

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:
CRC BUSINESS MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021

5:00 p.m.

Reported By:
eScribers, LLC



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

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

STAFF

Alvaro Hernandez, Executive Director
Marian Johnston, Legal Counsel
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

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

PUBLIC PRESENT

Renee Westa-Lusk, Indian Wells Valley



INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
Call to Order and Roll Call	4
Public Comment	6
Legal Affairs Committee Update	8
Public Comment	18
Motions Vote	19
Public Input Meeting Design Update	23
Public Comment	40



P R O C E E D I N G S

5:00 p.m.

CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Welcome, everyone, to the May 4th, 2021 full commission meeting of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

I am Alicia Fernandez. I'm the chair for this meeting, and Commissioner Isra Ahmad is the Vice Chair.

If we can go to roll call. Ravi, are you taking that for us?

MR. SINGH: Yes.

CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

MR. SINGH: You're welcome.

Commissioner Ahmad.

VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

Commissioner Andersen.

COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez.

CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

CHAIR FERNANDEZ: He's here.

MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

Yes, thank you, Chair.



1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: He's here.

2 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: You didn't hear me?

4 MR. SINGH: No. Thank you, Commissioner Kennedy.
5 Commissioner Le Mons.

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

7 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

9 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

11 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

12 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Present. MR. SINGH:
13 Commissioner Toledo.

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Here.

15 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Turner.

16 Commissioner Vasquez.

17 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Here.

18 MR. SINGH: Thank you.

19 And Commissioner Yee.

20 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

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

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ravi.

23 MR. SINGH: You're welcome.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Before we go to public comment, I
25 just want to let everyone know that we are going to

1 have -- it's a condensed meeting schedule tonight. So
2 the only items we plan to discuss are agenda item 9N, as
3 in Nancy, which is the Public Input Meeting Design,
4 agenda item 10, which is the Legal Affairs Committee
5 update, and agenda item 13, which is the discussion of
6 future meetings.

7 Is there any other agenda item that the
8 Commissioners need to discuss?

9 Okay.

10 And then besides that, we are very happy to announce
11 the hiring of Anthony Pane as our Chief Counsel. Mr.
12 Pane is currently the Assistant Chief Counsel with the
13 Department of Consumer Affairs.

14 We look forward to Mr. Pane starting with the
15 Commission on May 18. Looking forward to his start date.

16 And so with that, we are going to go to public
17 comment.

18 Katy, can you please read the instructions. And I
19 just want to remind the public that public comment is
20 limited to two minutes per individual.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

22 In order to maximize transparency and public
23 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
24 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
25 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is



1 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter a meeting number
2 provided on the livestream feed, it is 97018421161 for
3 this meeting. When prompted to enter a participant I.D.,
4 simply press the pound key.

5 Once you have dialed in, you'll be placed in a
6 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
7 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.

8 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a
9 message that says, "The host would like you to talk, and
10 to press star 6 to speak."

11 If you would like to give your name, please state
12 and spell it for the record. You are not required to
13 provide your name to give public comment.

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

19 And we are taking general public comment at this
20 time.

21 And we do not have anyone in the queue.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: We'll just wait one more minute,
23 Katy, see if anybody -- and then while we're waiting,
24 Commissioners Ahmad and Fornaciari, is it okay we go
25 straight to the Legal Affair Committee update first and



1 then we discuss the Public Input Meeting Design?

2 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: That's fine.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And the instructions are
5 complete.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Katy.

7 We will go ahead and move on. Let me close these
8 windows up.

9 We will move on to number 10, which is the Legal
10 Affairs Committee update with Commissioners Sadhwani,
11 Toledo and Yee.

12 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Thank you, Chair Fernandez.
13 The Legal Affairs Committee has been meeting, and we've
14 been reviewing the VRA counsel contracts. We have a
15 draft contract that was posted, and hopefully you had a
16 chance to look at in the handouts.

17 We met previous to this meeting to go over the
18 contract, and we are recommending approval of the
19 contract with minor, mostly typographical, changes to the
20 contract that we can make afterwards.

21 In terms of -- one thing to note is that the
22 agreement was created with a procurement lens in mind,
23 recognizing that there is still a lot uncertainty as to
24 what our litigation calendar might look like because we
25 don't know if there will be any pre-map litigation.



1 So we've attempted to leave this contract, give us a
2 little bit of flexibility in case there is some
3 litigation prior to the maps being finalized.

4 If you remember, there is -- our budget is set up so
5 that it's pre-map legal work that includes mostly VRA
6 work and litigation prevent work. But then there is
7 post- map legal work, and there's about \$4,000,000 to
8 defend our maps, and then there's the 1.2 million to
9 help us with any legal considerations that we might have
10 prior to the maps being finalized.

11 And so we've structured this contract in a way that
12 it could potentially be used if -- and hopefully if an
13 unlikely event that we have litigation prior to the maps
14 being finalized, and this would allow us to use this
15 contract -- the budget amount in this contract to defend
16 any type of litigation prior to the maps being drawn.

17 Otherwise we would need to request approval from a
18 government agency, and I can't remember which government
19 agency, request, I believe, from the Department of
20 Finance to be able to use the post-litigation funds prior
21 to the maps being drawn, which would take some time.

22 So this gives us a little bit of flexibility to keep
23 our litigation work going and not have an interruptions,
24 and just trying to anticipate those things that might
25 arise over the next couple of months.



1 For the most part this is VRA -- this contract
2 really focuses on the VRA work and prevention of any VRA-
3 type claims.

4 With that, I'll open it up for questions. And I did
5 receive some typographical edits from the commissioners,
6 and we're going to be making those changes to the
7 contract.

8 And also, if there's any feedback from my fellow
9 commissioners on the Legal Affairs Committee, please
10 chime in.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Are there any questions regarding
12 the contract language?

13 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: The other thing I would point
14 out prior to moving on is that we are also requesting
15 that two members of the -- or we also approve that two
16 members -- we approved recommending and moving forward
17 with two additional members of the team that were not in
18 the original application. There's two associates that
19 are being added to this scope of work, and we have
20 reviewed their background as well as their conflict of
21 interest, and we're comfortable with them being part of
22 the litigation team, and we're also recommending those
23 two individuals, and they're noted in the contracts.
24 Their names are Caroline Chiappetti and Julia Michel.

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, and those were attachments to

1 last week's meeting as well. We had a letter from them.

2 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Any questions from the
3 Commission?

4 Commissioner Andersen.

5 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you. I did have one
6 question. You were mentioning that you were talking
7 about doing work or approving work in a ten-hour segment.
8 I didn't see that getting translated anywhere into the
9 contract.

10 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That's a great question. We
11 did talk about that during the Commission meeting. We
12 decided against creating -- being so specific around a
13 time frame for approval. So what will need to happen,
14 and it's in the billing guidelines, is that any -- before
15 the firm initiates any work, they'll need approval from
16 our Chief Counsel on the amount of time to be spent on
17 work, on who is going to be doing the work, and then, of
18 course, any additional projects to be undertaken.

19 So we had discussed the potential of having a
20 provision that would require every ten hours of work to
21 be approved, but we thought it might be onerous as we
22 get -- as we enter the line drawing phrase and where we
23 might need a little bit more flexibility.

24 We do anticipate that our Chief Counsel would manage
25 the vendor and would set up an agreement on what level of



1 increment "he," in this case, is comfortable with, with
2 approving. So while there's no specific requirement,
3 there's not a ten hour or twenty hour or fifteen hour.
4 It's anticipated that the Chief Counsel would set that
5 and come to an agreement with the firm on that on the
6 level of hours to be approved.

7 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I did see that you were you
8 were indeed saying that the Chief Counsel supervisor and
9 has to approve. So I just know that you were talking
10 about that at one point. I did have one other question,
11 and it might be to something that to your outside counsel
12 may be asked by justification to the state's contract
13 manager. What does that mean?

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That really should be the
15 Commission's contract manager. So anywhere where the
16 state as referenced, that's really referencing us. And
17 so that's --

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: -- one of those changes that
20 will be making is replacing State because technically we
21 are a state agency. So replacing state with the more
22 specific commission, right? So Commission is contract
23 manager. So anytime you see the word "state", we'll be
24 replacing that with the Commission.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Great. Thank you.



1 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Where appropriate. All right.
2 There are some places where it makes sense to leave for
3 word "state" in.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay, you had a
5 question?

6 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yeah, so this person will be
7 reporting to the Chief Counsel predominantly, if I'm
8 understanding correctly. But then on 2 and this is just
9 minor, but where says progress report and schedules,
10 contractor shall provide as determined by Commission or
11 Executive Director, should that not be the Chief Counsel
12 as well?

13 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: On page -- I'm sorry, on page
14 2?

15 COMMISSIONER SINAY: No, no, on Exhibit A, Bullet
16 2 -- oh, I'm sorry, there's two bullets. Under general
17 provisions, progress report and schedules. It just seems
18 like we consistently need to, you know, be consistent on
19 who this person -- let me put it a different way. I
20 think the General Counsel needs to be given the clear
21 guidelines that they're in charge in this. And it seems
22 to go back and forth between Executive Director, General
23 Counsel, and the Commission.

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: So the Chief Counsel is --
25 oversees and manages this contract, and that is the



1 intention. I think here in line two, "Contractor shall
2 provide progress reports on a needed basis as determined
3 by the commissioners, the Executive Director."

4 So in terms of policy, how often, you know, our
5 expectations that generally would be the Chief Counsel's
6 supervisor, and it would be -- it actually comes from the
7 Commission. We determine when we want progress reports.
8 We let the Executive Director know and he works with the
9 staff, including the Chief Counsel, on that. But the
10 Chief Counsel would be the liaison that the law firm
11 would be working through.

12 We can -- I can clarify that a little bit more if
13 that would be better, but that's how we totally envision
14 it, right. So the Commission makes the determination.

15 Our staff member watching this -- we have more than
16 one staff member, but then our Executive Director is
17 responsible for ensuring that that happens and working
18 through the Chief Counsel. We can go through and make
19 sure that that's clear.

20 And then as part of this, one of the things we were
21 talking about as the Legal Affairs Committee is having an
22 orientation for the Chief Counsel so that he has an
23 understanding of the contract and our expectations of
24 him, and being our liaison with the firm and helps us,
25 also, in setting up the litigation contract or the post-

1 maps contract so that we can sufficiently demarcate the
2 two and ensure that there's no double dipping. And I
3 think will. I think if we consider the pre-map
4 litigation and legal work and then post-map litigation
5 and legal work, there's a natural -- it becomes a timing
6 situation, right. Up to a certain point you'll be able
7 to bill under this contract.

8 After that, you'll be billing under the litigation
9 contract, the post-map contract.

10 Any other questions or concerns, comments, feedback?

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Commissioner Andersen.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah, sorry. I have one
13 more. The date, the June 30th, 2022, in the first
14 reference of the date it's approximately June -- and then
15 the second time in scope of work, number 3, it is through
16 June 30th. I know we had an automatic extension built
17 into the line drawers, and I don't know if that made it
18 in here.

19 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: We could change that to
20 approximately so that it reflects -- it's the same on the
21 top and the bottom because we actually don't know when
22 the end of the contract period will be or when we expend
23 all the money within this contract, so we can -- if it
24 makes sense we can probably -- we can definitely change
25 that to read through approximately June 30th, 2022.



1 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yeah. I can forward -- I
2 did not actually look up what we put in the line drawer's
3 contract, but if that would fit, I'll forward that to
4 you.

5 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: And I think the other
6 provision -- yes, so that would be great if you could
7 forward that information.

8 So if everyone is comfortable with just making it
9 approximately June 30, 2022, because right now our time
10 frame is a little bit uncertain, but we anticipate the
11 pre-litigation work should all be done by June 30, 2022,
12 if not well before that.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So I don't see any other
14 hands, so Commissioner Toledo, are you looking for two
15 action items, then?

16 One is to approve moving forward with the VRA
17 contract with modifications, the minor modifications, and
18 then the second one is to accept the addition of the two
19 associates to the Strumwasser & Woocher team.

20 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That is correct.

21 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: That was perfectly stated,
23 Chair.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, so I will move. Those are
25 two separate motions.



1 Executive Director Hernandez, did you get those?

2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Just one second.

3 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And is it okay, Commissioner

4 Toledo, with those minor edits everyone just agrees
5 to get those to you tonight?

6 Is that sufficient time?

7 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yeah, that will be sufficient.
8 I can work with Raul.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Is that enough time for the
10 commissioners, hopefully, and that way we can move
11 forward?

12 Thank you.

13 And I want to thank the team -- the Committee,
14 Commissioners Toledo, Sadhwani and Yee for all the work
15 that you've done that has gone into this. Thank you so
16 much, but we're not done yet. Do I have a second?

17 Is there a second to the motions?

18 Commissioner Andersen, are you seconding?

19 Okay, thank you.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: So these are going to
21 be two separate motions; is that correct?

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay. That kind of
24 threw me off, so give me one second here.

25 MR. MANOFF: Shall I invite public comment, chair?



1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I think that's a great idea,
2 Kristian. Thank you so much.

3 MR. MANOFF: My pleasure. In order to maximize
4 transparency and public participation in our process, the
5 Commissioners will be taking public comment by phone. To
6 call in, dial the telephone number provided on the
7 livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When prompted,
8 enter the meeting I.D. number provided on the livestream
9 feed, it is 97018421161 for today's meeting. When
10 prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply press the
11 pound.

12 Once you've dialed in you'll be placed in a queue.
13 To indicate that you wish to comment, please press star
14 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator. When it
15 is your turn to speak, you'll hear a message that says,
16 "The host would like you to talk, press star 6 to speak."

17 If you would like to give your name, please state
18 and spell it for the record. You are not required to
19 provide your name to give public comment. Please make
20 sure to mute your computer or livestream audio to prevent
21 any feedback or distortion during your call.

22 Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for when
23 it is your turn to speak, and again, please turn down the
24 livestream audio to prevent any feedback or distortion
25 during your call.



1 The Commission is taking public comment on the
2 motions on the floor at this time. And we do not have
3 any callers in the queue, Chair.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Let's just wait
5 another minute.

6 MR. MANOFF: And the instructions are clear on the
7 screen, Chair.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Executive
9 Director Hernandez, are you ready for us?

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: I am ready.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. And there's a p.m.
12 instead of a.m.?

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay, maybe I'm not
14 ready yet. Feels like a.m. for me. All right. So the
15 first motion is the move to adopt the most recent version
16 of the VRA contract with modifications to recommend to
17 the -- let me take this out. Is that correct?

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: With minor modifications. How's
19 that?

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: With minor
21 modifications.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Does that sound okay, Commissioner
23 Toledo?

24 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And a motion was made



1 by you, Chair Fernandez.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: And seconded by
4 Commissioner Andersen.

5 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

6 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: All right. So we
7 will go through the vote here. We will start with
8 Commissioner Fornaciari.

9 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

13 Commissioner Le Mons.

14 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

16 Commissioner Sadhwani.

17 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Yes.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

19 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

21 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes. I don't know if I
22 should say yes or one. Yes.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: It's all about the
24 one's and zero's here. Commissioner Toledo.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.



1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

2 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

3 Vasquez.

4 Ahmad.

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

6 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.

8 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

9 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

11 Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

14 Andersen.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Yes.

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

17 Fernandez.

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

20 PM, got it.

21 The second motion is a move to approve two new staff
22 to the Strumwasser team; is that correct?

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

24 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Okay, all right. And
25 that is p.m.

1 All right. We will begin roll call here.

2 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: YES.

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Kennedy

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Le Mons.

6 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sadhwani

8 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI : Yes.

9 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Sinay.

10 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Yes.

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Taylor.

12 COMMISSIONER TAYLOR: Yes.

13 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Toledo.

14 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Yes.

15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Turner.

16 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Yes.

17 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Vasquez

18 COMMISSIONER VASQUEZ: Yes.

19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Yee.

20 COMMISSIONER YEE:

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner Ahmad.

22 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Yes.

23 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner

24 Akutagawa.

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Yes.



1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
2 Andersen.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: yes.

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: Commissioner
5 Fernandez.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HERNANDEZ: The motion passes.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you. Thank you,
9 everyone. Is there anything else from the Legal Affairs
10 Committee?

11 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: No, just thank you to Sara and
12 the rest of the Commission.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Great. Thank you again for your
14 hard work on this. So we will go to 9N, which is Public
15 Input Meeting Design, Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner
16 Fornaciari.

17 I wasn't sure how we wanted to do it, if we wanted
18 to present the schedule together, do we need to go back
19 to discuss some of the other items that were being
20 discussed in terms of generic meetings versus zone-
21 specific meetings, so I will hand it off to you now.

22 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Thank you, Chair. I'm open and
23 flexible to how you think, Chair, we should approach
24 this, but just wanted to draw everyone's attention to the
25 document that is posted for today's meeting. We have



1 made some edits and updates to the schedule, and I am
2 appreciative of my colleagues who are not shy to share
3 their availability. It was good to have for the purposes
4 of -- this is where the line gets kind of blurry -- for
5 the purposes of planning for the full Commission
6 meetings, as at those meetings we potentially will be
7 taking actions, and that's where we would need a quorum.
8 We would need, you know, super majority, et cetera. So
9 that was helpful to have. We included folks'
10 availability on this schedule. When I say "we," I mean
11 Commissioner Fernandez and I -- Chair Fernandez and I, so
12 that we can take a look at how difficult it would be to
13 meet everyone's needs, and I don't even think this is
14 everyone's schedule on the calendar as of yet. So just
15 throwing that out there for discussion. I think what
16 would be helpful is if we can continue that conversation
17 we had last week, prioritizing the schedule and then
18 addressing some of those topics that we didn't come to a
19 conclusion on last week. I recall we were talking about,
20 you know, whether we would have generalized input
21 meetings or zone-specific, the number of zone meetings,
22 et cetera. So I would bounce the ball to Commissioner
23 Fornaciari to see if I'm missing anything.

24 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Yeah, thank you. I think
25 you got it pretty well. I mean, you know, it seems to me



1 at this point, I mean a couple of things. We've got to
2 get meetings on the schedule. And trying to schedule
3 around people's schedule, as you can see based on the
4 column on the right, yes the right in that case, yeah,
5 it's just not going to be feasible. So you know, I think
6 we all just have to do the best we can to make the
7 meetings we can because, you know, it's busy. The other
8 thing is we left the zone-specific meetings in there.
9 Based on the feedback we got at the end of the public
10 comments, and you know, the public comments were pretty
11 uniform that they felt that zone-specific meetings would
12 give zones ownership, people in those zones dates to look
13 at. You know some of the callers acknowledge and
14 recognize there wouldn't be -- you know, that anyone
15 could call in and that was -- you know, there's nothing
16 we can do about that. Everyone is welcome to call into
17 any meeting. But at least it would give, you know, folks
18 in a given area some ownership of a date or dates,
19 multiple dates that they could prepare to provide input
20 to the Commission.

21 So just my additional thoughts.

22 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: And Chair Fernandez, I don't know
23 if you want to also -- tied into that schedule is that
24 conversation of the full CRC meetings. I appreciate your
25 work on that. I don't know which additional meetings I'm



1 chairing and what days to block off on my calendar yet,
2 and I'm sure Commissioner Yee also has that on his radar.
3 So it would be helpful to have that conversation in
4 conjunction.

5 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. So thank you all who did
6 forward their information to us. Just so that everyone
7 is aware in terms of how many meetings or how many of the
8 public input, I'm just going to call out how many per
9 zone. So it's two for A, two for B, four for C, two for
10 D, two for E, three F, two for G, four for H, three I,
11 three J, and three K. So that's a total of 30, and it
12 doesn't include the statewide or the group meetings.
13 Also on this schedule -- and what I tried to do is when I
14 was kind of moving zone meetings around I tried to do it
15 so that you wouldn't like, for example, Zone H, you
16 wouldn't have back-to-back meetings. I tried to spread
17 it out so that at least there might be one in the
18 somewhat beginning, one in the middle, you know try to
19 spread it out a little bit more.

20 Also tried to be cognizant of the commissioners that
21 are the leads for those zones. There was just one
22 conflict, so I apologize, Commissioner Akutagawa, it was
23 hard to work out your schedule on one of them, but I
24 think we're going to be able to make it. I think it will
25 work out fine.



1 And then also in this schedule we have our business
2 meetings. That's what we're having today. And so what I
3 was anticipating, and imagining, and hoping as we move
4 forward and transition into the public input meetings,
5 we'll go down from two-day business meetings to one-day
6 business meetings because at that point we probably won't
7 have panels anymore, we hopefully will have our training
8 done, and if there is training that we need, we might
9 schedule -- we could schedule a separate day for that.
10 But because, as you can tell, the schedule is three to
11 four days a week, and if we try to schedule a business
12 meeting also, that would be like five days in one week,
13 and that just seemed to be too much. And plus, I
14 honestly do feel that we can get our business meetings
15 down to one day.

16 And so what Commissioner Ahmad was referring to is
17 right now our schedule for being Chair and Vice Chair,
18 you know, basically two sets of meetings. But since
19 we're going to be going down to basically one-day
20 meetings, my recommendation would be that you would share
21 for two full meetings, I guess the two days that are full
22 meetings.

23 Even though they're not back-to-back they'll
24 probably be like two weeks apart. And then if you look
25 at the schedule, as to move into the end of -- if you go

1 into September, I started back up with two full meetings
2 because at that point we might need to regroup. That
3 will be the time when the census data, hopefully, will be
4 coming in. We might need some more training. So maybe
5 just -- if it's on the schedule, we don't need it, you
6 know, we can always cancel.

7 But again, so this is just a schedule from June
8 through September, of course. It's fluid, it can change,
9 it will change, depending on when we receive the census
10 data and when we decide what our timelines are, and you
11 know, when we have to move backwards from when our maps
12 are due. But for now, at least it gives us a road map
13 and it gives our staff something to plan and to work
14 towards. As Commissioner Ahmad mentioned last time, they
15 need about six weeks lead time, and of course, this does
16 not take into consideration, or it does. It can either
17 way. Right now we're assuming virtual. At some point we
18 may be able to do in person or a hybrid, but for now it's
19 virtual.

20 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: And just to add to that, Chair
21 Fernandez, for context the reason why we took a
22 collaborative approach on this schedule item, as you
23 know, we have Public Input Design meetings and we also
24 have business meetings. We didn't want them to overlap
25 or conflict, or make a day that's going to be twelve,

1 thirteen hours, so we intentionally decided to throw
2 everything onto one calendar so we can actually look at
3 it.

4 So when Commissioner Fernandez -- Chair Fernandez
5 talks about moving around zone meetings, there might have
6 been conflicts that would have prevented us from taking
7 action because commissioners were able to, you know,
8 share their availability, depending on which day.

9 So things changed from version two to version three,
10 but this is our attempt at this moment to put everything
11 on the same calendar.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Right. And then at some point we
13 do pivot to in person, the schedule can change again. We
14 might want to be more efficient. Maybe we'll have back-
15 to-back where zones are close together. We can just go
16 from one meeting to the next, like one is on Monday, one
17 is on Tuesday. So for now we wanted to make sure we got
18 something on the schedule so that we can at least move
19 forward.

20 And again, as you can tell, it's difficult to try to
21 find days where all of us are available, and that's okay.
22 With Public Input meeting it's my understanding that we
23 don't have to have a majority, and again, the nice thing
24 is that everything will be videotaped, so if you happen
25 to miss a meeting, or if you miss part of a meeting, you



1 can always go back to get that information, which would
2 be very helpful for all of us.

3 So with that, is there anything else, Commissioner
4 Ahmad or Commissioner Fornaciari? So we're kind of
5 combining both agenda items. We're being efficient
6 tonight. We just felt it was easier to present one
7 schedule, and then whatever is approved, I'm going to
8 have a big ask for Ravi. If you can send out our meeting
9 notices so that we all get it calendared. You did such a
10 wonderful job with that the last time, Ravi, so that
11 would be great.

12 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Chair Fernandez, just to add to
13 that. The calendar right now says time TBD for the days
14 of the input meetings because we had not landed on how
15 long we want to be taking public input. Our previous
16 Input Design meeting, Commissioner Fornaciari and I had
17 put together some recommendations based off of public
18 comment and the discussions that we had, so I don't know
19 if we want to get that deep into that topic in this
20 conversation, or if we want to leave that up to staff.
21 There was definitely a desire to increase the number of
22 minutes each individual has to share their public input.
23 I believe three minutes was being tossed around, but
24 definitely want to make sure that we come to a consensus
25 or shared understanding on that before moving forward.



1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: And so maybe with this,
2 Commissioner Ahmad and Commissioner Fornaciari, is that
3 something that we want to take back to the Public Input
4 Design and then bring to the next meeting, so that maybe
5 as the committee we can agree on maybe some of the
6 specifics. But at least now if we can get the dates
7 calendared, does that sound that might be a better use of
8 our time right now? Okay.

9 It's very hot over here, 90 degrees. I'm just
10 letting you all know. Any questions. I'm sure there's
11 plenty of comments regarding the schedule. We're hoping
12 there aren't any major glaring oopses. Of course, we're
13 human, so there's a lot of oopses in my life. Okay. I
14 don't see any -- oh, Commissioner Akutagawa.

15 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: And I know I made it
16 difficult for you. I do have an oops I just sent to you
17 I forgot. I forgot to put my vacation. I'm going to --
18 I'm going to be away for a wedding, so I just need to
19 send you those dates. Big oops on that. Sorry.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: That's okay. That's perfect. And
21 as things occur, what I'm hoping to do, Commissioner
22 Ahmad and Fornaciari and I, we can just continue to
23 update the schedule and continue to note people's --
24 other commissioner's conflicts. And that way, as we move
25 forward, as we move past September and on we'll have that

1 information readily available for everyone. Commissioner
2 Andersen.

3 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I have just one check
4 because I'm so -- going through all of the dates. In the
5 June 8, and 9, and 10, last time they were both 9:30 to
6 4:30, and now it looks like they're both 1:00 to 8:00.
7 Was that intentional? June, Wednesday the 9th and
8 Thursday the 10th.

9 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes. I intentionally made it a
10 later meeting because --

11 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Both of them?

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: -- Commissioner Turner and
13 Commissioner Akutagawa, they were available later in the
14 day, so I tried to accommodate that.

15 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So if you look on the schedule and
17 it says, it's their initials.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Okay.

19 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So if it says someone before 2:00,
20 they're not available before 2:00 o'clock.

21 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: I see.

22 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I just tried to make it as
23 accommodating to try to get as many commissioners
24 available.

25 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Thank you.

1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. I don't see any other
2 questions. Commissioner Kennedy.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Do you want specific feedback
4 on shifting this meeting or that meeting, or that's for
5 later?

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: In terms of for your zone

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Yes.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: If your -- let me think.

9 If we're okay with the dates that we set we can
10 always switch

11 the zones. Is that what you're asking?

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: No.

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: No? Okay, so I don't know what
14 you're asking, so go ahead and ask it.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Okay. So rather than having
16 the last of the zone input meetings on the Saturday of
17 Labor Day weekend, I'm thinking either the Thursday just
18 before that, the second of September, or Saturday, the
19 14th of August.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Zone I, Commissioner Kennedy,
21 that's yours, correct?

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yours and Le Mons, okay. And so
24 you suggested either the second -

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct, Thursday, September

1 2nd --

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Or?

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Or Saturday, August 14th.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. And just so that you also
5 have another one on July 29th.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Correct.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So maybe if we do it September
8 2nd, that gives you, you know, a little bit longer in
9 between.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Right.

11 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Does that sound -- okay. All
12 right. So let's go ahead and move -

13 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Chair Fernandez.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes.

15 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: I think the intention behind that
16 was if we had to shift to in person, I and J would be
17 next to each other, so it would be more like us, a group
18 just hopping from Zone I to Zone J.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: So if we change it to the
20 second, it's just the order of I and J that changes.
21 They're still adjacent.

22 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: Right. Totally understand that.
23 But C is before, so not just recommending a change to
24 that, just bringing it to your attention that it would be
25 going from C to I. I love traveling, so I'm ready for

1 it, but just wanted to make sure folks are aware of that.

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yes, I see where you're
3 going with that.

4 Let's go ahead and make the change now. Wait.
5 Commissioner Fornaciari, you had a question.

6 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: I greatly appreciate all
7 the hard work you've done on this, and I mean it's --
8 thank you. I think -- I mean just for me, and I think we
9 got this feedback last time, the Friday, Saturday, both,
10 of Labor Day weekend are going to be tough, you know, so
11 maybe if there's a way we can stay away from that Friday
12 and that Saturday, we might get better participation.
13 But thank you.

14 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: How about -- we could potentially
15 move Zone C to the 30th, August 30th, and then move Zone
16 J and I, move them to that Wednesday, Thursday. So it
17 would be four days in a row, but we would have that
18 Friday open. Does that make sense?

19 So if we move what we have on September 1st to
20 August 30th and then shifted what we have on September
21 3rd and 4th to September 1st and 2nd. And then that way
22 we have that Friday open. I'll send it out again after
23 we decide on this. Okay. Any other questions?
24 Commissioner Toledo.

25 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: Are you asking for -- are you



1 looking for a motion or for approval?

2 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Yes, that's what we're looking
3 for.

4 COMMISSIONER TOLEDO: I kind of -

5 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: My perspective on this, if I may,
6 if we were to motion on this any change on that document
7 would also require an additional motion, and I can only
8 speak for myself. I'm not well versed enough into all
9 that it takes to plan these meetings, and I don't know
10 all the details that Alvaro and team will need to embark
11 on to make these happen. So in the case that one date
12 changes, I wouldn't want to hold him back from putting
13 together a meeting for another date that might, you know,
14 work for the Commission for the purposes of planning.
15 That's my only hesitancy on that.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Marian, can we -- oh, yes, Marian,
17 thank you.

18 MS. JOHNSTON: My suggestion would be to say that a
19 Chair could change it subject to later approval by the
20 Commission, so that you give the Chair the flexibility to
21 make whatever changes are needed with confirmation later
22 by the Commission.

23 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Marian, could we also -- I'm
24 trying to think in the past when we scheduled our
25 meetings. Did we actually do a motion or did we just

1 like agree, okay, this is good, let's move forward?

2 VICE CHAIR AHMAD: I don't think we had a motion.

3 MS. JOHNSTON: That's correct.

4 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Did we have a motion or not?

5 MS. JOHNSTON: No, you did not.

6 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Just an agreement. So it might be
7 better if we just have an agreement. Is that what we're
8 hoping for right now amongst all of us? And Marcy, I
9 did -- Director of Outreach -- I have to get used to
10 that -- Director of Outreach Kaplan.

11 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: I just wanted to flag
12 September 7th as Rosh Hashana. I know it's not a Public
13 Input meeting, but I'm not sure accommodating to other
14 holidays. It's the Public Input Design, so depending on
15 participation, but just flagging that.

16 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: So September 7th, that's a full
17 CRC, only if we need it.

18 OUTREACH DIRECTOR KAPLAN: Oh, it was a full CRC,
19 okay. Yeah.

20 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: But it's only if we need it, so
21 similar to tonight, only if we need it, like for action
22 items or to move forward on something, but that is very
23 good information to have. I appreciate that. Any
24 other -- Commissioner Akutagawa.

25 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just wanted to just flag

1 and whether or not what we decide it could move. I want
2 to just flag that Saturday, June 19th, I believe is
3 Juneteenth, which I believe is an increasingly important
4 day for particularly for the African-American Black
5 community. So do you want to just flag that in? Whether
6 we decide to keep it, but I thought it would be important
7 to acknowledge that date.

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. I will note that
9 on the calendar. And I think I saw -- I saw somebody
10 else's hand. Who had their hand raised? Okay.

11 So can we just have an agreement that we are moving
12 forward with this schedule, and the Public Input Design
13 Committee will come back, hopefully, at our next meeting,
14 to come forward with more specifics in terms of maybe
15 public comment time, the hours of each meeting. So is
16 everybody okay with that?

17 Commissioner Sinay.

18 COMMISSIONER SINAY: I'm definitely okay with that.
19 I just have a question. Are we asking those who are
20 missing meetings to commit to actually listening to them
21 after the fact? I'm just trying to figure out what our
22 collective commitment to the Commission's work this
23 summer is.

24 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: I do not believe we can make
25 anyone listen to the meetings. It's up to each

1 commissioner. I would hope -- I mean me, personally, if
2 I do miss a meeting, I will go back, but it's up to each
3 commissioner to decide. That's my belief.

4 Commissioner Akutagawa.

5 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: I just want to clarify. So
6 are we moving those September dates for sure, and would
7 you repeat them?

8 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So on August 30th -- and I
9 will send a revised one. On September 30th we will have
10 the Zone C.

11 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: September 30th or August
12 30th?

13 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: August 30th, sorry. August 30th,
14 my bad. September 1st we will have Zone J, and September
15 2nd will be Zone I, and so we'll have that Friday,
16 Saturday, Sunday will be open.

17 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Thank you.

18 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. So are there any other
19 questions? Can we do a quick little thumbs up and we're
20 good. We're going to move forward with this schedule.

21 Okay. Great.

22 And I believe that's all we have. Before we go to
23 public comment, is there anything else that we need to
24 discuss tonight? Okay.

25 Kristian or Katy, can we go to public comment?

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Sure thing. In order to
2 maximize transparency and public participation in our
3 process, the Commissioners will be taking public comment
4 by phone. To call in, dial the telephone number provided
5 on the livestream feed. It is 877-853-5247. When
6 prompted, enter the meeting number provided on the
7 livestream feed, it is 97018421161 for this meeting.
8 When prompted to enter a participant I.D., simply press
9 the pound key. Once you have dialed in you'll be placed
10 in a queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please
11 press star 9. This will raise your hand for the
12 moderator.

13 When it is your turn to speak, you'll hear a message
14 that says, "The host would like you to talk, and to press
15 star 6 to speak."

16 If you would like to give your name, please state
17 and spell it for the record. You are not required to
18 provide your name to give public comment.

19 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
20 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
21 call.

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

25 And we do not have anyone in the queue at this time.



1 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you, Katy. We'll just
2 wait for it to catch up, please. I don't want to forget
3 to say Happy Cinco de Mayo tomorrow. It's one of those
4 that I rarely ever celebrate, which is kind of
5 interesting, right. I should be celebrating it all the
6 time.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And I do want to remind
8 those that call in to press star 9 to raise their hand
9 indicating they wish to comment.

10 Thank you, and we do have a caller, and I will open
11 the line.

12 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Go ahead, the floor is
14 yours.

15 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Good evening, Commissioners.

16 This is Renee Westa-Lusk. I have a question. It's
17 mainly logistics for the COI Input Meetings.

18 Will you be designating which part of, say, a region
19 where you're having three or maybe four COI meetings,
20 like which part of that region, like, some regions have
21 way more than one county in them. So are you going to
22 give us advanced notice as to which sections of the zone
23 that you're going to be hearing from on a designated COI
24 meeting day?

25 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ms. Westa-Lusk. At



1 this point we've identified it as the entire zone. We
2 will work that out potentially at our Public Input Design
3 Meetings. Thank you.

4 MS. WESTA-LUSK: Okay. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that is all our
6 callers at this time.

7 CHAIR FERNANDEZ: Okay. Well, if there isn't
8 anything else, I think we will adjourn. I want to thank
9 everyone for being here today. Very efficient. Thank
10 you all for your being here and your support, and we will
11 see you next week at our full meeting. Thank you so
12 much.

13 (Whereupon, the CRC Business Meeting adjourned)

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

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 reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter 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.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of June, 2023.



PETER PETTY

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.

Lori Rahtes

June 21, 2023

LORI RAHTES

