've been asked, you know: Can you guys make the map?
6 You know, that's not -- and that's -- we were never
7 charged to do that. However, I do think that for 2030 it
8 would be a very good idea. Because we actually,
9 essentially, do this work to figure out our numbering,
10 but we don't decide who goes where or anything like that,
11 and exactly the determinations, the differences between
12 the Secretary of State and our maps, again that's not us,
13 but a basis to begin with would be really helpful. And
14 that would really -- the location of that, being on this
15 Geoportal, would be a very valuable service moving
16 forward.

17 It also fits into our working with the Legislature,
18 the Secretary of State. We certainly would need to be
19 funded through '24 to answer questions on that, which in
20 case, you know, right now we're thinking we're done as
21 soon as our maps are done. Clearly, this is an area of
22 concern for everybody -- for the average public person.
23 You know: Hey, who is my State Senator right now? Many
24 people have no idea, and it's very open.

25 So that is something that I believe we need to look

1 into, possibly for legislation, and I would I would like
2 to say, can we -- if someone is already doing that, you
3 know, the Commissioner of another group, great. If not,
4 could that be, we look to pursue this, and see what's
5 going on, and who is -- who actually does want. To
6 pursue that, I'd like to propose that that be given to
7 the Website Subcommittee, unless it's already given to
8 someone else. And that's, again, going back to the
9 Geoportal issue, which is pretty amazing.

10 So Commissioner Yee.

11 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. Thank you, Commissioner
12 Andersen. So just to see if I understand this; so of
13 course one can compare the old Senate map, the new Senate
14 map, and see the differences, what you're saying is that
15 there's no map that highlights, like one map for the
16 actually accelerated populations, and one map of the
17 actual deferred populations.

18 And then further, once the Senate decides on which
19 senators to assign to which populations, then a further
20 map that identifies those, that matches those regions --
21 accelerated in different regions to actual senators. So
22 that's actually two separate -- two separate maps.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: It's the overlap. You're
24 right. And the overlap of the new evens, you know, the
25 new even Senate maps with the pieces that don't fit, they

1 got either cut out, you know, the people who are
2 accelerated, or the people who are basically -- those not
3 represented, essentially. You know, who were even before
4 but are now in odd, except that odd doesn't extend over
5 that, it's just they're out -- they're hanging out there.

6 And so the map to -- the Department of
7 Transportation actually put together multiple examples,
8 kind of, of this. And it sort of needs to be cleaned up.
9 So you know, these are people -- and then if the Senate
10 wants to -- because right now on our website: who your
11 senator is, it doesn't say. We just have the Senate,
12 here's Senate number 1, Senate number 2, da, da, da, da,
13 da. We have nothing that links: And this is your
14 senator.

15 That's, you know, that's something else that could
16 be -- that could be on the Secretary of State, or
17 something like that. Because, again, we don't do the
18 political part of it, we're doing the maps.

19 But this map that shows, you know, these different
20 areas, so then you could -- the State Senate Rules
21 Committee could then say, and put a little ledger next to
22 it saying, these people are represented. But that map
23 does not exist, to my knowledge.

24 COMMISSIONER YEE: Right. So we could add to our
25 line-drawer contract, a task --

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Correct.

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: -- to produce a separate set of
3 maps, one for accelerated, one for deferred districts.
4 But you know, the assigning of senators, that's not our
5 job, right?

6 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Correct. Correct.

7 COMMISSIONER YEE: I mean, the Senate does that.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Right.

9 COMMISSIONER YEE: And so I think -- I mean, I don't
10 know, it seems like -- it seems to me that it's on them
11 to produce the publicly accessible database, and you
12 know, and data access for people to find their senators.
13 I mean, that's really not our job, you know.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: But the map doesn't exist,
15 in terms of there is a list. But when you go: Okay, am I
16 in that area? You know, there's no map that shows it.
17 That's why Caltrans has come to us to say: We need this
18 map. Do you guys have it? They're kind of throwing one
19 together, but they don't have a -- it's not sanctioned.
20 You know, there's no one to say: Yeah, that's right.

21 And it would be nice -- if that's what they're
22 saying, you know we -- the Geoportal, they only take maps
23 that are, quote, "authoritative", which are actually
24 sanctioned by the officials saying, they're not just, you
25 know: Hey, this Joe Blow's map. You know, this is the

1 school districts of such, and such, and such. And that's
2 what it is. And actually, that's how our maps got
3 introduced to the Geoportal.

4 And that's what they're trying to do. They're
5 trying to have the official map go on to their portal,
6 which actually, I think, probably wouldn't happen until
7 the Senate Rules do this. And then they can put on
8 there -- basically we would, just like the Senate -- the
9 school district has used our maps to show also their
10 school district, we would have a map, that then they
11 would go: this, you know, however they want to, you know,
12 use it in terms of associating the senators. We don't
13 care about that.

14 It's just like the Secretary of State. We give them
15 the maps, but there is no one to produce this map and
16 they don't have -- I'm assuming that they might have gone
17 back to Statewide Database to say: Hey, could you could
18 you do this for us? Because, again, we actually had to
19 do that map in a number of Senate districts. And that's
20 where -- so we kind of half did it, but never, never
21 produced a map for that, so that's why I --

22 And again, it needs looking into; it might be, shew,
23 you know: hey, so-and-so does that, fine, and we'll just
24 put them there. But at this point, it's an open question
25 that we are -- our staff is getting all the time. So you

1 know, I was actually -- really, really, like, almost
2 like: Could you do something about this, please? And I
3 thought, sure, I would bring this aside to say, who's
4 looking into this?

5 So that's the proposal right now. The request is:
6 Can we look into it? Or someone is already looking into
7 it? And it might be, we found out who you need to talk
8 to, and where the map will come from, and it's over here.
9 It might not be us. I think it would be a very
10 beneficial thing if we created the map. Again for
11 someone else to assign who goes to what; but anyway.

12 Commissioner Fernández.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And I just agree with
14 Commissioner Yee. I don't believe it's our
15 responsibility. It's the Senate Rules Committee that
16 decides where all these -- who is represented by whom, it
17 should be their responsibility. And just because they're
18 calling us doesn't mean we have to take on that role. I
19 don't want there to be any confusion between the maps
20 that we drew, and what our charge is to draw the maps,
21 between that, or scope creep, or whatever you want to
22 call it, I just feel that it's not our responsibility.

23 I appreciate you wanting to help. I get that
24 because sometimes we want to solve other people's
25 problems. But I don't think this is our issue. Thanks.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Commissioner Kennedy.

2 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I can kind of understand where
3 Commissioner Fernández is coming from. But I think in
4 the future, it should very definitely be the Commission's
5 responsibility to submit to the Secretary of State a set
6 of maps for the Assembly, a set of maps for the Senate, a
7 set of maps for Congressional districts, a set of maps
8 for the Board of Equalization, and a set of maps showing
9 the accelerated and deferred areas.

10 And then the Secretary of State -- the Office of the
11 Secretary of State would have it on them to work with the
12 Senate, and then Senate Rules Committee will assign
13 people to cover the deferred areas. I mean, you're right
14 that we produced the definitive maps. We need to, you
15 know, look at this from that perspective, that our maps
16 are the definitive maps.

17 And you know, this just seems like something that
18 was left out of the original legislation, but very much
19 needs to be on our list of proposed Legislative changes.
20 I think this needs to be a very high priority on that
21 list of proposed Legislative changes. Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: If I might add on that one.
23 Commissioner Kennedy, as usual, that was very eloquently
24 put, and that's exactly what I -- if we, you know, the
25 Commission -- the subcommittee looks into it and finds

1 out that indeed this was an item, which I'm thinking this
2 is an item that was dropped and should be in our charge.
3 It is not right now. It would have to be added to the
4 2030 Commission's charge, which I think, like you just
5 perfectly said, would be a high priority to add into our
6 Legislative items.

7 I'm not prepared to say that right now, because I
8 don't know if someone else is covering this. But I think
9 we should look into it to figure out what is going on,
10 because it does, I agree, it seems like it should be part
11 of the charge to create that map. Again, and hand it to
12 the Secretary of State.

13 So that's kind of basically summarizing everything
14 from the website. So basically, you know, the couple
15 ideas; is continuing on with the vendors. Please look at
16 this language, if you don't have it already, yeah, we'll
17 send, we'll send it out. Play with it. Also play with
18 the website, please. I don't mean the dot-org. Either
19 go to the, dot ca.gov, and have a look at that. It's not
20 up to date right now because there's only enough
21 bandwidth to work on -- you know, keep one up to date.

22 So if it's just like: Hey, this isn't done, but any
23 comment you have, please forward, again, to Corina, on
24 both these items. But specifically, we will send out the
25 link for the new user interface. Have a look at that.

1 And the other item would be, you know, the RA for
2 ADA compliance, and who should the Senate deferral map
3 issue be assigned to.

4 With that, Commissioner Kennedy, I'm handing it
5 back to you.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other questions for --

7 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Commissioner Taylor --

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: -- for the Website Subcommittee? As
9 I know, that's a lot to chew.

10 Go ahead, Commissioner Fernández.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah, sorry. Thank you, to
12 someone that's watching this right now. That they
13 actually sent me a link to the Senate districts with
14 accelerated and deferred areas. And it's a map.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Excellent.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: So I will forward that to
17 you, Commissioner Andersen, and you can -- you can check
18 that out if you'd like.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: And thank you, Commissioner
22 Fernández.

23 Any other concerns or questions for the Website
24 Subcommittee? It has expanded that role a lot more than
25 yeah, just a simple website, so we're busy trying to

1 answer all those questions.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Oh. I will give a quick
3 shoutout, though, to everyone who has been working on
4 this. Martine, our Paul Mitchell, Corina, Kevin, and the
5 amount of time and effort that has been put into this is
6 amazing; and the questions that they've had to learn, and
7 relearn, and then go back to, to work this all out.
8 Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. It's really an
9 amazing amount of work to move us forward. And they're
10 thinking about the 2030 Commission. What do we need
11 right now? And what will last? And how do we keep it
12 lasting; the maintenance, the security, but actual
13 functionality? So thank you, to everybody.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you and welcome aboard, Kevin.
15 All right.

16 So our next subcommittee report will be -- or the
17 Legislative update. So I'll turn it over to Commissioner
18 Fernández and Commissioner Akutagawa.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Sorry,
20 I'm just -- my partner in crime is at a conference, so
21 I'm just texting her that we're on right now. And I will
22 get going.

23 First of all, we did -- at the last meeting we did
24 post a policy in terms of -- for public input at
25 Commission meetings and -- but this came about as part of

1 the Legislative's potential updates. One of them was
2 defining for public input versus public comment. And we
3 just didn't really seem to be making any headway.

4 And so we felt, as a subcommittee, we thought: Well,
5 since we can't seem to make headway in terms of coming
6 together as a Commission, over whether or not to move
7 this forward, we felt that policy would help in terms of
8 defining what us, as a Commission, see as meetings for
9 public -- for the purpose of public input, which would
10 require a fourteen-day advance notice, versus just a
11 regular meeting that would fall under the ten-day
12 requirement.

13 So we did post that last month. We did receive --
14 we did request feedback from everyone, from the
15 Commissioners, and we did have one Commissioner respond.
16 So thank you for that. And so what we did is we reposted
17 it, and at this point, if there's any other feedback, or
18 if we want to adopt this, or not adopt this.

19 We just felt that, basically, what it's saying, it's
20 just highlighting those meetings that us, as a
21 Commission, we feel would fall under the fourteen-day
22 requirement, which would be our Public Input meetings,
23 our Community of Interest meetings, Line Drawing,
24 Drafting meetings, and Map Approval meetings.

25 Obviously, these already occurred, but we just felt

1 that it might be good guidance for future Commissions to
2 review. There was something else, it just slipped my
3 mind.

4 Yeah, Ray, you're laughing, but you know me well
5 enough that everything slips through my mind.

6 Once the maps are drawn, moving forward, we only
7 have a ten-day policy, notice policy required, because
8 we're no longer obtaining public input for district
9 purposes -- district line-drawing purposes.

10 So are there any questions regarding the policy? Or
11 is there a desire to move forward with it? Or just kind
12 of leave it alone? Which, either way, I'm good -- we're
13 good with at this point.

14 Commissioner Yee.

15 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you, Commissioner
16 Fernández. I like the policy. You know, we should have
17 thought of it lot earlier maybe. You know, it's kind of
18 marginally helpful for us now, but it seems like it would
19 mostly apply to the 2030 Commission. But at this point,
20 that would simply be a recommendation to them, I guess,
21 they would have to readopt it, which is fine. But is
22 that the thinking?

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. What I was thinking
24 is the policies are still valid. We have the whole -- we
25 have all the policies that we've adopted throughout our

1 term. And as you mentioned, Commissioner Yee, the next
2 Commission could choose to adopt them, or they could keep
3 them.

4 I don't believe they actually need to be changed if
5 they're okay with them, but I'm not sure -- you know, I'm
6 not sure if each Commission would have to adopt, or would
7 have, like, publicly adopt the policies, either as a
8 whole or individually. But it is something that we just
9 felt would provide good guidance for future Commissions
10 if they're grappling with it, like we grappled with it,
11 and we just said, you know, know, we're just going to
12 stick with the fourteen-day, but at least this would --
13 this somehow would define it.

14 COMMISSIONER YEE: Actually, maybe Anthony was about
15 to answer this. You know, do our policies --

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER YEE: -- expire with the end of our
18 terms? Or you know, when do this happen?

19 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yes. Good question,
20 Commissioner Yee. These are Commission policies, and
21 there's one Commission. And so yes, a new incumbent, or
22 new incumbents could certainly edit it and change it if
23 they want, or take them away and say this is not going to
24 be a policy any longer.

25 But the way I like to analogize it is, Secretary of

1 State, new incumbent, it's one office, different office
2 holders. Same for the governor; for example, a governor
3 issues an executive order. A future governor can rescind
4 an executive order, but if he or she does not, it stays
5 on the books. So this policy and group of policies would
6 work much the same way.

7 These would be Commission policies. And if a new,
8 later Commission body wants to amend or edit them, they
9 are certainly free to do that.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you for that.

11 Commissioner Kennedy.

12 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you. Thank you. Thank
13 you to the subcommittee for this. I have been advocating
14 for this, I think, since we were eight of us.

15 Commissioner Andersen can and probably correct me if
16 I'm wrong, but I have been pushing for this for a very
17 long time, and it is nice to see it on paper, and
18 hopefully we can indeed approve this if we're -- if we're
19 ready to, I'm happy to make the motion to approve this
20 policy.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And I'm sorry I
22 wasn't part of the first eight, so I didn't hear your
23 initial wanting of this. So we'd have jumped on it.

24 Commissioner Andersen.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, I will confirm that

1 that did happen. Or I think maybe day three, but you
2 know, yes, that was right in the beginning with several
3 very good ideas, which Commissioner Kennedy has been
4 advocating for from the beginning. And we are finally
5 putting some of those into Lessons Learned. And I thank
6 you. Thank you. Thank you.

7 On the policy, I will also -- I'll second that if
8 you make that motion. I'm very, very pleased to have
9 this as one of our policies. Do we need to adopt this?
10 I don't quite know if we just say -- you know, I don't
11 remember if we need to.

12 And the other question is -- or actually not a
13 question -- we did, as a full Commission, actually look
14 at the 2010's policies and adopt -- we didn't adopt all
15 of them, we did make some changes. But I can't remember
16 exactly what they were, but I do recall that whole
17 conversation thing. So I agree that there is a -- oh,
18 actually, I do know how it happened. We didn't know that
19 there was -- there were policies. So we all had to read
20 them and then go: okay, yes, yes, yes, no, no, no on
21 these.

22 So at that point, I do think we should adopt it
23 going forward, and put in Lessons Learned, make sure you
24 know that there are policies and the 2030 Commission,
25 should review them, and adopt them or not. So thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And I think
2 what we've done in the past -- Commissioner Fornaciari,
3 you can correct me if I'm wrong, because we've mainly
4 been the ones that have brought forward the policies. I
5 think we have voted on them, correct, because we would --
6 there'd be a draft, and we'd go back and make changes.
7 And then I believe it's just a simple majority. It's not
8 a -- whatever it's called -- supermajority. And I don't
9 even know if you have enough for that; two, four, five,
10 six, seven, eight of us, there's only eight of us right
11 now, so I --

12 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, if I can, if I can
13 comment too.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Uh-huh.

15 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think -- I mean, we're
16 going to have a much deeper discussion about --
17 philosophical discussion about, you know, what is ongoing
18 for the Commission a bit later. My recollection, though,
19 is that Marian really pushed us -- I mean, Marian's
20 model, mental model was each Commission stands itself up.
21 And my recollection is she pushed us to use the previous
22 Commission's policies as sort of a starting place.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Uh-huh.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: But Commissioner Fernández
25 and I went through and revised each one, individually,

1 and we voted and approved each one, individually.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Thank you.

3 Commissioner Yee.

4 COMMISSIONER YEE: Right. And you know, and that
5 was great work. But if I'm understanding Anthony, the
6 fact is, legally, those policies were binding whether or
7 not we approved them or did anything, right? And the
8 same thing will be true for 2030. So you know, there's
9 no readoption needed, there's only revision, if desired,
10 right, or disapproval, or whatever the term would be; a
11 negation, you know, if desired. But policies, once
12 adopted, stand in perpetuity, I guess. That's the idea.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Anthony, did you want to?

14 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah. Thank you for that,
15 Commissioner Yee. I mean, that's -- and that's why I
16 would recommend the Commission vote to adopt a policy,
17 because then it becomes part of the group. Until then,
18 it's just -- it's sort of a draft. It's an idea.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Uh-huh.

20 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Which, of course, as a matter
21 of policy, the Commission could do -- could go that route
22 too.

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And Anthony, remind me,
24 what's the -- for voting, how many do we know -- do we
25 need? Is it eight or nine?

1 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: I think you need nine.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Uh-huh.

3 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: But you don't need a special
4 nine.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Right. Right. But right
6 now we have eight.

7 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Is Commissioner Ahmad with us?
8 I mean, she's still logged in.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. There she is. Oh,
10 okay. So maybe we -- well, I can't assume, you know,
11 that everyone is going to be -- but theoretically, I
12 guess we could. Are there any more comments? I think we
13 had a motion by Commissioner Kennedy, a second by
14 Commissioner Andersen; is that correct?

15 Oh. Commissioner Ahmad.

16 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yeah. I wasn't paying
17 attention. What are we voting on?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. So this is the policy
19 that we -- it's one of the handouts, it's on the
20 application of a Public Input Commission meetings. And
21 so basically, since as a Commission, we were kind of at a
22 conflict, or a -- we couldn't really -- we couldn't come
23 together in terms of our definition of a public comment
24 or what a public input was. The Subcommittee, what we
25 felt we could do would be to at least come forward with a

1 policy that highlighted those meetings that we deemed
2 public input, and this would require the fourteen-day
3 advance notice. And so what --

4 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Got you.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- this policy says is the
6 four types that would require the fourteen days, would be
7 the Public Input meetings, Community of Interest
8 meetings, Line Drawing Drafting meetings, and the Map
9 Approval meetings. So that's --

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Okay. I see it. I see it
11 on --

12 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

13 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: -- on the website. Thanks.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Are you --

15 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I move --

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- comfortable to do the
17 voting? Commissioner Kennedy.

18 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I move that we adopt the draft
19 policy as presented.

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Second.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And now back to
22 you, Chair; if we want to take a vote and public comment?

23 MS. LEON: Oops. I'm sorry. I'm writing down. Do
24 I need to put this in motions, the CRC motion?

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

1 MS. LEON: Okay.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. And then we could
3 probably -- it's back to the Chair for now.

4 MS. LEON: Okay.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: So any further discussion?

6 If there's no further discussion; Kristian, can we
7 open this up for public comment regarding the motion on
8 the floor?

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing, Chair.

10 The Commission will now take public comment on the
11 motion on the floor. To give comment, please call 877-
12 853-5247, and enter meeting ID number 85436289451. Once
13 you've dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the
14 comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at
15 the beginning of the meeting, and are provided on the
16 live stream landing page.

17 And we do have someone in the queue with their hand
18 raised.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Invite them in, please.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Caller 6005,
21 please follow the prompts to unmute. The floor is yours.

22 MS. QUINONES: Good morning. My name is Sofia
23 Quinones, and I'm calling on behalf of the East L.A.
24 Boyle Heights Coalition. As I was listening to your
25 meeting today, I was impressed by a lot of the

1 information you shared. But I do have some concerns
2 being, you know, appointments that means we're going to
3 have representation. And our ancestors fought for
4 representation. That's why the Voting Rights Act is so
5 significant.

6 I live in an unincorporated area that has been
7 segregated for several generations. And unfortunately,
8 during the last redistricting process, I had to seek
9 legal advice, outside of California to see if California
10 could be sued due to the discriminatory practices
11 happening by excluding communities of color, or the
12 disenfranchised communities.

13 As an example, one of the largest Mexican districts
14 in the country was obliterated off the map. And that's
15 just unacceptable. And that was held by Congresswoman
16 Allard. My concerns today have to do with proportional
17 representation. And just the recent study out of the
18 UCLA Latino Policy & Politics Institute, showed and
19 exposed, you know, the discriminatory practices in
20 California, and the lack of appointment, specifically of
21 people of Mexican descent.

22 So I'm calling in regards to my community. And I
23 also am concerned with the issues of security, when it
24 comes to the mapping of what's going on, and just
25 districting as a -- just as a person that wants to

1 participate. I have to vote for my delegates, right,
2 that deal with the district. But we've had challenges
3 with the mapping even within parties. And there's
4 discrimination within the party when it comes to also
5 excluding people. When they themselves --

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: (Indiscernible) time.

7 MS. QUINONES: -- tried to configure what the maps
8 are. But what I want to say is that there's problems
9 there, but there's also problems with mapping. We have
10 the fiasco of Cambridge Analytica, a private British
11 equity firm. So my concerns with the mapping and the
12 people that you're going to contract with, that the
13 contractor not subcontract, that the contractor be from
14 California, that the server be in California. Being that
15 it's open source, it can be hacked. And so to me, this
16 is an issue of national security.

17 And you know, foreign actors are participating and
18 already working with the names that you mentioned today.
19 So that is a national security concern, and I hope you
20 take that into consideration. Thank you for your time.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And as a reminder for
22 future callers, please limit your comments to the motion
23 that is currently on the floor. Thank you.

24 Kristian, do we have any other callers?

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: There are no other

1 callers at this time, Chair.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. So with that, we can
3 proceed to the vote, Corina.

4 MS. LEON: Okay. Commissioner Toledo -- oh, he was
5 on -- back, okay.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Corina, would you like to
7 share the tracking sheet?

8 MS. LEON: Okay. Yes. I would. I'm sorry, where's
9 the -- let me share the screen here, that's okay. So
10 this one, is this the one. Yeah. Okay. Can you see?
11 Okay.

12 Commissioner Ahmad.

13 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

14 MS. LEON: Commissioner Akutagawa.

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

16 MS. LEON: Commissioner Andersen.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

18 MS. LEON: Commissioner Fernández.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

20 MS. LEON: Commissioner Fornaciari.

21 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

22 MS. LEON: Commissioner Kennedy.

23 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yes.

24 MS. LEON: Commissioner Sinay.

25 Commissioner Taylor.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

2 MS. LEON: And Commissioner Yee.

3 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

4 MS. LEON: Commissioner Vázquez.

5 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Yes.

6 MS. LEON: Thank you.

7 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: And Corina, you're going to
8 want to just name all of them, even if they're absent,
9 just so it's fully clear.

10 MS. LEON: Okay. I apologize.

11 Commissioner Turner.

12 Commissioner Sadhwani.

13 Commissioner Le Mons.

14 And I believe that's it. So nine, yes, so that's a
15 pass, all right. Is that --

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. With nine yes votes, the
17 motion passes.

18 MS. LEON: Great.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: And I'll give it back to Commissioner
20 Fernández.

21 MS. LEON: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Great. Thank you. And I
23 think Commissioner Akutagawa -- there she is,
24 Commissioner Akutagawa is (indiscernible) this, so that's
25 wonderful news. And before -- as I mentioned earlier in

1 our meeting, we do meet, periodically, with some
2 Legislative staff to discuss the items that we've moved
3 forward, hoping to find an author.

4 And then also we met with them yesterday, and I
5 wanted to forward this to the Bagley-Keene Subcommittee.
6 I believe that's Commissioners Fornaciari and Vázquez.
7 And they did inform us that there is some discussion
8 regarding what the protocols are. And as we -- if you
9 remember, there're due to expire June 30th, and I
10 believe -- Commissioner Akutagawa, correct me if I'm
11 wrong -- I believe what they said is it sounds like it
12 might be going back to how it used to be where you
13 can't -- you have to be in person.

14 And so they recommended that we reach out to and
15 coordinate, which I think you've already have, but you
16 may want to, again, with the Little Hoover Commission.
17 So I just want to pass that on.

18 Was there something else on that one, Commissioner
19 Akutagawa?

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: No. I think you got it. I
21 think the only other indication, or the only other
22 comment that we heard is that there's -- all indications
23 point to allowing the current legislation that allows us
24 to meet in a hybrid format to expire. So I think that
25 was the recommendation that we would like to see

1 something different, that the Little Hoover Commission
2 may be a good starting place for us to, perhaps,
3 coordinate some -- you know, a response, or at least add
4 on to what response that may be provided to -- you know,
5 enabling the continuation of some kind of hybrid meeting
6 format.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you.

8 Oh. Commissioner Andersen.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: On that one. The hybrid,
10 what specifically ends is, the Commissioners have to all
11 be there. But then I really have a question about: does
12 that mean that we don't have to have a hybrid for the
13 public? Because, you know, that has clearly been a
14 great, great thing, we had way more public participation
15 on virtually all meetings across the state. And I was
16 wondering if that expires, what does that do, officially,
17 for the public, and their requirements thereof?

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. Go ahead. Go ahead,
19 Linda.

20 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. I was just going to
21 respond to what Commissioner Andersen is asking. So I
22 guess when I said hybrid, I guess I should be clear. You
23 know, the current state that we have right now, where we
24 can opt to join in virtually, or you know, if we're in
25 the area to be able to join the meeting from the actual

1 Commission office.

2 If right now, if the current -- I guess it's an
3 emergency declaration, if that does expire, what it does
4 mean is that we will have to be present, in person, you
5 know, to attend meetings. That would also apply to any
6 Californian, you know, who is interested in watching our
7 meetings, or coming and making public comment at a
8 meeting. They would actually have to come to a location
9 that we would be holding, you know, where the
10 Commissioners would be gathered to hold the meeting.

11 So as before, there was a period of time where we
12 had locations in Northern California and in Southern
13 California that was open to the public, you know, to
14 watch the meeting, to make public comment. All of that
15 within, you know -- would come back. If we choose to
16 participate in a meeting, we would be -- as previous, we
17 would be required to disclose our physical location. And
18 have it in a way, where if a member of the public wanted
19 to join us at that physical location, then they would
20 need to be able to do so. So it's basically going back
21 to what it was previous to the start of the pandemic.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay, I --

23 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I believe -- oh, wait, let
24 me just --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Go ahead.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Anthony, I think we can
2 still -- I mean, we do have to meet in person or have
3 a -- at least publicly state where we're meeting from.
4 But I believe we can continue to do the hybrid in terms
5 of allowing individuals, or the public, to remotely call
6 in. Is that correct, Anthony? I mean, we could do --

7 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yes. Yeah.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- the public doesn't
9 necessarily have to be at a site, right?

10 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Well, so what is potentially
11 the case, currently we have a statute that sunsets for
12 the end of June. So starting July 1, for lack of a
13 better phrase, we go back to how meetings were held under
14 Bagley-Keene before the pandemic. And that required for
15 every -- you could have multiple locations, but they had
16 to be physical locations publicly accessible for the
17 public, and those locations had to be agendized and
18 noticed.

19 And yes, you could have a call in if -- you know,
20 for members of the public, or you could stream them if
21 you wanted. But the minimum requirements were that we
22 have a physical location for the public to attend. And
23 that would require all Commissioners then to be at a
24 publicly noticed location.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. So that my -- that's

1 exactly my question. I understand about the
2 Commissioners. They're just like: No, you're in public,
3 that's that. But did that extend -- I thought that they
4 did make an exception and it would -- that was not part
5 of the sunset. That, you know, the public could be, like
6 doing it the way we do now. They didn't have to actually
7 physically be there. And I'm just wondering if that is
8 indeed sunset, and then the public actually has to be
9 there? That's my specific question.

10 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: You know, I can look and see if
11 the -- if that specific piece you're talking about,
12 Commissioner Andersen, is -- sort of lives on, so to
13 speak. Or if that's a: nice to have but not required to
14 have.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Commissioner Fornaciari.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Oh. Since this came up,
18 and we weren't going to Bagley-Keene update until we just
19 found this out, because I'll just let you know where we
20 were. We were kind of on hold and waiting to see what
21 the legislation, whether or not there was going to be
22 legislation. But since it appears there won't be, we're
23 going to figure out how we can engage. So thank you for
24 that update.

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Anthony.

1 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Thank you. If I could just
2 maybe provide a little bit more context, there's not,
3 there's not a plan per -- as my understanding is, it's
4 not a definitive Legislative plan in place. It's just
5 what we're trying to keep our ears to the ground to hear
6 a little bit of the water cooler talk. So there may be a
7 plan. You know, there may be, you know, perhaps if the
8 Commission wants to reach out to Hoover Commission to
9 maybe put together a plan that might take a Legislative
10 form.

11 I don't know that it's necessarily a foregone
12 conclusion, but I did want the Commission to be aware
13 that currently it's in statute, but it sunsets June 30th,
14 so that what we're trying to do is keep our ears to the
15 ground to see if there is any Legislative interest in
16 making a permanent solution -- a permanent change I mean,
17 that goes beyond June 30th.

18 And to date, I haven't heard of one. And just to
19 clarify, if there isn't anything, or until there is one,
20 the statute operates until June 30th, and then it goes
21 away.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Okay. Thank
23 you for that. So we will move on. If there aren't any
24 other questions with those two. We're just continuing
25 discussions at the last -- I think it was the last

1 meeting we had a handout, and it showed some of the
2 proposed language for those items that we have voted as a
3 Commission to move forward.

4 So we shared that with the Commissioners, as well as
5 the public, and then we also shared it with our -- the
6 individuals that we meet with on the Legislative
7 Subcommittee, and we -- during our meetings, we just kind
8 of back and forth, and we're working on the language, and
9 we're also trying to find a member to author our bills,
10 who'll support our bills.

11 So as we find out good news, we'll bring it forward.
12 And unfortunately, if we have bad news, we'll bring that
13 forward as well. So I don't think there's anything else
14 on, in terms of what we've moved forward.

15 Commissioner Kennedy.

16 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I just wanted to get
17 clarity on something that you just said. I'm looking at
18 the document that was posted for this meeting, Potential
19 CRC Legislative Changes to 1023 (ph.). And I see where
20 the table is saying: shared potential language with
21 Legislative staff. But are we getting copies of that?

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Yes. So it was a
23 handout -- I believe it was a hand up in our last -- for
24 our last meeting, or the meeting before. It was either
25 December or January. Yeah, we --

1 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah, definitely. I want
3 to make sure that we all have the same information.

4 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: You're welcome. And with
6 that, thank you. That's a great segue, Commissioner
7 Kennedy. We'll move on to the potential Legislative
8 changes document, and that's -- oh. Commissioner
9 Andersen.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Sorry. I have one quick
11 question on that. It does, on your document, you say
12 that it -- the shared draft language with the full
13 Commission was in July, I always --

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Right, but we did it again.
15 I'm sorry, I didn't -- I mean, we also sent it again via
16 handout, so.

17 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Can we, can we get
18 like I mean -- I don't recall that. But I remember the
19 first one, and we all talked about and everything, but I
20 don't recall another one.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Uh-huh.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: And my question actually is,
23 because then you say, "Share potential language on
24 January 19." I'm assuming that it's different again?

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: No. We're still working on

1 the same language.

2 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: So what we posted in
4 January is still the same language that we're working
5 with. And those are for the items that we've -- as a
6 Commission, we've voted to move forward. The items would
7 be --

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- the reallocation of
10 federally incarcerated population. The other one is
11 empowering the Commission to make grants. Third one is
12 exempting the Commission from state procurement
13 contracting regulations. The fourth one is to clarify
14 what its day is. And the fifth one is the ability to
15 hire outside counsel without the Attorney General's
16 approval.

17 And after the meeting, I will go ahead and resend
18 that language to everyone again.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. You're welcome. So
21 we'll move on to the document, we kind of reorganized the
22 information a little bit, so that those items up front up
23 to -- Corina could you possibly share that from the
24 handout. Is she there?

25 MS. LEON: Sure. I'll do that.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. It's the one
2 that's titled, Potential Legislative Changes.

3 MS. LEON: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And so if we
5 move on to page 5, that's where we're starting, we
6 need -- those are the items that we haven't found a home
7 for yet. Or decided how we're going to move forward.

8 Corina, were you asking me something?

9 MS. LEON: No. I'm going to pull up the document,
10 right now.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Perfect. And the
12 first one, the 3-A, we've already -- we just took care of
13 with the policy. So that one we'll be able to close out,
14 and move to the salmon color. So thank you all. I will
15 put down today's date. So that we know that one's been
16 resolved.

17 Corina, could you move down to page 6, please?

18 MS. LEON: 6.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah. There we go. Thank
20 you. So 5, 5-B, this is the earlier start dates with the
21 Commissioners. We will also need -- which would also
22 impact the start date of the application. And so what
23 are -- it's the same status. We've reached out to the
24 State Auditor. They do have a new State Auditor that was
25 recently appointed. And we've reached out to the Chief

1 Counsel as well. We're hoping to be able to meet with
2 them, hopefully, next month, March or April; so that's
3 the update on 5-B.

4 And then if you keep moving, Corina, to the next
5 page, please. Thank you. C, that right there; C-11,
6 that one is commissioner compensation salary is exempt.
7 And that one, we had quite a discussion at our last
8 meeting. And I'm going to have to -- Commissioner
9 Akutagawa and I started looking into this, and we decided
10 we're going to have to punt this to the Chair, because we
11 realized it was going to be quite a bit of research and
12 time to look into this.

13 So we felt, one, if we can establish general
14 consensus before we put all this effort and resources.
15 And then two, Commissioner Akutagawa and I, at this
16 point, did not feel that we could dedicate the amount of
17 time that's going to be needed to research this forward,
18 and so we were hoping there might be two other
19 Commissioners that would be interested in researching
20 this specific item. How's that punt going?

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: That's a --

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: You know, like at the Super
23 Bowl?

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: That's a punt for certain. So then
25 the first question would be to ask is, are there two

1 Commissioners that are particularly interested in this
2 topic, and have the time right now to dedicate to
3 researching this information?

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Well, I think -- I think,
5 if you don't mind, Chair. Maybe general consensus first
6 because if there isn't general consensus, then maybe not
7 move -- you know, have those resources to.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: So then you --

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Because part of this is
10 going to require Corina and staff to do some research as
11 well.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: So in general consensus, are we
13 seeking to have more discussion about this topic? We
14 have the room for it right now.

15 Commissioner Akutagawa.

16 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. So just to build on
17 what Commissioner Fernández was just saying; I think -- I
18 mean, to be blunt, I think, you know, obviously, there's
19 going to be resources that will need to be -- you know,
20 that will be used to do -- take this further, however,
21 and resource, you know, being, you know, Commissioner
22 time, and per diem, and other things like that.

23 And I think before we go down this road of
24 establishing another subcommittee and doing further
25 research on this, I think -- I think what we're seeking

1 is: does the Commission even want to stand up another
2 subcommittee to research this? Or is it one that there
3 may not be enough of an appetite, you know, i.e. a
4 general consensus amongst the Commissioners to even take
5 this further, versus just this is -- this was an idea but
6 you know, this isn't one that we want to pursue further,
7 and let's just end this now.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: So then I'm open to comments on this
9 topic. Commissioner Kennedy, go ahead.

10 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I mean, I don't see this
11 as urgent. I mean, I would be happy postponing this for
12 two years. But I think -- I mean, my position has always
13 been that I don't think we are going to get as diverse a
14 candidate pool as we want for future Commissions unless
15 we address this topic.

16 And you know, if we don't address it, then it
17 wouldn't take effect until the 2040 Commission. So
18 again, I'm happy postponing it for two years until we've
19 cleared everything else off the plate. But I do think
20 that we need to address it. And you know, two years from
21 now, yeah, I might have time to just sit down and do the
22 research. I'm not going to volunteer for it now, because
23 I don't have the time now. But I don't think it's
24 something that we can just permanently dispose of. Thank
25 you.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fornaciari.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Thanks,
3 Commissioner Kennedy. I'm kind of on board with that. I
4 just, I want to step back a little bit. I mean, we're
5 going to have a philosophical discussion a little bit
6 later about where we think, as a group, the Commission is
7 going to go. I think that philosophical discussion, and
8 hopefully we'll come to some conclusion on a couple of
9 the topics we're going to talk about later, will help
10 inform a lot of these proposed amendments in the
11 direction that we're going to go.

12 You know, and we've talked about schedule, changes,
13 and I think it all has to be kind of looked at as a
14 whole. And so I would just offer that, yeah, in this
15 particular case, we can defer for the time being.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Any other thoughts or comments?
17 Well, while still keeping it an option, a deferral seems
18 like a prudent choice and still be able to address this
19 and give it proper space. I know in a year and a half,
20 I'll be a newly retired young man, and be happy to dive
21 into something.

22 Commissioner Fernández, did you have your hand up
23 and put it down?

24 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I did. I had it up and
25 then down. I mean, I've given my opinion in the past. I

1 am not forward looking -- I am not in favor of looking
2 into this. I kind of feel like if we start going down
3 this road, we actually may jeopardize what we do have,
4 which is, I believe is generous, because there are other
5 Commissions and Commissioners that only receive a stipend
6 of maybe, maybe \$100 a day, and maybe their travel costs.
7 So I just -- at this point I'm not sold on it. But if
8 you and Commissioner Kennedy would like to revisit this
9 in a couple of years that'd be --

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: (Indiscernible).

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: -- I could probably put you
12 down.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: So let's put it down, as tabled or
14 deferred. And how about, we know that we'll revisit this
15 in a year's time, and then we'll work from there.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Sounds good. I will
17 do that. Thank you.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: It's another punt. That's a smaller
19 one.

20 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I see. It's an
21 interception. Or a turnover, it's a turnover, there we
22 go.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: It's a turnover?

24 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah. Okay. Thank you for
25 that.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: You got it.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And then the next one --
3 I'm sorry -- the next one is C-15. And that one is:
4 Further restrict amendments to Government Code statutes,
5 not within one year of certification of maps. And we --
6 or I thought I had taken up -- we really have not had
7 much discussion on this in the past, and I thought I --
8 the version I sent forward didn't have prior discussions.

9 I believe -- Commissioner Kennedy, I think this
10 might have been yours.

11 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: (No verbal response).

12 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Did you want to
13 explain it a little bit more, go into it?

14 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. I mean, my original
15 thinking on this was that I didn't want to see us rush
16 into making Legislative recommendations without adequate
17 time to reflect back on our experience. You know, I
18 think ideally the Legislative effort should allow
19 temperatures to cool off. You know, hindsight to come
20 into focus, but also not be so far out that it loses
21 focus. And so you know, I thought it would be prudent to
22 say, you know, give it a year, get the other things off
23 your plate, and then look at making changes.

24 You know, the other thing is because the
25 legislation, the Government Code currently precludes

1 changes in years ending in 9, 0, or 1, we could
2 conceivably have found ourselves, because of the
3 pandemic, in a situation where had the Supreme Court
4 ruled differently and given us a mid-January deadline in
5 2022, that we could be introducing legislation before the
6 maps were even submitted. We would have been too busy to
7 do it, but you know, theoretically the possibility would
8 exist.

9 And so this was also an effort to just wipe out any
10 possibility of Legislative changes ever being proposed
11 before the maps were done. If you set a one-year period
12 after the maps are adopted as your exclusion, at this end
13 of the process, then you'd never have even the
14 theoretical possibility of Legislative changes being
15 proposed before the maps were done. Thanks.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Do we have
17 any -- oh. Commissioner Andersen.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Well, I understand that the
19 thought -- that would have violated that we could not
20 have done what we did, and specifically requiring the
21 reallocation of state incarcerated people, their last-
22 known place of residence.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: The timing of that was
25 perfect. We would not have been allowed to do that

1 should we have made further restrictions. So I like
2 leaving it the way it is, the 9, 0, and 1. And yes, I
3 see it but I mean -- because we have to go almost into
4 another month that's so remote, that I don't think this,
5 C-15 is worth dealing with at this point.

6 It's just a -- and actually, turns out, it turns out
7 there's something that we all did, we had to do, we voted
8 on, and we really wanted to make a change. And if we had
9 that restriction in we could not have done it. And the
10 Governor, I don't know if he could have done that,
11 because we couldn't have changed or made recommendations.
12 So anyway, I think we should ditch that one, C15.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. I'll add my comment
14 as well. I do -- I agree with Commissioner Andersen. I
15 see the value it's -- we're still relevant, people still
16 know who we are. And I'm going to probably punt to
17 Commissioner Akutagawa. But I believe it's been very
18 valuable for both of us, from the onset of once the maps
19 were drawn, to be part of this Legislative Subcommittee
20 and have those contacts.

21 Again, I think, leave it as is. It's up to each
22 Commission. Again, it wasn't something that we did right
23 away. You know, we were still kind of recovering from
24 the -- drawing the maps, but I do feel that it's
25 important when the Legislature still knows who I am,

1 good, bad, or ugly, right? They know who we are. We, at
2 least, don't have to explain who we are, and we can move
3 forward trying to build those relationships with some of
4 the Legislature staff.

5 And if there's an opportunity to put, you know, one
6 or two items in that first session, then I believe we
7 should. And as Commissioner Andersen mentioned, we were
8 successful. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yeah. And if I could chime
10 in on that -- on what Commissioner Fernández just said, I
11 would agree as well, too, I think being able to also be
12 able to immediately start the discussion. And it wasn't
13 immediate either. I mean, there was time that we took to
14 have the conversations as a Commission. Fortunately, we
15 were able to get in, in the latter part of the
16 Legislative session, so that we could get the one bill
17 around -- you know, the way the counting of incarcerated
18 individuals, you know, we were able to get that into that
19 same year's Legislative session.

20 I think also the relationships, you know, through
21 the conversations that we've had, as we worked through
22 that, and as we've also been presenting the other kind of
23 Legislative ideas for other Legislative change, I think
24 that that's also been very helpful as well too. I think
25 they have a sense of what's going to be coming. They

1 also then have a sense of, you know -- you know, at least
2 once the new Assembly and Senate is seated, you know,
3 who -- depending on who is in the leadership, I think
4 they also have a sense of, you know, where, and if there
5 might be a fit as well, too, or if it's feasible.

6 So I think that, to what both Commissioner Andersen,
7 Commissioner Fernández both said, I would agree, and I
8 would wholeheartedly say that I think, you know, not
9 handcuffing ourselves would be important. And also to
10 Commissioner Andersen's point, I think that the chance --
11 you know, fingers crossed, hopefully, knock on wood,
12 everything, you know, that what happened to us is an
13 anomaly, and that the future Commissions will all just --
14 you know, it's going to be business as usual, and they
15 will not have to grapple with, you know, some of the same
16 things that we had to grapple with. Thanks.

17 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Any other comments?

18 Commissioner Kennedy.

19 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: So then I will take the
20 opportunity to recommend that we formally drop this from
21 the tracking table.

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you for that,
23 we'll move it to -- I'll just leave it as is then. Thank
24 you.

25 Okay. And then C-15 -- no, no, I'm sorry. C-17,

1 changes to the size or composition of the Applicant
2 Review Panel. Some of the prior discussion was that
3 we -- the three individuals that were on the panel with
4 the State Auditor, they were White, there was -- we would
5 prefer a diverse panel.

6 And now the observation was that the State Auditor
7 place the prospective candidates in a separate group,
8 similar to how the Commissioner candidates are randomly
9 selected from each group. And that's kind of how it
10 turned out. Kind of similar to the first eight, and
11 there's no Latinos kind of that's -- that's what I would
12 equate it to.

13 And then the other thoughts were that they thought
14 the panel did a good job sifting through the applicants'
15 qualifications. Again, this wouldn't -- the change to
16 the composition of Applicant Review Panel, that isn't
17 under our control. Depending on how the Commission felt,
18 we would forward that information to the State Auditor's
19 Office.

20 Personally, I felt they did -- I felt that they were
21 equitable. I didn't feel that it was discriminatory in
22 any way. We all ended up here, the fourteen of us. So I
23 think that was pretty good. But any comments on this
24 one?

25 Commissioner Yee.

1 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. We actually brought this
2 up. Commissioner Kennedy and I brought this up. We met
3 with said auditor's staffs, and their comment was simply
4 that, you know, this reflects to the greater pool of
5 State Auditors, and unless you diversify that pool
6 somehow, expanding the selection panel, will simply make
7 it a larger, White panel. You know. So yeah, unless
8 you're going to introduce some requirement for national
9 diversity quota, it is really just expanding the panel
10 does not achieve the goal -- would likely not achieve the
11 goal. So that was the response.

12 You know, I thought, too, they did a fine job. You
13 know, the deeper issues should and deserved attention,
14 but they're doing that through a Legislative change, I
15 don't think is any -- that's a very useful way to go.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner
17 Sinay.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: It's easy to say they did a
19 good job, you know, in retro -- in looking in the past.
20 This is about looking into the future. I would like to
21 at least make a recommendation so that it's on the books
22 that -- because diversity is not just ethnic, and gender,
23 and political, but it's also geographic. And they do
24 have offices in different places, and they could have
25 folks that are outside of the Sacramento bubble. And so

1 to me, it's important not to say: Well, they did a good
2 job last time, but to say: How could they do a better job
3 in the future? And one of them is to think about how
4 they could diversify the perspectives and the lenses that
5 are coming to the conversation.

6 Because we all know that -- I don't know -- you
7 know, Russell, what you were saying, if we expand the
8 number, you know, you have to expand it in all sorts of
9 different ways, that that would make it better. They did
10 take a year out of their life, you know, to do the work.
11 But I don't want to lose the opportunity to make the
12 recommendation just by saying: Oh, they did a great job
13 last time.

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy.

15 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. And I want to say that,
16 you know, I think this is within our purview. This is
17 part of the Government Code chapter on the Citizens
18 Redistricting Commission, changes to which cannot be made
19 without our concurrence. And you know, I think we would
20 be fully within our purview to propose changes. I do
21 think that discussions with the California State Auditor
22 would be an important part of that process. But it is
23 Section 8252, Subsection (b) of the Government Code
24 chapter that controls this Commission. So I take it's
25 well within our purview to consider this. Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Yes, you're
2 right. I think they also have a Government Code section,
3 where it's in there as well. I think that's where I got
4 confused. It might be in two places. But I will
5 confirm, or I'll have Anthony look into that to make
6 sure. Any other comments?

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Kennedy.

8 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: So I think what the Auditor's
9 Office has in place is more likely within the California
10 Code of Regulations, or if it's a regulatory level, and
11 there's plenty of language about how 8252(b) gets done.
12 So 8252(b) is where it says,

13 "The State Auditor shall establish an Applicant
14 Review Panel, consisting of three qualified
15 independent auditors, that is responsible for
16 screening of the applicants. State Auditor
17 shall randomly draw names from a pool
18 consisting of all qualified, independent
19 auditors. The State Auditor shall draw until
20 the names of three qualified independent
21 auditors have been drawn," et cetera, et
22 cetera.

23 But there is the regulatory language that sits
24 underneath there that is what the State Auditor's Office
25 put in place. So yes, to the extent that any change was

1 made to 8252(b), it would require the State Auditor to go
2 back in modify the regulatory language that sits
3 underneath. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Any other
5 comments on this one? Okay. So in terms of this we
6 could -- one suggestion could be when Commissioner
7 Akutagawa and I actually have a meeting with the State
8 Auditor. We could bring this up, and then maybe discuss
9 what our concerns were, and then we can bring that back
10 to the Commission, if that sounds okay with everyone for
11 now?

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes. That sounds fine.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: And Commissioner Fernández does -- do
15 you need additional time after we return from break?

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh, wait. When is break?

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Now.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. It is. Well, we could
19 just keep deferring 4-C, which is fine. We've already
20 deferred it in terms of not needing to discuss. So
21 either way is fine; if we don't need to.

22 Oh. Commissioner Kennedy.

23 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Chair. My watch is telling me
24 that we've got about ten more minutes until break. We
25 came back at 11:15, so 12:45 would be lunchtime.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: That is correct. It's a little --
2 there's a little playtime. And it's scheduled -- it's
3 scheduled at 12:30. I knew we had a little bit -- a
4 little bit to play. And I could sense this conversation
5 wasn't quite over with, but I was trying to get us in
6 that direction.

7 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Excuse me. So not on this
10 topic, but on advocacy in general; there are several
11 bills that are in -- I don't know where -- yeah, in the
12 Legislature, around redistricting at the local levels.
13 And one in particular, one is on this, you know, kind of
14 City of Los Angeles. Just focus on that. The other one
15 is being held back a little bit because we're still
16 working on some of the details, and Common Causes
17 involved.

18 I talked to Anthony asking him, you know, what role
19 can or can't we play? And as a collective Commission, we
20 can make that decision collectively. But as individuals,
21 Common Cause wanted to know if it was possible for
22 individuals to go to Legislative meetings, and such, to
23 talk about their experience so that folks could
24 understand why Independent Redistricting Commissions were
25 important. We cannot go as Commissioners, but we can go

1 as individual citizens.

2 And what that means is you can't charge for your
3 time, or the Commission is not going to cover your costs.
4 But if -- I just wanted to put it out there, and I think
5 it would be good for us, as a Commission, just to kind of
6 follow on with the bills that are being posed around
7 Independent Redistricting Commissions in the State of
8 California, just so that we're informed, and in case we
9 do get calls from the press, and such, to ask for our
10 input, because most of them are using the State
11 Redistricting as kind of the model.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Chair, did you
13 want to take it over? Or did you want me to take it
14 over? I don't want to take it over.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: What's the ask?

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Well, I don't know, because
17 Commissioner Kennedy has. So I didn't know if we were
18 done with the Legislative piece of it, or if.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: No. Did you have sufficient time?
20 Are we concluded with this subcommittee report? Do you
21 need some time after we come back from break?

22 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We shouldn't need any time
23 after break. The last one was the 4-C, and that's adding
24 language.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Let's run. Let's run that.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Let's run the 4-C.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: And then we'll break after.

5 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: We're going to go with that
6 one, with the last one, because we're hoping to kind of
7 come to some sort of decision so we have them in the
8 correct categories, in terms of following up. And this
9 one, there was discussion kind of back and forth, and the
10 decision was for Chair -- I think it was Chair Toledo at
11 that time, I forgot to put his name in there -- was to
12 just move it down to a lower priority, because it was
13 just kind of going back and forth.

14 Like, yeah, it's okay if we don't change it; or
15 should we be more specific to show what the 2010
16 Commission as well as us, just to clarify that, you can
17 have rotating chairs, if that's what you desire, so.

18 Commissioner Kennedy.

19 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Actually, I was wanting to
20 comment on the previous discussion.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh. Okay. Okay.

22 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I'll also address this one,
23 because this is something that, again, I've been pushing
24 for. But going back to Commissioner Sinay's suggestion
25 that we pay close attention to changes to legislation on

1 local redistricting; I'm very much in favor of that. And
2 I think, you know, there are some areas where there have
3 even been improvements to the legislation since the
4 creation of this body. And one example; and I had
5 mentioned this to Chief Counsel Pane recently, there is
6 actually language on local redistricting commissions that
7 requires them to maintain and retain their websites for
8 the entire ten years.

9 I mean, imagine how much easier the budget
10 discussions with Legislative Staff would have been, if we
11 had similar language to what's already in place for local
12 redistricting bodies. So I do think that it is very
13 important for us to keep an eye on changes, or to some
14 extent to -- to look through the existing language on
15 local redistricting, and see if there are ideas that we
16 want to pick up from there for our own proposals, for
17 changes to our legal framework.

18 And you know, clearly, the requirement that they
19 retain and maintain their websites for ten years is an
20 example of something that we might be well advised to add
21 to our Legislative Framework matrix.

22 On the idea of rotating the chair, and then again,
23 this was a point that I had raised a long time ago.
24 Being, yes, I think we all support the rotation of the
25 chair. We all understand the benefits that that has

1 bestowed on us individually, and as a Commission. My
2 concern has always been that the language in the statute,
3 in the Government Code I believe, you know, could easily
4 be read to say, you know: Shall elect a chair and a vice
5 chair.

6 And we never -- we never did that. We decided that
7 we were going to go our own way, and we were going to
8 rotate. So I think that it's just a matter of prudence,
9 and you know, forestalling any possible challenge to this
10 in the future, adding language that says, nothing impedes
11 the Commission from deciding to have a rotating
12 chairmanship. Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner
14 Yee.

15 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I agree with Commissioner
16 Kennedy. You know, the language says that the Commission
17 shall elect one of their members to serve as chair, and
18 one as vice chair. So you know, it does leave it
19 somewhat ambiguous. In the Lessons Learned report, you
20 know, we heavily document, and sing the praises of the
21 rotating chairs for 2010 and 2020. And I think we all
22 agree, it served us very well.

23 So you know, I think if we do move forward with a --
24 perhaps a package of these, you know, 8552, 8253,
25 amendments, it certainly would be worth including in

1 that. And so I recommend we do pursue it.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Commissioner
3 Andersen.

4 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I totally agree. I also
5 agree with what Commissioner Kennedy said about following
6 ten years, particularly if they say, following the local
7 redistricting bills, particularly if one says already
8 that, you know: Hey, keep that website going for ten
9 years. I'm all for that. But on this particular one,
10 I'm absolutely all for this. And the item I wanted to
11 bring in is twofold. One is by rotating chair, the
12 additional benefit is it avoids the feeling of resentment
13 among you. It really does share. You know, everyone is
14 in charge. It's not like they're always in charge and we
15 don't count sort of. I think the rotating chair has
16 really kept Commission together, and I simply heard that
17 from someone on the 2010.

18 Additionally, though, in terms of I thought, a way
19 we could move forward on this, possibly, would be to make
20 it a policy. That was just a thought. And then we --
21 because I don't think this is a -- I mean, maybe it's
22 Legislative, I don't know. But I thought I'd throw that
23 out.

24 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Hmm? That's a good way to
25 look at it as well, if we made it a policy. I can

1 also -- to be honest, I was not for this at the
2 beginning, but I actually do see the benefit of defining
3 it more specifically, because when there's -- it's the
4 initial fourteen, we really don't know each other. We
5 don't know our leadership styles. We don't know how good
6 we'll be at chairs or vice chairs. And I think it's good
7 that is rotated, because there's always -- I appreciate
8 everyone's different perspective and different styles.

9 So I did like -- it's growing on me, Commissioner
10 Kennedy. How's that?

11 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Good. Are you also calling on
12 me?

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

14 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That was my Segue.

16 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Great. No, I mean, again, this
17 is -- I think it's already a policy. We voted on the
18 chair rotation, and approved it, we've approved the
19 modifications of the chair rotation along the way. So to
20 me, it already is a policy. But you know, as
21 Commissioner Yee pointed out, when the when the statutory
22 language says, "Shall appoint one member as chair" you
23 know, somebody could read that as, you know, very
24 literally and say, you need to appoint one person as
25 chair.

1 And so having language that says, "Nothing impedes
2 the Commission from rotating the chair," is not saying
3 that, you know, the Commission is required to rotate the
4 chair. It's simply an insurance policy that no one can
5 come after a future Commission and say: You're not
6 following the law. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Are there any
8 other comments or anyone that is not in favor of moving
9 this forward? Because if not, it sounds like the few
10 that are for it --

11 Anthony, remind me. We voted in the past, right,
12 whenever we moved something forward?

13 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: So if you're -- if the question
14 is, Commissioner Fernández, have we voted in the past to
15 move it forward for the Legislative Subcommittee to
16 pursue it?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Right.

18 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

20 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Does that have to happen right
21 now at this meeting? No. If we're going to make changes
22 to the Commission's statutes, it does have to follow
23 those requirements. But there's nothing saying that
24 those, there isn't necessarily a set order for those
25 requirements either, so.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

2 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yeah, in the past, just to, I
3 think for clarification purposes, to point to sort of a
4 point in time when the Commission has said, yes, we like
5 this, we want to pursue this as a change, as a policy
6 matter, to make Legislative changes. We want to kind of
7 try to address this in a particular way. Yes, we have
8 done that.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. All right. So it's
10 time for lunch. So I think we might need to -- I would
11 be more comfortable if -- it sounds like it's positive
12 that there might be some support to move this forward.
13 I'd be more comfortable that we voted to move forward
14 versus just forwarding it to our Legislative Group. So
15 we'll probably need to do that after.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: So what we'll do is, we'll return.
17 Commissioner Fernández, we'll open up for public comment,
18 take a vote on this issue.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Uh-huh.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Then if we have sufficient
21 Commissioners present, we'll go to a closed session for
22 personnel issues. And then we'll return with the
23 Continuity Committee -- Subcommittee.

24 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: All right. Thank you.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. We have our lunch in

1 front of us. I'll see everyone back at 1:30.

2 MS. LEON: Thank you.

3 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 12:47 p.m.
4 until 1:30 p.m.)

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back, California, to the
6 February 10th Meeting of the California Citizens
7 Redistricting Commission. It's still tough to say after
8 all these years.

9 We have in front of us a closed session, and the
10 Continuity Subcommittee report. We left off with our
11 Legislative Subcommittee. And I would like to return it
12 back to Commissioner Fernández.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. When we left
14 off, it sounded like we might be ready for a vote to move
15 forward, Item C-12, which is add language to note,
16 "Nothing impedes the Commission from rotating the chair."
17 But I don't think we have enough people online to
18 actually take the vote, so we might just need to go into
19 closed session.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay.

21 MS. LEON: I think we're missing one person,
22 Akutagawa.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa, she might --
24 I know she was at a conference and she was --

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: -- on and off with us.

2 MS. LEON: Yeah. She was going to come back on.

3 Let me send her --

4 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: But is Commissioner Toledo with
5 us?

6 MS. LEON: Yes. Thank you.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: One, two, three --

8 MS. LEON: Let's see. She just texted me a quick --

9 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: There he is.

10 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And someone, who just left?

11 Let me just look -- no.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Neal?

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Oh, he's connecting.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yeah.

16 MS. LEON: I'll send her a note.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yeah, we don't want a -- we don't

18 want any reductions.

19 MS. LEON: Yeah.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Let's see -- eight.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I think --

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: And for, Commissioner Fernández, for
23 your vote do we need a --

24 MS. LEON: Oh. There she is. There is Commissioner
25 Akutagawa.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Oh.

2 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I do not believe -- as
3 Anthony said -- I do not believe we need a supermajority
4 for this. It's when we come back later with specific
5 language then a supermajority would be needed, once it
6 goes through the Legislature and it's in the bill. Is
7 that correct, Anthony?

8 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: That's correct.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. So let's --

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: So if Commissioner Akutagawa is
11 listening in, I think we are at -- oh, yeah, we're at
12 ten.

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. Yes.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Let's seize the moment.

15 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: There we go. There we go.
16 Okay. Did somebody make a motion, or we were just going
17 to -- okay, so I'll --

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: I'm willing to entertain the motion.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Ray, are you ready?

20 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I am ready.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Let's go.

22 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I move that we develop language
23 to say that nothing impedes the Commission from rotating
24 the chair to add to Government Code -- the relevant
25 Government Code section.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Yee, is that a second?

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes. That's a second.

3 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Can I just clarify?

4 Commissioner Kennedy, when you're saying: To develop
5 language that includes meeting with our Legislative
6 staff, in terms of that type of language, so that we can
7 move forward -- to bring that forward to them as well?

8 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. And "to say nothing
10 impedes", is it chair and vice chair?

11 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Chair and vice chair.

12 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay. Thank you. I just
13 want to make sure I capture it all.

14 MS. LEON: Okay.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: So we have a motion that's been moved
16 and seconded. Any further discussion?

17 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Anthony, is that good
18 enough for us to then move it to the next list, which is
19 the proposed -- I know we have the other list that is --

20 CHIEF COUNSEL PANE: Yes. I mean, I think what
21 we're doing right now is probably a little bit of
22 preliminary step, but it's important. We get,
23 essentially, direction that the Commission wants to
24 pursue this Legislatively, and ask that the subcommittee
25 work with staff to, hopefully, get some actual language.

1 And then once we are able -- once the subcommittee is
2 able to work the language, come back for an approval vote
3 with a supermajority for the Commission.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Okay.

5 MS. LEON: Shall I share this -- shall I share the
6 motion?

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: (No verbal response).

8 MS. LEON: Is that okay with the details?

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: No, not yet.

10 MS. LEON: Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: "Nothing impedes rotating
12 the chair and vice chair".

13 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. Nothing impedes the
14 Commission from rotating the chair and vice chair. And
15 we can put that it's in Government Code, Section 8252 --

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Three -- oh, two.

17 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: -- or 8253(a)(4).

18 MS. LEON: 8250 --

19 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: -- 3, Subsection (a), paragraph
20 (4).

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Is that a --

22 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: And to add the relevant Code
23 section? And actually we can leave out "relevant Code
24 section", just say, "To add to Government Code Section
25 8253, Subsection (a)(4)." Yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: It's 8253 is the section
2 number.

3 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. Yeah.

4 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. Now, public
5 comment?

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Right. Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Actually, it --

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: I want to see -- I want to see the
9 verbiage first. So this is, we agreed upon, this is the
10 verbiage that we're going forward with?

11 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Actually, if I can comment
12 on it.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Akutagawa.

14 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I'm going to join my other
15 fellow Commissioners in doing some wordsmithing.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Go ahead.

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: The part of -- if you could
18 show the language or -- sorry. Okay. So the part that
19 says, "developed language", and I would suggest moving
20 "develop language" to "add to GC Section 8253 Subsection
21 4", move that up there. Yeah. And then just get rid of
22 the "to add to" after the vice chair. I think it just
23 sounds cleaner that way, and clearer too.

24 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Agreed.

25 MS. LEON: Are we ready for --

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: No, hang on.

2 MS. LEON: Okay.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: So we have the accepted verbiage.
4 Motion has been properly moved seconded. No need for
5 further discussion.

6 Kristian, can you open up the lines for public
7 comment?

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing, Chair.

9 The Commission will now take public comment on the
10 motion on the floor. To give comment, please call 877-
11 853-5247, and enter meeting ID number 85436289451. Once
12 you've dialed in, please press star 9 to enter the
13 comment queue. The full call-in instructions are read at
14 the beginning of the meeting, and are provided on the
15 live stream landing page.

16 And there is no one in the queue at this time,
17 Chair.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And let me know when they
19 have -- when they've cut up or --

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Those instructions are
21 complete, and there is no one in the queue.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, sir.

23 Corina, we can proceed with the vote, please.

24 MS. LEON: Okay.

25 Commissioner Ahmad.

1 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Yes.

2 MS. LEON: Akutagawa.

3 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

4 MS. LEON: Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

6 MS. LEON: Fernández.

7 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes.

8 MS. LEON: Fornaciari.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

10 MS. LEON: Kennedy.

11 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yes.

12 MS. LEON: Le Mons.

13 Sathwani.

14 Sinay.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

16 MS. LEON: Taylor.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

18 MS. LEON: Toledo.

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

20 MS. LEON: Turner.

21 Vázquez.

22 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Yes.

23 MS. LEON: And Yee.

24 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yes.

25 MS. LEON: Okay.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Motion, motion passes.

2 MS. LEON: Thank you. All right. Let me stop
3 sharing. Okay. Great.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Commissioner Fernández, any other
5 outstanding topics?

6 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That's it. Thank you.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, as always, for the
8 wonderful work.

9 Commissioners, now, please follow the link that was
10 sent to you. We're going to go to closed session. I
11 anticipate that we'll be back in general session at,
12 let's say 1405, 2:05. I'll see you in closed session.

13 MS. LEON: Okay. Thank you.

14 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 1:41 p.m.
15 until 2:30 p.m.)

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back to the February 10th,
17 2023, Meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting
18 Commission.

19 The Commission met in closed session under the
20 personnel matter's exception, and the Commission voted to
21 hire a subject matter expert, a SME, as in a retired
22 annuitant to assist with the website and ADA compliance.

23 MS. LEON: Namely, me.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: So upon return, we are going to now
25 move on to our Continuity Subcommittee report. And in

1 charge of that is Commissioner Sinay and Commissioner
2 Fornaciari. So I'll throw the ball into your court.

3 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Do you want me to kind of
4 set some context?

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Sure, absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Okay. Well, so I think
7 back when Commissioner Akutagawa was Chair, she -- no,
8 who was it? I can't remember who -- oh, maybe it was
9 Toledo, yes, Commissioner Toledo, who brought up this
10 idea of a Continuity Transition Committee to look at kind
11 of where we're headed, you know, in the long term. And
12 you know, what are the -- what are kind of the activities
13 we want to do to help prepare the next set of
14 Commissioners?

15 And I specifically say it that way because I really
16 think we need to stop talking about the '10, '20, and '30
17 as if they're separate things. But again, we'll have
18 that part of that conversation in a minute.

19 At the last meeting, Commissioner Le Mons, then
20 asked a big-picture question, you know: What are we
21 doing? I mean, we're talking a lot about, a lot of sort
22 of point things that we want to maybe do, but how do they
23 all fit together in the big picture? And being the
24 systems engineer that I am, that's how I think is: how do
25 all the pieces fit together?

1 And so Commissioner Sinay graciously agreed to join
2 me on this journey. And at the last meeting we committed
3 to coming back to you with kind of an initial plan.

4 Well, sort of -- you know, Commissioner Sinay, and I
5 talked about this, we kept coming back to two questions
6 that we thought we needed to start with as a Commission.
7 And those questions are: Do we view the Commission as an
8 ongoing entity? And question number two is: What is
9 fully functional?

10 And today, we want to have -- begin a conversation
11 about those two topics to kind of take the pulse of the
12 Commission, to kind of run through an exercise to see,
13 you know, what that looks like, decisions in either
14 direction on those two questions, it looks like. And
15 that discussion kind of will help lead us forward, I
16 think in answering a lot of the questions, a lot of the
17 Legislative issues that we brought up are, you know,
18 really tied into to this conversation.

19 And inform us, you know, what are we to do over the
20 next seven years, and how are we going to -- and what are
21 we going to be able to do to support the next set of
22 Commissioners as they come on board?

23 And of course, as we know, it's not all our
24 decision, right? We need to get some funding. And we've
25 worked on that, and at least for the next several years,

1 and hopefully that'll come through. And if it doesn't,
2 we'll have to revisit this. But that was a good time to
3 start this conversation.

4 So Patricia, what did I miss?

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh. I think that was a good
6 overview. We did want to also ground this conversation
7 on what language do we need to understand. You know,
8 what -- so I want thank Anthony for doing kind of that
9 research, and saying, you know, where in the original
10 ballot measures, or in the Legislature, or wherever, that
11 they talk about these two issues.

12 And just so that we don't confuse ourselves, we
13 have, for the sake of this conversation, we're going to
14 use the legalese term. So it's not "commissioners" but
15 "occupants", so we can easily think about the occupants.
16 And the reason being, sometimes we say "Commission" --
17 yeah, "CRC" or "Commission", and we mean "redistricting".
18 Other times we say it and we mean the "entity"; and then
19 third -- the third way we use CRC is to refer to
20 ourselves. And even in documents today, now that I'm
21 so -- I've been thinking about this so much, I've noticed
22 that we use it in all different ways.

23 So we're trying to just stay clear in our
24 conversation. And there's a lot of questions here. And
25 the idea was just to really spark -- hopefully you've

1 read it ahead of time, we tried to get it done early
2 enough so that people could read it, but it's to spark
3 your creativity in your thinking. "What if" questions
4 are supposed to open up your mind instead of close your
5 mind?

6 And we worked really hard -- except Neal blew it --
7 I mean, Commissioner Fornaciari. We worked really hard
8 on not being biased, and not sharing our biases in the
9 responses, and because I don't think, necessarily,
10 there's a right or wrong answer and -- and any decisions
11 that we make as future -- you know, future occupants
12 think that we made the wrong decision, and they can
13 always change it as well. Yeah. So I just wanted to put
14 that out there, that let's just be creative.

15 Neal, do you want us -- should we start? So we
16 created two -- kind of decision trees. We went through
17 all different ways of how to present this, so on a Friday
18 afternoon you guys would be really excited to have this
19 conversation. But what we wanted to make sure was that
20 decisions got made, because a lot of times we talk in
21 circles and then we come back to a conversation, and some
22 of us think we made a decision, others haven't. And what
23 do you decisions mean? What are the consequences?

24 And so when you look at page 2 in the docket, the
25 post-mapping -- the discussion document, not the

1 timelines, because we also played around with timelines,
2 because we keep talking about what this might look like,
3 and this, and that. And Neal, being linear and needing
4 to see it -- sorry -- Commissioner Fornaciari, he created
5 all these great timelines that are really helpful, also
6 in thinking through some of these things.

7 So the orange is the question -- are the questions
8 that are being posed, the dark -- black is, the answers
9 are yes or no. And then the purple is the action that
10 needs to be taken, because that's kind of where we're
11 trying to head to, to getting instructions from all of
12 you on what the next step is. So that's our constant
13 desire -- oh, thanks for doing that, Corina.

14 And I was looking at my own screen, forgetting that
15 I can share.

16 So there is some color coding here. And to give
17 credit where credit is due, I think the first time that
18 this was posed as a question, was by Commissioner
19 Kennedy. He said, you know, we need to start thinking
20 about the Commissioner as -- the Commission as an
21 institution, not as something that gets created, and you
22 know, that is based on the individuals each ten years.

23 The reason we say -- call it a "phoenix", was kind
24 of that idea, that it sunsets and comes back. So when
25 you read phoenix, that's why.

1 Neal, take it from there.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Can you go ahead? I
3 thought I'd take notes. Is that okay?

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Sounds great. So the first
5 question: What if the California Citizen Redistricting
6 Commission was an institution? And what we mean by an
7 institution is that it would be a -- that it's part of
8 the bureaucracy that is similar to all the other
9 commissions, that it has such policies that set staffs,
10 that address -- you know, and the occupants, the
11 commissioners come and go, but the institution is there.
12 And it is part of the fabric of the California
13 Government.

14 On that one, do you want to say anything else,
15 Commissioner Kennedy, or Commissioner Fornaciari, on what
16 it being an institution means to you all?

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I'll jump in if
18 that's okay. I mean, I think it -- I think that's what
19 we need to decide what that looks like, right. Is it --
20 you know, I mean, it goes all the way from one end of the
21 spectrum as, you know, we lock up the key tomorrow; or
22 lock up the door tomorrow, and then the new Commission
23 comes back in 2020 or 2030 and starts up from ground
24 zero, all the way to, you know, it's up and running when
25 they come through the door, you know. And what "up and

1 running is", is another question. So I mean, it's a --

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You mean occupants, right, not
3 commission?

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: When they, the occupants
5 come -- get chosen, yes. And so you know, our hope and
6 my hope in this conversation is we kind of come to where
7 we as a -- as a group feel, you know, where do we feel
8 that we are on that whole entire spectrum, or should be.

9 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Well, yeah. Commissioner
10 Sinay, if I may?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes. Go ahead.

12 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: You know, I've working with the
13 election commissions for -- you know, essentially for
14 thirty years, and we view commissions as institutions,
15 and we distinguish between commissions and boards of
16 commissioners. So the commission is the institution, the
17 board, as we've said on a number of occasions, you know,
18 individuals come and go, rotate on rotate off, but that
19 doesn't mean that the institution, the commission ceases
20 to exist.

21 So you know that's where I've been coming from. And
22 I'm very happy to see us having this discussion. And I
23 very much appreciate you and Commissioner Fornaciari for
24 having sat down and thought through this so thoroughly,
25 and brought this to us in this format. So thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. We won. Commissioner
2 Kennedy liked it. We're done. No. So on this, I know
3 it's Friday afternoon, and we've had a long week, but it
4 would be great just to hear what your gut is telling you
5 on kind of this, or you know, how have you been thinking
6 about it, about the entity? I'm trying not to use the
7 words that we're trying to define.

8 But you know, about CRC, what are some -- if we were
9 to go and say, okay, this is an institution, the
10 Commission is an institution, and it's -- and it should,
11 like, I think it was -- if you look at the list of
12 commissions in the State of California, it doesn't pop up
13 because it's not one that you -- yeah, it's not a
14 standing one that's there.

15 And so what would it look like? What would it --
16 what would it feel like? What, you know, just any of
17 your thoughts?

18 Go for it, Commissioner Andersen.

19 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. I'll go for it,
20 because I basically kind of said it earlier. The one
21 question, though, I think we should be saying is, does
22 anyone not think that the California Citizens
23 Redistricting Commission should continue on? I mean,
24 should we -- does anyone think we should close the door,
25 and then come back years later?

1 I think that's the question to decide right now. In
2 all our discussions, do I think there might be one or two
3 that'll probably go: Sure, I'll go to that? But I don't
4 think that's many. And so that's the first question I
5 would ask everybody.

6 But then my vision has always been, and I think I've
7 said that's -- the website has been going is, yes,
8 we're -- this institution which is wildly busy, da, da,
9 da, da, da. And then we kind of close things down, the
10 archives, we kind of tailor things off of a little bit,
11 and then unlike what the 2010 was able to do, then we
12 come back to it, brush it all up, and get it ready for
13 the next Commission.

14 That's how I've always been this -- but ongoing
15 institution that has -- you know, it has all these people
16 employed the whole time, no, that was never my thought.
17 And if we looked a little bit more into it, we only
18 got -- you know, we did have, quote, "staffs", which were
19 two people. From one, two, three, here you go. Okay.
20 Here's your eight, here is your package training
21 material, and these two people are going to help you
22 through it from then on, off you go.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Jane, can I ask you not to go
24 into that question yet, right now, and just --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes. Yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Great. I just wanted
2 to --

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Perfect.

4 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- this is what happens, as we
5 start going all over. And so I'm going to try to keep us
6 very focused so we -- sorry -- I should've said
7 Commissioner Andersen.

8 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, that's all right. I
9 just want to conclude then, I think the issue is, it is
10 an institution, how do we define that? But if anyone
11 thinks it shouldn't be number one, and then it's your --
12 on your little thing is: Can previous occupants hire?
13 Would be the next where -- area we could go to, because
14 there's history in that.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Commissioner Yee.

16 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. Thank you for this
17 good work. You know, on one hand, I think there's no
18 question we are -- you know, we're seated for ten years.
19 That's statutory, and constitutionally, I mean, so no
20 debate about that. And you know, institutions, I mean,
21 we had very sharp disagreement about that early on. You
22 know, to what degree we should try to learn from, and
23 pattern from, pattern ourselves around the 2010
24 Commission, rather than we should, intentionally, start
25 very fresh, you know.

1 And generally speaking, we lean towards the latter,
2 you know, starting very fresh, up to and including not
3 really using the 2010 maps, as a starting point.

4 On the other hand, you know, we've learned things.
5 Especially specific things like this whole website issue.
6 You know, I mean, if we were to close up the website and
7 let 2030 just start from scratch, I mean, that would be
8 really a mess, you know, and a disaster. And so you
9 know, whether or not we're an institution, I think there
10 needs to be nuanced. I think we need to talk about
11 specific functionalities, and resources, and tasks.

12 And you know, rather than: do we keep a stable
13 office with an address, and you know, all that. And that
14 will also, you know, it goes -- reflects back to our,
15 earlier today, the whole discussion on budget, right?

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER YEE: That's going to be a make or
18 break. So anything we want, or desire, or plan, whether
19 we can, you know, obtain budgeting for it, right. So
20 even if we think it's a great idea, but can't a budget
21 for it, then it seems a moot point.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner Yee.
23 And I think you're -- I think when Commissioner
24 Fornaciari and I were talking about this, we definitely
25 brought that up as well, the whole, what does it mean to

1 be an institution, and each occupant still has free will
2 to design -- design their own process.

3 So there's different -- you know, as I said earlier,
4 we mix up sometimes the process, the institution, and the
5 individual. And so we're trying to kind of tease them
6 all apart, and see if we can -- you know; is there a
7 better way -- is there a better way -- a better -- is
8 there something we can leave for the 2030 redistricting
9 process that is better than what we inherited when we
10 started?

11 And that's kind of the bigger question is, what --
12 you know, that, I feel like that's where we always go
13 back to: on why are we still meeting? What's the purpose
14 of these seven years? And we've said it several times,
15 that it's to ensure that we're leaving it better for the
16 2030 redistricting process. Now, part of that process is
17 also the occupant, the staff, all those other pieces.

18 So Commissioner Toledo.

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: You know, I think for me, what
20 differentiates us from other commissions is that the
21 independent nature, and the -- and for the Independent
22 Citizens Redistricting Commission, and being outside of
23 the influence of the -- of elected officials, right.
24 That was the goal to have all of this for all of our --
25 all of the work of the Commission, of the institution,

1 and be done with as little influence from the political
2 sector, as possible.

3 And how that happens in the -- with those civil
4 service -- and how that happens with civil servants,
5 which are oftentimes connected to the political process,
6 right, as we've so just -- you know, how money is
7 allocated, and under the control of the Legislature and
8 the administration, does bring up some questions around
9 independence, although I think there's ways of addressing
10 those concerns and those issues, right.

11 Because they want to make sure that -- that it is --
12 that the institution remains independent of political
13 influence, and that the Commission, or the occupants are
14 of -- and that the occupants are able to do their work
15 independent from that influence. And so yes, so that'll
16 be -- it's that portion, that independence that's so
17 important.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Toledo, on that
19 word "independent", do you feel that we've defined it,
20 and that we clearly understand independence from what?

21 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Well, for me, it's
22 independent -- and how I think of it, I don't know if
23 we've clearly defined it or not, but I think, maybe
24 Anthony can speak a little bit, too, from the legal
25 framework; but I think for me, based on the propositions

1 that were passed, and the spirit of the law, I think it's
2 independence from our political -- from our elected
3 officials, right. From the political bodies that we -- I
4 think it's that, that type of independence, right. That
5 we're not being influenced to make decisions to make
6 decisions, or to make -- that we're not being influenced
7 to make certain decisions, that we truly are independent.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: When we were going through the
9 process, did others feel that there was a broader
10 definition of independence?

11 I see, I see you, Chair Taylor, don't worry.

12 But did others feel that there was a broader
13 definition of independence, that was more than
14 independence from the elected or -- yeah, the elected,
15 the incumbents, and candidates, and political parties?

16 Go ahead, Commissioner Fornaciari. You're muted.
17 You're still muted.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I think our definition of
19 "independence" evolved. You know, I think that we came
20 to understand that everybody who's trying to influence
21 the process has an agenda, and that we need to be
22 independent from all parties that are, you know, trying
23 to influence the process.

24 I think that we -- you know, there was, for a number
25 of reasons, as Commissioner Yee said, we felt we needed

1 to be independent from the previous occupants. I think
2 that and I -- and there were a number of reasons for
3 that, right? But in some ways, I think that that
4 independence that we felt at the beginning was maybe
5 excessive in reflection.

6 You know, as we went through this exercise to look
7 at, you know, what are the things that could be
8 independent, and what are the things that don't need to
9 be independent? I mean, my perspective on that changed,
10 right. I mean the -- you know, the approach to
11 redistricting, the -- you know how they -- how to manage
12 VRA, those things, I think that the next set of
13 Commissioners need to figure out.

14 But I think a lot of the stuff that we felt we
15 needed to do ourselves, maybe we really didn't. You
16 know, some more back office kind of stuff.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. Commissioner
18 Taylor -- Chair Taylor, sorry.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Chair, Commissioner, Derric, it's in
20 works.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Good.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: So you know -- I guess, you know, I
23 don't want to seem like you're "splitting the baby", but
24 it would seem that, it would seem that a hybrid of these
25 two would be the most optimal condition. There are

1 efficiencies in institutions that I feel that we were
2 unable to take advantage of.

3 And even, even when you have the novel approach of
4 what would be a phoenix, you lose that if you don't have
5 some sort of institution in place in. And I'll put it
6 into outreach. You know, let's take a look for -- if
7 there was some points of institution that are in place,
8 our outreach could be a lot more effective. But when
9 you're -- when you're building a whole new ship, you
10 spend time on those tasks when you could be -- when you
11 could be tending to other business.

12 So I think there's element of an institution that
13 can work to your advantage even when you're a phoenix,
14 and you have to build your own ship. And so I think
15 that's where we lose off -- lose out on by not having
16 some of those in place. And so when I hear some of the
17 things that we're suggesting or want to do, I see, I see
18 that element of it.

19 We're trying to, or at least it feels to me, that
20 we're trying to enable the future Commission to work
21 better and more efficiently, for whatever their view is
22 of this redistricting process. We're trying to better
23 enable them to go about -- go about their job. I like to
24 think of redistricting as it's not -- it's, on his face,
25 it has no political value. We've made it so.

1 But we're extending democracy to as many people as
2 possible. I don't care what your political view is?
3 This is what's available to you. This is a part of your
4 democracy. So I think of how to effectively, and
5 efficiently, administer this to as many people as
6 possible. So is it better inside of some structure? Or
7 is it better that we had to build something new? I think
8 I need elements of them both. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So Chair, first of all, I love
10 how you put that. You know, the whole -- we're extending
11 democracy, because that's kind of how I -- yeah, I think
12 we all believe that and really felt it. When you say
13 "elements of both", what elements do you feel that in a
14 hybrid model would allow for the best efficiency? You
15 know, what are the best efficiencies of an institution
16 that would allow for the 2030 redistricting process to be
17 more efficient and effective?

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: That's, you know, I wonder; but
19 spending time, spending time creating, spending time
20 creating RAs, or going through -- or going over that
21 verbiage. And then the -- in the processes that we have
22 in front of us, to approve things of that sort, it's just
23 so time consuming.

24 And we could be out in the fields. We could be --
25 we could be interacting. So some of those structures,

1 some of those backroom items, those can be in place. You
2 know, I wonder -- I wonder how much different our
3 decisions would be made if those were handed to us. But
4 we want to vet everything that's before us.

5 I mean, just as an example, since you asked me right
6 now, in the spot, in the moment, but yeah, there're
7 structures that could already be present, that really --

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And I (indiscernible) to ask
9 you on the spot, because I think that the next piece of
10 this conversation will be that, so I want to plant that
11 seed for everybody, as we're moving forward on this
12 conversation. And we're only taking ninety minutes
13 today, so it will be at the next meeting.

14 But just think about what institutions, what would
15 be -- would have been helpful. Thank you, Chair.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: You got it.

17 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Commissioner Sinay.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oops. Commissioner Kennedy,
19 there's a few people who've had their hands raised. Can
20 I call on Commissioner Vázquez first, since she hasn't
21 said anything yet?

22 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: For sure. Yeah.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: Thanks. I just, Chair
25 Taylor, I think said many of the things that I was

1 thinking of. I just wanted to note that I -- from my
2 perspective, I think for me, the greatest priority in
3 terms of defining, and creating structures around this
4 idea of independence, for me, was much more in line with
5 what Commissioner Toledo had expressed, which is
6 independence from explicit political, Legislative
7 influence, since that is -- that is sort of central to
8 this idea of independent redistricting.

9 I think from the beginning, I was somewhat confused
10 about our independence from other state agencies, and the
11 state infrastructure, because we are -- I sort of
12 considered us a state agency with independence from the
13 Legislature.

14 So to me, I think there are a lot of benefits that
15 come from being a state agency that we weren't able to
16 leverage because others or we defined us as more
17 independent than I think was practical or supportive of
18 our ultimate mission, which was independent
19 redistricting. So thanks.

20 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I just realized I was muted,
21 sorry. I keep wanting to think about everything you all
22 are saying, and I'm forgetting to facilitate.

23 Commissioner Toledo.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you. Yeah. For me, and
25 I think that independence, going back to independence, I

1 think certainly it's that political influence directly
2 from the Legislature. And I agree with Commissioner
3 Fornaciari, I think our definition evolved over time, in
4 that understanding that influence sometimes comes -- was
5 coming from the -- you know, from the parties or other
6 groups within, you know, within the public comments,
7 right.

8 And so just being -- just monitoring that influence,
9 and where, potentially, you know, being able to evaluate
10 that influence, and in the many ways that it plays out in
11 this process, and being able to weigh that independently,
12 each of us, independently as occupants of the Commission
13 seats. Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. And Commissioner
15 Kennedy; and then I'll go to you, Commissioner Yee.

16 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you, Commissioner Sinay.
17 A couple of things; one thing that I remember fairly
18 clearly is when we were told early on that part of the
19 reason that we did not have -- that we did not start out
20 with delegated authority for procurement, was that there
21 was no one to kind of hold that delegation from -- you
22 know, to carry it over from the 2010 Commission to us.

23 And so in my mind, that's one of the biggest things,
24 that considering the Commission as an institution, and
25 being able to carry things like delegated authority, from

1 one Board of Commissioners to the next is so vitally
2 important to the future of -- the future success of
3 future boards.

4 I would also say, you know, we now have a much
5 clearer understanding of when the census planning cycle
6 starts. So we now understand that, you know, we have
7 enough on our Legislative agenda that that might keep us
8 busy for this year.

9 But by next year, we need to be taking part in the
10 early planning for census so that the 2030 Board can
11 benefit from what we did not have, which was an
12 institutional relationship with the California Complete
13 Count Office, and that whole structure, that I think we
14 could -- we know that we could have benefited from a
15 better relationship, or a -- I guess, any real
16 institutional relationship that didn't exist.

17 And the third thing that I would say is, your
18 decision tree focuses, maybe a little bit too much on
19 hiring people. Some of the things under the -- on the
20 right-hand side, but on the third line down under, "yes",
21 "Litigation document process continually improve, prepare
22 for next occupants", that could also be over on the left-
23 hand side of the tree.

24 And I'm just thinking back to the redistricting
25 cycle diagram that I had distributed a couple of meetings

1 ago. And you know, I'm always looking for ways to
2 improve that diagram. And I think some of them are here,
3 and I certainly anticipate that more will come out in
4 this discussion. And I just want to encourage colleagues
5 to, you know, bring that cycle diagram up in your brain,
6 or pull it up on the screen, and you know, keep data as
7 part of this discussion as well. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And Commissioner Kennedy,
9 you're absolutely right. What I think. We got better at
10 thinking through things, but that the first purple under
11 "Yes" was supposed to identify those kinds of systems.
12 And then when we went further down, we kind of started
13 bulleting them, and then put "other". So yes, you're
14 right.

15 Commissioner Vázquez, do you have a comment or is
16 your hand up from before?

17 COMMISSIONER VÁZQUEZ: (No verbal response).

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Commissioner Yee.

19 COMMISSIONER YEE: Thank you. Just to throw another
20 variable in. Now, I think about how much we benefited by
21 having Q2 come back as our main line drawing team, you
22 know, from 2010, and how much it streamlined everything
23 that they had. And institutional memory was how it was
24 done. I know it was, you know, some mixed reviews,
25 especially about the visualization stage. But I think,

1 you know, for most of the mapping, it just enormously
2 streamlined things that they had done it before. And I
3 kind of shudder to think, what if a team may come in here
4 that had never done it before, and no idea how to
5 approach the final report, even. You know, that would
6 have been scary, actually. You know, to try to break in
7 a whole new team.

8 So even though, you know, that's an outside
9 contractor, I think the institutional memory that brought
10 to us benefited us greatly. I'm not quite sure how that
11 fits in here, but for 2030, if it is a whole new team, a
12 whole different contractor, I think that'll affect them,
13 pretty, pretty significantly.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And Commissioner Yee, I don't
15 completely agree with you, that I think it would have
16 fallen apart. And the reason is what I -- when people
17 ask me why we were successful, or what my advice is for
18 future Commissioners, I've come down to say, trust each
19 other, you're fourteen smart people or however many,
20 Michigan has a different number and whatnot. And trust
21 the process.

22 And there's a lot of people that have been doing
23 redistricting, have been doing the maps and such, but I
24 think we did benefit from it as well. But I don't want a
25 future -- our future people, if they don't have the

1 same --

2 COMMISSIONER YEE: Well, in future -- and of course
3 Q2 was new in 2010, so I mean, you know, they were in
4 that position. Not fall apart, but yeah, certainly much
5 more challenging, I think.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. Commissioner Andersen.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Thank you. I, also,
8 and the independence of politics is exactly what I was
9 thinking. But I completely agree with Commissioner
10 Fornaciari, we were told: You're independent of
11 everybody, don't talk to anybody. And now I understand
12 now, there are political reasons for that. However, that
13 was a mistake. We lost a lot of good knowledge, and I
14 think that sort of also led us to: don't look at anything
15 that we were already pre-given.

16 You know, that extreme independence I think did hurt
17 us. And I definitely have to, boy, it's my view, I have
18 this, you know, da, da, da, da, da, I would like to move,
19 to move forward for the 2030; however they all involve,
20 you know, how we were set up in the hybrid mode which
21 Commissioner Taylor was talking about. I completely
22 agree with that.

23 The State Auditor is in charge of how -- right now,
24 they're in charge of how the 2030 got set up. And we
25 have a lot of very good ideas in terms of improving that.

1 So I'd like to work with the State Auditors on that. And
2 number one in that, I think what would really help is in
3 our training, if we actually had training on admin. So
4 we understood what was going on, and all the -- the
5 importance of all of this, because they handed us
6 contracts, they handed us -- we only had two people, we
7 should have had like five people, but they were
8 temporary.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Andersen, we're
10 not going to problem-solve yet, we're still --

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: No, no, no, but --

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- in the theoretical.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: -- but these are all --

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: But there is a right place for
15 our future conversation.

16 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes, but these are all
17 things that it doesn't matter what we think, if we can't
18 talk the State Auditor into it, there we go.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Right. But it doesn't make --

20 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: So I think that's huge.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- sense to talk to the State
22 Auditor without having or -- us understanding what we
23 want to speak to the State Auditor about.

24 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Correct. When do we want to
25 hear that?

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: We'll get there. But right
2 now, it's this idea of -- and I think what I'm hearing
3 for most of us, but I haven't heard from Commissioner
4 Fernández, I think my Commissioner Akutagawa is not here
5 right now, and Commissioner Ahmad, on their thought. But
6 what I'm hearing from most of -- most of us, is that we
7 do want to look at a hybrid model. It would be helpful
8 to have an -- you know, to think of it more as: What can
9 be in place, that will help the future occupants be able
10 to do a better job -- not a better job, because we did an
11 awesome job -- but you know what -- how can we help them?
12 Because they're going have less time, and what not, be as
13 successful as possible so that we have the best
14 redistricting ever in 2030? Or what (indiscernible) --

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. So I'll raise my hand
16 again when you're asking for that.

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah. So Commissioner Toledo,
18 I'm going to be with you in a second. I wanted to see,
19 since I opened the door for Commissioner Fernández, if
20 she wanted to say anything.

21 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Well, I usually never say
22 anything, so here it goes.

23 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I know. But that's why, I'm
24 like --

25 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That's what I usually do.

1 Like the whole independence, I will say that I did come
2 in with a very narrow definition in terms of, I believe
3 that we were independent, and independent not only from,
4 you know, the political side of it, but also the
5 community base, because I just felt like everyone is
6 trying to manipulate me, right.

7 And then I also felt that I had to be independent
8 from what the 2010 did in terms of their districts and
9 their maps, because I felt independent, you need to start
10 with a clean slate. And I still believe that is the
11 case, because if we were to -- if we would have started
12 with the existing maps, I mean, how can you consider
13 yourself being independent at that point? Because all
14 you're doing is maybe adjusting it here or there. So I
15 just have more of a tighter, I guess, definition of
16 independence.

17 And I did want to talk a little bit, Commissioner
18 Yee talked about the line drawer; yes, I think we worked
19 really well with them. But I also feel that that's what
20 line drivers do. And fortunately we have a contract. We
21 have an RFP that we could -- that future Commissions can
22 reference in terms of what needs to be done. We have a
23 report that they can reference in terms of what needs to
24 be done. And I just want to remind everyone that the
25 bulk of that report, the narrative, the line drawers did

1 not do.

2 It was our staff. And then we also work with
3 Strumwasser, we had a contract with them. They helped us
4 with some of the legal language, and also some of the
5 descriptions, and just the editing which was -- because
6 Commissioner Kennedy and I, honestly, that last month we
7 didn't have time to work on a report. We were drawing
8 lines.

9 And just a reminder that, yes, we want -- I've heard
10 this done -- I've heard this said a few times, and thank
11 you, Commissioner Sinay, for catching it; when someone
12 says: So the next Commission can do it better. We did it
13 great. I think a better way to say that would be: So the
14 next Commission can truly concentrate all of their
15 efforts on redistricting, or the maps, or the training,
16 or whatever the case, not necessarily on all of, like,
17 the administrative -- what I considered administrative
18 type functions of trying to figure out what the state
19 system, the bureaucracy, and doing RFPs, and processing
20 contracts, and hiring people, and making sure that
21 positions have been established, and that people get
22 paid.

23 If we can at least alleviate that part of it, and
24 they can focus on what their main task is. I don't even
25 think I answered your question, Patricia -- or

1 Commissioner Sinay. Sorry.

2 COMMISSIONER SINAY: You did, perfectly.

3 Commissioner Ahmed, I'm coming back to you after
4 Commissioner Toledo.

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And I would agree with
6 everything Commissioner Fernández said. And I still go
7 back to the question of independence, especially after
8 having drawn the maps, and just thinking about the next
9 seven years. You know, we drew the maps where -- and we
10 were still responsible, I think, in terms of defending
11 those maps on behalf of the people of California.

12 Yet, if we were truly independent, I think we would
13 be -- we would ensure that -- we would be the ones
14 determining, you know, who we'd use as legal counsel, and
15 the strategy around that, and really, you know, ensuring
16 that -- you know, ensuring that those maps are protected,
17 which I'm sure, of course, we would do. And of course we
18 have -- we are still responsible for doing that.

19 But there is a connection to an elected official at
20 the AG's Office who, at that point, would take the
21 lead -- if I'm understanding correctly -- in that type of
22 litigation, which is a political office. And that
23 does -- to me that doesn't seem completely independent.
24 So I think we're in this quasi-independent entity that
25 tries -- whose aim is to have as little political

1 influence as possible.

2 But of course, it's difficult not to have some
3 political influence when we're embedded in the state of
4 bureaucracy. And it has some, of course has some
5 benefits and some disadvantages as well. Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So what I'm hearing is, we want
7 to make sure that we get all the advantages of a
8 bureaucracy and throw out all the disadvantages. Okay.

9 Commissioner Ahmad.

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Can you repeat the question?

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Oh. We're just on this
12 conversation of, you know, what are our feelings, our gut
13 feelings regarding an institution -- the entity being an
14 institution versus a phoenix; meaning that every time
15 that individuals are selected, the board is selected, it
16 has to be rebuilt and recreated.

17 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Sure. Yeah, I'll just -- I
18 guess my thought process on this is somewhat similar, but
19 a little different to things that have been already
20 stated. And we're sitting in 2023 now, we have seven
21 years left in our term, the likelihood of any significant
22 change being made to how the Commission has been
23 structured and written into law, within the next seven
24 years, I think is pretty slim to none.

25 Thinking about buy-in as well, and then thinking

1 about what all that would have to happen in order to make
2 such a change, so I'm not even entirely sure what this
3 would result in, besides just wishful thinking. And I
4 understand that like, you know, there are so many things
5 that we would have wanted to change or wanted to have
6 seen done differently, but the way that it's currently
7 structured in the Prop and what Californians voted on, I
8 don't think would allow for something like this to occur.
9 And the whole idea of an institution, in my mind, defeats
10 the purpose of the independent nature of what the
11 Commission was intended to be. That's all.

12 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Can we go up again to the
13 language that was in the proposition steps so that that
14 we can address why we think that there is room for this
15 conversation. And you know, our legal counsel -- or our
16 director -- Sorry, Anthony, I'm forgetting your title.
17 But he looked in every single aspect of it, and nowhere
18 was it solid in the definition that it couldn't. We
19 couldn't think through -- nowhere does it define what our
20 role is between finishing the maps and the next occupants
21 coming in.

22 And so what we want to do is get some clarity, if
23 we're meeting, you know, we have meetings every month; we
24 keep saying we're going to go quarterly, but we're still
25 stay on monthly: What is the purpose? What is our

1 intention? What you know -- and so right now, I think
2 the conversation we're having is to really define how can
3 we, as the occupants of 2020, help the occupants of 2030?
4 And everything in the language allows for that.

5 Right now, we're not talking about Legislative
6 changes, or changes in -- those conversations are the
7 conversations that the other subcommittee was having.
8 And there may be some things that come up, and we will
9 add it to your to-do list.

10 Commissioner Fernández.

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. And I wasn't
12 going to say anything else. But Commissioner Ahmad, you
13 actually brought up an interesting point, in terms of, if
14 it continues as an independent, and I like that, I'm
15 going to have to think about that, because it's going to
16 cause me to think of different scenarios.

17 But I do, I do want to bring back something that
18 Commissioner Toledo was talking about, that we truly
19 aren't independent. And I'm sitting here grappling with
20 this may not -- this may be moot if our funding is
21 denied, because we won't be able to do any of this.

22 So yeah, we aren't independent. No matter how much
23 we think we are independent, there's language in the
24 budget that says any time we want to use any of the
25 funds, we have to do a: Mother, may I spend? Mother, may

1 you give me some of my allowance? And that's both by
2 Finance and the Legislature. They both have to approve
3 that. And then two, they have to approve us being an
4 institution. We don't even get to decide that. So I
5 it's just something to -- I think we just need to be
6 reminded of. Thanks.

7 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fernández, can you
8 tell me a little bit more why we need their approval?
9 Whoever they are, to be an institution?

10 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Because if we don't receive
11 the funding that we need to continue to exist, then we
12 aren't an institution. They've literally shut us down.

13 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Does anyone feel differently?

14 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: That means, like,
15 Department of Finance. The Department of Finance,
16 they've only approved partial funding, and they haven't
17 actually approved funding for us to do any of the work.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So a question is, does funding
19 make something an institution of the state? Yeah. Or
20 are there other pieces of it that can still be
21 institutionalized? That can be -- that can stay solid?

22 Commissioner Andersen.

23 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. Actually,
24 Commissioner Ahmad said something which made me realize,
25 I guess I am actually talking about more, it is kind of a

1 phoenix. Now, I do see an institution, but I'm really
2 talking about tweaking almost more what exists now,
3 because I do realize the limitations which she's speaking
4 of. And I think, really, that is a better option. It
5 does not mean -- it's like our institution kind of goes
6 underground for a bit, and then we bring it back up. So
7 it's like we're kindling those ashes.

8 And then I have very specific ideas how to kindle
9 that. But then we turn it over, because we ditched
10 everything to be independent. And I kind of expect the
11 next Commission to go: Yeah, like that contract, yeah no,
12 and toss it. And then come back to it like we did. So I
13 guess my hybrid view is not -- is a much slimmed-down
14 version of -- beefier than what we got.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you. That's helpful.

16 Commissioner Fornaciari.

17 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. Just, you know,
18 really echo I think what Commissioner Andersen just said
19 is, you know, I view this is really a tweaking of what's
20 in place now. It's not that, you know, where any of us
21 are going to be -- enough thought, to think this is going
22 to be a really heavy lift to do a lot of the things that
23 we talked about doing.

24 You know, partnering with the census, working with
25 the auditor to change the way the whole thing goes on,

1 the training. I mean, there's lots of things that we
2 talked about, but you know, in working with the
3 Legislature and the Department of Finance to persuade
4 them that what we're proposing to do here is in the best
5 interest of the people of California, that they should
6 give us money to do it. So I mean, that that all needs
7 to be in our minds while we're going ahead. But you
8 know, I believe that a lot of this, you know, can be
9 done.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner
11 Fornaciari. And obviously, I've got a bias, because I'm
12 working on the National Independent Redistricting stuff
13 as a volunteer right now, and I --

14 Commissioner Kennedy.

15 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Thank you. Commissioner Sinay.
16 You know, Commissioner Fernández is very helpful in
17 reminding us that, you know, our financial dependence can
18 really undercut any real independence. And looking at
19 Government Code, Section 8253.6(a), at the very bottom of
20 (a) where it says, "The Legislature may make additional
21 appropriations in any year in which it determines that
22 the Commission requires additional funding in order to
23 fulfill its duties."

24 So you know, that to me makes it clear that the
25 burden really is on us to demonstrate, as Commissioner

1 Fornaciari just said, that what we have in mind is indeed
2 in the best interest of the people of California.

3 And you know, I continue to believe that it is, that
4 doing everything we can to make the 2030 Commissions'
5 life -- the 2030 Board of Commissioners' life easier to
6 make anything they do more efficient, and resulting in
7 being able to spend more time focusing on coming up with
8 the best possible districts, and not getting distracted
9 with administrivia, I think that's all very worthwhile.

10 But you know, Commissioner Fernández is right; the
11 burden is on us to demonstrate the importance of what it
12 is that we are looking to do through this effort. Thank
13 you.

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner
15 Kennedy. So there's no hands up, woo. "Administrivia",
16 I love it -- I wrote it down as well, Commissioner Yee.

17 I don't -- is it that -- so the second -- you know,
18 I was trying to scroll. And the idea right now is not to
19 answer all the yeses and noes, but what I do feel on the
20 first question we got; you've given us a lot of good
21 information to be able to pose some questions to move us
22 in one direction or another.

23 And we are absolutely aware, we're not doing wishful
24 thinking, we are very aware that budget plays a big role,
25 but because we were doing the "what ifs", especially with

1 the timelines and such, we stayed true to being in that
2 place of "what if", and that way we could have -- and
3 bringing in the different factors. And we will continue
4 to add some of the factors that we hadn't thought about.
5 So we're very appreciative.

6 We only have, if I'm correct, Commissioner Taylor,
7 you correct me if I'm wrong, but do we need to do public
8 comment? We need to leave space for public comments?

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. So why don't we spend
11 twenty minutes. Does that sound good, Commissioner
12 Taylor?

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: (No verbal response).

14 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. We will spend twenty
15 minutes just thinking through the administrivia -- our
16 new word -- what is the this administrivia that we -- if
17 we remember, go back in time to when we first started,
18 and just focus on administrivia, not what type of
19 training we would want, or any of that, but what would be
20 helpful if it was in place when we first started.

21 And I know that Commissioner Taylor gave us a few.
22 He said, you know, it would be really helpful if the
23 delegation powers; delegated authority was in place, that
24 we had a relationship with the census. And I think
25 someone else had said, you know, spending time doing the

1 RA stuff wasn't that fun.

2 But if there is -- are there other ideas or
3 categories, or thoughts, on what would have been helpful,
4 when you look at the timeline, Commissioner Fornaciari
5 and I kind of made that first period, the onboarding of
6 the new occupants, and the standing up of the systems,
7 and staffing, and all that. So that's the period we're
8 talking about. What would have been helpful if it was
9 already at that administrivia place?

10 Yes, Commissioner Andersen.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay. Get your pencil
12 ready. The training for admin, already mentioned. We
13 had two, quote, I'm calling them "temporary positions",
14 the two people. We should have had at least five. We
15 should have had a communications person, we needed right
16 away. Anyway, the communications, a website person,
17 staff that could actually create the documents as we
18 needed them and. And yet, the admin then -- those people
19 in place that we would replace, so that more, the
20 temporary people, you know, we actually hired them and
21 knew -- and a training on, who the people are that we
22 need, the timelines for those people.

23 And then also a presentation on contracts, you know,
24 for our outside counsel, for all the line drawers, et
25 cetera, et cetera, including our communications, all that

1 stuff, a nice little presentation on that, and timelines
2 involved in those, like working with the state
3 administration. Those things would have helped us
4 immensely in the first month or so because we didn't know
5 what we didn't know.

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Commissioner Yee.

7 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah. I mean, thinking back, you
8 know, the earliest frustration was with the website,
9 right? We couldn't update it, we couldn't update in a
10 timely fashion, couldn't even post meeting notices in a
11 timely fashion. So bequeathing, you know, a functioning
12 website and somebody to update it, would've been
13 fantastic. Of course, this overlaps with the auditor's
14 responsibilities, the whole fully functional question,
15 right, so that's kind of a separate issue. But who
16 actually does this? Are we responsible for that? Or is
17 it really on the auditor? The whole per diem --

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We don't --

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: We're not talking about the
20 "how" right now.

21 COMMISSIONER YEE: Yeah.

22 COMMISSIONER SINAY: We will work on the "how", and
23 yes, you're absolutely --

24 COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER SINAY: -- right that it -- but even,

1 again, if we were going to sit down and meet with the
2 Auditor's Office and define what "fully functional"
3 means, we need to have this conversation first.

4 COMMISSIONER YEE: Right.

5 COMMISSIONER SINAY: So don't worry about the "how"
6 right now, but the "why" and the "what".

7 COMMISSIONER YEE: Okay. So yeah, the website, the
8 per diem, and the TEC system of course was so slow to get
9 started, and really just an impediment to some of us, you
10 know, personally, and so just to have that in place and
11 functioning. Just this goes with the website, we're just
12 having a one-stop source for data, and resources, and
13 documents, and all the RFPs, all the contracts, you know,
14 just how do you dig that stuff up, and how do you find
15 it; took us a lot of time.

16 So just having one place to get a lot of that, and
17 of course, the Lessons Learned report, one of the reasons
18 it's growing so much is we're trying to make it one of
19 those one-stop-shops for a lot of that stuff, all the job
20 descriptions, and all those things.

21 The contracting, you know, I remember that we did
22 get training from Raul on that. And it was just -- you
23 know, is that state contracting is impenetrable. You
24 know, it's just the nature of it. I remember him going
25 over it, and just being stunned at how complex it all

1 was. And I hopelessly was thinking how I was going to
2 understand it all at the time.

3 So you know, but maybe -- I don't know, maybe to
4 have that driven home more completely, or more fully
5 earlier on. I don't know how that would have helped.
6 Certainly that was an impediment all along, the early
7 contracting challenge. But just those basic things,
8 website, per diems, having easy access to all the
9 documents and data, that certainly would help.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Anyone else? Commissioner
11 Taylor, Commissioner Vázquez --

12 Oh. I'm sorry. Commissioner Kennedy. Go ahead.

13 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: Yeah. You know, my memory is
14 that one of the things that really held us up for a while
15 was establishing positions, which is why I've always felt
16 like we should go ahead and establish as full a range of
17 positions as any Board of Commissioners might conceivably
18 want to make use of. And then, you know, the hiring of
19 people against those is a different matter.

20 But if we could -- if we could leave behind a full
21 range of established positions, subject to budget
22 availability, subject to decisions to hire, et cetera,
23 but not have any future Board of Commissioners have to go
24 through the process of establishing a position.

25 It just really seemed like -- I don't know, it

1 almost seemed like somebody was trying to trip us up with
2 something like that. So you know, that would be, to me,
3 one of the highest priorities.

4 The next one is not so much administrivia, but it's
5 still something that I think would be a big help to
6 future boards, and that is having the fifty-eight county
7 profiles, you know, fully populated, having a contact
8 list throughout the state with all of these organizations
9 and individuals that, potentially, our outreach targets,
10 and so forth. And that's why I've said that, you know, I
11 don't anticipate Corina ever having a spare moment,
12 because if she's got a spare moment, I think that sort of
13 contact database, populating all fifty-eight county
14 profiles, is going to be a very good use of her time.
15 Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Thank you, Commissioner
17 Kennedy. Commissioner Fernández.

18 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Thank you. I might be a
19 little repetitive. I wholeheartedly agree with
20 Commissioner Kennedy. I still do not understand why our
21 positions for the Commissioners weren't established when
22 we came on, and it took months for that to be created.

23 So I feel that in terms of the administration,
24 executive level positions should be hired by the new
25 Commission, of course. I'm thinking more the working

1 level, like we need someone that's going to do the
2 budgets, and the contracts, and admin assistant, and
3 someone that's going to be in charge of the meetings,
4 coordinate the meetings, getting the panels together.

5 Someone who also has a contract background, and
6 again, establish the positions, and also the training,
7 maybe have a timeline of the training. I mean, it was, I
8 felt like the first, was the eight days of the full
9 fourteen, we had so much training, it was like an
10 overload. So I feel like that needs to be maybe in short
11 bursts. Like give us a little bit, an hour or two, and
12 then maybe a month later give us another hour or two, and
13 then also repeat it periodically, because what we heard
14 in the beginning we may have already forgotten.

15 And just to have like some systems in place, to
16 already know what the systems are to process an invoice,
17 to process a contract, to establish a position, and then
18 have a list of all the positions that have already been
19 established. We didn't get that list until -- I didn't
20 even know -- I thought we had to create all the new
21 positions, didn't realize that there were already
22 positions there. And so have that information early on
23 as well.

24 And I think that's probably about it. But it's
25 just, mainly just making sure all the systems are in

1 place, the IT set up, so that when the new Commissioners
2 are here they don't have to -- they don't have to worry
3 about that stuff, and it's already been figured out. And
4 once you hire your executive team, then they can also
5 come in and not have to worry about hiring staff right
6 away, but actually being able to make sure they come up
7 to speed with what their responsibilities are as well.
8 Thanks.

9 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fernández, I just
10 wanted to confirm. Earlier you had said: administrative
11 positions should be hired by the Board, but do you mean
12 the executive positions?

13 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Yes. The executive-level
14 positions should be by the Commission.

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Great.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: And again, and any
17 positions -- I mean, any positions that we do have, or
18 that we're able to hire for them, of course, they always
19 have the ability to replace that position. Right, it's
20 just trying to help them to get up and running.

21 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I saw Commissioner Fornaciari
22 is waving at me. Did you want to -- you're supposed to
23 be helping me with this, so if you want to say something.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes. I just want to have
25 a follow up. So I'll just, since Commissioner Fernández

1 brought it up, I mean, this is an open question to
2 everyone. So you believe that the executive level should
3 be hired by the next Board of Commissioners. Okay. Do
4 you think that the current Commission -- Board of
5 Commissioners should post that job? Do you think the
6 auditors should post those jobs? Do you think the jobs,
7 they should wait and be posted by the next -- by the
8 following Board? I mean, who -- my question is, the
9 process for hiring the executive should we post them, and
10 get them a jump start? Or is that too far?

11 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: I would say, I mean, as a
12 reminder, the State Auditor had posted the jobs. And us,
13 as a Commission, the only one we kept -- or the only one
14 we followed through with, was the Executive Director, all
15 the others we felt that we wanted to go back and add more
16 to these or --

17 COMMISSIONER SINAY: But we're saying it's not the
18 auditor posting it, but we, the 2020 Board, post it.

19 COMMISSIONER FERNÁNDEZ: Right. And it's fine.
20 It's just, we can do it, but just realize that they may
21 do the same thing that we did. They may decide, no,
22 we're going to go out and do it ourselves. But I think
23 definitely, and that was something that I had requested,
24 probably about a year ago, I wanted all of the duty
25 statements, and all of the job postings to be reviewed by

1 the current occupants to make sure that they were
2 accurate as to what their functions were. But I don't
3 think it was ever done.

4 So we'll probably have to revisit that. But I think
5 that, yes, definitely give them a head start. So at
6 least when they start, they may have some applications
7 that they think may fit their needs.

8 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Commissioner Fornaciari, did
9 you have any follow up?

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: (No verbal response).

11 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Okay. Commissioner Andersen,
12 and then Commissioner Kennedy.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I want to go back and
14 say just one thing about, I forgot, I mean, the website
15 totally up to date, and functioning and -- when
16 Commissioner Fernández just said about "update it", we go
17 in like just a couple of years before we turn all this
18 over, and update all the contracts, you know, so they are
19 actually -- could be actually functional and usable right
20 now -- and for the 2030. All the scopes of work, of all
21 the different people, who did what, and make sure those
22 are updated, and hand that over.

23 But I do not think that we, as the 2020 or the 2030,
24 should be hiring anybody. The State Auditor did send out
25 contracts and were literally eaten alive that they did

1 that. That 2010 Commission blew up. We got people
2 calling in from -- everybody called in: Oh, my God, what
3 are you doing? You're taking all the power away from the
4 2020. I mean, it was like, phew.

5 So my idea is, we have these wonderful updated da,
6 da, da, da, and hand that to -- on our website, to the
7 2030, because if we just hand it to the State Auditor, we
8 don't know what happens to it. They may or may not. So
9 that was my idea of turning all these things over. And I
10 do not think that the admin or anyone should be hiring
11 the executive positions.

12 And those assistants, I really like that idea of
13 having people in place, but again, all temporary. The
14 2030 should be able to, like, you know, it's kind of like
15 when administration changes over at the presidential
16 level, they all turn in their notices, and they say, yes,
17 I'll keep you -- after a certain amount of time. Let's
18 say after three months, or something, or whatever.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I mean, there's elected --
20 there're people who are on career tracks, and then
21 there's appointed positions. There is both in
22 government, so that there is some continuity in the
23 institutions. So there is both.

24 Commissioner Kennedy.

25 VICE CHAIR KENNEDY: I'm good for now. Thanks.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Any time I don't see you muted,
2 I'm assuming you're raising your hand.

3 Commissioner Fornaciari.

4 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. So I just, I just
5 kind of want to follow up on that topic. You know, of
6 posting, potentially posting executive-level positions.
7 So I just -- I've been thinking a lot about that, and I
8 just have to wonder if the pushback was around the
9 independence of the Commission as an institution because
10 the auditor posted the jobs. And if there would be
11 pushback if the current occupants of the institution
12 posted the executive positions.

13 You know, that the current occupants of the
14 institution being the fourteen who actually know best,
15 what would be needed in those jobs. And so I do remember
16 the pushback. But again, I guess my question would be:
17 was that because the auditor did it as opposed to the
18 occupants of the institution?

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: And I believe with that, we
20 will send it back over -- and again, we're asking, if at
21 any point you get an aha moment, or whatever, feel free
22 to email either Commissioner Fornaciari, or I, you can't
23 email us both, because then we would be breaking Bagley-
24 Keene, or go ahead and email Anthony. But we'll come up
25 with another way to capture, capture ideas and stuff. We

1 just wanted to start thinking through the "what ifs".

2 And then from here, what we will do is take all this
3 information you gave us, and take kind of the -- you
4 know, put it in a more -- you know, kind of thinking
5 through what the systems, and infrastructure, and pieces
6 so that we have -- we can talk more concretely. But
7 today we purposely wanted to open it up so we could talk
8 theoretically.

9 And we did create timelines. So please do take a
10 look at those, and we'll talk about them in March. And
11 because we keep kind of tossing around: oh, we'd like to
12 start earlier, we'd like to -- and so the question is,
13 why what -- you know, again, the burden is on us when we
14 meet -- when we meet with, like, the State Auditor's
15 Office; why do we want to start early? What will that
16 look like?

17 So that those were some of the reasons we shared.
18 The census timeline that's in that packet was created
19 based on the census final report. So that is their --
20 that was the 2020 California complete counts, proposal to
21 the future entity of what that could look like, or what
22 they suggested.

23 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah. I'll just, you
24 know, just chime in. Thanks, everyone, for the
25 conversation. This has been great. A lot more energetic

1 than I was feeling when we started. So this is -- this
2 is great. And thank you all for engaging, and your
3 feedback, and your thoughts. You've given us a lot to
4 think about, and we'll, like Commissioner Sinay said,
5 we'll kind of get this summarized, and then figure out,
6 you know, how we move forward to try to get to some more
7 concrete decisions over the next few months.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. So is it back in my
9 hands?

10 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: (No verbal response).

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much for the
12 conversation again, as we try to extract from our
13 experience to better help the 2030 Commission to increase
14 the efficiency of our own democracy.

15 Our next meeting, our next meeting will be on
16 Monday, Monday, March 13th. So that's what we're headed
17 for. Any questions or concerns about that particular
18 date?

19 Great. Monday, March 13th, for our next meeting.

20 Kristian, if you can open up the lines for public
21 comments we are -- agenda item number 3, subcommittee
22 reports, and also for general public comments.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing, Chair.

24 The Commission will now take public comment on
25 agenda item 3 and general public comment. To give

1 comment, please call 877-853-5247, and enter meeting ID
2 number 85436289451. Once you've dialed in, please press
3 star 9 to enter the comment queue. The full call-in
4 instructions are read at the beginning of the meeting,
5 and are provided on the live stream landing page.

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

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. Let's give it a second.
8 Let us know when we've caught up, please.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Those instructions are
10 complete, and there is no one in the queue, Chair.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: All right. With that, thank you,
12 California. Thank you, Commissioners, for your
13 participation. Pitchers and catchers report to spring
14 training next week. So we're on our way. We're on our
15 way. So I appreciate it.

16 This meeting is adjourned. See you guys next month.

17 (Whereupon, the CRC Business Meeting adjourned
18 at 3:51 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

2
3 I do hereby certify that the testimony in the
4 foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein
5 stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were
6 reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and
7 a disinterested person, and was under my supervision
8 thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

9
10 And I further certify that I am not of counsel or
11 attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing
12 nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause
13 named in said caption.

14
15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
16 24th day of February, 2023.

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21 _____
BRUCE E. CARLSON

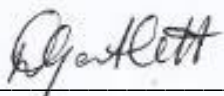
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



February 24, 2023

DELORIS GAUNTLETT, CDLT-257